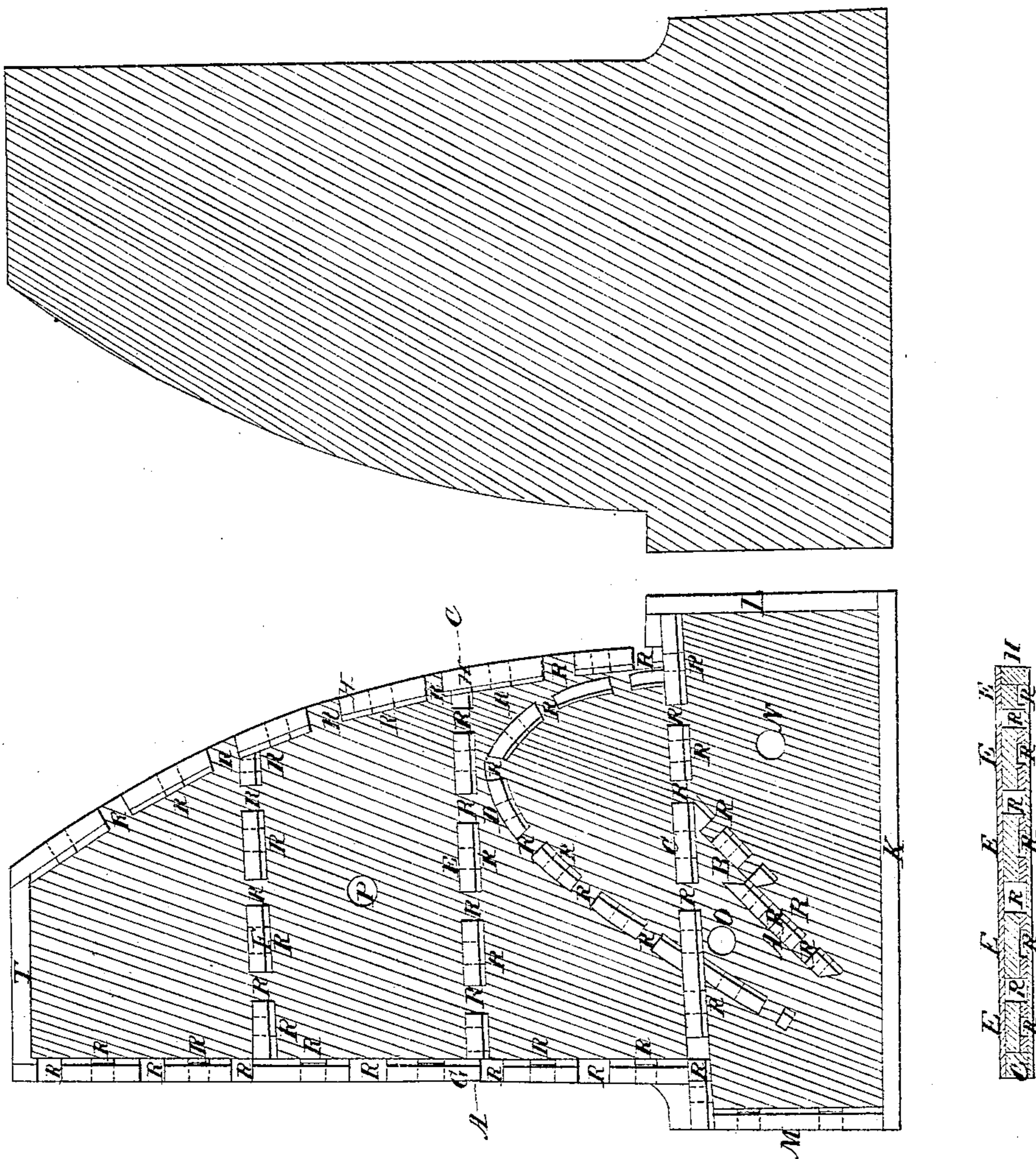


J. Benz,

Piano Sounding Board.

N^o 58,763.

Patented Oct. 16, 1866.



Witnesses:

John George Limenmayer
John Knecht.

Inventor:

Jacob Benz

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB BENZ, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SOUND-BOARDS FOR PIANOS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 58,763, dated October 16, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB BENZ, of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sound-Boards for Pianos; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of a double sound-board, both of the same shape and form. The wood fibers, however, of the upper sound-board are running in a transverse direction to those in the lower or bottom sound-board. The upper sound-board rests upon small strips of wood or ribs, (marked A B C D E F G H.) Said ribs have open interstices (marked R R) for the purpose of affording to the sound-leading wood fibers more length and less obstruction; further, of giving to the atmospheric air in the space between both sound-boards free and ample passage, which otherwise would be confined and abrogate the fullness, duration, and equality of the tone, and lessen the vibrating quality of the board, all of which is essentially improved in the construction and connection of

two sound-boards with the wood fibers in opposite direction, as marked or indicated by small-drawn lines in the drawing.

The ribs (marked J K L M) are the main supporters for the upper sound-board. They are of the same height of the ribs with openings, so that the upper sound-board becomes fully supported on all of them and perfectly connected by means of glue, thus leaving a certain open space between them. The openings in the lower sound-board (marked N O P) also serve for a proper air-current, and for sustaining its free circulation, which without them would be obstructed by putting the stretcher in its place, as the passages in the front rib G become thereby closed.

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

The construction and combination of two different sound-boards with transverse-running wood fibers, and provided with supporting-ribs and air-passages, substantially and for the purpose as described and set forth.

JACOB BENZ.

Witnesses:

JOHN GEORGE LINSENMEYER,
JOHN KNECHT.