(No Model.)

A. J. WIRTZ, H. J. C. RICHTER & C. H. WIRTZ.

FEEDER PLATFORM.

No. 413,993. Patented Oct. 29, 1889.

Fig. 1

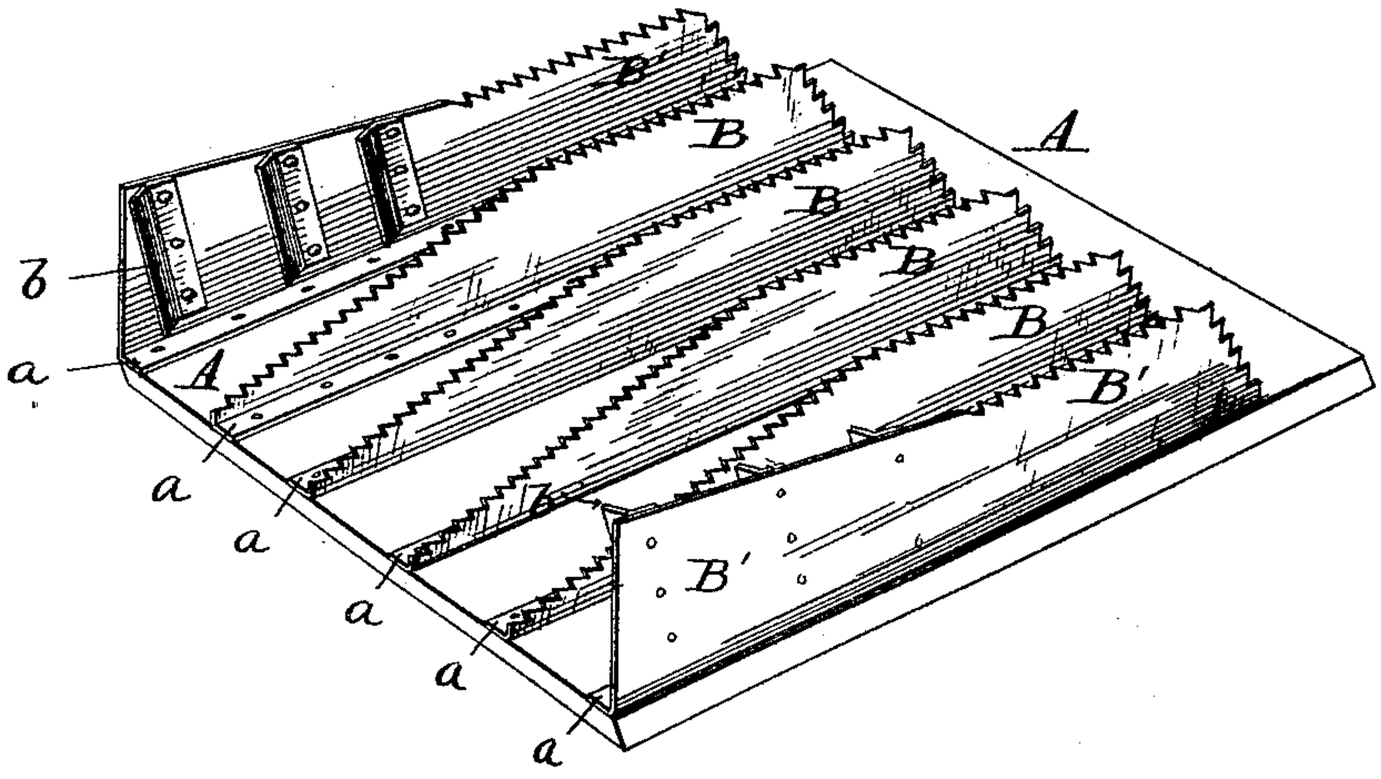


Fig. 2.

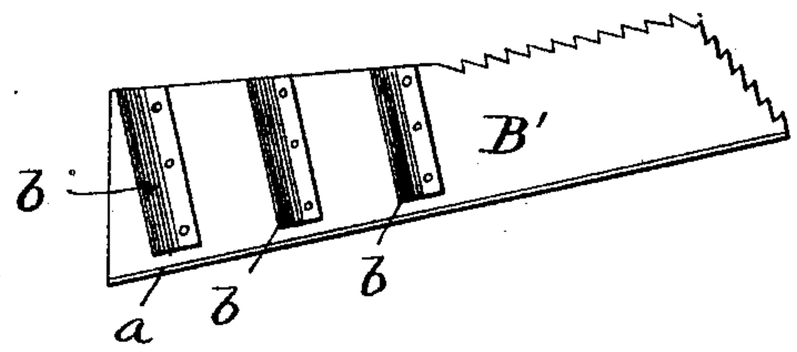
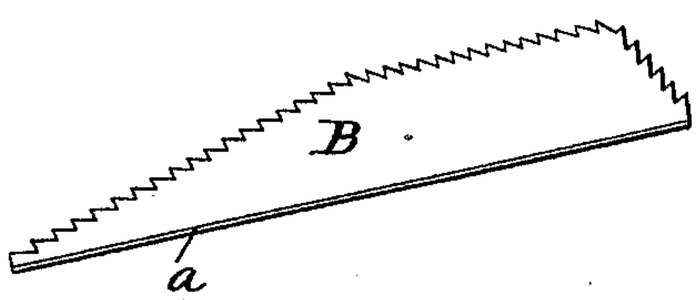


Fig. 3.



Attest:

Sidney R. Hollingsworth

Horace A. Dodge.

Inventors:

Adolphus J. Wirtz.
Henry J. C. Richter, and
Charles H. Wirtz;
by Dodger Sons, Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPHUS J. WIRTZ AND HENRY J. C. RICHTER, OF GRAND HARBOR, DAKOTA TERRITORY, AND CHARLES H. WIRTZ, OF NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA.

FEEDER-PLATFORM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 413,993, dated October 29, 1889.

Application filed May 22, 1889. Serial No. 311,724. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ADOLPHUS J. WIRTZ and HENRY J. C. RICHTER, citizens of the United States, residing at Grand Harbor, in the county of Ramsey, Dakota Territory, and CHARLES H. WIRTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Northfield, Rice county, Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Feeder-Platforms, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention consists in a novel construction of feeder-platforms such as are used in connection with feeders for thrashing-machines, and has for its object the production of a platform that shall be simple, cheap, and strong in construction and capable of effecting an even and regular feed of the grain.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved platform, and Figs. 2 and 3 detail views.

The manner of mounting the platform, as it forms no part of the present invention, is not herein shown; but we prefer to mount it as illustrated in our pending application, Serial No. 297,113, and give to its receiving end an upward and forward and downward and backward movement, and to impart to its delivery end merely a backward and forward movement.

A indicates the base-board or bottom of the platform, provided on its upper face with bars or blades B B′, which extend longitudinally or in the direction of movement of the platform. These blades B B′ are made of metal and are bent laterally along the lower edge to form a foot or an attaching-ear *a*, which rests squarely upon the upper face of the base-board A, as shown in Fig. 1, the blades or bars being rigidly affixed in position by means of bolts or screws passing through the feet or ears. By bending the bars or blades as shown they are stiffened against lateral strains, and in turn strengthen the base-board, the L-shaped bars or blades being well adapted to withstand the strains to which they and the platform are subjected. The intermediate bars or blades B are notched or serrated along the upper edge, the straight face of the teeth facing the delivery end of the platform, as shown. Beginning at the receiving end and continuing for about three-fifths (more or less) of their length, the upper notched edge of bar B is approximately parallel with the upper face of the base-board; but from the termination of this straight or parallel portion the blade or bar decreases in height toward the delivery end of the platform. The outer bars B′ B′ differ from the intermediate bars in that they are notched throughout a portion of their length only, the receiving end and the portion parallel with the base-board; that instead of decreasing in height they increase, and, finally, that they are provided on their inner faces with pushing ribs, flanges, or plates, to facilitate the discharge of the grain. The ribs or flanges *b* may be made and applied in various ways; but the preferred manner of constructing them is illustrated in the drawings, upon reference to which it will be seen that the ribs are made of a piece of sheet metal bent so that it shall project from the inner face of the bar or plate to which it is applied.

The ribs or flanges *b*, which we term "pushers," are riveted or otherwise secured to the inner faces of the bars or plates B′ B′, with the bent portion projecting toward the delivery end and outward and away from its bar or plate, the forward edge of the pushers being advisably, but not necessarily, at right angles to the base-board. Besides acting to discharge the grain, these pushers *b* stiffen and brace the side bars or plates B′ B′. The decrease in height of the plates or bars B B allows the grain to spread out, and thereby insures freer feeding of the grain, the latter being prevented from working off at the sides of the platform by the side bars or plates B′ B′, the pushers *b b* of which aid in discharging the grain. As the grain descends toward the delivery end of the platform, it expands and spreads out, and to provide for this and prevent the grain from being thrown off at the sides the side bars B′ B′ are increased in height, the intermediate bars being decreased correspondingly to allow the grain to leave the platform in a broad even stream. The kernels which are detached are prevented from working off at the sides by the plates or bars B′ B′.

The number of the pushers may be varied

as desired and their arrangement modified considerably without affecting the utility of the device.

The particular form of the bars becomes important when the platform is used in connection with a press-rake or shield, as described and claimed in our prior application before referred to.

Of course no broad claim is made by us to the employment of toothed bars decreasing in height toward the delivery end of the platform; nor do we wish to be understood as claiming a hopper provided on its sides with separate teeth set a considerable distance apart.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

1. In combination with base-board A, plates or bars B′ B′, increasing in height, and intermediate plates or bars B B, decreasing in height toward the delivery end, all substantially as shown.

2. In combination with base-board A, plates or bars B B, applied to the upper face thereof, and having their upper edges parallel with the base-board throughout a portion of their length and decreasing in height from the termination of said parallel portion toward the delivery end.

3. In combination with base-board A, plates or bars B B, decreasing in height toward the delivery end and notched on their upper edge, and plates B′ B′, increasing in height toward the delivery end and also notched on their upper edge.

4. In combination with base-board A, plates or bars B and B′, the former decreasing in height toward the delivery end of the platform, and ribs *b b*, secured to the inner faces of the plates B′ at approximately right angles to the board A.

5. In combination with base-board A, plates or bars B′ B′, applied thereto, and ribs or flanges secured to the inner face of each bar or plate and projecting outwardly therefrom.

In witness whereof we hereunto set our hands in the presence of two witnesses.

ADOLPHUS J. WIRTZ.
HENRY J. C. RICHTER.
CHARLES H. WIRTZ.

Witnesses to signatures of A. J. Wirtz and H. J. C. Richter:
T. T. LEE,
W. W. WISHART.
Witnesses to signature of C. H. Wirtz:
C. W. PYE,
G. M. SEARLE.