

No. 680,876.

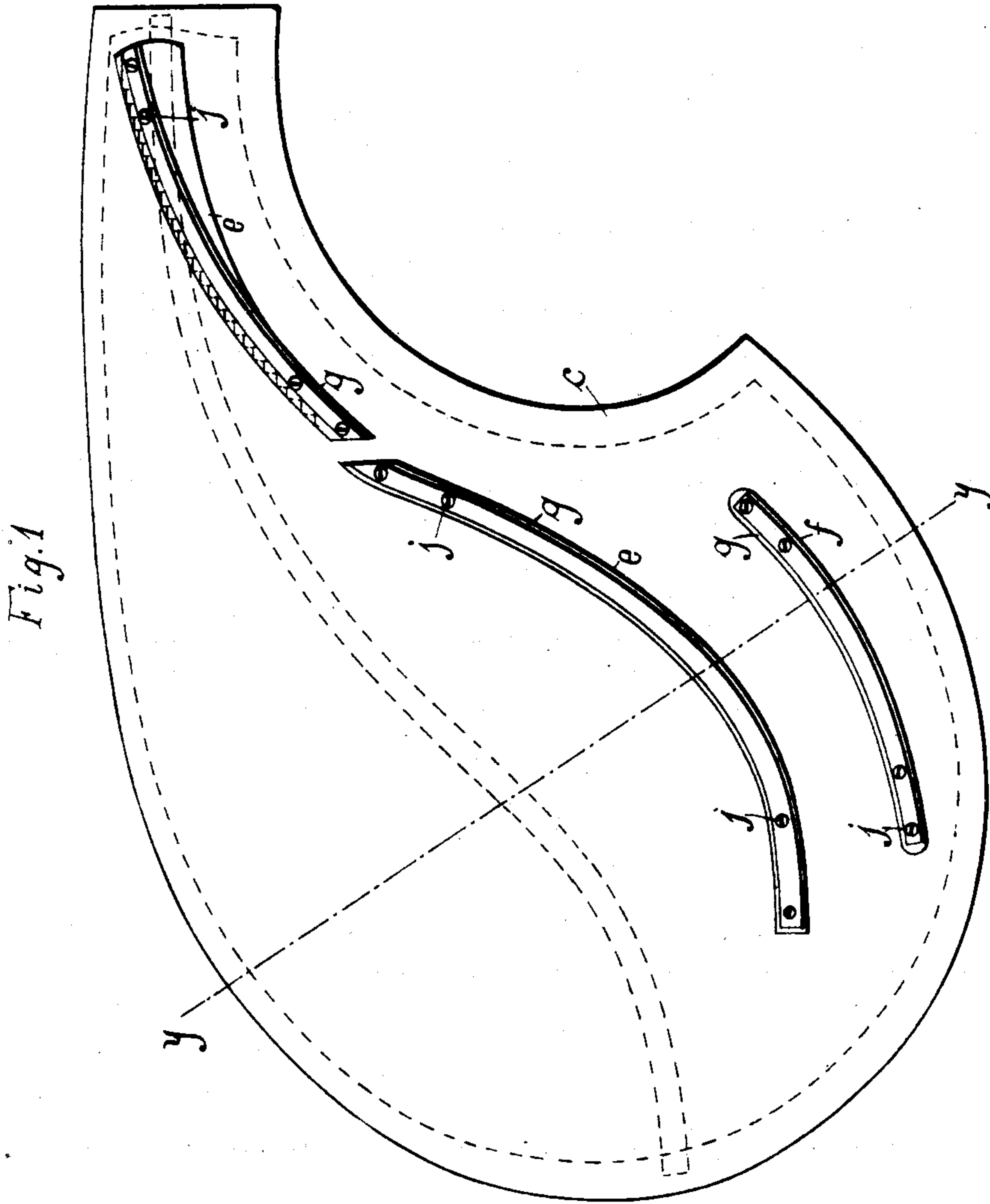
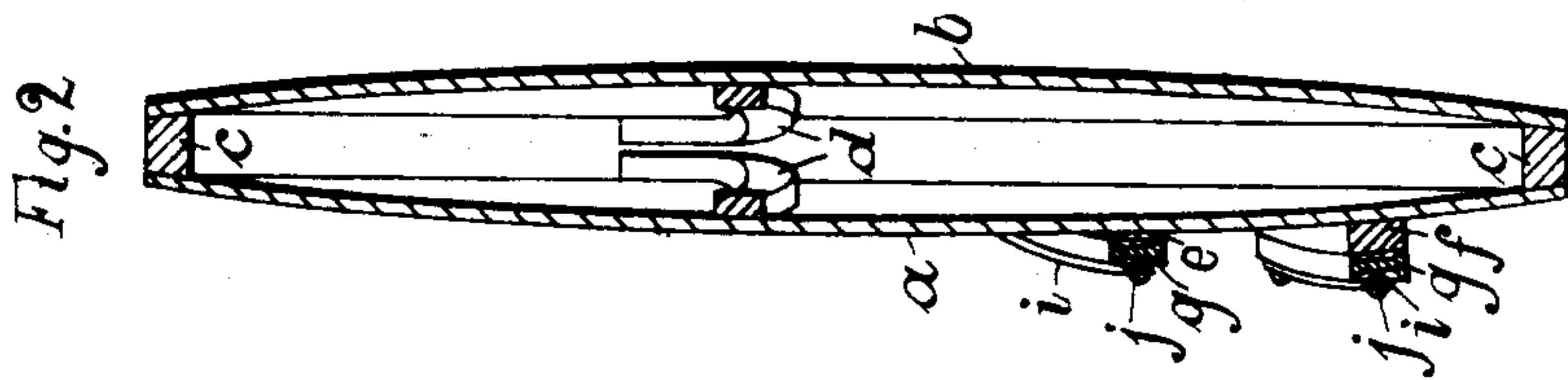
Patented Aug. 20, 1901.

A. MEDLIK.
PIANOFORTE.

(Application filed Jan. 17, 1899.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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INVENTOR

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No. 680,876.

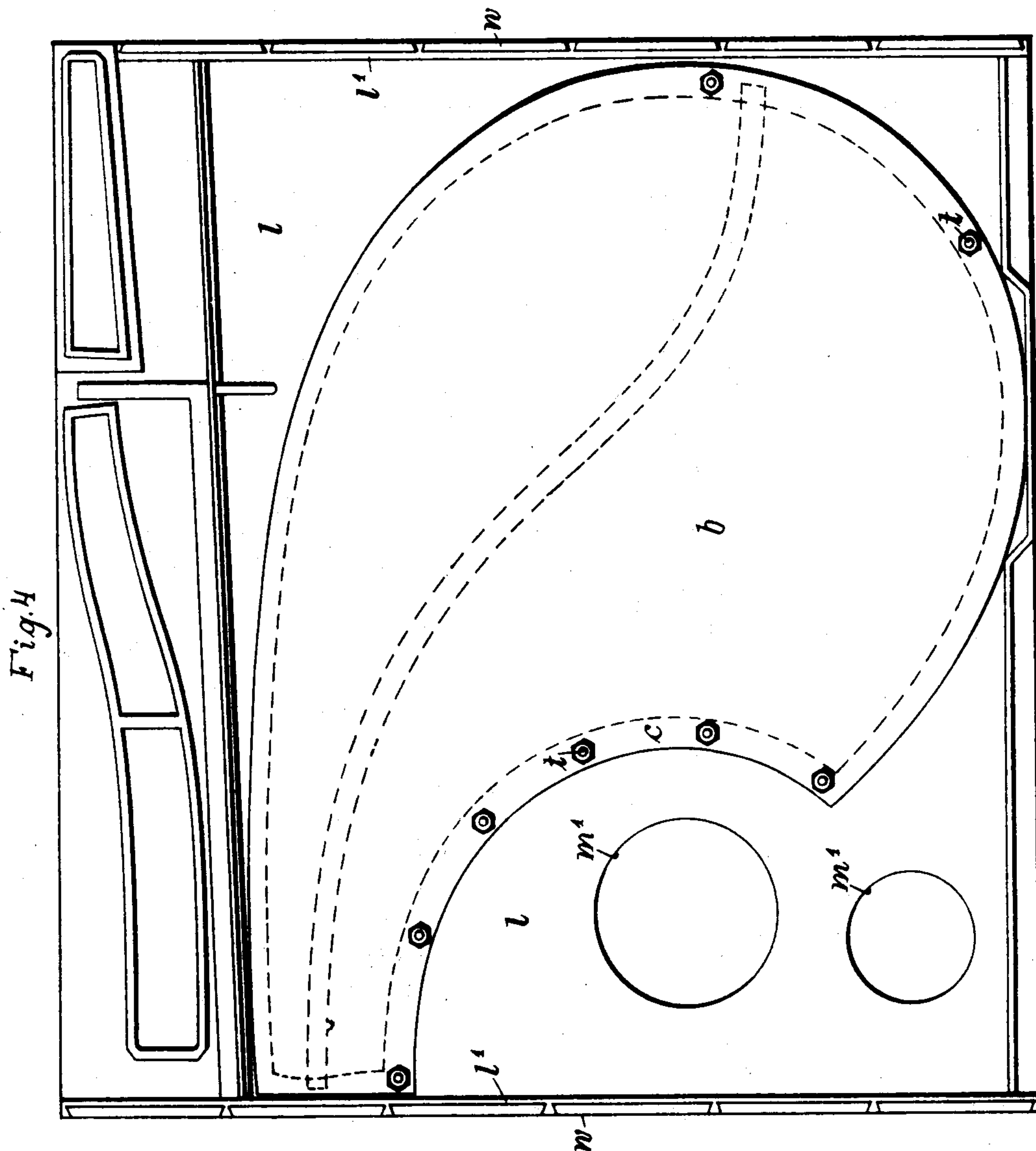
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(Application filed Jan. 17, 1899.)

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4 Sheets—Sheet 3.



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(No Model.)

Fig. 6

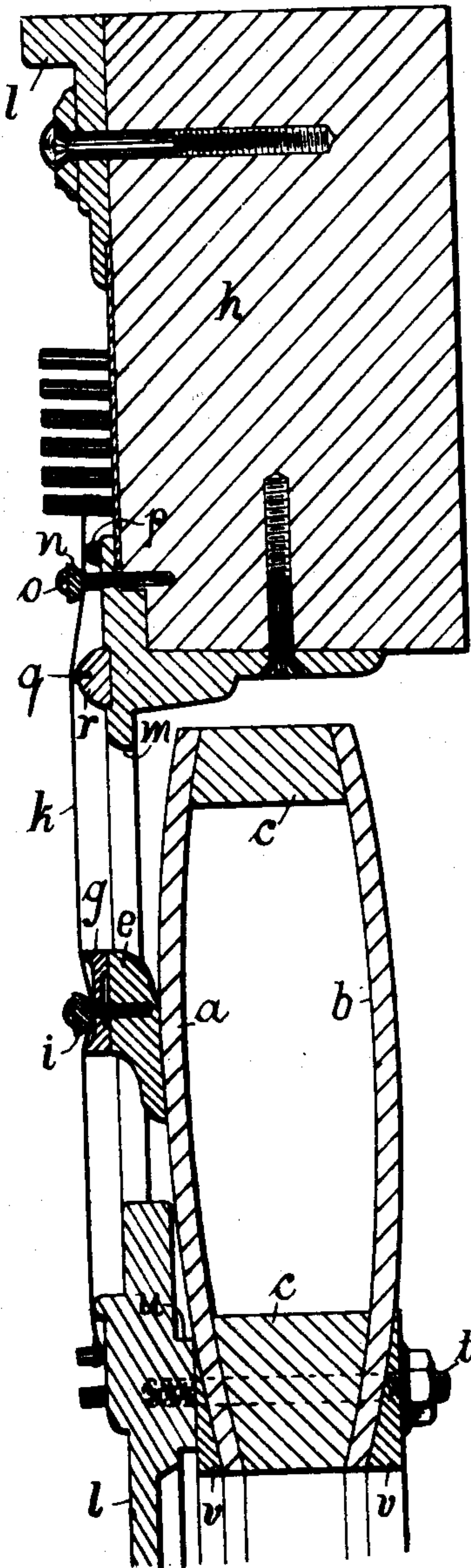
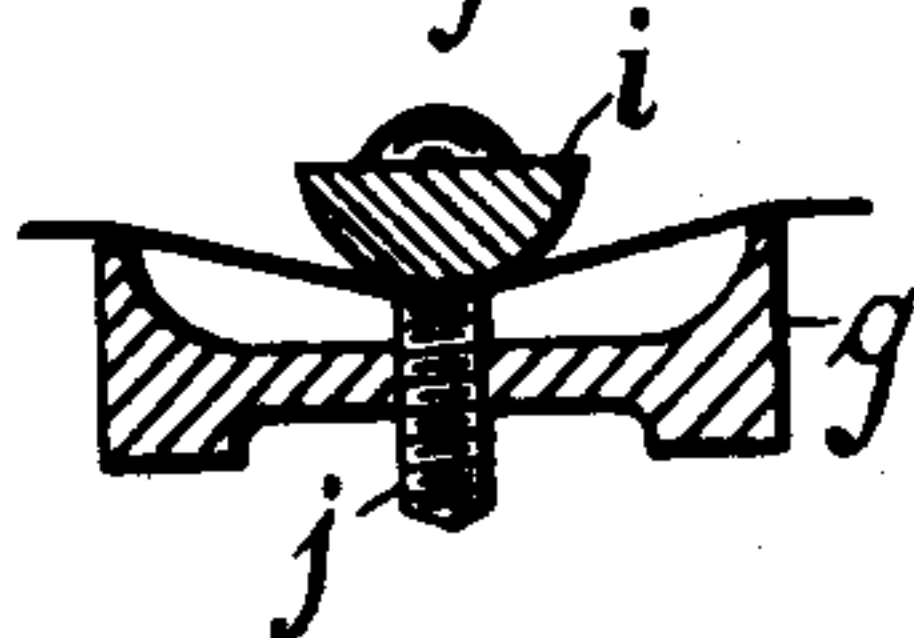


Fig. 7



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTON MEDLIK, OF DRESDEN, GERMANY.

PIANOFORTE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 680,876, dated August 20, 1901.

Application filed January 17, 1899. Serial No. 702,434. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTON MEDLIK, a citizen of Austria-Hungary, residing at Dresden, in the Kingdom of Saxony, Germany, have
5 invented an Improvement in Pianofortes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in the combination and arrangement of features hereinafter fully set forth and particularly claimed.

10 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of the double sounding-board referred to. Fig. 2 is a section of the same on line *yy* of Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively a front and a back view of the
15 double sounding-board placed in its frame. Fig. 5 is a section on line *zz* of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 shows a portion of Fig. 5 on an enlarged scale. Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view of the string-pressing arrangement on the sounding-
20 board.

The sounding-board is composed of two bulged-out or arched sides *a b*, which are glued to a correspondingly-curved edge piece *c*, said sides being provided with a rib *d*, Fig.
25 2, of a strength suitable for holding them in their bulged position. They are made of wood, with the fibers running in the direction of the section-line *yy* of Fig. 1, whereby the tone is improved. The side piece *a* of the
30 sounding-board has fixed to it curved strips *e f*, which carry double string-rest rails *g*, which are especially sharp at their points of support, so that the actual sounding-string length between the string-support and the
35 sounding-board and that on the wrest-plate *h* is precisely and sharply limited, thereby enabling a very clear, full, and sonorous tone to be produced.

The strings are fixed on the sounding-board
40 by pressing-strips *i*, adjustable by screws *j* toward or away from the rails *g*, with which pressing-strips the strings *k*, a few only of which are shown for the sake of clearness, are stretched on the two supporting-points
45 of the rails *g*, Figs. 6 and 7. This method of mounting the strings on the double sounding-board presents the advantage that the latter is relieved from the pressure of the strings, and consequently can vibrate more freely and
50 give out a clearer and better tone. Further, there is the advantage that when for repairing or other purposes the sounding-board is

to be taken out this can be done without slackening or displacing the strings at the other fastening-places on the frame *l* and
55 wrest-plate *h*, it being only requisite to remove the pressing-strips *i* by unscrewing the screws *j* in order to set free all the strings, whereupon the sounding-board, after being
60 unfastened at its places of attachment to the frame, can be taken out at the back of the latter, and when replaced it is only necessary to return the pressing-strips *i* to their places and stretch them as before to produce the
65 same tone as before.

The frame *l* has two large apertures *m*, through which the supporting-rails *g* and pressing-strips *i* can pass to the front, Fig.
3. The circular apertures *m'* serve to develop
70 or emit the tone.

In addition to the adjustable pressing-strips *i* a similar strip *n* is attached to the wrest-plate *h* by screw *o*, said pressing-strip serving to hold down the strings between the
75 cushion *p* and the bridge *q*. By reason of the strings being thus pressed down by the pressing-strip the tone is greatly improved. For the bass strings *k'* a similar pressing-strip *n* is not employed, because they do not cross
80 their supporting-bridge *q'* at right angles, and for this reason are set by pins *s*.

The bridge *q*, which limits the sounding length of the strings between it and the supporting-rails *g*, is provided with a wood base
85 *r*, let into the iron frame *l* and adapted to be removable and interchangeable, said wood base serving as an insulator between the bridge *q* and the frame *l* to prevent the latter
90 sounding with the strings, thereby insuring a clearer tone.

Like the supporting-rails *g*, the interchangeable bridge *q* is held to stand out sharply to sharply limit the effective string length for the production of a clear tone.

The double sounding-board is fixed in the
95 frame *l* by means of screw-bolts *t*, which are passed through the sides *a b*, the intermediate edge *c*, and into the frame.

In order that the arched sides of the sounding-board may bear properly against the
100 frame, the nipple-shaped elevation *u*, and against the screw-bolt nuts, wedge-shaped packing pieces *v*, Fig. 6, are provided.

w represents dovetail recesses in the side

edge *l'*, Fig. 4, of the frame *l*, in which wood pieces are inserted to facilitate the fixing of wooden sides to the frame by gluing.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

In combination in a piano, the frame, the double supporting-bars and the pressing-strips, the double sounding-board screwed as a complete body to the piano-frame from behind, and which is made to communicate with the strings by the double supporting-bars and

pressing-strips whereby, when the presser-strips are removed from the sound-board, it can be taken out to the rear without the necessity of detaching the strings at another place.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two witnesses.

ANTON MEDLIK.

Witnesses:

EMIL REINBELT,
HERNANDO DE SOTO.