

**NZAR ID 413 ARM TYPE: Pistol. Draft date (V1) 11 August 2013, Compiled by Phil Cregeen^{FSG},
Pattern: Beaumont Adams percussion revolver. Introduced: c1856. Withdrawn: c1880s?**

Specifications: Makers: Robert Adams, Deane Adams & Deane, London Armoury Co., Birmingham and Belgium Gun Trade.

Caliber: 0.442 in. (54 bore) 3 groove rifled bore. 5 chamber cylinder. Double action.

Weight: 2 lb 8.2 oz (1140 grams). LOA 12.0 in. Barrel: 6.0 in. Octagonal London proofed barrel with solid frame.

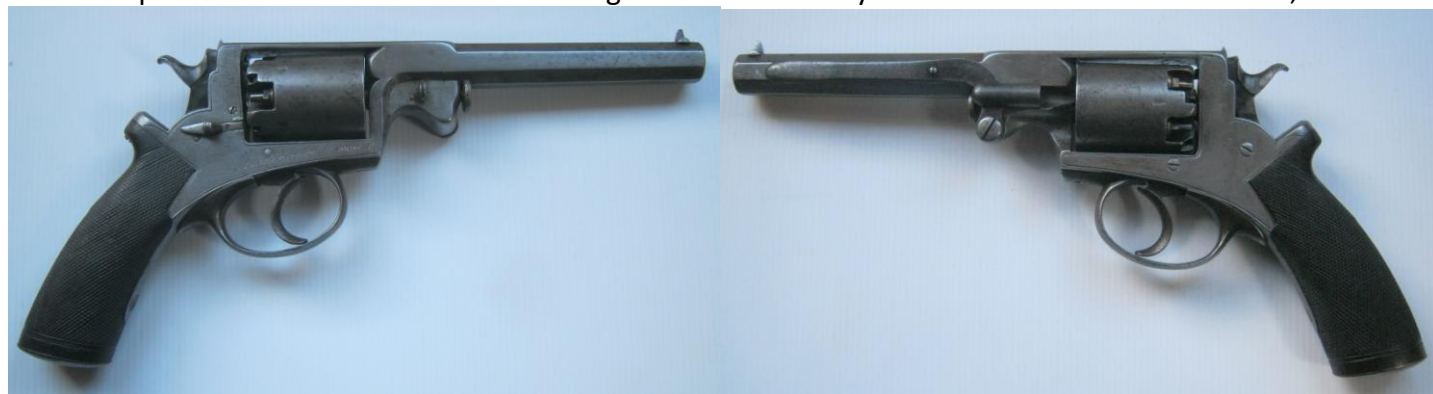
Removable cylinder arbour secured by a small thumb screw. One piece chequered walnut grips secured by a screw through front and back strap, with steel butt plate. Steel blade fore-sight and vee rear sight cast on top shield.

Kerr type loading lever on left side of barrel. Sliding safety catch on right side engages cylinder.

Muzzle velocity 620 fps. Effective range 35 yards.

On 20 February 1855, Lieutenant Frederick E.B. Beaumont of the Royal Engineers was granted a British patent for improvements to the Adams revolver which allowed them to be cocked and fired either cocking the hammer as in Colt single-action revolvers, or by just pulling the trigger. It was the first true double-action system. In partnership with George and John Deane, the company of Deane, Adams & Deane produced the new revolver in a variety of calibres and sizes, from pocket pistols to large military versions. The United Kingdom officially adopted the 54-bore (.442" calibre) & 38 bore (.497" calibre) Beaumont-Adams in 1856.

This example is marked "Robert Adams 76 King William Street City EC" and "Adams Patent No 100,001 C".



Top strap marked "Robert Adams 76 King William Street City EC"



Powder flask, caps, balls, wads, and mould

New Zealand Service: Most gunsmiths and arms dealers in New Zealand sold Beaumont Adams revolvers in pocket and holster versions, costing around £6 in 1863. The Beaumont Adams revolver was carried by many British Officers, who had to buy their own pistols, serving in New Zealand. It was later used by NZ Militia and units such as the Forest Rangers. It was officially adopted by the NZ Armed Constabulary in October 1867 and by August 1869 there were 740 on issue.

Acknowledgements & special thanks to: John Osborne.

Reference: Handguns & Police in New Zealand 1840 -1990 by J Osborne.
British Military firearms 1650-1850 by H L Blackmore.