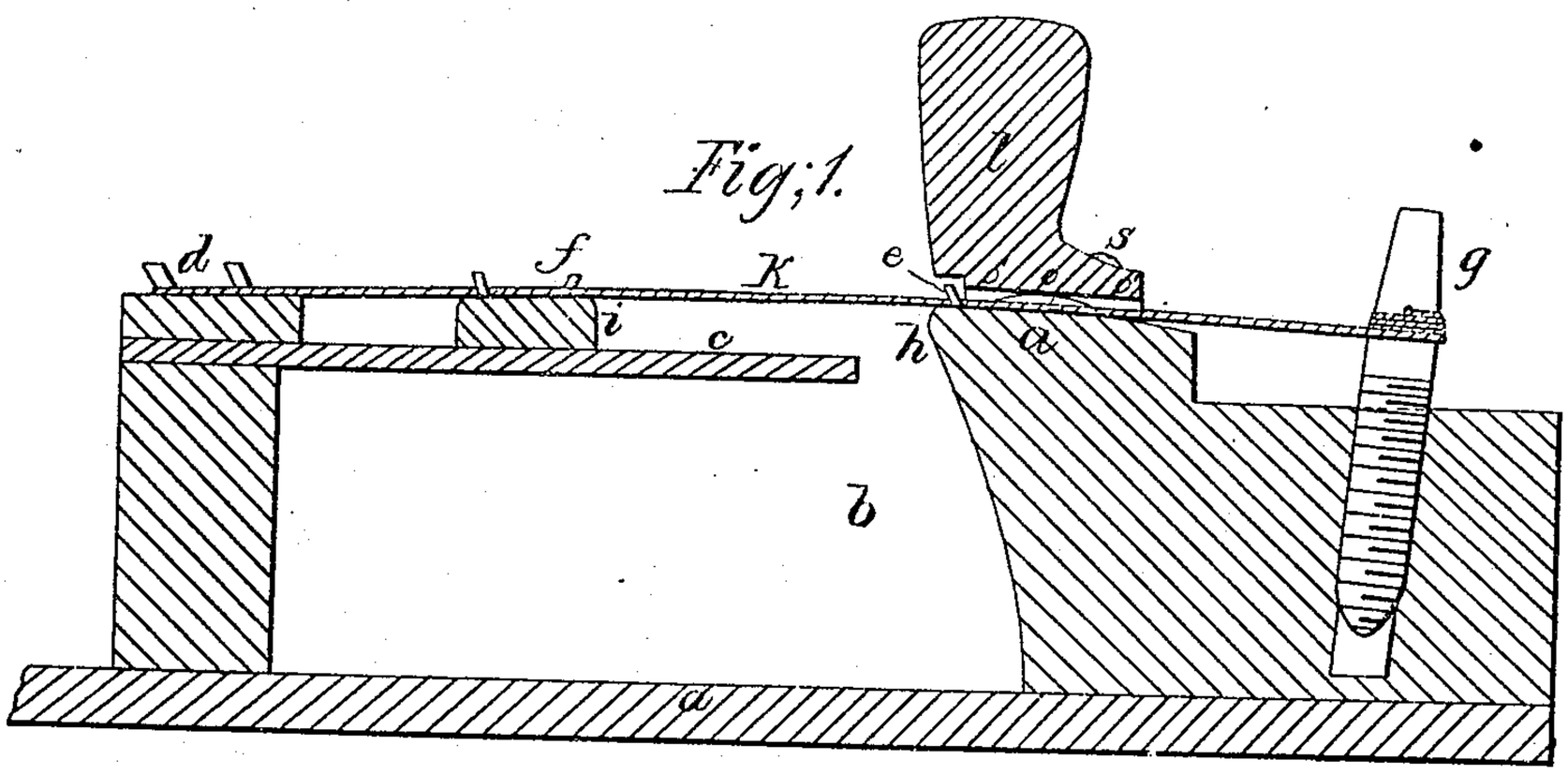
A. V. T. Barberie.

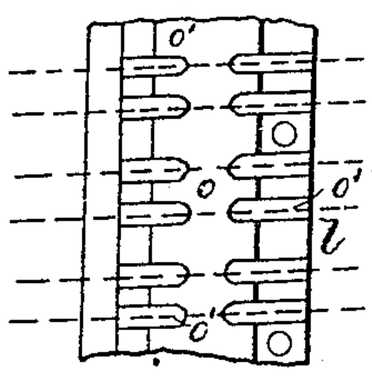
Treble Attachm't for Pianos

No. 85,889. Patented Jan. 12, 1869.

Fig; 1.



Fig; 2.



Witnesses.

Chas. H. Smith

Geo. D. Walker

Inventor.

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United States Patent Office.

ANDREW V. T. BARBERIE, OF BROOKLYN, E. D., NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 85,889, *dated January* 12, 1869.

TREBLE-ATTACHMENT FOR PIANO-FORTES.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW V. T. BARBERIE, of Brooklyn, E. D., in the county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented and made a certain new and useful Treble-Attachment for Piano-Fortes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is a vertical section at the treble-part of the piano, showing my attachment applied thereto, and

Figure 2 is an inverted plan of the vibration-check, the strings being shown by red lines.

The same letters denote corresponding parts.

In piano-fortes, the treble-strings are short, and under heavy tension, and the vibration is very rapid and sharp. The effect of this is to impart to the rest-plank a tremor and motion that produce a dull or woody sound, that is appreciable to the practised ear, and greatly detracts from the clear beauty of the tone. This difficulty is increased from the fact that generally the rest-plank *a* is undercut, as shown at *b*, fig. 1, thus leaving the edge upon which the pitch-pins are placed projecting, and more liable to vibrate. This undercut is necessary to the action, so that the hammers will have the required room for their movement.

To remedy the foregoing difficulty, metal bars have been employed to furnish both an up and also a down bearing for the strings at the rest-plank, in place of the pitch-pins. These give to the string a metallic sound that is also objectionable.

The nature of my said invention consists in a vibration-check, applied at the edge of the rest-plank, contiguous to the pitch-pins of the treble, so that the vibration will be arrested at this end of the string, and the string itself, between the pitch-pins, be allowed to vibrate freely and clearly.

In the drawing—

The rest-plank *a*, sounding-board *c*, hitch-pins *d*, pitch-pins *e f*, tuning-pins *g*, bridges *h* and *i*, are to be of any usual or desired character; and

k represents a string or strings of the treble-portion of the piano.

l is my vibration-check, made of lead, or similar metal that is heavy, but slightly sonorous.

The said check has a base, by means of which it can rest upon and be united with the bridge on the edge of the rest-plank. This base is shown as grooved longitudinally on the under side, as at *o*, so as to cause the bearings to be upon the edges, and grooved transversely, at *o'*, upon the lines of the strings, so as to allow them to pass freely, as illustrated in fig. 2; and

s is a screw, for holding the vibration-check in place.

I find practically that this vibration-check prevents the disagreeable sound arising from the rest-plank at the treble-end, and increases the clearness and brilliancy of tone, the weight of the lead bar, and its lack of sonorous properties, effecting this result.

The vibration-check may extend along any desired number of notes in the piano, and be made of one bar or of several separate pieces, and the vibration-check may be pressed upon the bridge of the rest-plank, or held in its place by any desired means that will effect the objects before enumerated.

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

The vibration-check, applied to the bridge at the edge of the rest-plank, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this 18th day of September, A. D. 1868.

A. V. T. BARBERIE.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. SMITH,

GEO. T. PINCKNEY.