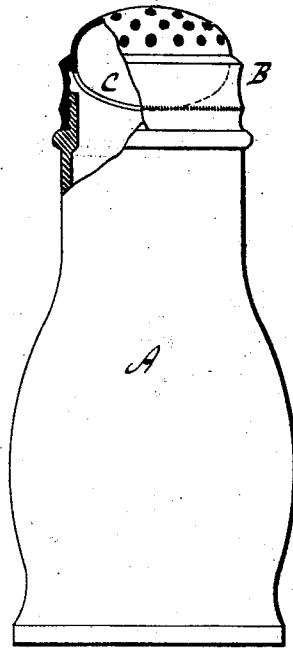


W. E. HAWKINS.  
Salt-Dredge.

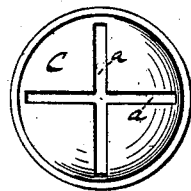
No. 221,061.

Patented Oct. 28, 1879.

*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Witnesses.*

*J. H. Murray*  
*J. C. Carl*

*Wesley E. Hawkins*  
*Inventor*

*By atty*  
*J. C. Carl*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WESTEL E. HAWKINS, OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO  
SIMPSON HALL MILLER & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SALT-DREDGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,061**, dated October 28, 1879; application filed  
September 4, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WESTEL E. HAWKINS, of Wallingford, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Salt-Dredges; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, sectional side view, and Fig. 2 under-side view of the cap.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of dredges used for table-salt, and in which some device is necessary to prevent the salt from clogging the holes in the top.

The most common and well-known device is the introduction of a loose metal spindle within the dredge, and which, in shaking the dredge, plays from top to bottom, and constantly striking the top upon the inside, wears upon the metal, and while it agitates the salt within the dredge, it does not prevent the salt, if it be very damp, clogging the holes.

The object of this invention is to avoid the use of a loose agitator within the dredge, and also to prevent clogging of the holes if the salt be very damp; and the invention consists in the construction as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claim.

The general outline of the bottle or receiver A may be of any of the usual forms immaterial to this invention.

B is a metal cap, fitted to the neck of the bottle, and its convex-shaped top perforated in the usual manner, as seen in Fig. 1, and in external appearance does not differ from common and well-known tops for pepper and salt dredges.

Inside the cap is a partition, C, preferably of the shape of the convex perforated top, but inverted, as seen in Fig. 1, and so as to form a chamber in the cap between the top and

partition C. Across this partition is one or more slots, *a*, two such slots crossing each other, as seen in Fig. 2, attaining the best practical results.

In using the dredge, the mass of salt strikes on the partition; a portion separating from the mass passes into the chamber in the cap, where it finds an exit through perforations considerably greater in their combined extent than the slots; hence the quantity passing through the slots freely escapes through the perforations in the top without the mass crowding behind to press or rest upon the top from the inside. This contact and resting of the mass of salt directly upon the perforated cap is what in fact causes the perforations to clog, and which, by this construction, is entirely avoided.

Another advantage of this construction is that the whole device is permanent and immovable and made a part of the cap.

I am aware that spice-boxes have been made with a partition below a perforated cap, and perforated corresponding to the perforations in the cap, and therefore make no claim for such construction; but in this prior construction the perforations increase the difficulties hereinbefore described as experienced in salt-dredges.

The slots in the partition, which are the peculiar characteristic of this invention, serve as breakers to crumble the mass of salt as it comes in contact with them—a result which cannot be attained in a perforated partition.

I claim—

The herein-described salt-dredge, consisting of the cap fitted for attachment to the bottle, and constructed with a perforated top combined with a partition within the cap below the top, provided with one or more slots, substantially as described.

W. E. HAWKINS.

Witnesses:

C. H. BROWN,  
C. G. POMEROY.