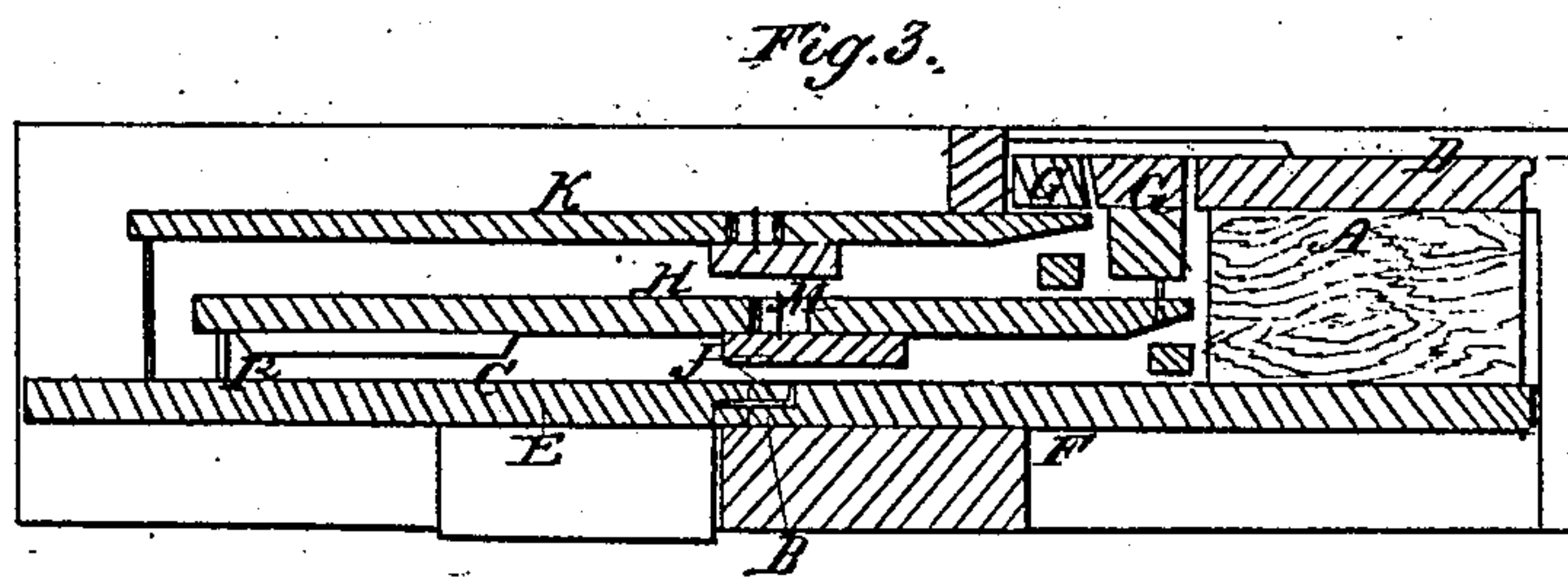
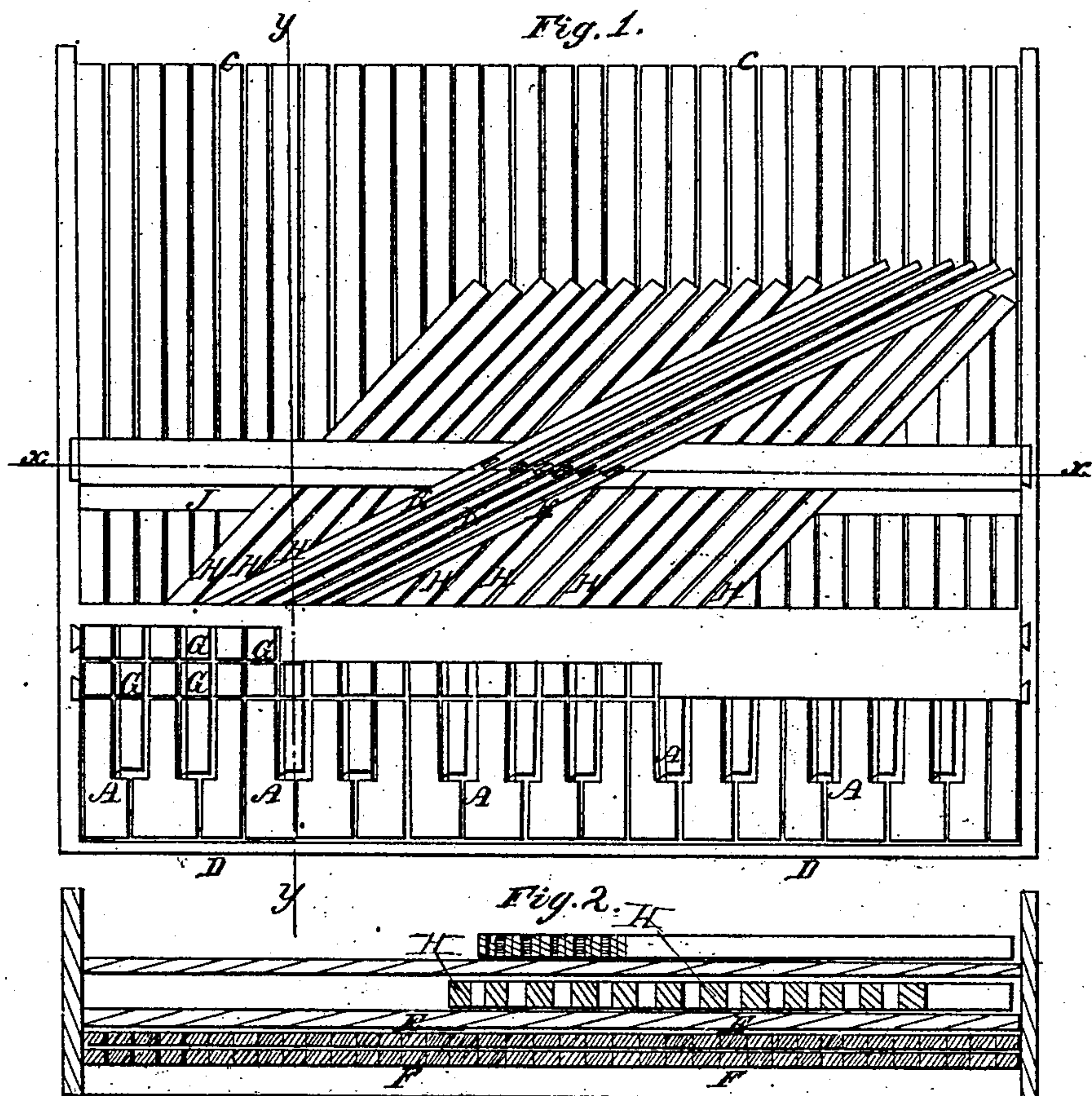


Allen & Wilkins,
Key-Board for Piano,
No 79,295, Patented June 30, 1868.



Witnesses.
H. C. Ashkeott
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Inventors
J. S. Allen
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per Munn & Co
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United States Patent Office.

J. S. ALLEN AND A. P. WILKINS, OF ALLEN'S GROVE, WISCONSIN.

Letters Patent No. 79,295, dated June 30, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN KEY-BOARDS FOR PIANOS, &c.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, J. S. ALLEN and A. P. WILKINS, of Allen's Grove, in the county of Walworth, and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Key-Boards to Piano-Fortes and other Musical Instruments; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The present invention consists in adding to the ordinary key-board now in use two or more rows or series of shorter keys, which are placed immediately behind the long keys, and in the same horizontal therewith, through and by means of which short keys a tone, an octave higher or lower, as the case, may be, than the key directly in front of it, can be sounded, and thus, if two additional keys are used, enabling a tone to be produced two octaves higher than the original and front key of the series.

By this arrangement of the supplementary keys the extremes of the gamut or scale are brought within easy reach of the hands, and thus many combinations of tones in musical compositions enabled to be sounded on the instrument, which, with the ordinary key-boards, is impossible.

In the accompanying plate of drawings our improvements in key-boards to piano-fortes and other musical instruments are illustrated—

Figure 1 being a plan or top view of a section or series of keys to which they are applied,

Figure 2 a transverse vertical section taken in the plane of the line *x x*, fig. 1, and

Figure 3 a longitudinal vertical section taken in the plane of the line *y y*, fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A, in the drawings, represents a series of keys or levers, such as are used in piano-fortes.

These keys, at a point, B, between their inner or rear ends, C, and their finger-ends, D, are transversely divided into two sections or parts, E and F, that at their division-line are hinged or otherwise hung together, so that if the key at its finger-end be depressed, its inner or rear end will lift or rise as heretofore, while, without moving or disturbing the key at its finger-end, its inner or rear end can be raised or lifted as desired, if properly connected and operated therefor, and for accomplishing the purpose and object of this invention, as will be hereinafter stated.

G, two additional keys placed to the rear of the ordinary keys, A, and in the same plane therewith.

The first of the two inner keys, G, is upon its under side, arranged to bear upon one end of the lever H, that, extending in an angular direction to the length of the keys, passes to the rear portion of the key of the key-board, an octave higher than that at which the additional key is located, and to such key, an octave higher, it is connected through a cord, I², or other line, so that when the additional key, at its finger-piece, is depressed, the key to which it is connected, an octave higher in the gamut, will be lifted at its rear or back portion without disturbing or depressing its finger-end.

This lever H, connecting the additional key with a key of the board an octave higher, is hung upon a fulcrum-pin, M, of a rail, J, to the key-board.

The second additional key is similarly connected through a diagonal lever, K, to a key of the key-board to that above described for the first additional key, but so as to form a connection with the key two octaves higher than the key of the key-board back of which the additional key is located.

We claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A key-board to a piano-forte or other musical instrument, in which additional keys, whether one or more series, are employed and arranged for operation upon the ordinary keys of the key-board, substantially as and for the purpose described.

J. S. ALLEN,
A. P. WILKINS.

Witnesses:

LAMBERT ROGERS,

H. P. JONES.