G. W. LYON.

Music-Rack for Piano-Fortes.

No. 216,428. Patented June 10, 1879.

Fig. 1

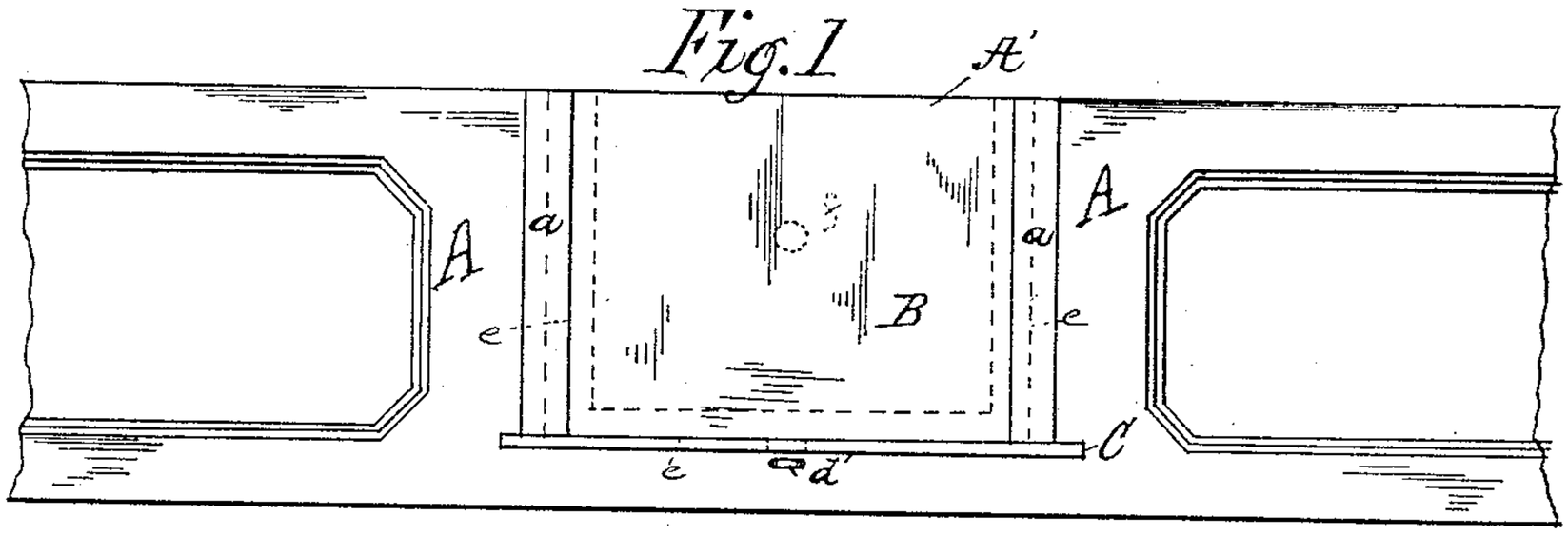


Fig 2

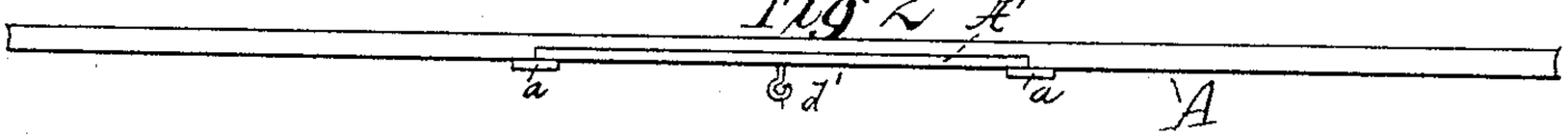


Fig. 3

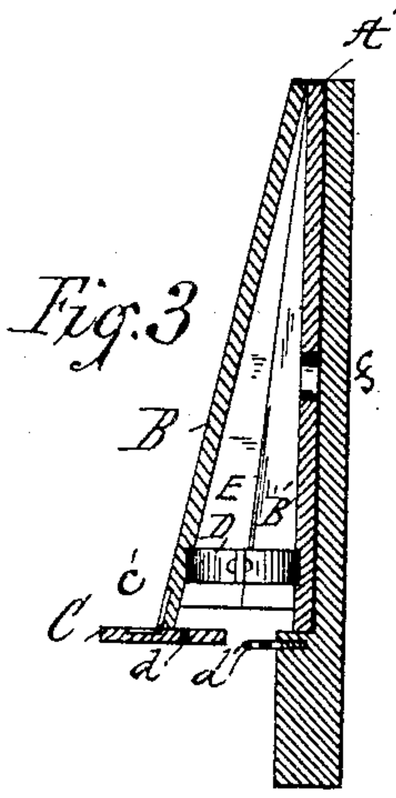
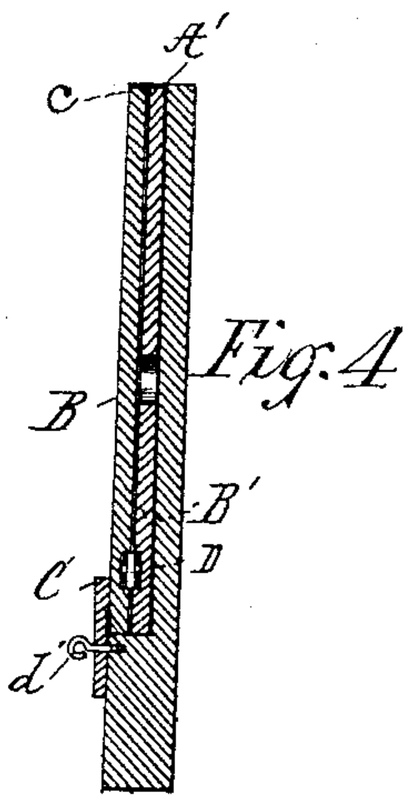


Fig. 4



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. LYON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN MUSIC-RACKS FOR PIANO-FORTES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,428**, dated June 10, 1879; application filed March 3, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. LYON, of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Music-Racks for Upright Piano-Fortes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents the front board of an upright piano-forte embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a top view of the front board. Fig. 3 represents a vertical section of the music-rack when opened or in position ready for use; and Fig. 4 represents a like section, showing the music-rack folded and locked to the front board.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention relates to adjustable sheet-music racks which may be detached from the piano-fortes; and my object is to so construct the same as to avoid the rattling or other noise usually produced by vibration while playing on the instrument, and so that it may be readily removed from or folded into compact form and locked to the instrument.

To that end my invention consists in various parts, constructed and combined in such a manner as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, A represents the front board of an upright piano-forte, into the front side of which is mortised or cut a depression, A′, in depth and area corresponding with the dimensions of the back B′ of the rack proper. To either end of this depression A′ a cleat or jamb, *a*, is attached, and in such a manner that one half of the width of this cleat or jamb *a* rests on the surface of the front board, while the other half projects over the edges of the depression A′, thus forming a groove on either side of the depression, the whole forming a receptacle for containing the rack proper, and into which the latter is inserted by sliding the back B′ downward and into the depression A′, the cleats or jambs *a* securing it in position.

B B′ are the front and back, respectively, of the rack, meeting and hinged together at their top, as shown at *c*, the back B′ being provided with an opening, *f*, cut through the same at or near its center, which will permit of the repairing of the spring D, should the latter get out of order. This back B′ corresponds in area and depth with the depression A′, while the front B corresponds in length with the distance between the inner edges of the cleats or jambs *a*.

C is a foot, hinged to the lower end of the front B, both of which coact in forming a rest, *c′*, for the sheet-music. This foot is hinged in such a manner that one-half of its width may be folded to the surface of the front B, as shown in Fig. 4, and is provided with an oblong aperture or slot, *d*, corresponding with the eye of pin *d′*, contained in the front board, A. This aperture is so placed that when the rack is folded the eye of the pin *d′* passes through the same, when the eye of the pin is turned and a lock is effected, and brings the cleats *a* and foot C flush or on even surface with each other.

D is an elliptic spring; but a spiral spring can be used instead. This spring has sufficient staying quality or strength to overcome the rattling caused by the vibration of the strings of the instrument, and is placed between the front and back B B′, as shown in Fig. 3, and is for the purpose of forcing outward the lower end of front B to any desirable angle, so that it will insure the safety of the sheet of music from tipping forward and off the rack.

E is a covering of any suitable flexible material, cut or shaped so as to inclose the three open ends *e* of the front and back B B′, as shown in Fig. 1, and so that the covering folds inward in a similar manner to the bellows of an organ. The object of this covering E is, first, to limit the expansion of the springs, as the latter must remain sufficiently compressed to overcome the vibration of the piano-forte when in use; otherwise the different parts composing the music-rack would become susceptible to the vibration and rattle; and, second, that it renders the appearance of the device more ornamental. I do not, however, confine myself to this covering E for the purpose specified, as various devices may be used to accomplish the same result; nor do I confine myself to the music-rack as being adjustably connected to the front board of a piano-forte, as it may be permanently connected therewith.

Having thus described my invention, what

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

1. In combination with an upright piano-forte provided with the depression A′ and cleats or jambs *a*, the front B, back B′, spring D, covering E, and foot C, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In combination with an upright piano-forte provided with the depression A′, cleats or jambs *a*, and pin *d′*, the front B, back B′, spring D, covering E, and foot C, provided with an aperture or slot, *d*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In combination with a piano-forte, the front B, back B′, spring D, covering E, foot C, provided with the aperture or slot *d* and pin *d′*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

GEORGE W. LYON.

Witnesses:
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