

(No Model.)

P. GMEHLIN.

KEY RAIL FOR PIANOS AND ORGANS.

No. 295,383.

Patented Mar. 18, 1884.

Fig. 1.

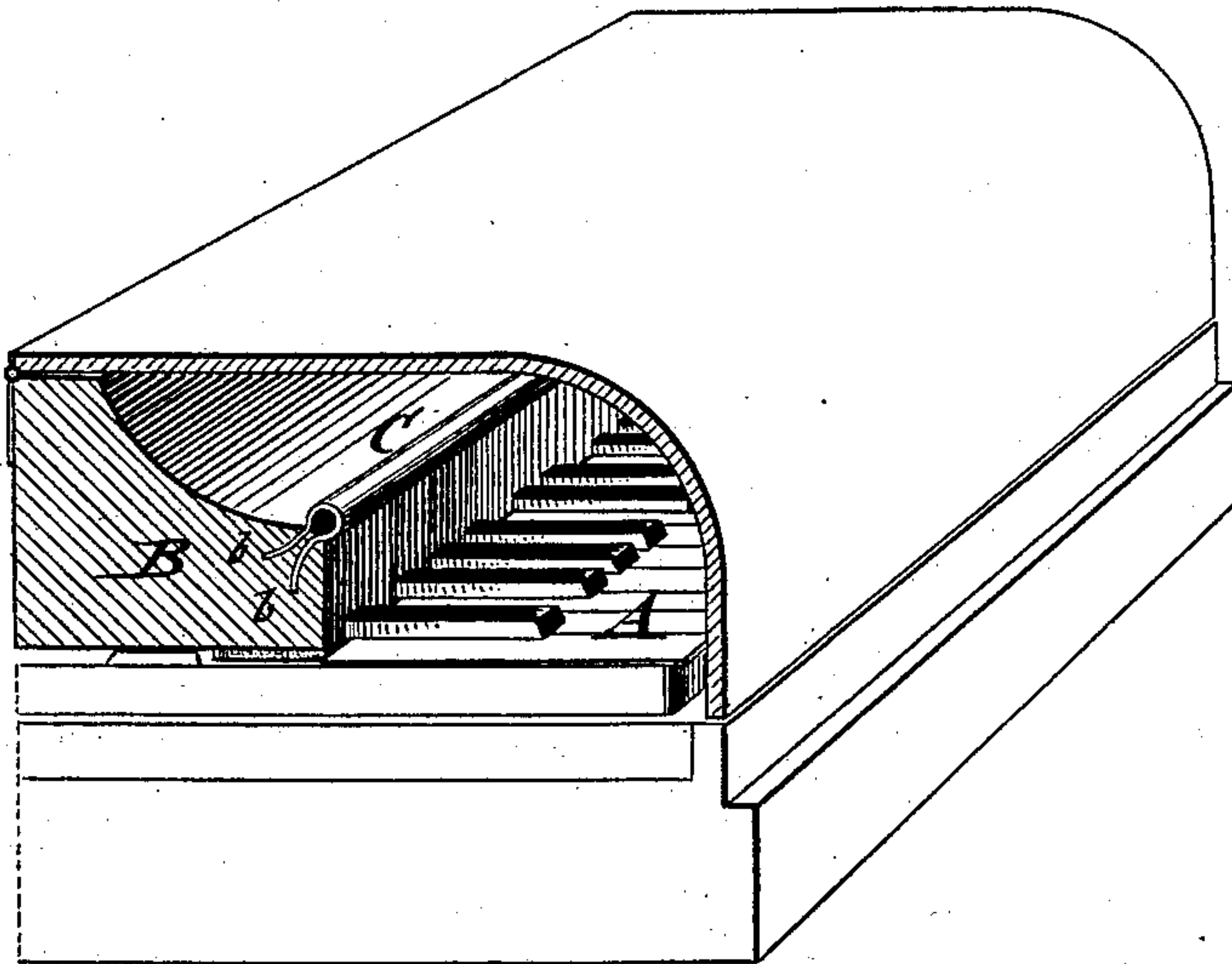
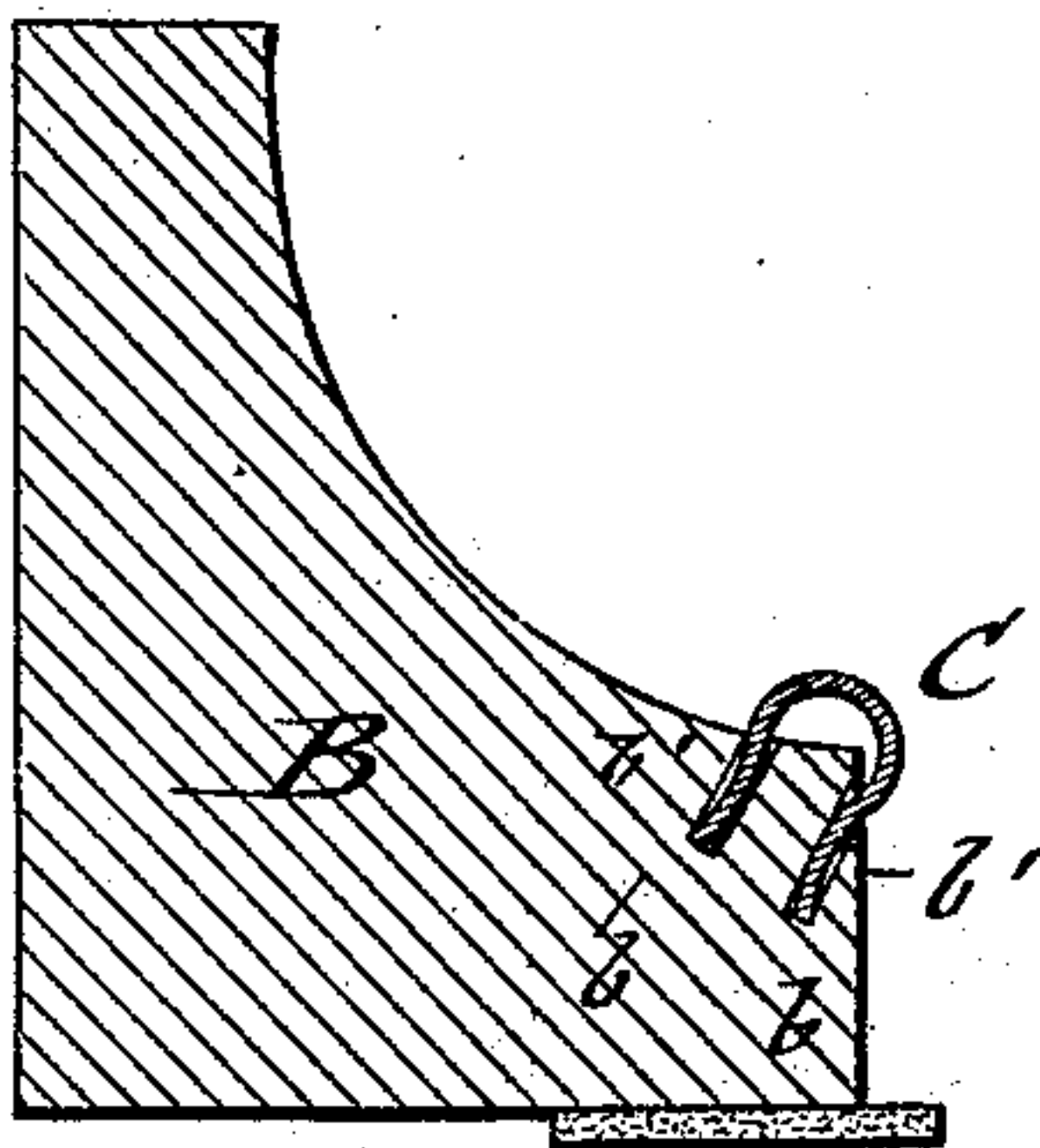


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

For H. Rosenbaum
Otto Riech

INVENTOR

Paul Gmehl

BY

Geyer & Regener

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL GMEHLIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

KEY-RAIL FOR PIANOS AND ORGANS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 295,383, dated March 18, 1884.

Application filed October 25, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL GMEHLIN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Rails for Upright Pianos and Organs, of which the following is a specification.

It is a well-known fact that in playing upright pianos and organs the vertical front face of the key-rail is scratched from its upper edge downward by the nails of the players, so as to frequently present a very unsightly appearance.

This invention is designed to prevent the scratching of the key-rail; and it consists of a protecting guard-plate that extends over the upper front edge of the key-rail, which is provided with longitudinal recesses or slits, into which the ends of the guard-plate are sprung.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view, partly in vertical transverse section, of a key-board and key-rail of an upright piano or organ; and Fig. 2 is a detail vertical transverse section of the key-rail on a larger scale.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the key-board of an upright piano or organ, and B the key-rail, which rises vertically at the rear ends of the keys. The key-rail B is provided at its upper front edge with a flat or convex guard-plate, C, that extends over the entire length of the key-rail, and is let by its bent spring ends *b b* into parallel longitudinal slits or recesses *b'*—one at each side of the upper front edge of the key-rail.

The guard-plate C may be made of metal and nickel or silver plated, or of hard rubber,

celluloid, or other suitable material that is capable of resisting the scratching action of the nails.

The guard-plate is preferably so arranged that it projects somewhat beyond the vertical front face of the key-rail B, so that the finger-nails, when striking thereon, will glance off without coming into contact with the face of the key-rail and injuring the polished surface of the same.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with the key-rail of an upright piano or organ, of a guard-plate which covers the upper edge and projects somewhat in front of the key-rail, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in an upright piano or organ, of a key-rail having parallel longitudinal slits or recesses at the upper edge of its front face, with a guard-plate the ends of which are sprung into said slits, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, in an upright piano or organ, of a key-rail having parallel longitudinal slits or recesses—one at each side of the upper edge of the front face of the key-rail—with a guard-plate the ends of which are sprung into said slits, and which project somewhat in front of the key-rail, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PAUL GMEHLIN.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,
SIDNEY MANN.