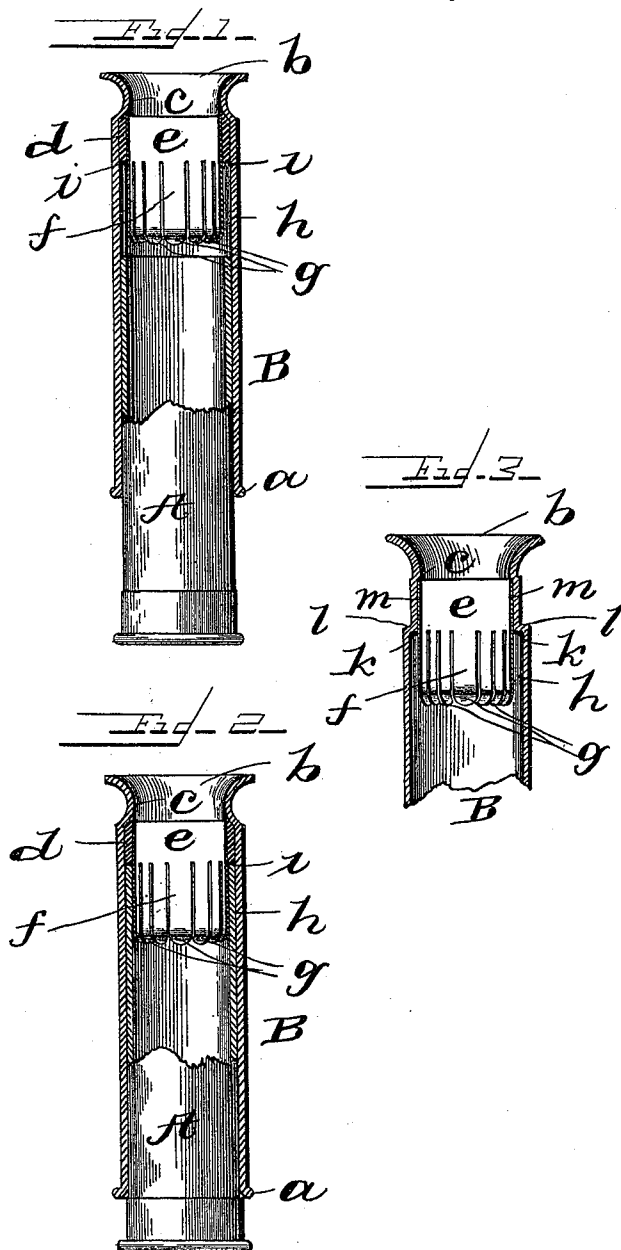


(No Model.)

F. R. BALDWIN.
CARTRIDGE LOADER.

No. 479,613.

Patented July 26, 1892.



Witnesses
G. A. Tauberschmidt,
H. B. Reinohl

Inventor
F. R. Baldwin
By Johnston & Reinohl
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK RUEL BALDWIN, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

CARTRIDGE-LOADER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 479,613, dated July 26, 1892.

Application filed April 6, 1892. Serial No. 428,037. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK RUEL BALDWIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cartridge-Loaders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My present invention relates to cartridge-loaders, and has for its object the construction of an implement especially adapted to reload paper cartridges or shells.

In the use of paper cartridges or shells the end is crimped to secure the charge in the cartridge, and this crimping after having been repeated several times breaks the stock or paper, which makes it soft and flimsy and as a consequence difficult to reload.

It is my purpose to provide an implement which will facilitate the reloading of paper cartridges whether they be in good or bad condition; and to this end my invention consists in the improvements in construction which will be fully disclosed in the following specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a vertical section of my improved loader, showing the end of a cartridge about to enter the space between the flexible fingers or guard and the body of the loader. Fig. 2 represents a similar view showing the end of the cartridge up against the seat of the chamber formed by the flexible fingers or guard and the guard covering the usually-broken portion of the cartridge, and Fig. 3 a similar view showing a modification of the upper end of the loader.

Reference being had to the drawings and the letters thereon, A indicates a paper cartridge of ordinary construction; B, the loader of my improved construction, which consists of a cylinder of sheet metal, which may be slightly flared or expanded at its lower end *a* to facilitate the insertion of cartridges whose ends have been broken or torn by frequent use. The upper end of the loader is provided

with a bell-mouth *b* to facilitate the insertion of wads and impart to them in their passage an initial bend or configuration preparatory to entering the cartridge, and said bell-mouth terminates in an annular contraction or depression, forming a throat *c*, which is nearly the same diameter as the inside of the cartridge to be loaded. Immediately below and adjoining the throat *c* is a concentric collar *d*, slightly thicker than the body or wall of the cartridge, and on the inner surface of the collar is secured a lining *e* of very thin sheet metal, preferably steel, which extends about half an inch or more below the collar *d*, and said lower portion has incisions through it severing the metal and forming numerous narrow flexible or resilient fingers *f*, which form substantially a continuous wall and a guard to the upper end of the cartridge while the wads are being forced into the cartridge by a suitable ramrod. (Not shown.) The ends *g* of the fingers *f* are rounded and slightly bent inward to enable the cartridge to pass under the fingers without being torn as it is guided by the forefinger of the user of the implement.

It will be observed that the fingers *f* are all in planes coincident with the body of the loader, thereby forming an annular chamber *h*, having parallel walls throughout its length and up to the lower end of the collar *d* and of a width in cross-section slightly in excess of the thickness of the wall or body of the cartridge, which prevents the end of the cartridge being compressed and caught between the body of the loader and the fingers *f* and the ragged end of the cartridge torn off in withdrawing the loaded cartridge from the loader. This feature of the construction will be readily appreciated by sportsmen, for the reason that in loaders of this kind the lodgment of pieces of cartridges under the fingers *f* would soon render the loader useless, besides proving a great annoyance to the person using the implement. It will also be observed that by forming the chamber *h* with parallel walls and providing the concentric collar *d* a shoulder or seat *i* is formed, which constitutes the upper end of the chamber *h* and which rests upon the end of the cartridge while loading it,

thereby enabling the loader to be used with cartridges of a variety of lengths, as the lower end of the loader need not rest upon a table or like structure.

5 While this device is especially designed for loading paper cartridges, it is obvious that metallic cartridges may be loaded in like manner.

In Fig. 3 is shown a modification of the construction of the upper end of the loader and in which the concentric ring *d* is dispensed with and instead thereof a shoulder or seat *k* for the chamber *h* is formed in the body of the loader by a right-angled bend *l* in the metal, and the lining *e*, with its fingers *f*, is secured to the vertical inward-projecting part *m* just below the throat *c*.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A cartridge-loader having a concentric inward projection near its upper end and provided with vertical flexible fingers in planes coincident with the body of the loader and extending below said projection.

2. A cartridge-loader having a concentric seat near its upper end and an annular chamber below said seat provided with parallel walls.

3. A cartridge-loader having a concentric

inward projection near its upper end and an annular chamber below said projection provided with parallel walls, the inner one of which is resilient.

4. A cartridge-loader having a concentric seat and flexible fingers provided with rounded and inwardly-bent ends to embrace and protect the broken end of a cartridge while loading.

5. A cartridge-loader having a bell mouth terminating in an annular contraction forming a throat of a diameter about equal to the inside of the cartridge, a concentric collar forming a seat for the end of a cartridge, and a flexible guard for the upper end of the cartridge.

6. A cartridge-loader having a bell mouth, and a chamber having a shoulder or seat and vertical and parallel walls to receive the end of a cartridge, the inner one of said walls being flexible.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK RUEL BALDWIN.

Witnesses:

GERARD C. GREEN,
GEO. W. WELLS.