

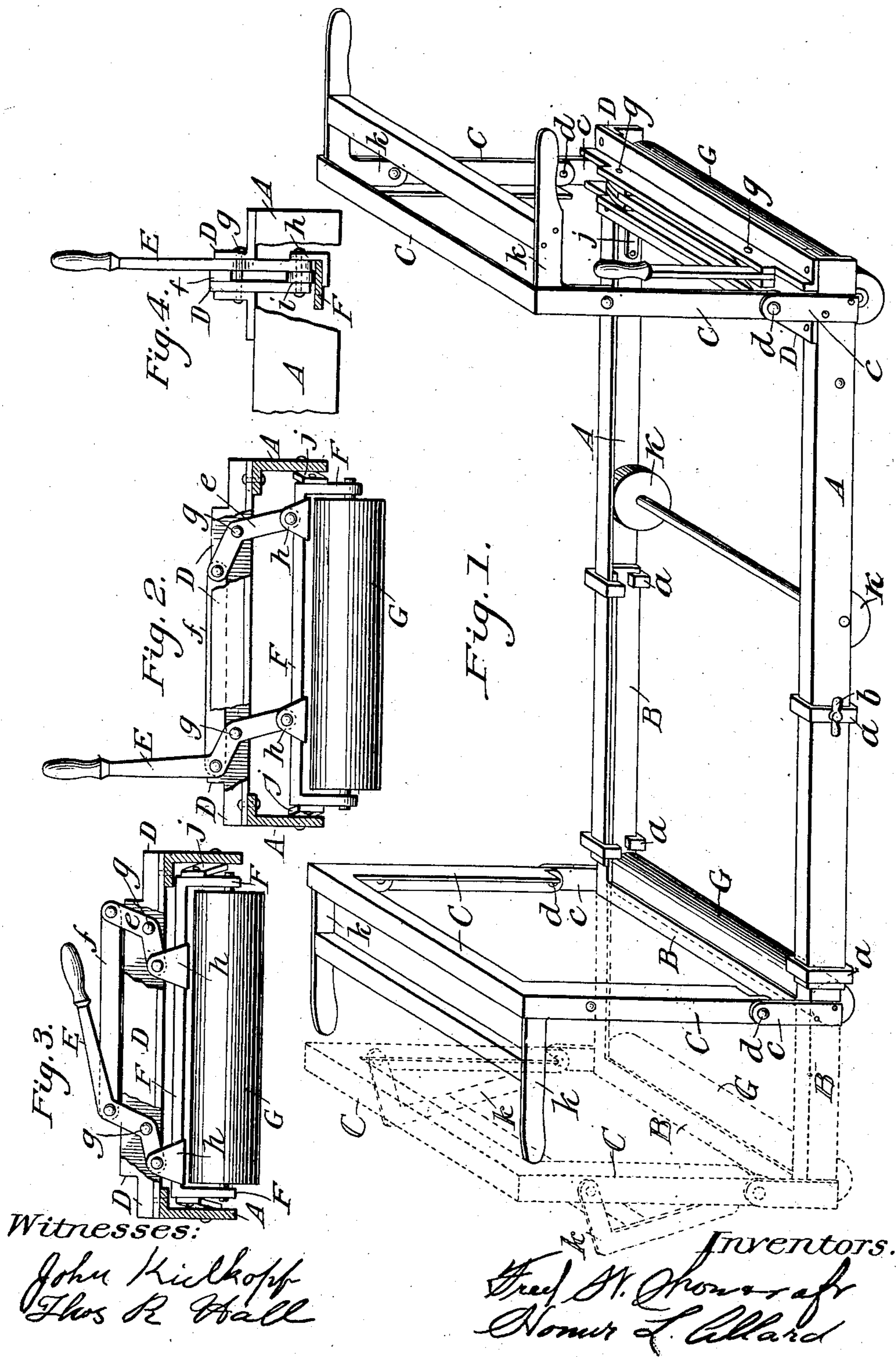
No. 737,165.

PATENTED AUG. 25, 1903.

F. W. SHOECRAFT & H. L. ALLARD.
PIANO TRUCK.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 29, 1903.

NO MODEL.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED W. SHOECRAFT AND HOMER L. ALLARD, OF STURGIS, MICHIGAN.

PIANO-TRUCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 737,165, dated August 25, 1903.

Application filed April 29, 1903. Serial No. 154,901. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRED W. SHOECRAFT and HOMER L. ALLARD, citizens of the United States, residing at Sturgis, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Piano-Trucks, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates more particularly to provide a method to elevate the end roller, and thereby more readily change direction in the movement of the truck, and also a means of extending the truck-bed. We attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the truck with our invention attached. Fig. 2 is a detail view of lever device with roller lowered. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the same with roller elevated. Fig. 4 is a detail view or end elevation of lever.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents metal angle-plates forming the bed of the truck. B represent similar plates fitted to slide inside A and form an extension of the bed when necessary, being retained in position by clamps *a*, provided with thumb-screws *b*.

c represents short plates secured vertically to the ends of the side pieces A and B, respectively, and adapted to support pivotally a couple of frames C by the pins *d*. Said frames are provided with handles *k*, pivoted thereon.

D represents two rectangular plates resting on and secured to the side plates of the bed A a suitable distance apart in front of the end piece of said bed.

E is a lever having an arm *e* pivotally connected therewith by a bar *f*. The members E and *e* are pivoted between the plates D on the two bolts *g*, extend downward, and connect with a pair of lugs *h*, to which they are pivoted.

F is a metal plate turned down at both ends, where they are perforated and through which a roller G is journaled, operating inside the bed of the truck. The lugs *h* are turned horizontally at a right angle and fit underneath

the plate F. A couple of friction-rollers *i* are journaled into the lower end of the members E and *e* and revolve on the upper side of the plate F opposite the lugs *h* to secure an easy smooth movement of the lugs along said plate.

j represents rods pivoted on the inside of A and outside the ends of plate F to retain the roller G in position.

To lengthen the truck-bed, the side plates B can be drawn out as required for larger instruments and secured by tightening the screws *b* on the clamps *a*. When not in use, the frames C can be laid down on the truck-bed. When necessary to turn the loaded truck, the lever E is pressed downward, causing the lugs *h* to slide along beneath the plate F and elevate the roller G above the bottom of the bed A, thus placing the truck free to be moved in any direction on the center wheels K. It is obvious that the lever supports the rear end of the truck and operates inside the length of the frame, thereby avoiding the defect of a projecting device and a reduction in size of the sides of the bed.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination in a piano-truck, of a bed A formed of metal angle-plates, with the angle-plates D, a lever E, the arm *e*, both pivoted on plates D, connected by the bar *f*, and attached to lugs *h*, and rollers *i*, the plate F, carrying the roller G and side rods *j*, all as hereinbefore described, and for the purposes set forth.

2. In a piano-truck, the combination of a bed A formed of metal angle-plates; the angle-plates D, a lever E, an arm *e*, both pivoted on plates D, connected by the bar *f* and attached to lugs *h*, and rollers *i*, the plate F, carrying roller G, and rods *j*, with the side plates B, the clamps *a*, with thumb-screws *b*, the short plates *c*, the frames C, journaled on *c*, and handles *k*, all as shown, and for the purposes described hereinbefore.

FRED W. SHOECRAFT.
HOMER L. ALLARD.

Witnesses:

E. W. PENDLETON,
W. B. DRYER.