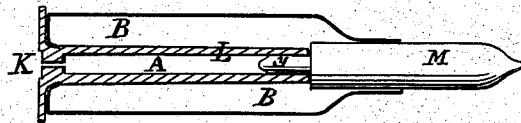# L. A. MERRIAM.
Cartridge.

No. 219,107.   Patented Sept. 2, 1879.

Witnesses :

H. A. Daniels.
G. B. Towles.

Inventor :

Lincoln A. Merriam.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LINCOLN A. MERRIAM, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN CARTRIDGES.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LINCOLN A. MERRIAM, of city, county, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cartridges, of which the following is a specification.

In constructing a cartridge I separate the powder-chamber into two or more compartments by the longitudinal walls L and the shot M, so arranged that the fire from one compartment explodes the other or others successively opened by the shot moving forward in the bore of the gun, as will be seen by reference to the figure in the accompanying drawing. These delays in exploding the powder lessen the recoil and strain of the piece by giving more space to the gases set free, give a gaseous cushion between the exploding charges and the metal of the gun, and at the same time concentrate the full energy of the explosion upon the shot. If the cartridge be central-fire the compartment A, as shown in the drawing making a part hereof, will first explode, and, acting upon the stem y of the shot M, closely fitting its opening, will drive the shot forward until y passes out of the compartment and the fire communicates with the powder in the compartment B. If, on the other hand, the cartridge be rim-fire the powder in B first explodes, and, acting upon the shoulders of the rear of the shot M, withdraws the stem y from the compartment A, so that the fire explodes that portion of the charge.

What I claim is—

A cartridge with the powder-chamber divided into separate compartments by the longitudinal walls L and the shot M, constructed and arranged in the manner and for the uses set forth.

LINCOLN A. MERRIAM.

Witnesses:
  B. ZEVELY,
  W. E. WILLIAMS.