John Bailes of London, flint locks, left & right:

Sometimes called a small Manton, baby Durs Egg, or small English flint lock, this smaller lock is a fine London design, in the style of John Bailes, gun maker. Correctly used on English pistols, rifles and dainty fowlers of the 1770-1810 period. After about 1780 this improved style of lock is found on American guns, having been smuggled here from England in quantity.

More complex than the small Siler lock, notice that the cock jaws point directly into the semi-waterproof pan. The unusual frizzen flange fits and seals the pan, keeping priming dry. The well designed tumbler and sear have raised bearing rings turned around axes, to minimize friction. Lock makers sometimes call this a "frictionless" or "ghosted" lock, because you can see through its internals, if viewed sideways. A fly detent is fitted to the tumbler's mortise, preventing the sear from accidentally engaging the half-cock notch when fired. Suitable for use with plain or set triggers. Similar in size to the small Siler lock, to simplify lock disassembly. As you examine the photographs, notice the "cut away" tumbler and "swing out" link, which greatly facilitate lock disassembly. As you examine the photographs, notice the tumbler's lower arm is made to catch the mainspring if the tumbler arm or link should break while being cocked. Indeed, in the early days of metallurgy, this was the "weakest link" in this style of lock. But even if the link fails, this lock will fire its one last shot. Obviously John Bailes, gun maker. Correctly used on English pistols, rifles and dainty fowlers of the 1770-1810 period. After about 1780 this improved style of lock is found on American guns, having been smuggled here from England in quantity.

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1770 - 1810 era flint lock by John Bailes of London right or left

John Bailes flint lock, left

John Bailes flint lock, right

Parts for “Bailes of London” flintlock, right:
All new L&R parts are machined and tempered, ready to use. You will find these loose parts very useful for restoring a “percuss’d” antique lock back to its original flint configuration.

Parts for John Bailes of London flint lock, left:
These are the unique left hand replacement parts for Bailes flintlock, all other parts are the same as the right hand Bailes flintlock.

Matching right & left flint & percussion locks are available

Prices shown were current when printed, but may change over time. To check our current prices, visit our web site at: www.trackofthewolf.com