

S. A. DARRACH.
Spherical-Target.

No. 204,300.

Patented May 28, 1878.

Fig. 1.

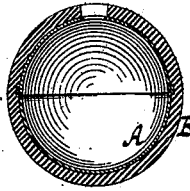


Fig. 2.

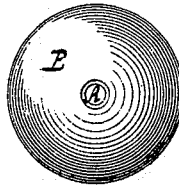
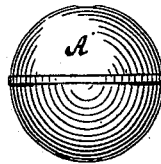


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

Otto Schufeland
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by

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL A. DARRACH, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPHERICAL TARGETS.

•Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,300**, dated May 23, 1878; application filed May 14, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL A. DARRACH, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sporting Target-Balls, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a central section of my target-ball. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the uncovered shell.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the combination, in a sporting target-ball, of an interior shell or body of sheet metal or other tough and rigid material, and a covering of plaster-paris or other fragile material, so that when the target-ball is thrown in the air and struck by a rifle-ball or shot the fragile covering splits up into fragments, and thereby the fact that the target-ball has been struck is clearly indicated, while the shell or body remains practically intact, and can be used over and over again; and, furthermore, a target-ball is produced which is of superior durability and cheapness.

In the drawing, the letter A designates the shell or body of my target-ball, which is, by preference, made hollow, of sheet metal, but which may be made of any other tough and rigid material, and which may be round, oval, or in any other desirable form or shape. This body is covered with a layer, B, of plaster-paris or any other fragile material, which is applied by casting it round the body A in a suitable mold, or by any other suitable means, and which is, by preference, made thinnest around the middle of the shell or body, so as to insure the shedding of the same.

Target-balls as now used are generally made of glass—a material which, when used

for this purpose, has several disadvantages. In the first place the glass balls are liable to become broken during their transportation; then a glass ball, when thrown in the air, is almost sure to break in coming down, and if it is hit by a rifle-ball or shot, it is scattered into a number of fragments, which are dangerous for cattle and horses.

My target-ball, when thrown into the air, is hardly ever injured by dropping to the ground, and when struck by a rifle-ball or shot the fragile covering-layer is scattered into fragments, which do no injury to any one, while the shell or body remains practically intact, and can be re-covered by a fragile covering for fresh use.

Furthermore, my target-balls can be packed up and shipped to any distance without danger of breaking.

In practice, I have found a sheet-metal shell to be best for the body of my target-ball; but a good result is also obtained by making a hollow sphere of wire, which can be dipped into plaster-paris, or otherwise coated with a fragile covering-layer.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, in a target-ball, of an interior shell or body of sheet metal or other tough and rigid material, and a covering-layer of plaster-paris or other fragile material, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 10th day of May, 1878.

S. A. DARRACH. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.