

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARTRIDGE-LOADER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,242, dated July 27, 1886.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES V. THOMPSON, of Fort Madison, in the county of Lee and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Cartridge-Loader, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in cartridge-loaders; and it consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved cartridge-loader, certain portions of the device being shown in section; and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the loader.

The instrument is set upon a base-plate, A, and consists, essentially, of a standard, B, the upper end of which is slotted to receive the end of a lever-arm, C, said lever-arm being pivotally connected to the standard by a bolt or screw, *a*. The lever C projects outward beyond the end of the base-plate A, where it is provided with a handle, D. A plunger, E, formed with an upper slotted end, *b*, through which slot the lever C passes, is connected to the lever by a screw or bolt, *c*, the machine being provided with a number of these plungers which vary in size to fit within shells of varying caliber.

To the end of the plate A, opposite that to which the standard B is fixed, I secure a wooden post, F, formed with a recess, *f*, in its upper end, said standard or post F being intended to receive a shell, N, in the position shown best in Fig. 1, the idea being to recap an empty shell, the cap being pressed to place by a projection, *e*, that is carried by the lever C. This post F is held to the plate A by means of a screw or bolt, *g*, and a set-screw, *h*, so that when the standard is not being used for the purpose of recapping shells the set-screw *h* may be withdrawn from engagement with the plate A, and the standard may be turned upon the screw or bolt *g* as an axis to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig.

2. After the shells N have been recapped they are passed through the apertures *s s* of the leaf *o* of a folding loading-block, K, which leaf *o* is secured to the leaf *p* by a hinge, *q*, so that when the leaves are folded to the position shown in the drawings the caps of the shells will come directly over recesses *v v*, formed in the leaf *p*. This block K may be made any size desired—that is, it can be made to hold from one to thirty or even more shells. In order that the upper edges of the shells may not be injured when the plunger E is forced therein, I provide a funnel-shaped mouth-piece, P, which fits over the upper ends of the shells and protects their upper edges.

In using this machine a heavy pressure may be brought to bear upon the powder contained within the shell, and as the lever C is provided with a handle that is removed quite a distance from the shell, it necessarily follows that the operator is not subjected to so great risk as he would be in case he used the ordinary form of loader, wherein the plunger is forced home by the pressure of the palm of the hand directly upon said plunger, or wherein the plunger is held by one hand while the other is used to manipulate a mallet or hammer with which the plunger is struck.

In order that the lever may be suspended so that the plunger will be above the cartridges when the block K is being placed in position, and before the actual compressing connections, I provide a rest, H, which consists, essentially, of a brass-rod threaded to engage with plate A, and bent at right angles to form a bearing-surface, *d*, and again at right angles to form a stop, *i*. The whole device is arranged to be clamped to a table or other stationary support by means of clamps M.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A cartridge-loader consisting of the base-plate A, standard B, the lever C D, pivoted to said standard, and provided with the projection *e*, the plunger E, pivoted to the said lever, the cartridge-block K, secured to the base-plate under the plunger, and the

standard F, having a recess in its upper end and pivoted to the base-plate, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. In a cartridge-loader, the combination,
5 with the base-plate A, the standard B, and the lever-carrying plunger C, pivoted to the standard, of the rest H, secured to the base-

plate, and provided with the rest *d*, and stop *i*, substantially as herein shown and described.

JAMES V. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

FRED KORSCHGEN,
D. W. HENRY.