

On The Cover

Collecting Percussion Turnover Pistols

by Matthew Schneiderman

Sometimes the whole collecting process turns strange and unpredictable. In 2006, I found myself insatiably buying percussion turnover pistols: two over/under barrels, hand-turned to bring the next shot to the single hammer. A bit odd for a collector of British and Irish flintlocks. Perhaps the onset of a new disease? As it turns out...no. Take a soft spot for oddities, a little luck, and the pleasure of patterns and order: Presto, a collection was born, and we have this article. I'll discuss this group of firearms, its organization, and some individual examples, and make some comments on current collecting practice.

Background

Gunmakers have used the turnover system since at least the 1640s.¹ It's a simple, compact way to wring two shots out of one stock and one hammer, and it's long been an option in the struggle for more firepower. Flintlock turnover pistols and longarms are rare, and a special treat. One hammer serves two barrels, pans, and frizzens; release of a catch allows manual rotation. Collectors often call these "Wender" guns (from the German), particularly if the piece is from Continental Europe. Skipping ahead two centuries or more, cartridge turnover pistols are even rarer.² However, in the middle of the 19th century (about 1830-1860), turnover pistols flourished. The percussion system simplified their construction and maximized their reliability, and they were very popular in

Great Britain and Ireland. An impressive array of provincial makers, and some of the most famous London and Dublin names, appear on these pistols.

For reasons unclear to me, they were much less common on the Continent, and almost nonexistent in the United States.³

The Internet, Luck, and Psychology

The internet allowed this collection to happen. Three different turnovers with internal strikers appeared on dealer web sites within a couple of months. New to me, very odd, and one a particular puzzle. More followed. The brain, and luck, can play strange games. For decades you've never noticed an item; you see it for the first time, think about it, and suddenly it's everywhere.

I love detailed organization, and a classification scheme for percussion turnover pistols jelled in my mind very quickly. Two major variables can quickly yield lots of combinations: hammer or striker placement (5 possibilities), and single or double action. Mix in two sets of special variations, and you have an entertaining challenge. [See Table 1]. Could I find them all?

The Collection

With some intense dealer and auction house web site surveillance, and my newly prepared eye, I was able to identify pistols representing almost every

part of this classification within a year, even though many are quite rare and a few (so far) unique. Most I bought, a few I could not, but they're still included here. I will describe each piece in its place (including cost), analyze various advantages to buyers when new ("Sales Talk"), and provide "Collecting Notes" for us about its status now.

Table 1. A Classification of Percussion Turnover Pistols

1. Center Hammer (Boxlock), Single Action, Folding Trigger.
2. Center Hammer (boxlock), Single Action, Standard Trigger and Triggerguard.
3. Center Hammer (Bar Hammer), Double Action.
4. Side Hammer, Single Action.
5. Internal Striker, Single Action, External Cocking Lever.
6. Internal Striker, Single Action, No Cocking Lever.
7. Internal Striker, Double Action.
8. External Underhammer, Single Action.
9. External Underhammer, Double Action.
10. Internal Understriker/Underhammer, Single Action.
11. Internal Understriker/Underhammer, Double Action.

1. Center Hammer (Boxlock), Single Action, Folding Trigger. (Figure 1).



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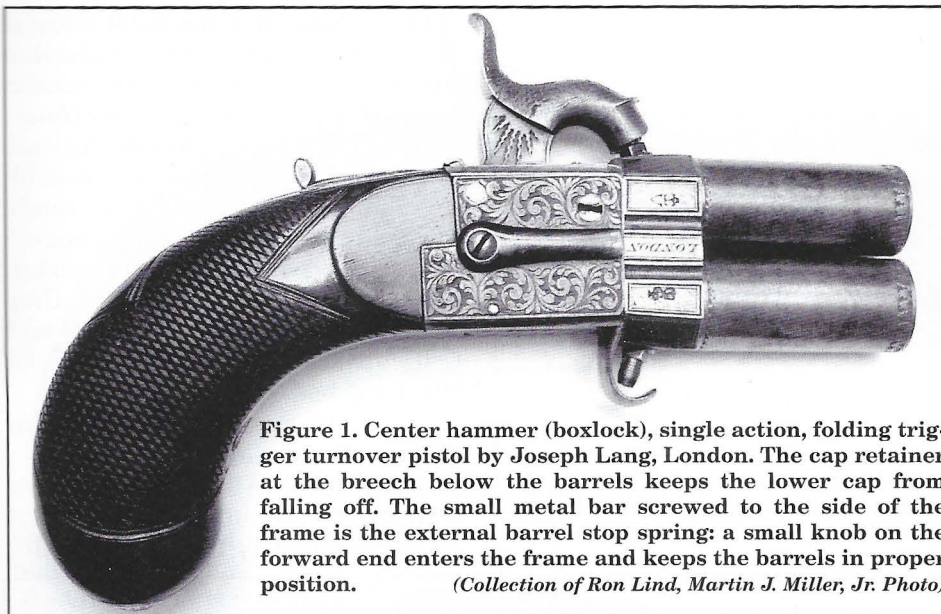


Figure 1. Center hammer (boxlock), single action, folding trigger turnover pistol by Joseph Lang, London. The cap retainer at the breech below the barrels keeps the lower cap from falling off. The small metal bar screwed to the side of the frame is the external barrel stop spring; a small knob on the forward end enters the frame and keeps the barrels in proper position.
(Collection of Ron Lind, Martin J. Miller, Jr. Photo)

Joseph Lang, 7 Haymarket, London, the 1840s. .44 caliber, 5-1/4" overall, barrel length 1-1/2". London proof. Originally paired, now alone; cased with accessories and detailed trade label.⁴ Note the guard below the lower breech to keep the underside cap in place.

Sales Talk

This pistol represents by far the most common turnover form. Turnover pistols competed successfully with pepperboxes, transition revolvers, and standard form revolvers, despite the difference in number of shots. Many survive, and large numbers must have been sold.

Why was this? Why buy such a pistol?

A. Flat and light, easy to carry and store, no bulging cylinder.

B. The center hammer (boxlock) construction was easier to make, required fewer parts, and (therefore) was cheaper.

C. Single action gives a softer pull, and is traditionally viewed as more accurate.

D. The folding trigger made the gun even more pocketable.

E. Many of these pistols, like the Lang, have turnoff barrels: each barrel unscrews, using a muzzle key.⁵ Some are rifled, most (like the Lang) are not. Powder is loaded directly into the breech, the ball seated, and the barrel screwed back on. The ball is slightly larger than the bore, giving a tighter seal and more power (helpful in a small pistol). Finally, ramrod and powder measure are not required.

F. For most people, 2 shots (or 4 shots) were enough. Most of these pistols were sold in pairs, whether or not in a wooden case. A large majority are found single today; there are many ways to lose a mate. (The Lang pistols partner was stolen at a gun show.) The surviving Lang's barrels and breeches are numbered 2 and 3. The missing pistol would have been numbered 0 and 1. Some gunmakers did it this way, don't ask me why.

Collecting Notes

Most basic turnover pistols like this are British or Irish. Though Continental examples are quite rare, the few I've seen didn't ask much of a premium. People want English or Irish turnovers. This form comes in many frame and barrel lengths, turnoff or fixed barrels, and in a wide range of quality. As expected from a great British maker, the Lang pistol is of the highest quality, with top notch engraving throughout. Quality indices include

the amount, intensity, and character of the decoration on metal; fineness of grip checkering; and the presence and nature of a butt plate or butt cap holder. Some have sights, some not. This does not seem to correlate with quality, and perhaps didn't with function either. Price varies with quality, and fame of maker, but overall this type is the least expensive.

The Rigby brothers of Dublin loved to make these pistols, and their pieces are among the most desirable. William and John also supplied turnover pistols cased singly, another of their many wonderful peculiarities. A Rigby centerhammer turnover sub-collection would include pistols cased double and cased single, pistols with magazines [the grip hollowed out to contain balls and caps, below a hinged back strap], or side swivel rammers, or spring bayonets.⁶

2. Center Hammer (Boxlock), Single Action, Standard Trigger and Guard. (Figure 2).

Lacy & Co. (7), London, the mid 1830s. 7-1/4" overall, 3-1/2" turnoff barrels, .36 caliber; Birmingham proof 2006 cost: \$660-

Sales Talk

Presumably some buyers preferred and felt more comfortable with the standard trigger and triggerguard. The Lacy pistol has less engraving overall, and is less skillfully made, though it features an attractive fish head hammer (a popular decorative choice in this period). The butt is unadorned. Lower quality, but lower price—in both the 19th and 21st centuries.

Collecting Notes

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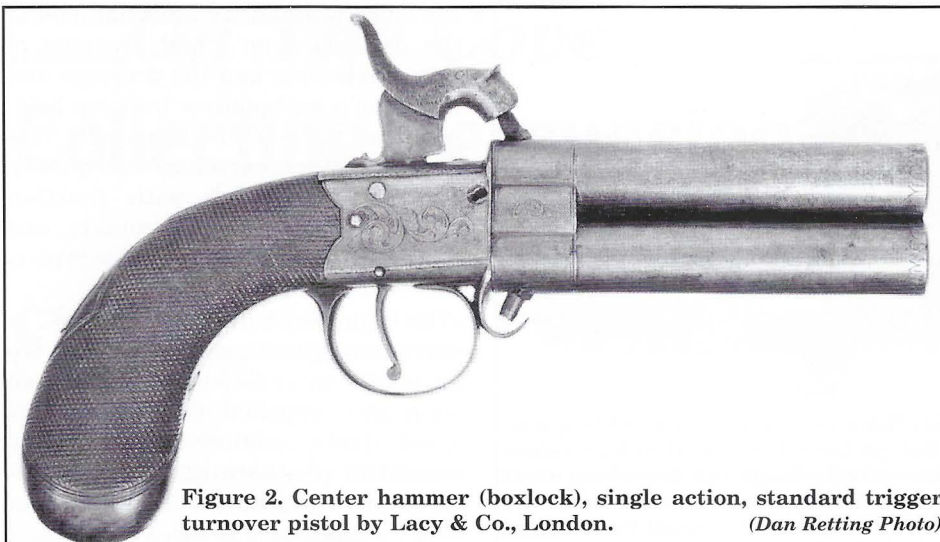


Figure 2. Center hammer (boxlock), single action, standard trigger turnover pistol by Lacy & Co., London. (Dan Retting Photo)

This form is less common than folding trigger pistols, but overall price ranges are similar. Maker, quality, and condition rule the market, not trigger type.

See Figure 1, the picture of the Lang pistol, and its photo caption describing the external barrel stop spring. Some turnover pistols, like the Lacy, lack such a spring and use internal construction to stabilize the barrels.

3. Center Hammer (Bar Hammer), Double Action. (Figure 3).

S.W. Marston and J. Cohen, New York., the 1850s. 3-1/16" iron barrels, .36 caliber. Engraved brass frame, plain wood grips, ring trigger. "Patent 1851" on right side of hammer. 2007 cost (including premium) \$7377.50

Sales Talk

The ring trigger's not too common a firearm feature, but avoids the need for a triggerguard. The bar hammer obstructs sighting less than a standard center hammer.

Essentially, all turnovers provide a pair of single shot arms sharing one hammer and one stock. Why design a

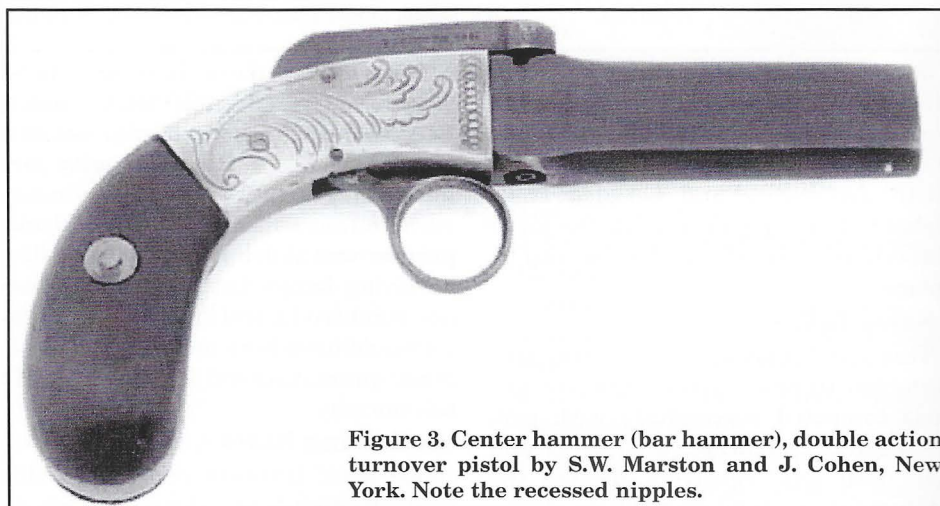


Figure 3. Center hammer (bar hammer), double action turnover pistol by S.W. Marston and J. Cohen, New York. Note the recessed nipples.

double action single shot firearm?⁸ This pistol can be fired faster, with one step instead of two, and can be fired easily with one hand. Overall, there's a faster defense response. (The single action center hammer pistols can be cocked and fired with one hand, but it takes more time and effort.)

Collecting Notes

The Stanhope Marston pistol is one of the rarest American production firearms, and the only percussion turnover pistol in *Flayderman's Guide*. (7C-023) Very few are known. At least one has an iron frame, but almost all frames are brass. Serial #1 has raised nipples and a thinner bar hammer.⁹ These pistols rarely come to market. The most recent sale was at Greg Martin Auctions, the Robert Howard Collection, Part 2, February 5, 2007, lot 304. I was not the buyer.

4. Side Hammer, Single Action (Figure 4).

J. McCrerrick, Ayr, Scotland, the 1840s or 1850s. 8" overall, 3-1/4" barrels, .5 caliber. Slide safety; cap holder in butt;

external barrel stop spring on left side; fine checkering; smoothbore. London proof. 2006 cost: \$3100-

Sales Talk

The side hammer leaves the top of the barrel totally clear for sighting, and in the turnover world this is a large, big bore pistol for which sighting might actually matter.

I'm surprised this form is so uncommon, since functionally it seems a better choice.

However, it was undoubtedly more expensive (and complex) to make, and to sell, than its boxlock (centerhammer) competition.

Collecting Notes

The McCrerrick was the first side hammer turnover pistol I'd ever seen. Since then, I've seen three pairs and a single:

A. Cased pair by Frederic Baker, London. Baker's working dates begin in 1858, so percussion turnover pistols were made at least into the late 1850s,



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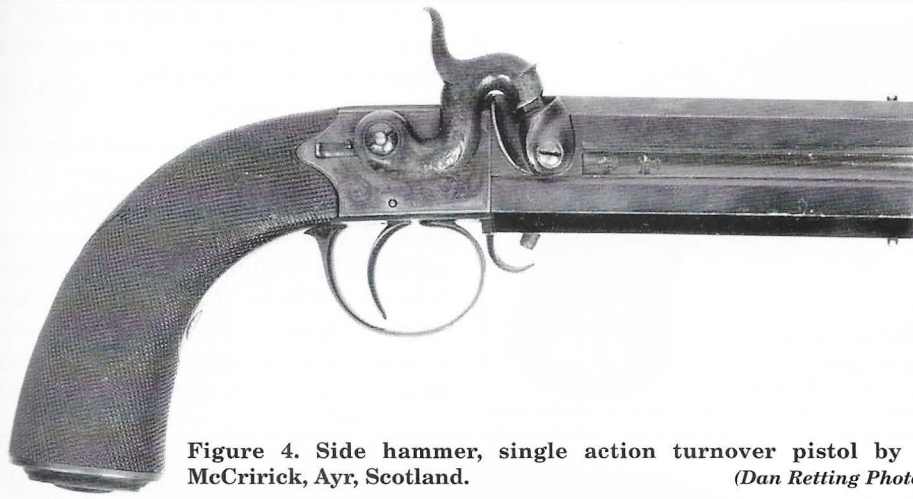


Figure 4. Side hammer, single action turnover pistol by J. McCririck, Ayr, Scotland.
(Dan Retting Photo)

and presumably in the early 1860s as well.

B. Cased pair by William Needler, Hull (England).

C. Uncased pair by Alexander Henry, Edinburgh.

D. Single pistol by Charles Osborne, Birmingham, marked "London." Rock Island Auction, September 2008, lot 3283. Chas. Osborne's dates under this name are 1841-1853. Like the Needler and Baker pairs, the Osborne pistol lacks a slide safety and a cap holder. Note that all these side hammer pistols use an external barrel stop spring (again see Figure 1). Rock Island Auctions' catalogue description of the Osborne pistol calls this spring a belt hook!

All these pistols, and the McCririck, are in exceptional condition.

5. Internal Striker, Single Action, External Cocking Lever (Figure 5).

Charles James Smith, Whittall Street, Birmingham, the later 1840s. Engraved brass frame, "Smith's Patent" on left. Engraved, hammeresque external cocking lever, internal striker (which fires the top barrel). Folding trigger; finely checkered grip. Engraved German Silver butt cap. Birmingham proof. CB-650 on one barrel top (Irish registration mark for Cork Borough). (10) 7-1/4" overall, 3" barrels, .44 caliber. 2006 cost: \$2000

Sales Talk

The internal striker offers major advantages of unobstructed sighting and protection from cap debris. The cocking lever gives the advantage of single action. A number of 19th century makers, including the underhammer pepperbox maker J.R. Cooper, touted the horizontal nipple (relative to strik-

er and barrel), claiming more direct fulminate flame and faster ignition. **Note:** one caps an internal striker (horizontal nipple) turnover pistol by rotating the barrels 90 degrees instead of 180. (Figure 6)

Collecting Notes

The external cocking lever for an internal striker appears on many types of Continental percussion arms, including an entertaining and varied array of Gallery pistols. However, it's extremely unusual on an English firearm. Can you name three other English examples?¹¹

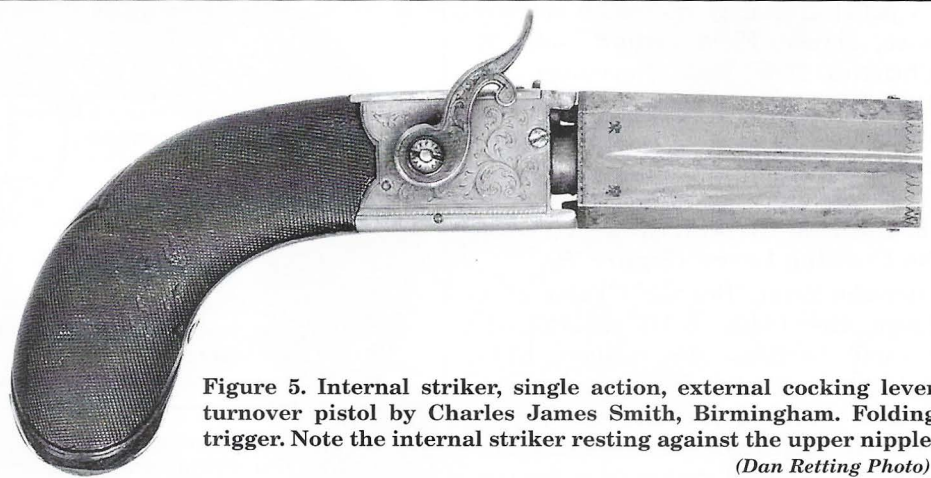


Figure 5. Internal striker, single action, external cocking lever turnover pistol by Charles James Smith, Birmingham. Folding trigger. Note the internal striker resting against the upper nipple.
(Dan Retting Photo)

Figure 6. The C.J. Smith pistols barrels turned for capping.
(Martin J. Miller, Jr. Photo)



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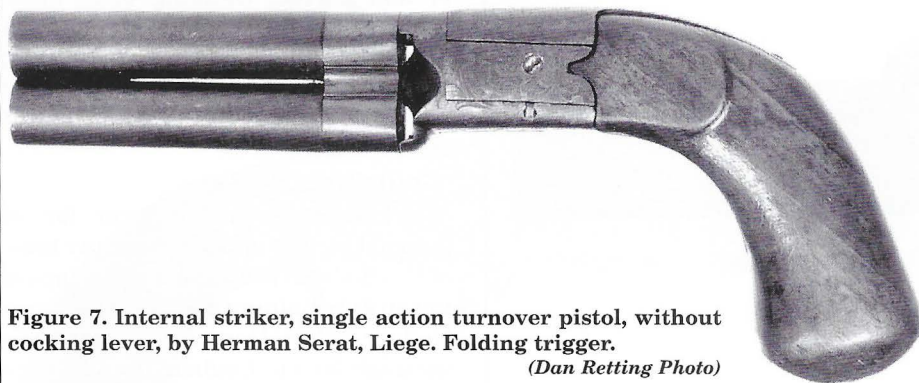


Figure 7. Internal striker, single action turnover pistol, without cocking lever, by Herman Serat, Liege. Folding trigger.

(Dan Retting Photo)

"Smith's patent" #10,667 of November 14, 1845, shows this pistols form in detail.

A pistol of exactly this same appearance, signed Field Oxford, sold at Christies New York, November 16, 1983, lot 317, for \$880 (with premium). It included no patent marking. So others made pistols based on the Smith patent, whether by license or not.

6. Internal Striker, Single Action, No Cocking Lever. (Figure 7)

Herman Serat, "Brevete" ("Patentee"), Liege, the 1840s. 8-1/2" overall, 3" turnoff barrels, .46 caliber. ELG (Belgian) proof. "Herman Serat Brevete" behind the folding trigger. Scantily engraved iron frame, plain grips. An internal striker fires the top barrel. **Note:** the action is cocked, and the folding trigger popped, by turning over the barrels. 2006 cost: \$2500

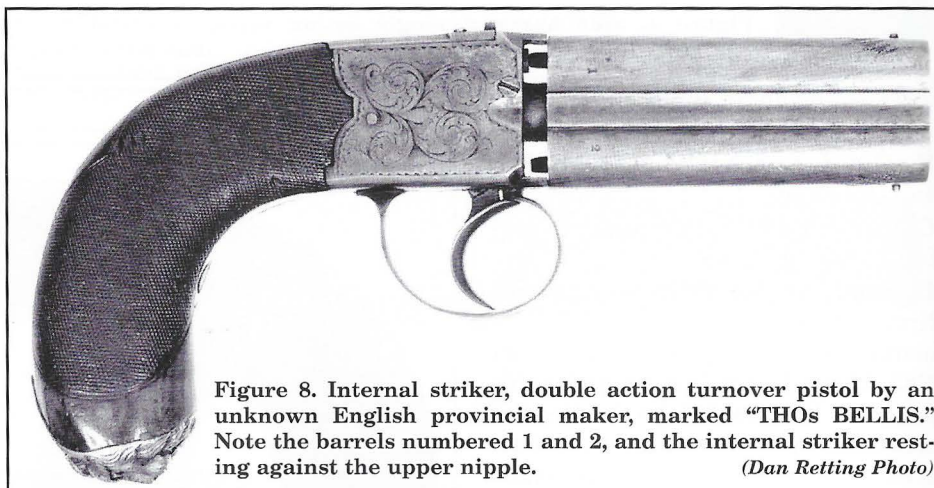


Figure 8. Internal striker, double action turnover pistol by an unknown English provincial maker, marked "THOs BELLIS." Note the barrels numbered 1 and 2, and the internal striker resting against the upper nipple.

(Dan Retting Photo)

Sales Talk

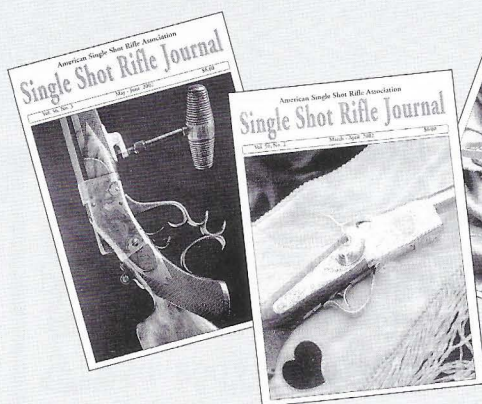
I think this is a unique and quite brilliant system, and a big improvement over the Smith patent. Smooth, sleek, nothing to catch on clothing. Why is it so hyper-rare?

It was probably a complex pistol to make, and perhaps the patent was respected or well defended.

Collecting Notes

Some Belgian patent records from this era have not survived. The seller of the Serat pistol says he also owns a cased pair of the same form by the same maker. The William Funderburg auction at Sotheby Parke Bernet Los Angeles, April 15, 1975, Lot 281, shows a cased pair of pistols of the same appearance and action as the Serat.

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However, they are marked "L. Camanille Napoli" (Naples). (The pair sold for \$1200-).

7. Internal Striker, Double Action (Figure 8)

A pistol by an unknown English provincial maker, the 1840s. 8" overall, 3-3/8" barrels numbered 1 and 2. .54 caliber. Birmingham proof. The internal striker fires the top barrel. Engraved frame, with "THOs BELLISS" on the top. Finely checkered grip. Detailed German Silver lion butt cap. (Figure 9) 2006 cost: \$1870

Sales Talk

This pistol provides unusually large size and caliber, compared to other turnovers. It holds the double action advantage over the Serat and Smith pistols and its center hammer competition, and offers unobstructed sighting. The lion butt mask is anachronistic, but speaks to the pistols quality and to the original buyer's nostalgia for the 1820s.

Collecting Notes

The name "THOs BELLISS" could be a previously unknown maker, or a retailer, but the lack of an address or

continued on page 38...

THE GUN REPORT



Figure 9. The intense German silver lion butt cap of the Thos. Bellis pistol.
(Martin J. Miller, Jr. Photo)

city name makes these less likely. I think the first owner had his name engraved, a well known (though uncommon) practice on 18th and 19th century English firearms. A small bid for relative immortality.

This specific pistol appeared in two Flayderman catalogues (all of which were undated): #111 [item 1799] for \$750-, and #116 [item 1787A] for \$895. Norm had never seen another example, nor has Matthew.

8. External Underhammer, Single Action. (Figure 10)

"Smith London", the 1840s. Engraved brass frame, recessed nipples. German silver cap holder in butt, German silver oval escutcheon with the initials "R.A." Front underhammer, rear trigger. External barrel stop spring on the left side. 8-3/4" overall, 3-3/4" barrels, .36 caliber. Birmingham proof 2006 cost: \$900.

Sales Talk

Underhammer firearms were very popular in the 19th century, and offered three advantages:

A. Simpler and cheaper construction.

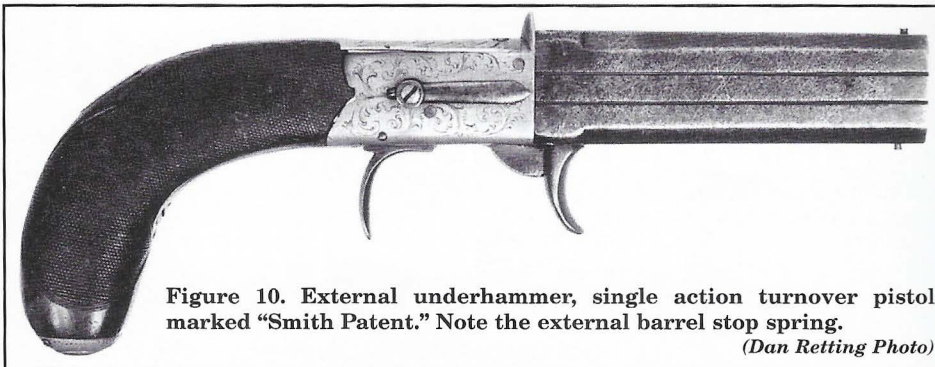


Figure 10. External underhammer, single action turnover pistol marked "Smith Patent." Note the external barrel stop spring.
(Dan Retting Photo)

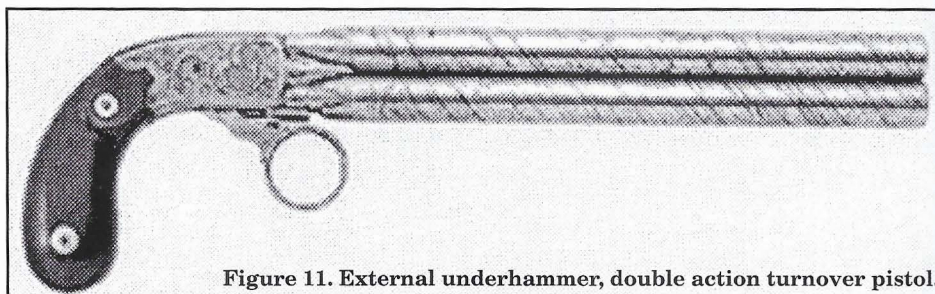


Figure 11. External underhammer, double action turnover pistol.

B. Unobstructed sighting.

C. Excellent protection from cap debris.

Note the rear sight and bead front sights. Why construct sights on an underhammer turnover that fires the bottom barrel? There are two schools of thought:

A. Sights make no difference in a pocket pistol like this, but are traditional, and are often expected by customers.

B. We think of using pocket pistols across a table or in a room. However, these pistols may have had considerably longer range than we'd expect,¹² and aiming may have been useful. With underhammers, the shot from the bottom barrel probably converges at the sighted point over a long enough distance.

Collecting Notes

This Smith pistol has condition problems (no finish; pitting; the grip loosening), but in its youth was a high quality firearm valued by its owner. It reminds us of the difference between quality and condition. English non-pepperbox underhammer arms are extremely rare, yet this one sold for under \$1000-. Rarity alone often does not yield a high price. This has been an undercollected area (until now!). The key cost question, generally: how big is the interested crowd?

There are at least two other examples of this pistol known from catalogues, so it's not unique.¹³

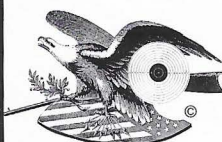
9. External Underhammer, Double Action. (Figure 11)

This pistol by an unknown maker sold at Czerny's auctions, Italy, in 2006, lot 1604, for about \$3500, far above its estimate. Its whereabouts are unknown. 26 cm (10-1/4") overall—by

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far the longest turnover pistol I've seen in person, print, or internet, with strikingly long barrels.

The ring trigger and the double action underhammer recall many examples of underhammer double action pepper-boxes: J.R. Cooper in England, Blunt &

Firearms with a triggerguard /main-spring combination and both false (cocking lever) and true triggers are well known in the underhammer world (and tend to be American). However, horizontal nipples are extremely rare. Only one maker, Michael Carleton of

detour, and the experience got me thinking again about a big issue in current collecting practice.

Current Antique Arms Collecting: Affordability and the Future

In my circle, there's chronic, recurrent discussion about the future of antique arms collecting. "We're a bunch of old guys!", my friends and I say. Young collectors do seem relatively scarce. There must be many reasons for this, but the increasing cost of building a collection is always mentioned. [Other reasons await another article!] How can collectors of all ages respond to the financial challenge? Here's a partial list (I'm sure there are other ways I haven't thought of).

1. Downgrade Condition

Condition plays a huge role in current antique arms collecting practice and economics, and has always been particularly important to me. However, as I've aged (for sure), matured (perhaps), and reached some acceptance of the limitations of my financial power, I've grown more willing to compromise on condition, especially with early items (e.g. 17th and early 18th century pieces). I've heard persuasive collecting voices speak in favor of guns that have lived and worked in history, rather than spending a lifetime in a drawer. In my own practice, I've had a harder time compromising condition, though in the right situation I'd be willing.

2. Enforce a Gun Budget

In theory, this makes good sense: save up for larger but less frequent purchases. In practice, though, this approach is problematic. In the world of collecting theory, the addiction analogy is rightly viewed as deeply flawed. However I personally have trouble going too long without a fix.

3. Shift or Expand Collecting Focus

Moving to a less expensive (and usually later) era can be a boon to a frustrated, financially pinched collector. This certainly explains (in part) the increased popularity of 20th century arms and accoutrements. The collection's major focus can shift, but a person may not be able to will such a change. Personally, my specialty "choice" seems as inborn as my arms collecting nature. Adding smaller, cheaper side collections can be a good compromise [I know a number of col-

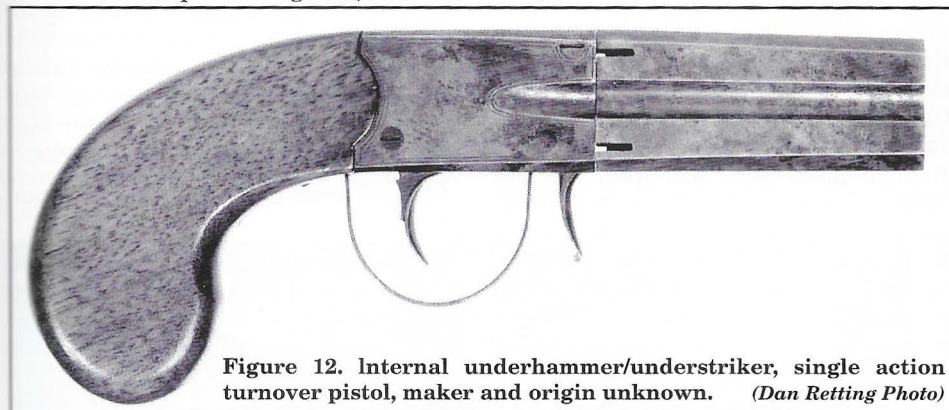


Figure 12. Internal underhammer/understriker, single action turnover pistol, maker and origin unknown. (Dan Retting Photo)

Syms in the USA, Mariette on the Continent. However, I doubt there are too many more turnovers like this!

10. Internal Underhammer / Understriker, Single Action. (Figure 12)

Unmarked, plain grips, rear bead sights. 7" overall, 2-1/2" barrels, 0.36 caliber. The triggerguard also functions as the main spring. The front "trigger" is both the cocking lever and the short horizontal striker, combined in one part. The rear "true" trigger fires the pistol, with the striker hitting the (unseen) horizontal nipple of the lower barrel. 2006 cost: \$3150

Sales Talk

This pistol offers all the advantages of underhammers, internal strikers, horizontal nipples, and single action!

Collecting Notes

This pistol, along with the Belliss and the Smith's Patent pistols, drew me into this area. Its condition is striking, retaining much blue finish—very unusual survival. Throw in some mystery, and I was hooked. Among my collecting friends and consultants, there is no consensus about its origin. Continental dealers and collectors think it's American, and American dealers and collectors think it's Continental. The form and the action appear unique, no comparables to help place it. The creative underhammer construction says American, but the fit and finish says European. [Everyone agrees it's not English, since unmarked and unproofed.] I'd certainly welcome your thoughts!

Haverhill, New Hampshire, in the 1830s, made single shot underhammer firearms with a horizontal striker and horizontal nipple.¹⁴ His work has very specific markings and design features, and he did not make this turnover pistol. Was its maker familiar with Carleton's work? The mystery remains.

11. Internal Underhammer / Understriker, Double Action. Hypothetical, so far!

The Collection: Cost Analysis

I put my turnover collection together in 2006, and I own 7 of the 10 items discussed in this article. A friend owns the Lang, which is unpriced. The S.W. Marston and the Czerny pistols have known auction prices (as listed), and the former has not yet been resold.

Seven Items—Matthew

Range \$660-\$3150

Median \$2000

Mean \$2025-

Nine Items with Known Prices

Range \$660-\$7400

Median \$2500

Mean \$2800- (15)

I understand that for many collectors these prices are still not cheap. However, compared to my rapidly price-inflating collecting world (flintlock pistols of Great Britain and Ireland), shopping for turnover pistols was a relief, especially considering their overall condition and rarity. Based on what I see online and at shows, it's hard to imagine a from scratch, coherent collection of percussion firearms costing much less. Turnovers were an entertaining

lectors who do this to get them through slow times], but leaves in play the challenge of resource allocation.

4. Explore a Market Path Less Trodden

It's rare to be a pioneer, to discover, nurture, and establish a new collecting area. But we can still find underappreciated and relatively underpriced parts of the Market, if we keep our eyes and minds open. I believe this is what the turnover pistol collection represents. I was prepared in multiple ways. I enjoy and know British and Continental firearms, already own and am building two other percussion side collections,¹⁶ have developed an eye for oddities generally, and have a need for organization and order. However, I had no previous interest in or knowledge of turnovers. Basically, I was ready, open to something new, and lucky.

Conclusions

These percussion turnover pistols illustrate the innovative range and entrepreneurial daring of 19th century gunmakers. Many favored standard form centerhammer pistols like the Lang and the Lacy, but some were willing to try something different, to stake out an unusual market niche.

I don't expect you to suddenly become turnover firearm collectors, but I hope the individual pistols and the structure of the group have given you pleasure.

You'll see many turnover pistols in your collecting journey through the internet, auction house sales rooms, and shows, and I hope you'll now recognize, understand, and enjoy them. More generally, though, I believe that my adventure is not so unusual. Collecting can be a creative act. With

your collector's eye, and a little luck, unexpected paths await you.

Notes and References

¹Claude Blair, *Pistols of the World*. Viking Press, New York, 1968, page 38. (Henceforth, "Blair")

²The only American cartridge turnover pistols in *Flayderman's Guide*, both rimfire, are the Frank Wesson pistols (3 sizes, multiple types, 51-021 through 027), and the American Arms Co. "Double Barrel Derringers" (8A-006 through 010). Both of these were sold from the late 1860s to about 1880. The only English cartridge turnover is the Woodward (see Blair, figure 523). This rimfire pistol by Thomas Woodward, 26 Edmund St, Birmingham, is covered by British Registered Design #4537 of February 4, 1863.

³See discussion of the S.W. Marston pistol in the text (#3). See also Herschel C. Logan, *The Pictorial History of the Underhammer Gun*, Castle Books, New York, 1960, pages 160-161. Figures 212, 213, and 214 illustrate the 3 known American percussion single action external underhammer turnover pistols. After almost 50 years, Logan's book remains the underhammer collecting Bible.

⁴The Lang set's trade label includes much advertising, and gives some insight into the English gunmaking industry of the mid 19th century.

"Shooting Gallery, Guns, Rifles, Pistols, &c"

"Air Guns & Canes Made & repaired"

"New & Second hand guns by all the first Town Makers Warranted" [Lang himself was a first rate maker.]

"Duelling, Holster, & Pocket Pistols in great variety"

⁵If you wish to learn more about turnoff-barrel pistols, I recommend John Burgoyne's book *The Queen Anne Pistol*

1660-1780: A History of the English Turn-off Pistol, Museum Restoration Service, Bloomfield Ontario and Alexandria Bay New York, 2002.

⁶See the first W. Keith Neal Collection sale, Christie's, London, November 8, 1995, lot 193, a single centerhammer (boxlock) folding trigger turnover pistol by William and John Rigby, Dublin. This pistol includes both a magazine in the butt and a captive side rammer, and comes with accessories in a leather wallet-like holder instead of a wooden case.

⁷John George Lacy and David William Witton.

⁸Ethan Allen (as Allen & Thurber) made a single shot, single barrel, double action bar hammer pistol (*Flayderman's Guide* 5A-004, 005, and 006), and so did W.W. Marston (7C-024).

⁹L.D. Eberhart, "W.W. Marston and His Guns," *Bulletin of the American Society of Arms Collectors*, #30 (Fall 1974), pages 7-8. It's unclear whether W.W. and S.W. were related, but L.D. discusses the S.W. Marston and Cohen pistols, and provides both pistol and patent drawing pictures.

¹⁰This Act of August 22, 1843 "...relative to the registering of arms. ..." was Great Britain's response to Irish acts of violent opposition to the legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland. It was not renewed in 1846. An Irish registration mark on a firearm simply tells us it lived in Ireland during those 3 years. See Paul S. Lederer, "Gun Registration in Ireland," *Arms Collecting*, Vol. 24, #1 (February 1986), pp. 10-12; and Oliver Snoddy, "Police Marks on Arms of Irish Provenance," *Journal of the Arms & Armour Society*, Vol. 6, June 1970, pp.263-268. The two basic references on this subject.

¹¹A. The Budding pepperbox. See Jack Dunlap, *American, British and*

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