

Definition of 1770's Musket and Rifle Parts

Compiled by Ralph Yerby Ray

Apron The raised decorative area around the Tang or around the front and rear of the Lock & Side Panels.

Ball Screw Ball Puller

Baluster-Moulding is the reinforcing ornamental molding at the breech of the barrel where it joins the breech plug tang. Commonly known as "wedding bands."

Bayonet Lug Sometimes the Front Sight. On some Dutch & French Arms the additional or separate lug for the bayonet socket.

Britch The Breech or rear end of the barrel

Britch Pin or Britch Screw is the tang that included the breech threads. Usually called a breech plug today.

Britch Tap The threading tool that cuts the threads in the barrel for Britch Pin/Screw or Breech Plug as it is known today.

Cock The "S" shaped part that holds the flint, on a Percussion gun it is called the Hammer

Cock Jaw Top Jaw

Cock Pin or Screw Top Jaw Screw

Cramp and less commonly **Spring Cramp** - This most often what we call a "Spring Vise" today but could also have been some kind of piece of case-hardened Iron or Steel that was notched to fit over the springs when compressed. Either held the springs compressed so the lock could be disassembled and later reassembled.

Double Bridle (Lock) Refers to a Lock that has both a Bridle over the Tumbler AND a Bridle or Reinforcement for the Hammer/Steel/Frizen.

Feather Spring Another term for the Hammer or Frizzen Spring

Fence The vertical upward extension at the rear of the priming pan to prevent the pan-flash reaching the face of the shooter.

Furniture (Mounts) Brass or Steel stock fittings used to protect and/or strengthen various areas of the stock.

Hammer What we call the frizzen. Some called it the battery or the “Steel”

Hammer Pin Frizzen Screw

Hammer Spring Frizzen Spring

Lock Nails or Pins Side lock Screws that hold the lock in the stock

Loop (Lug or Tennon) A barrel lug through which Pins passed to hold the stock to the barrel OR for the Front Swivel Screw.

Noseband or Nose Band Normally a piece of sheet brass (though sometimes other metals) wrapped around the front of a stock to reinforce it against splitting or as a repair for such a split.

Nosecap or Nose Cap Normally a cast Brass Cap for the front end of the stock and used with Muskets fitted with Steel Rammers. Different from a “Nose Band” in that it was a solid piece that fitted over the front end of the stock.

Rammer The steel “Ramrod” that was used mostly on Military Arms

Ramrod Always meant to have been made of wood, even when referring to earlier Military Muskets before Steel Rammers were used. Was also called a wiping rod, wiping stick or loading rod.

Screw Worm A curious combination of a two tined Worm combined with a Ball Puller Screw in the center and between the tines of the Worm. Probably not very effective as not many seemed to have been made past the 18th century.

Sidenails or Side Nails The screw/screws that passed through the stock and held the Lock in place

Sidepiece What we call the Side Plate today

Sidepiece Flat The flat area the same general size of the Lock Panel and on the other side of the stock, AKA the Side Panel.

Sight (Front) British Ordnance always used the term “Sight,” though sometimes referred to by others as the Bayonet Lug.

Sight (Rear) it was called a hind sight

Single Bridle (Lock) A lock that had only a Bridle over the Tumbler and not one for the Frizzen.

Steel or The Steel Another period name for the Frizzen. Besides the springs, this is the one part usually, if not always, made of steel and struck sparks like a Steel from a fire starting kit.

Swivel Pin Swivel Screw

Threads The British Ordnance Term for the Decorative Double Engraved Lines on a Lock, Cock or other parts.

Thumbpiece The Brass Escutcheon Plate commonly found on Military Muskets behind the Barrel Tang. Normally engraved with the Regiment, Company and Rack Number of the Musket.

Tumbler Pin Cock Screw AKA “Hammer” Screw on Percussion guns. Somewhat large headed screw seen from the outside of the lock that joins the Cock and Tumbler.

Turnscrew is a screwdriver.

Worm This was a coil spring with one sharpened tip when using Wood Ramrods. When they switched to Iron/Steel Rammers, these normally had two sharpened tips

and were threaded to go onto the rear end of the Rammers. In the Flintlock Era, these were used to wrap Tow or a piece of Rag to clean/oil the barrel.