

Hunter Arms Co. Fulton Guns

“There's Quality, Power and Sport Built Into Fulton Guns”

*There's Quality, Power and Sport
Built Into*

FULTON GUNS

Made to Retail at \$29 00

Nearly a half-century of shotgun making has taught us how to build a world of power, high quality and all around sport into every Fulton Gun.
Fulton quality and workmanship are high—the price is low.
Your dealer should have Fulton Guns in stock. If not, write us for Booklet L81



HUNTER ARMS COMPANY, INC. **FULTON, N. Y.**

The boxlock Hunter Arms gun, designed by G.S. Lewis was introduced in 1904. The 1904 Hunter Arms Co. Annual Report, dated January 11, 1905, states “14 Hunters” were made in 1904. Missabe Fluid Steel (later found on Fulton tradename guns) was registered as a Hunter Arms Co. trademark in 1905. A total of 15,451 boxlock shotguns were produced before Hunter Arms Co. received a patent for the gun Feb. 7, 1911 (#983,559, submitted Feb. 28, 1906), and another 8,190 before the introduction of the Fulton in 1915. A total of 38,754 boxlocks were produced 1904-1918, and they were referred to as “Hunters” until the name was changed to “Fulton” in 1915.

Fulton Schematic

<https://www.gunpartscorp.com/gun-manufacturer/fulton/dbl-bbl-hammerless>

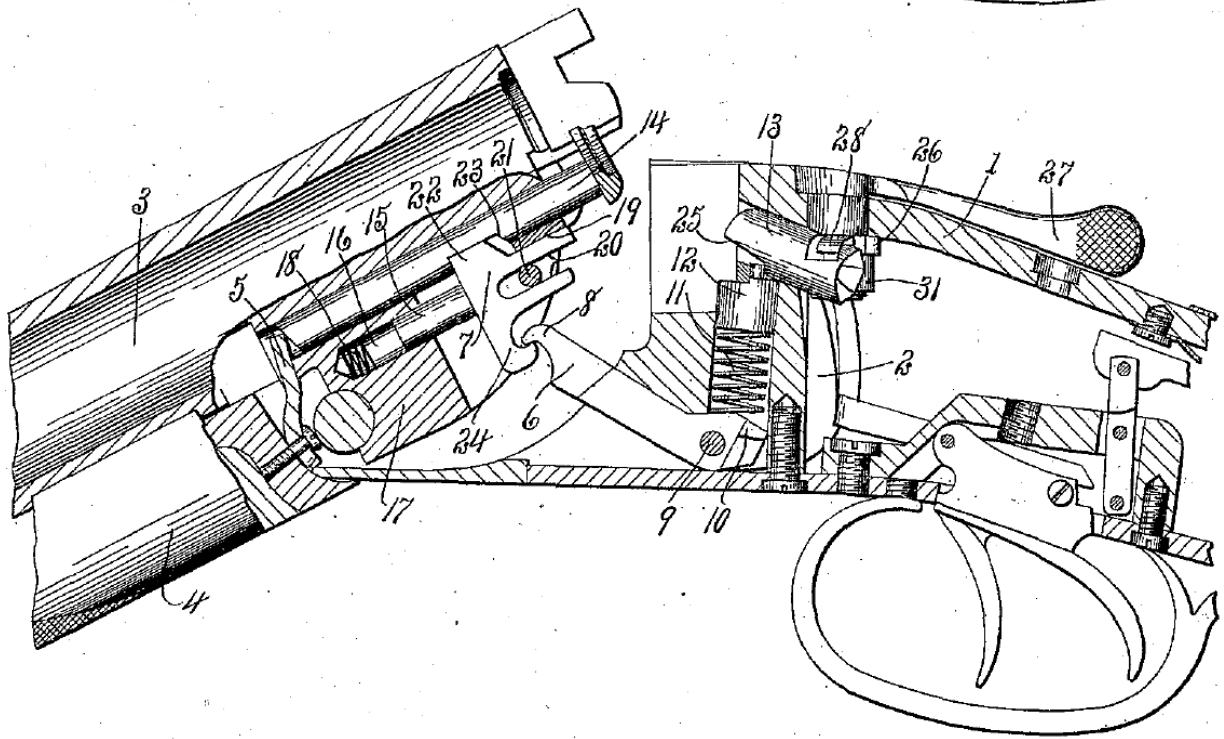
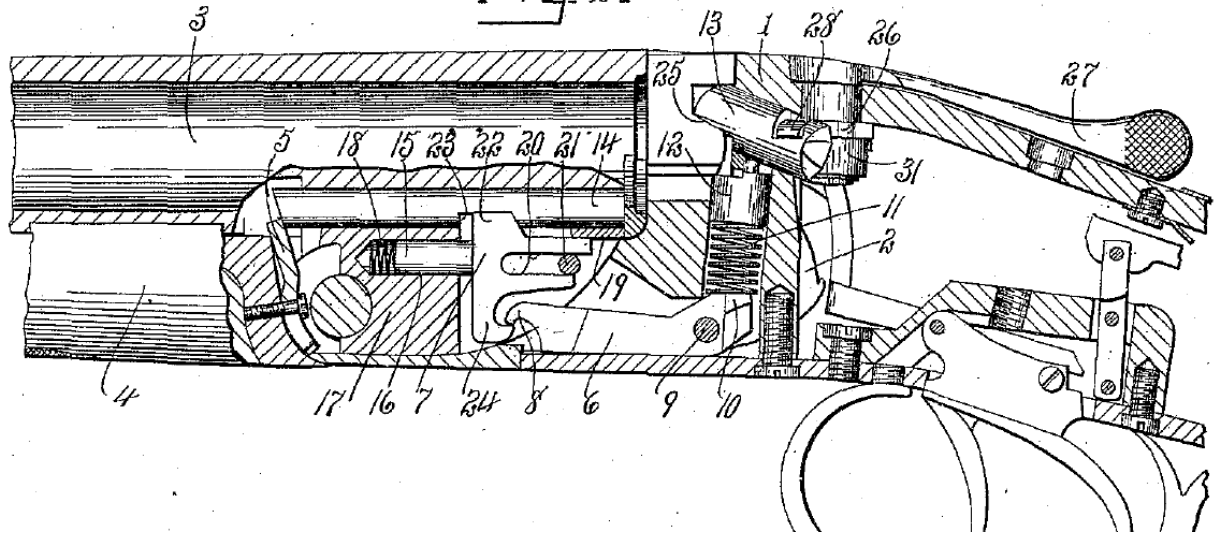
Patent drawings

983,559.

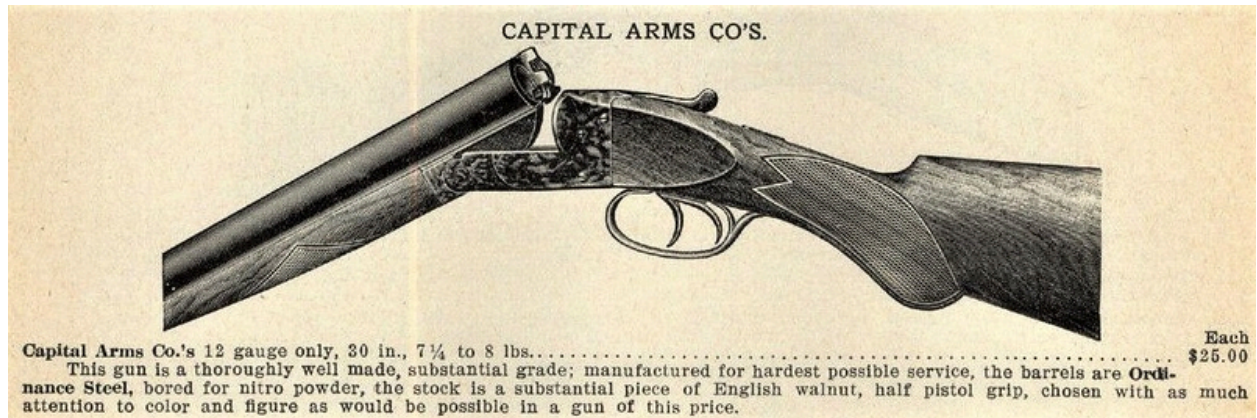
Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



The 1908 Van Camp Hardware, Indianapolis catalog has an illustration of the tradename “Capital Arms Co.” boxlock



Which is the same image as that used in the 1912 Schoverling, Daly & Gales catalog for “Manhattan Arms Co.”, with the barrels marked “Superior Quality” and “For Nitro Powder”.

MANHATTAN ARMS CO. GUN



This is a first quality Automatic Safety Hammerless Gun. The barrels are superior quality steel, suitable for Nitro powder, oiled polished dark blue finish, choke bored and targeted. The locks are the celebrated Anson & Deeley System, the rib is finely matted and has a lock bite in the extension, assuring a secure fastening. The action is handsomely case hardened. The stock is polished walnut, half pistol grip, grip and fore-end chekered, heavy rubber butt plate.

No. 2. Manhattan Arms Co. 12 gauge only; 28, 30 and 32 inch. barrels; weight, 7 to 7³/₄ pounds Net, \$15.00

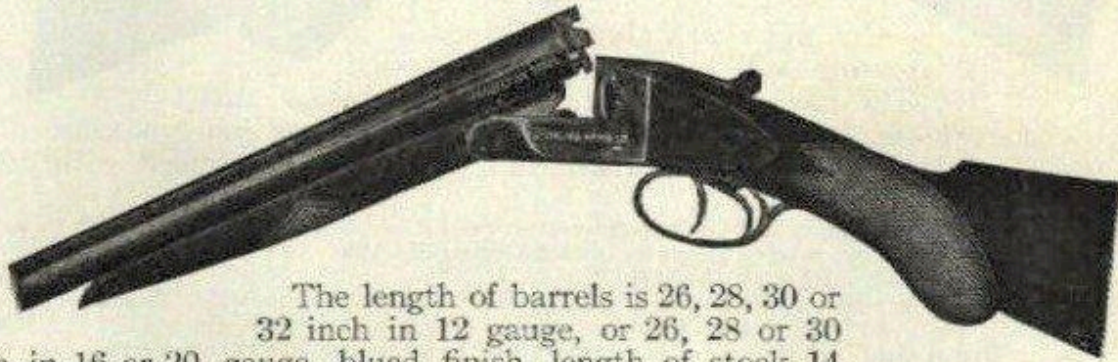
It would appear to be likely that the “Hunter” was never marketed as such, but only as a tradename gun, explaining why none have been found.

1916 New York Sporting Goods catalog

...formerly sold by us under the name of “Sterling.”

HUNTER ARMS CO.'S "FULTON" GUN

While new in name this arm has stood the test of many years' service, as it was formerly sold by us under the name of "Sterling." Beginning with 1915 the makers decided to publicly acknowledge that the gun is made in the same factory as the well-known "Smith," and the brand "Fulton" has been adopted as a distinguishing mark. It is designed for those who expect a gun of great efficiency, handsome appearance and fine work throughout, at a moderate price.



The length of barrels is 26, 28, 30 or 32 inch in 12 gauge, or 26, 28 or 30 inch in 16 or 20 gauge, blued finish, length of stock 14 to 14½ inches, drop at stock 2½ to 3 inches; weight from 7¼ to 8½ lbs. Both barrels are regularly choke bored, but right barrel modified choke if preferred.

Made with half pistol grip stock of fine American walnut attractively checkered with fore-end to match. The action contains few parts, strong and reliable. The safety is positive, preventing accidental discharge.

No. 18. Fulton Hammerless Gun, 20, 16 or 12 gauge.....\$18.00

Hunter Arms introduced the **Fulton Special** in 1916.

The Special had the additions of border engraving, a flying quail (right) and flying woodcock (left) on the receiver, a full pistol grip stock with checkered stock cheeks, and "THE FULTON SPECIAL" on the barrels.


In 1935 a **Non-Selective One-Trigger** was added and in 1938 a **.410** was offered.

The **Hunter Special** had a rotary bolt locking mechanism, cyanide case colors, and was introduced in 1937.

When the Fulton was introduced in 1915 it had a price of \$18. In 1916 Fulton Special was introduced at \$25.

1922 Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co. catalog

FULTON HAMMERLESS



This Fulton hammerless is made by The Hunter Arms Co., makers of the L. C. Smith Guns, and is constructed on the same lines and by the same workmen as their highest grade guns. It is a strong, substantial gun, and will stand the severe test to which all guns are subjected in these days of heavy nitro loads.

Barrels—Fluid blued steel, matted extension rib, plain extractor, both barrels full choke bored.

Stock—Selected walnut half pistol grip, neatly checkered and finished, hard rubber butt plate, selected checkered walnut snap fore-end.

Frame—Case hardened, drop forged top lever, automatic safety rebounding locks.

No. 100 —12 gauge, 30 or 32 in. barrels, w't 7½ to 8 lbs.	each	\$60.50
No. 16100 —16 gauge, 30 in. barrels, w't about 7 lbs.	each	60.50
No. 20100 —20 gauge, 28 in. barrels, w't about 6½ lbs.	each	60.50

September 1928 *Hunting & Fishing*

\$29⁰⁰ *Is Mighty Little For Such
High Grade Shot Guns*
FULTON GUNS

are carefully built to superior gun-making standards. One of them makes an ideal "first gun" or knockabout sporting piece.

They've become mighty well known in the last year or so and are doing fine work in the marsh and uplands—even in waterfowl shooting.

Your dealer probably stocks the Fulton. Ask to see one. If he doesn't, write for our Booklet J 82.



HUNTER ARMS COMPANY, Inc., Fulton, N. Y.

In the 1929 Stoeger Catalog No. 10 the Fulton is listed at \$29 and the Fulton Special is \$35. By Stoeger Catalog No. 18, 1932, the Depression had taken its toll and the Fulton was down to \$22.55 and the Fulton Special was \$28.35. (Information provided by Dave Noreen).

1940 Belknap Hardware, Louisville

SHOT GUNS
DOUBLE BARREL, HAMMERLESS
FULTON



A handsome box frame model capable of the most satisfactory shooting results.

Barrels—High grade steel blued finish.

Stock—Walnut, with half pistol grip, checkered and well finished.

Weights—12 gauge 7 to 7½ lbs; 16 gauge 7 lbs; 20 gauge 6 to 6½ lbs.

Without Automatic Ejector.

Each

No. F12-26—12 gauge, 26 in. barrel	} 71 25 \$28 50
No. F12-28—12 gauge, 28 in. barrel	
No. F12-30—12 gauge, 30 in. barrel	
No. F16-28—16 gauge, 28 in. barrel	
No. F20-28—20 gauge, 28 in. barrel	
No. F410-26—410 gauge, 26 in. barrel	

One in cardboard box; ten in wood case; wt case approx 70 lbs.

DOUBLE BARREL, HAMMERLESS
THE HUNTER SPECIAL



A box frame model. L. C. Smith Rotary bolt.

The greatest contribution to the sportsman in years. It handles fast, shoots true, balances perfectly.

A simple, rotary compensating mechanism which automatically takes up all the wear.

Barrel—Armor steel, blued.

Grip—Full pistol, checkered.

Stock—Sturdy, dependable, nicely checkered.

Weights—12 gauge, 6¾ to 7¼ lbs; 16 gauge, 6½ to 7 lbs; 20 gauge; 6½ to 6¾ lbs.

Each

No. 12HS—12 gauge, 26, 28 or 30 in. barrels	} \$81 00 \$33 50
No. 16HS—16 gauge, 26, 28 or 30 in. barrels	
No. 20HS—20 gauge, 26, 28 or 30 in. barrels	

One in cardboard box, six in carton.

Hunter Arms Boxlock Variants

First style 3 screw sculpted frame; 1 screw and 2 pin floorplate; bone charcoal case colors

1920 Delphia Arms Co. tradename gun



2nd Style 2 screw frame & 1 screw floorplate



3rd style 4 screw frame; c. 1926-1929



1927 4th style 3 screw frame Fulton Special

Bone charcoal case colors



5th style sculpted action; 2 screw frame and 3 screw floorplate

1937 Sears Ranger 104.3 courtesy of David Williamson



Hunter Special 5th style action



Cyanide case colors



1920 tradename Enders Royal with an etched receiver



Fulton grip checkering



Buttplate



Hunter Arms Fulton Trade Name Guns

“Enders Royal” with “Royal Steel” and “St. Louis Arms Co.” with “Blue Diamond Steel Bored By Skilled Mechanics” and “#1412 CRUCISTEEL Bored By Skilled Mechanics For Nitro Powder” for Shapleigh Hardware Co., St. Louis. The E.K. Tryon Co., Philadelphia had a Fulton “Keystone Arms Co.” with “Special Smokeless Steel” (along with Crescent guns) and a “Premier” & “Premier Special”.

Tryon and Great Western Gun Works, Pittsburgh both used the “New Haven Fire Arms Co.” name on Fulton guns. The barrels were marked “London Fluid Steel”.

“Capital Arms Co.” was a tradename for Van Camp Hdw., Indianapolis.

“Delphia Arms Co.” for Supplee Biddle Hardware Co., Philadelphia.

“Hackett Special” was made for Hacketts Hardware in upstate New York.

“HibSpeBar” and “Rev-O-Noc” for Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co., Chicago (Charles Conover was a Director and later President).

“Miller-Morse Special” for Miller Morse Hardware, Winnipeg.

“Warner Arms Corp. Brooklyn, N.Y.”

“Comstock Arms Co. Duluth”; A.H. Comstock was an officer in Marshall-Wells Hardware Co., Duluth.

“Hudson Arms” (possibly for H.T. Hudson, Portland Oregon or Hudson Sporting Goods Co., New York).

“Montgomery Ward & Co.”

“Sterling” for New York Sporting Goods

The retailer or location of “Royal Arms Co.” and “Hartley, Spackhalver & Fay” are unknown.

Fulton guns with no marking on the action, but with barrels marked “Faultless Steel” and “Bored by Experts” also exist; possibly for John Smythe Hardware Co., Chicago.

Unconfirmed Trade Name Fultons

“Marks” for William Read & Son, Boston

“Forest King” for Foster Mead Hardware Co., Huntington, West Virginia.

“Bridgeport Arms Co.”

“Bright Arms Co.”

“Empire State Arms Co.” (a Trade Name used by Sears)

“Jefferson Arms Co. Richmond, Virginia”

“Kirk Gun Co.” for Farwell, Ozmun, Kirk & Co., St. Paul, Minnesota

“Western Special” with “English Fluid Steel”

Fulton guns with NO markings on the action or barrels also exist.
See Winter 2013 *Double Gun Journal* Vol. 24, Issue 4, p. 135

The Fall, 1918 Sears, Roebuck and Co. catalog listed the **GLADIATOR** Field (Fulton), Gladiator Tournament (Engraved Fulton), and Gladiator Diamond (Engraved Fulton).

Two hundred and eighty Gladiator Field (166), Gladiator Tournament (61), and Gladiator Diamond (53) were made in 1918 (214) and 1919 (66).

Shotguns
The Gladiator Field Grade Hammerless Gun

BARRELS—lined steel, full choke bored. Fitted with an extension rib with crosshairs. Positive extractor.

FRAME—steel drop forging, casehardened, mottled finish, coil mainspring.

ACTION—Top lever, patent safety slide.

STOCK—Genuine walnut. Pitted grip and fore-end nicely checkered. Rubber grip cap and butt plate. State length of barrels wanted.

No. GN40½ 12-gauge, 28 or 32-inch barrels. Weight, 7½ to 8 pounds. Packed for shipment, about 14 pounds. Price.....	\$24.45
No. GN41¼ 16-gauge, 28 or 30-inch barrels. Weight, 7 to 7½ pounds. Packed for shipment, about 15 pounds. Price.....	24.55
No. GN42¾ 20-gauge, 28 or 28-inch barrels. Weight, 6 to 7½ pounds. Packed for shipment, about 15 pounds. Price.....	24.65

The Gladiator Tournament Grade Hammerless Gun

BARRELS—lined steel, full choke bored, compensating extension rib, with crosshairs. Positive extractor.

FRAME—Solid steel drop forging, casehardened, mottled finish. Nicely engraved in artistic design.

ACTION—Improved top snap lever; automatic thumb safety.

STOCK—Well selected walnut. Pitted grip and fore-end handsomely checkered. Rubber grip cap and butt plate. State length of barrels wanted.

No. GN43¼ 12-gauge, 28 or 32-inch barrels. Weight, 7½ to 8 lbs. Packed for shipment, about 14 lbs. Price.....	\$34.25
No. GN44¼ 16-gauge, 28 or 30-inch barrels. Weight, 7 to 7½ lbs. Packed for shipment, about 15 lbs. Price....	\$34.35
No. GN45¼ 20-gauge, 28 or 28-inch barrels. Weight, 7 to 7½ lbs. Packed for shipment, about 15 lbs. Price....	34.50

Gladiator

The factory at Meriden where the well known Meriden Fire Arms were made has discontinued the manufacture of sporting fire arms.

The Gladiator Brand, here illustrated, is manufactured for us under a special contract by one of the most widely known Eastern firms of fire arm manufacturers. We are enabled, through our arrangement with this concern, to offer a line of high grade shot-guns at remarkably low prices. The material and workmanship entering into the construction of Gladiator Guns are first class, and sportsmen will immediately recognize the exceptional values represented by these guns.

All Gladiator Guns are strongly bolted, and so constructed that they will not shoot loose. The barrels are made of a high grade carbon steel, having a tensile strength of 85 to 95 thousand pounds to the square inch. They are full choke bored and are guaranteed to pattern 70 per cent or better. Further, in producing the Gladiator Brand of guns, great care has been given to all details of balance, outline and finish.

The Gladiator Diamond Grade Hammerless Gun

BARELS—Blued steel, full choke bored, will pattern 70 per cent or better in a 30-inch circle at 40 yards. Crossbite extension rib, positive extractor.

FRAME—Solid steel drop forging in a beautiful dark mottled finish. The frame and guard are elaborately engraved by artists.

ACTION—Improved top snap lever; automatic thumb safety.

STOCK—Specially selected genuine walnut pistol grip stock and fore-end handsomely checkered. The graceful lines, balance and beauty of design make this grade of the Gladiator very attractive. Hand fitted fancy grip cap and butt plate.

No. 6N46 $\frac{1}{4}$ 12-gauge only, 30 or 32-inch barrels.
State length of barrels wanted.
Weight, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 pounds. Packed for shipment, about 14 pounds.
Price..... \$45.45

Gladiator Ideal Grade Hammer Gun

1920 catalog

L. C. Smith Hammer Gun.



BARRELS—Full choke bored, for black or smokeless powder. 12-gauge, 30 or 32 inches. Raised matted rib. Positive extractor.
ACTION—Patent Crossbolt lock, top snap, compensating fore-end, rebounding bar lock, circular hammers.
FRAME—Solid steel, casehardened, mottled finish. The breech is made strong and substantial.
STOCK—American walnut, one-half pistol grip, finely checkered and finished. Checkered walnut fore-end.
6D98 $\frac{1}{4}$ —12-gauge, 30 or 32-inch barrels. State which is wanted.
 Weight, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 pounds. Shipping weight, 14 pounds. **\$42.10**
 Price.....

Fulton Hammerless Guns.
MADE BY THE HUNTER ARMS CO.



BARRELS—Full choke bored. Tapered matted rib. Positive extractor.
FRAME—Solid steel, casehardened. Compensating extension rib; patent safety slide and top lever.
STOCK—Selected walnut, finely checkered, highly polished. Checkered walnut fore-end. Be sure to state length of barrels wanted.

Catalog No.	Gauge	Stock	Locks	Length Barrels	Wt., Lbs.	Price
6D24 $\frac{1}{4}$	12	Half Pistol Grip	Knurled	30 or 32 in.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8	\$42.10
6D25 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	Half Pistol Grip	Knurled	28 or 30 in.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7	42.10
6D27 $\frac{1}{4}$	20	Half Pistol Grip	Knurled	26 or 28 in.	6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	42.10

Weight, packed for shipment, 14 pounds.

Engraved Gladiator Tournament Hammerless Gun.



BARRELS—Blued steel, full choke bored, compensating extension rib, with crossbite. Positive extractor.
FRAME—Solid steel, casehardened, mottled finish. Nicely engraved in artistic designs.
ACTION—Improved top snap lever; automatic thumb safety.
STOCK—Well selected walnut. Pistol grip and fore-end handsomely checkered. Rubber grip cap and butt plate.
6D13 $\frac{1}{4}$ —12-gauge, 30-inch barrels. Weight, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 pounds. Packed for shipment, about 14 pounds. **\$35.50**
 Price.....

Sears, Roebuck and Co.

1920 Gladiator Tournament



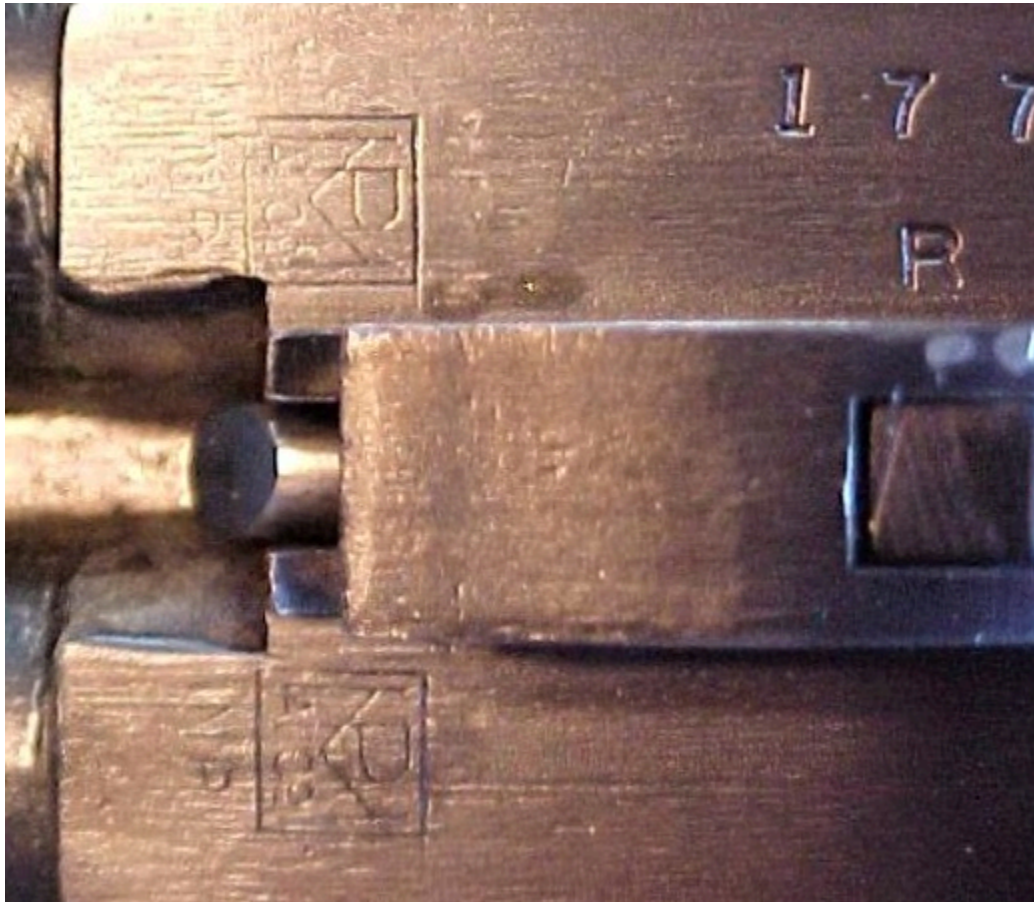
8,237 Sears 104.3 RANGER Fulton guns were made 1937-1939

The guns were marked "Precision" or "Precision Grade", had twin beads, a capped pistol grip, and a Ranger marked recoil pad.

3,920 were 12g; 2,787 16g; 1,308 20g; and 222 .410.



Barrel flats marked with the HAC proofmark and 'R'



Production

38,754 boxlock guns were manufactured before 1918 and 35,881 Fulton guns 1918-1946. Fulton Special (1918-1941) production totaled only 3,475. Hunter Special (1937-1945) production was 5,971. Total Hunter Arms Co. boxlock production was 92,598

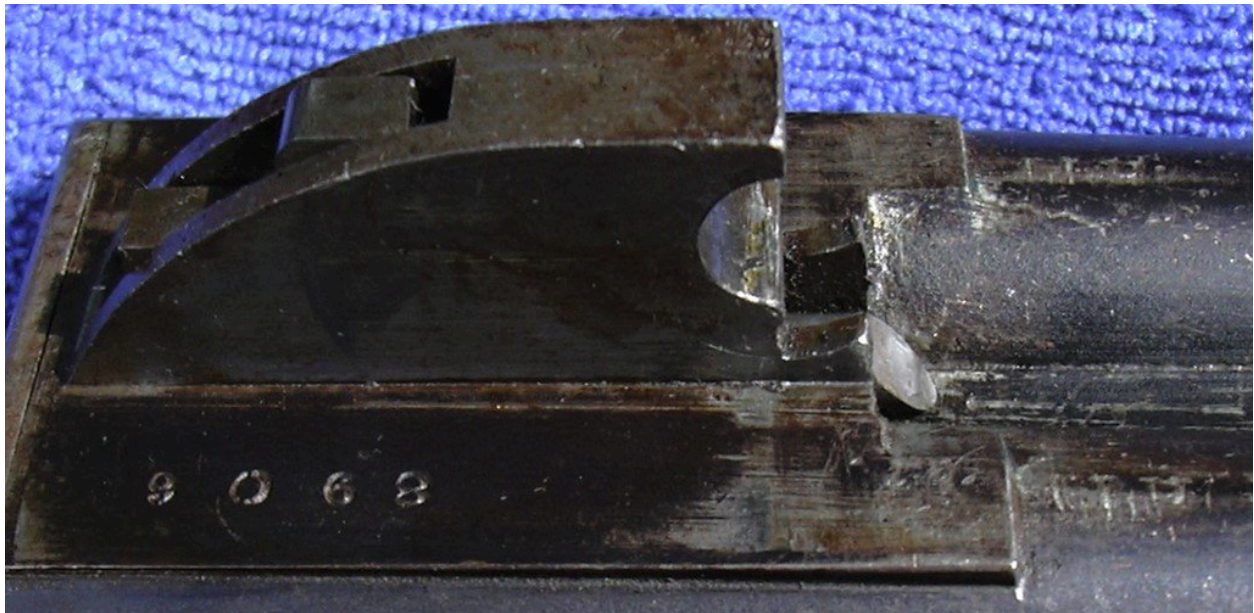
Design and Engineering

Fulton Top Rib Extension

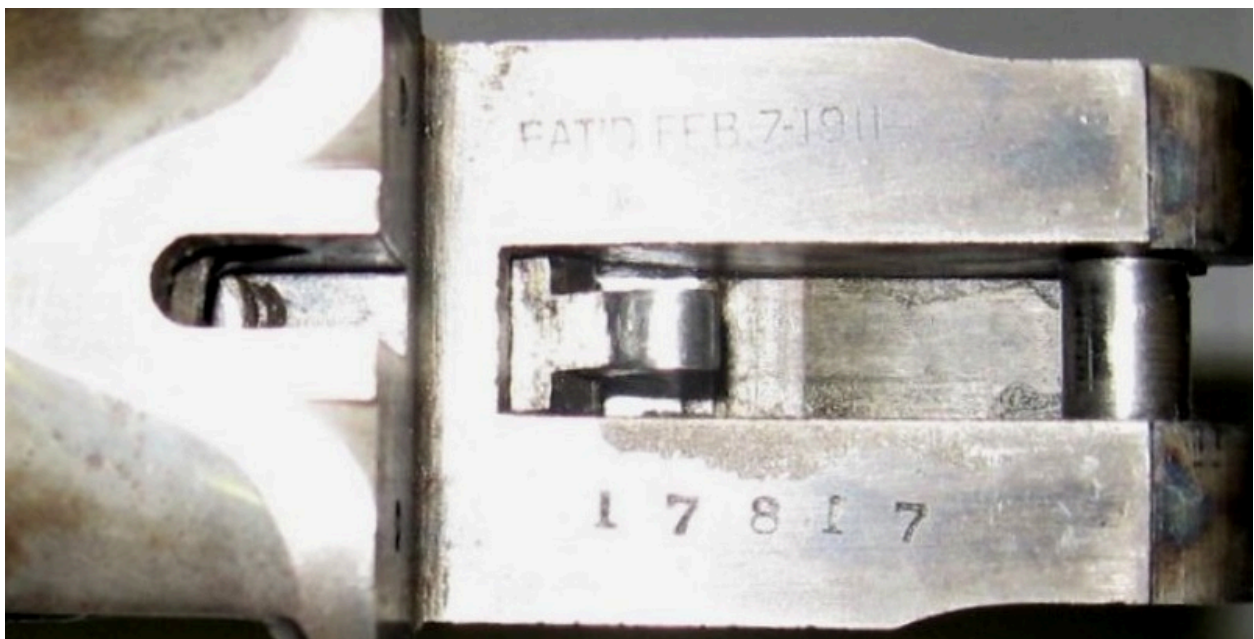


Lug and cocking hook

Note the 'LLH' of the Belgian barrel tube maker *Laurent Lochet-Habran*



Locking bolt and top lever release visible in top rib extension slot
Cocking lever in frame cut out
Note PAT'D FEB 7 - 1911

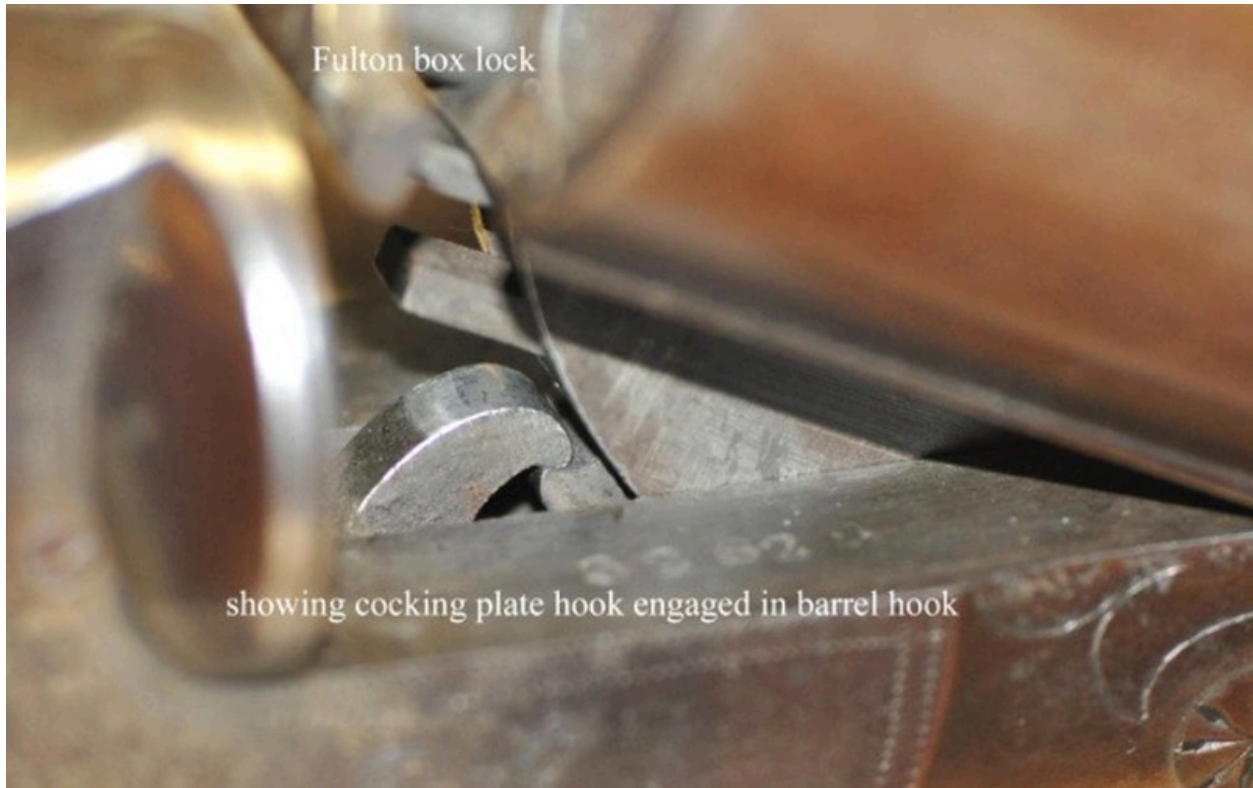


1918 Fulton tradename gun with PAT. APL'D FOR



Cocking hook engaged with cocking lever

Courtesy of David Williamson



DISASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS courtesy of Chuck Heald

The barrel has a cocking hook that can hang up.

- 1) With the forend on (completely assembled gun) be sure the gun is cocked by opening and closing the action. Do this with the muzzles down, nearly vertical. This will unload the cocking catch in the barrels from the receiver mechanism.
- 2) Give the gun a rap on the butt or bump the muzzles on a carpeted floor (muzzles down still).
- 3) Pull the forend off, while keeping the muzzles down and the hammers cocked.
- 4) Push the toplever to the right all the way and remove the barrels. If it starts to hang on the hook, ease up then push the barrels back a bit then pull them forward against the hinge pin again and continue to break it open.

This last action tends to push the cocking hook in the barrels forward and releases it from the cocking plate in the frame.

KEEP THE MUZZLES DOWN DURING THIS STEP.

FOR REASSEMBLY the cocking hook on the bottom of the frame may need to be “cocked” with a wooden dowel in order to replace the barrels.

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