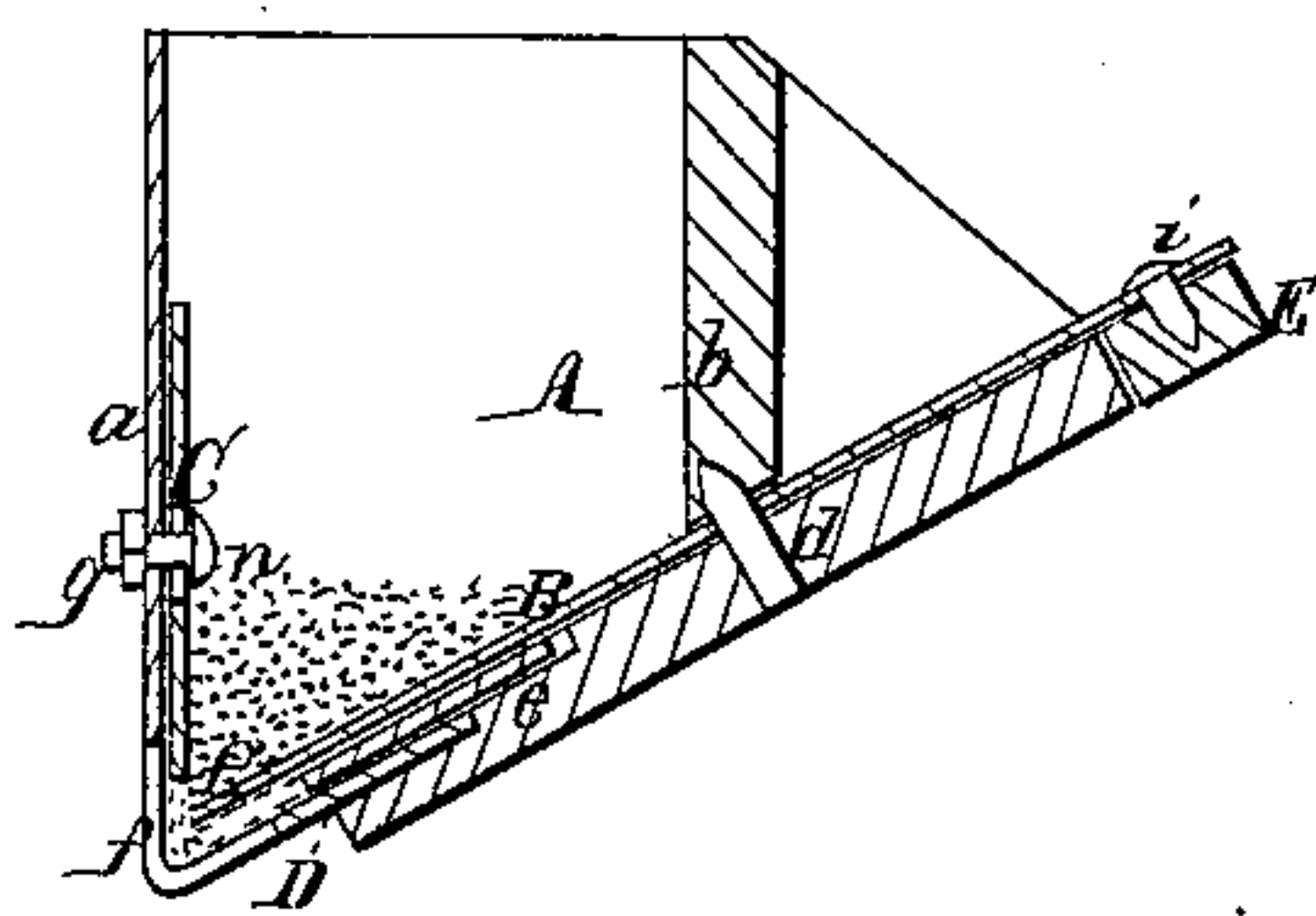


N. FOSTER.  
Seed-Dropper.

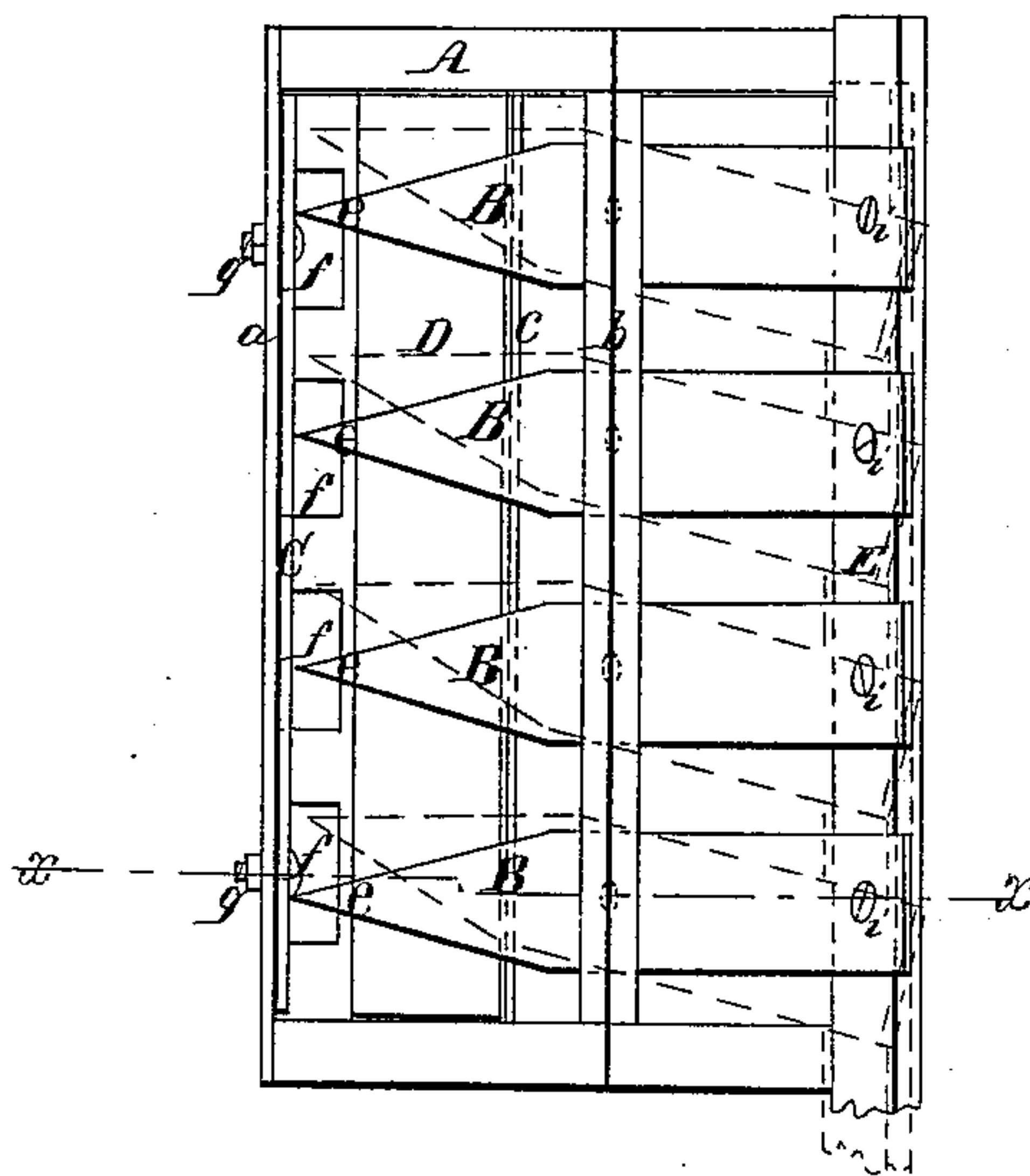
No. 37,393.

Patented Jan. 13, 1863.

*Fig 1*



*Fig 2*



Witnesses:  
JW Coombs  
GW Reed

Inventor:  
Norton Foster  
per Munn & Co attys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NEWTON FOSTER, OF PALMYRA, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BROADCAST SEED AND MANURE SOWERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 37,393, dated January 13, 1863.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NEWTON FOSTER, of Palmyra, in the county of Wayne and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Device for Sowing Seeds and Pulverulent Manures Broadcast; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my invention, taken in the line *xx*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a plan or top view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

The object of this invention is to obtain a simple and efficient means for distributing seed and pulverulent manures from the hopper or box which contains the same—a means which will be capable of being adjusted so that a greater or less quantity may be sown on a given area, as may be desired, and the device at the same time prevented from choking or clogging.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a hopper, the front and back sides, *a b*, of which are vertical and parallel with each other and the bottom *c* inclined, as shown in Fig. 1, the bottom *c* extending back beyond the back side, *b*, of the hopper and having a series of stirrers, B, attached to it by pivots *d*, which pass through the bottom *c*, directly underneath the back *b*, as shown in Fig. 1. The stirrers B may be constructed of metal plates, having parallel sides and pointed at their front ends, as shown at *e* in Fig. 2, the ends *e* extending nearly to the front side, *a*, of the hopper. The lower part of the front side, *a*, of the hopper and the front end of the bottom *c* are slotted, as shown at *f*, the slots being at equal distances apart and the angle of the hopper being in line with the centers of the slots, as shown clearly in Fig. 1. The front ends of the stirrers B work over the parts of these slots *f* which are formed in the bottom *c*, as shown in both figures.

To the inner surface of the front side, *a*, of the hopper A there is attached a slide, C, which extends the whole length of the hopper. This slide C may be adjusted higher or lower, so as to cover more or less of the parts of the slots *f* that are in the front side, *a*, of the hopper, and be secured at any desired point by set-screws *g g*, which pass through vertical oblong slots *h* in the slide C and through the side *a*.

D is a slide, which is placed on the front perforated part of the bottom *c* of the hopper, and, by being adjusted, may be made to cover more or less of the parts of the slots *f* that are in the bottom *c*. By adjusting the slides C D, therefore, it will be seen that the capacity of the slots *f* may be varied, as desired.

The back ends of the stirrers B are connected by pivots *i* to a bar, E, which has a reciprocating movement imparted to it by any proper means, and when the hopper is supplied with the manure or seed the latter, by the vibrating movement of the stirrers, will be discharged through the slots *f* in greater or less quantity, according to the capacity of the same, which, as previously described, is regulated by adjusting the slides C D. In consequence of the slots *f* being at the front angle of the hopper and the stirrers B arranged relatively with them, as shown, the slots are effectually prevented from choking or clogging.

I do not claim separately any of the parts herein shown and described; but

I do claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the obliquely-pivoted vibrating stirrers B and driving-bar E with the inclined seed-box bottom *c*, angular slotted portion *f*, and regulating-slides C D, all in the manner herein shown and described.

NEWTON FOSTER.

Witnesses:

E. M. ANDERSON,  
M. C. FINLEY.