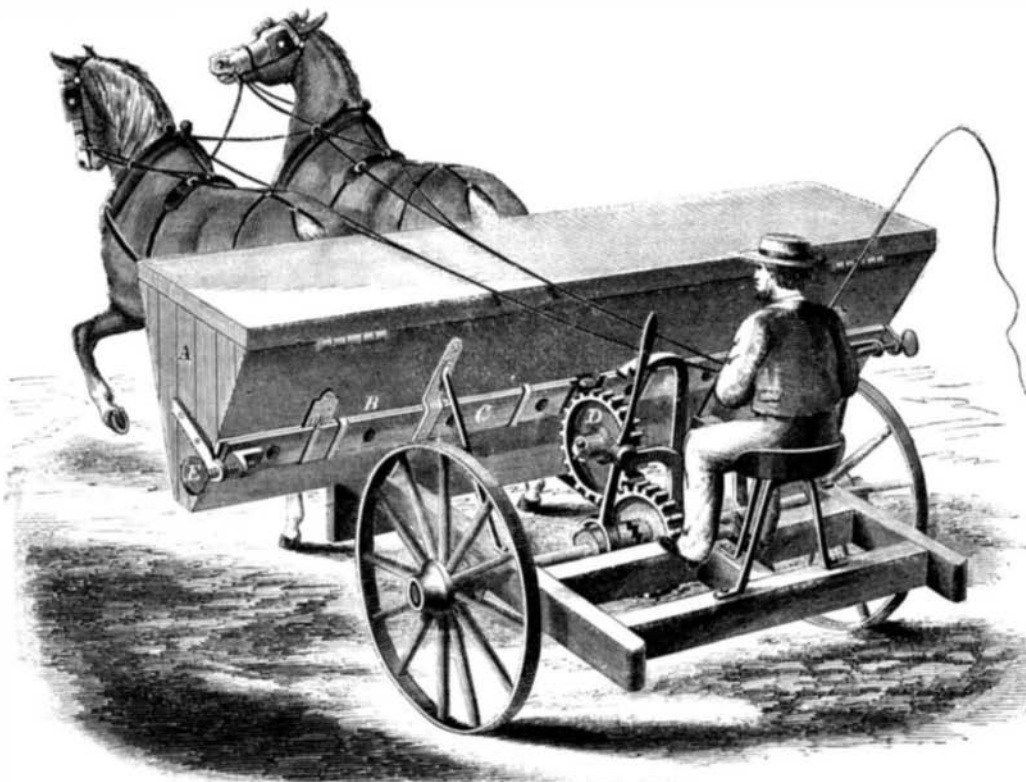


Improved Broadcast Seeding Machine.

There is a vast difference in the way seed is sown broadcast, or scattered about, here and there, without reference to regularity. Some men sow it evenly, while others pitch the seed down in handfuls, and when it sprouts hundreds of plants are crowded close together, while great patches of ground are left entirely bare. As it is obvious that a machine properly designed would do the work much better than by hand, it follows that such a machine would be desirable.

The machine here shown is well arranged for its purpose. The seed to be sown is placed in a triangular hopper, A, which is carried on the forward end of the machine. This hopper has a number of aper-

cent of ready cash—succeeding to Gen. Fremont's property and his style of doing business—has come to grief. Its most worthy superintendent and manager, Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, who was beguiled out here under a gross misapprehension of the situation of affairs and the duties he was to perform, is going home disgusted, to resume more congenial occupation in the East. The sheriff has been brooding over the estate for six months, and its local creditors are running one or two of its mills and mines on a close and economical scale—using up accumulated materials, but laying in no new supplies—in order to obtain their claims. The ore now being obtained and thus washed returns from \$7 to \$10 a tun, which gives a small margin of profit. It is all a sad, vast ruin

**CRICHTON'S BROADCAST SEEDING MACHINE.**

tures, B, closed by a slide, C; this slide having holes also which regulates with those in the hopper.

Inside of the hopper is a number of wheels—one opposite each opening—and so arranged with reference to it that when they are revolved by the gearing, D, the seeds are pushed out of the opening, from whence they fall on the ground.

The slide is regulated as to the openings by the screws, E, on the hopper.

A lever at the side of the operator serves to disconnect the gears, so that the seeding device is not operated except at the will of the driver.

The machine may be made of any length, from 10 to 16½ feet. This size will sow 40 acres per day as evenly as possible, of any seed under Indian corn. In draft it is very easy. It is also very durable, and is easily repaired by any mechanic in case of accident.

It was patented through the Scientific American Patent Agency, on Jan. 10, 1865, by W. H. Crichton, of Laporte, Ind.; for further information in regard to sale of State rights or territories, address the inventor at that place.

Sad End of the Mariposa Estate.

Samuel Bowles, Esq., the able editor of the Springfield *Republican*, in a letter from California, gives this account of the present condition of Fremont's famous Mariposa estate:—

“But here, in Mariposa County, the interest has a different look, and affairs are in a desperate condition. There are in all ten quartz mills here, all, or nearly all, on the Fremont estate, but only two or three are now running, and these with moderate results. The villages are decreasing in population; the best people are going away; viciousness of all sorts seems to be increasing, and highway robberies are of almost nightly occurrence. The great Mariposa Mining Company, formed in Wall street two years ago, with a capital of ten millions, a debt of two millions, and not a

magnificent gentleman, holding his head high, but wearing his last year's clothes, and dining around with his friends—a sort of grand land and mine millionaire. There is, doubtless, life and value, possibly great wealth, in it still, but not of the sort or degree that has been set up for it. Divided up, and conducted by private parties or small companies on a moderate capital, as the Grass Valley mines are, or managed as a whole even, with an eye to practical results alone, and no such side issues as the Presidency, or a grand Wall street stock-jobbing operation, or the control of California politics depending on it, and drawing its life-blood, the estate may yet have a useful future before it. But the end to it as a grand principality, as an exhaustless fountain for political and financial jobbing, seems surely to have come. Indeed, its most striking capacity always has been in carrying an immense, a magnificent indebtedness. A few men are rich from it here and in the East; but their wealth is more from the sale of stock and bonds in New York than the profits of the mines in Mariposa. The illustration of the whole lies best, perhaps, in the sincere boast attributed to its most gallant but never thrifty original owner. ‘Why,’ said Gen. Fremont, ‘when I came to California, I was worth nothing, and now, I owe \$2,000,000!’”

THE *Scranton Register* says that coal in the bed is valued at twenty-five cents per tun, that it costs eighty cents to mine it, and eighty cents more to prepare it for market—a total of one dollar and eighty-five cents. All that is charged above that is to be placed to the account of transportation and the profits of agents.

HALF the writing paper made in the United States is made within twenty-five miles of Springfield. The great writing-paper manufactories in the country are in the Connecticut and Westfield valleys, near Springfield, and the Housatonic valley, in Berkshire county.

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