

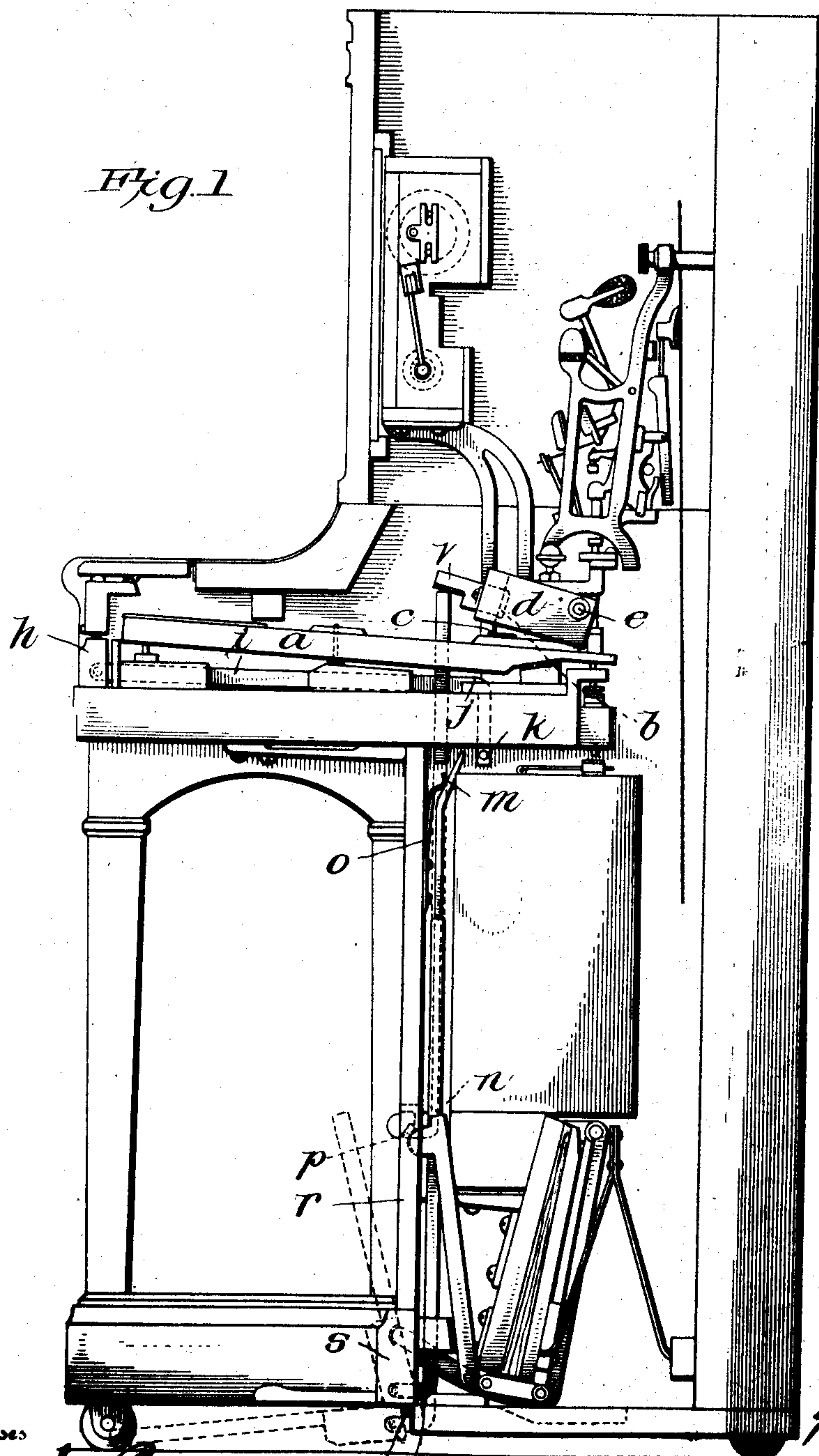
No. 813,355.

PATENTED FEB. 20, 1906.

J. W. DARLEY, JR.
SELF PLAYING PIANO.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 26, 1905.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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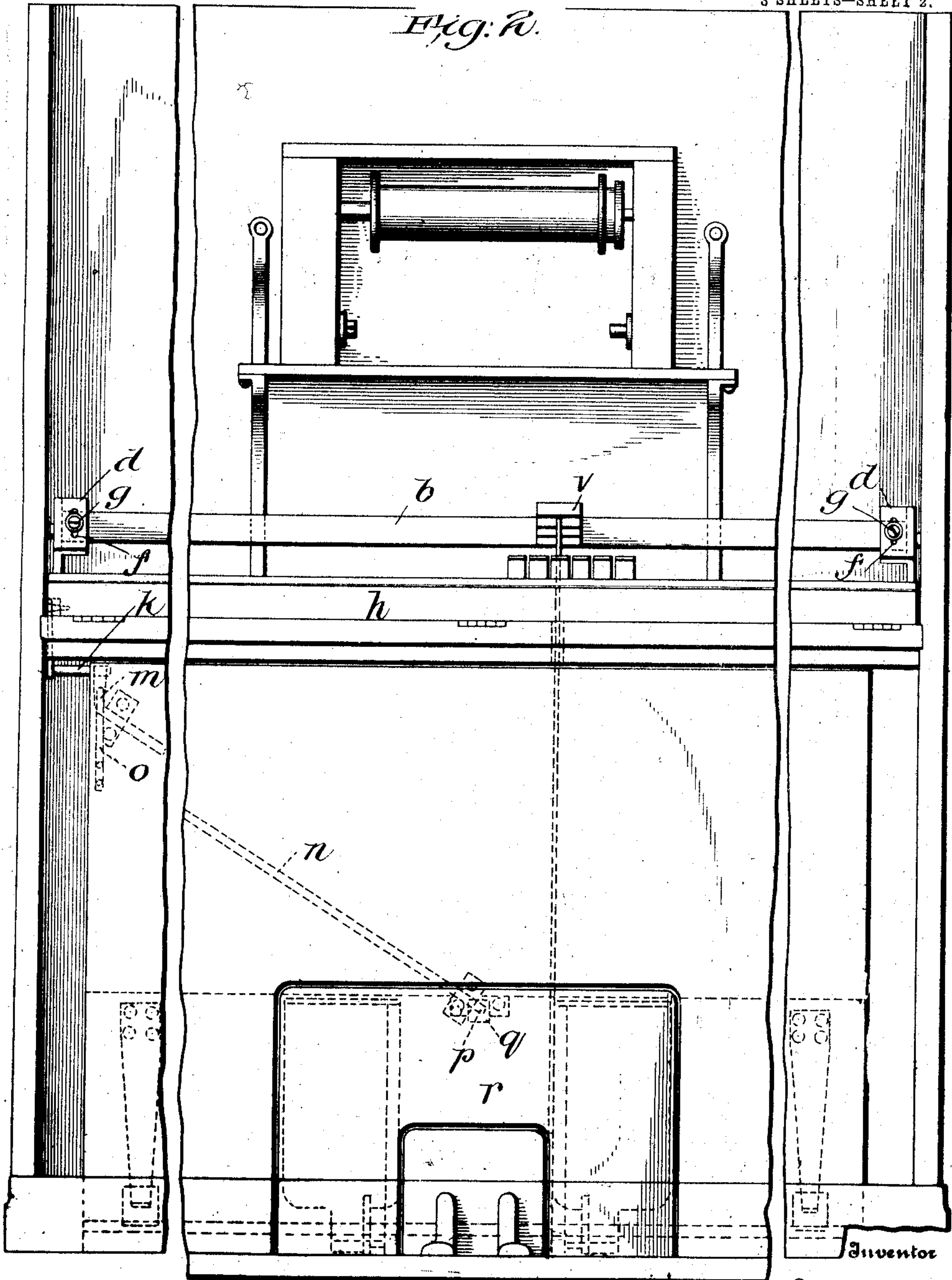
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 3.

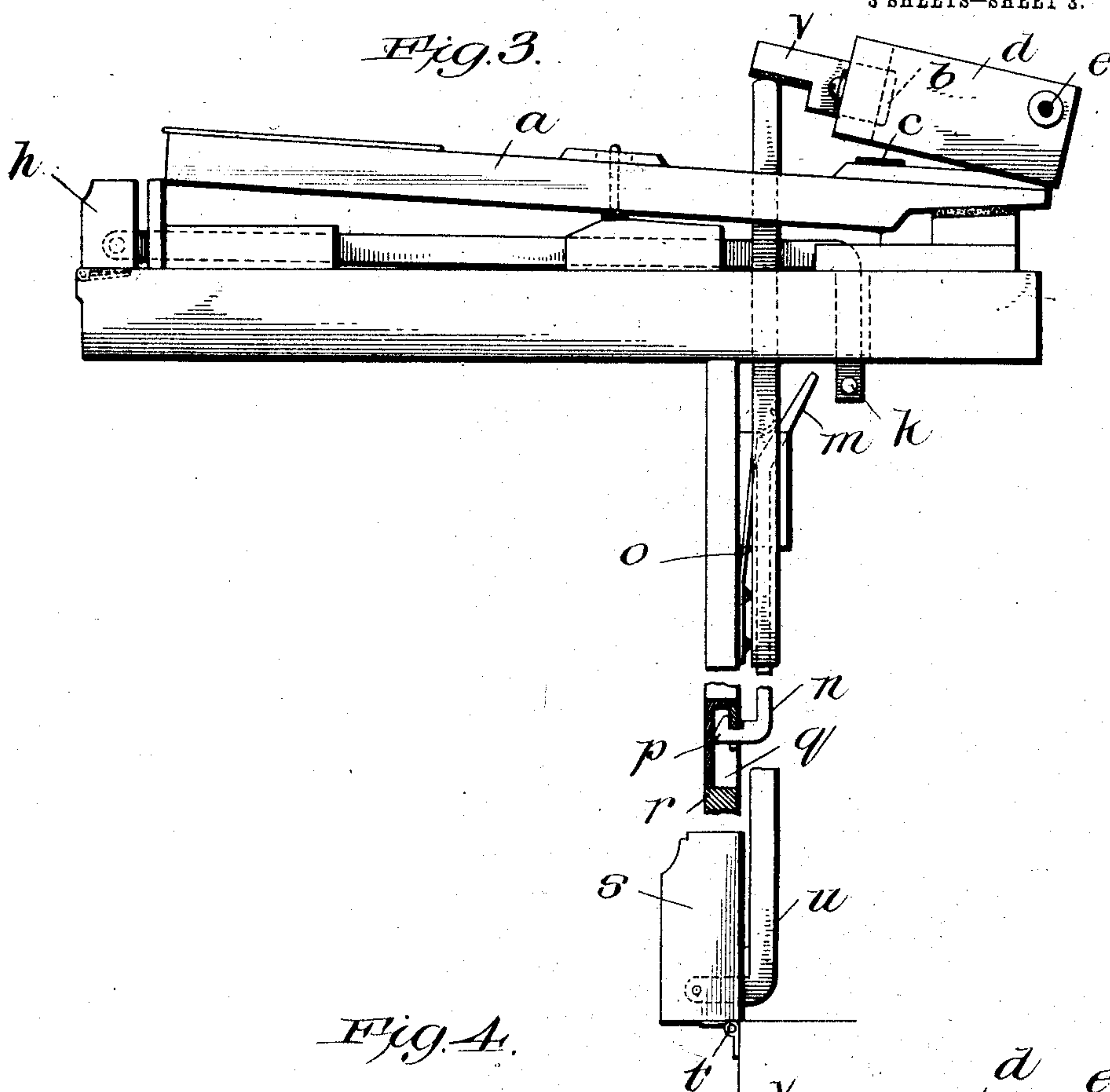
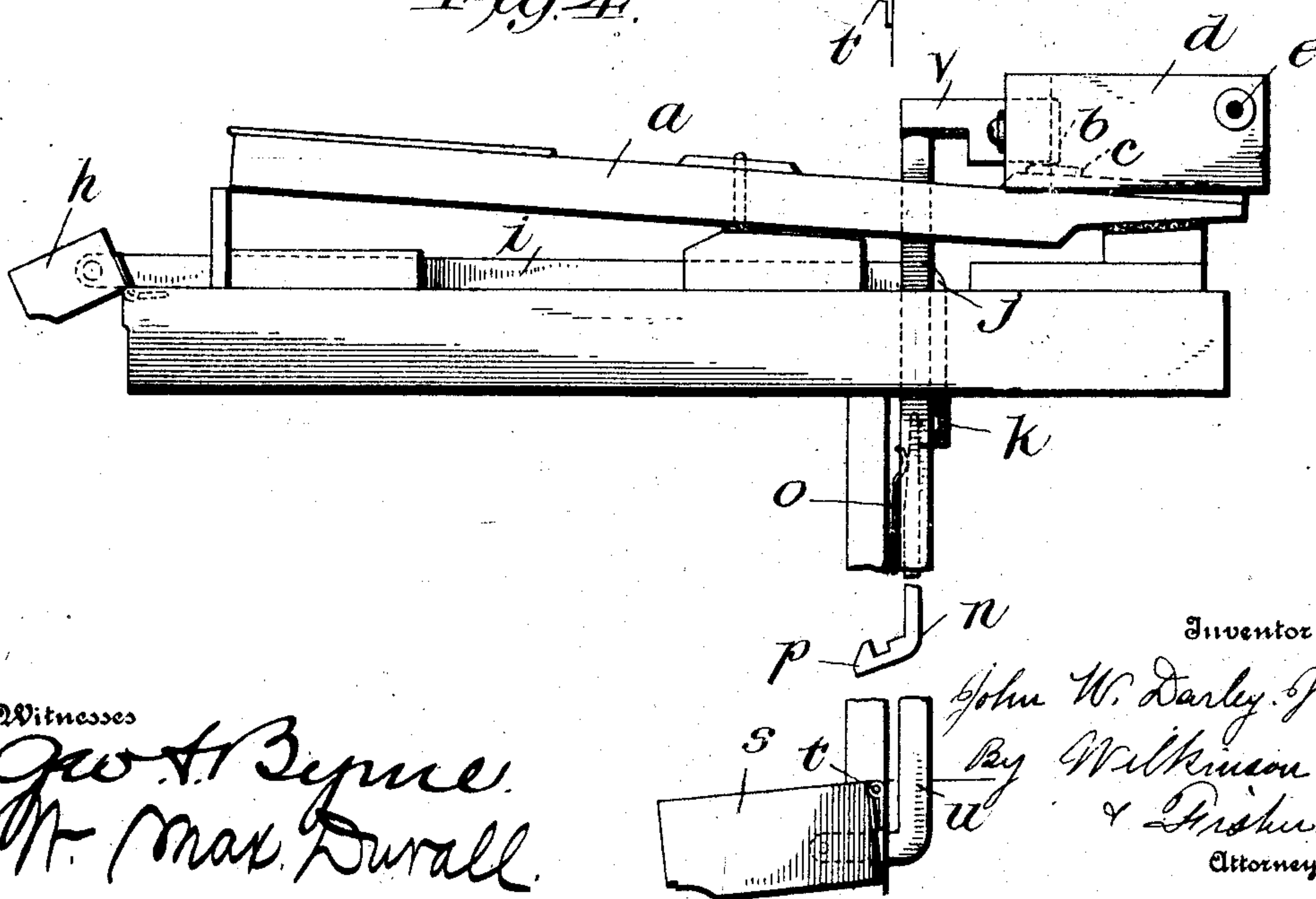


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. DARLEY, JR., OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR TO
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BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, A CORPORATION OF MARYLAND.

SELF-PLAYING PIANO.

No. 813,355.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 20, 1906.

Application filed September 26, 1905. Serial No. 280,224.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. DARLEY, JR., a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Playing Pianos; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in self-playing pianos of the type shown in my former application, filed July 24, 1905, Serial No. 271,050; and the object of the present invention is to simplify the construction shown in said application.

With this object in view my invention consists in the construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a piano with one of the ends removed. Fig. 2 is a broken front view with a part of the top casing removed. Fig. 3 is a side view, partly in elevation, showing the locking mechanism for the keys out of operation; and Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the locking means holding the keys locked.

a represents one of the ordinary pivoted keys, and *b* represents a bar extending across the piano and adapted when lowered to lock said keys against movement, resting upon strips of felt *c* on said keys. The bar *b* is supported in brackets *d*, one of which is pivoted, as shown at *e*, Fig. 1, to each side of the piano. Each of the brackets *d* is slotted, as shown at *f*, and a headed screw *g* passes through said slot into the bar *b*, thereby making the latter adjustable upon said brackets. These brackets *d* are of considerable size and weight, and unless positively prevented they will assume the position shown in Fig. 4, bringing the bar *b* in contact with the keys, locking them by gravity.

h represents a key-slip pivoted on the front frame of the piano and arranged to fold outwardly, as shown in Fig. 4. To this key-slip *h* is attached a rod *i*, which is bent downwardly, as shown at *j*, and provided with a horizontal pin *k*. This pin *k* when the key-slip is folded down is brought into contact with the projecting end *m* of a rotating locking-rod *n*, moving it against the tension of the spring *o*. The lower end of the rod *n* is

provided with a hook *p*, which engages a slot *q* in the upper part of the pedal-board *r*. It is obvious from the description and from the construction shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings that the folding down of the key-slip will move forward the rod *i*, whereupon the pin *k* will strike the end *m* of the lever *n* and unlock the pedal-board, whereupon the latter will fall by gravity into the upper position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

From the upper position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 the pedals may be folded down into the lower position shown in Fig. 1, in which position the piano may be operated as a self-playing instrument.

s represents a portion of the folding pedal-board pivoted to the frame of the piano, as shown at *t*, as in my former application. Pivoted to the pedal-board *s* is a push-rod *u*, which extends up between the keys and the upper end of which contacts with a block *v*, fastened to the center of the bar *b*. When the pedal-board is folded up, as shown in Fig. 3, the rod *u* holds the locking means away from the keys, as shown in Fig. 3; but when the pedal-board is folded down, as shown in Fig. 4, the bar *u* is drawn down, whereupon the bar *b* falls down and locks the keys, being carried down by the heavy brackets *d*.

The other parts of the piano are substantially the same as those set forth in my application above referred to.

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

1. In a self-playing piano, the combination of keys, a gravity-operated locking-bar for said keys, means for holding said locking-bar out of engagement with said keys, and mechanism for withdrawing said means operated by the movement of the pedal-board, substantially as described.

2. In a self-playing piano, the combination of keys, a locking-bar for said keys, means for holding said locking-bar out of engagement with said keys, and connections for withdrawing said holding means by the operation of the pedal-board, substantially as described.

3. In a self-playing piano, the combination of keys, a locking-bar for said keys, means for holding said locking-bar out of en-

gagement with said keys, a pedal-board, and means for locking and unlocking said pedal-board, substantially as described.

4. In a self-playing piano, the combination of keys, a gravity-operated locking-bar for said keys, a pivoted pedal-board, means operated by said pedal-board for holding said bar out of engagement with said keys, and means for locking and unlocking said pedal-board, including a pivoted key-slip and connections between said key-slip and said pedal-board, substantially as described.

5. In a self-playing piano, the combination of keys, a locking-bar for said keys, a pivoted pedal-board, a push-rod connected to said pedal-board, and holding said locking-bar out of contact with said keys when the pedal-board is folded up, means for locking said pedal-board, including a hooked rod,

a pivoted key-slip, and a rod operated by said key-slip for moving said rod, substantially as described.

6. In a self-playing piano, the combination of a pivoted pedal-board provided with a catch, a rod provided with a hooked end, a spring bearing against said rod, a pivoted key-slip, and a bent rod attached thereto and carrying a pin, said pin being adapted to strike said rod and unlock said pedal-board when said key-slip is folded down, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. DARLEY, Jr.

Witnesses:

CHARLES R. BOETTGER,
E. A. DOLB.