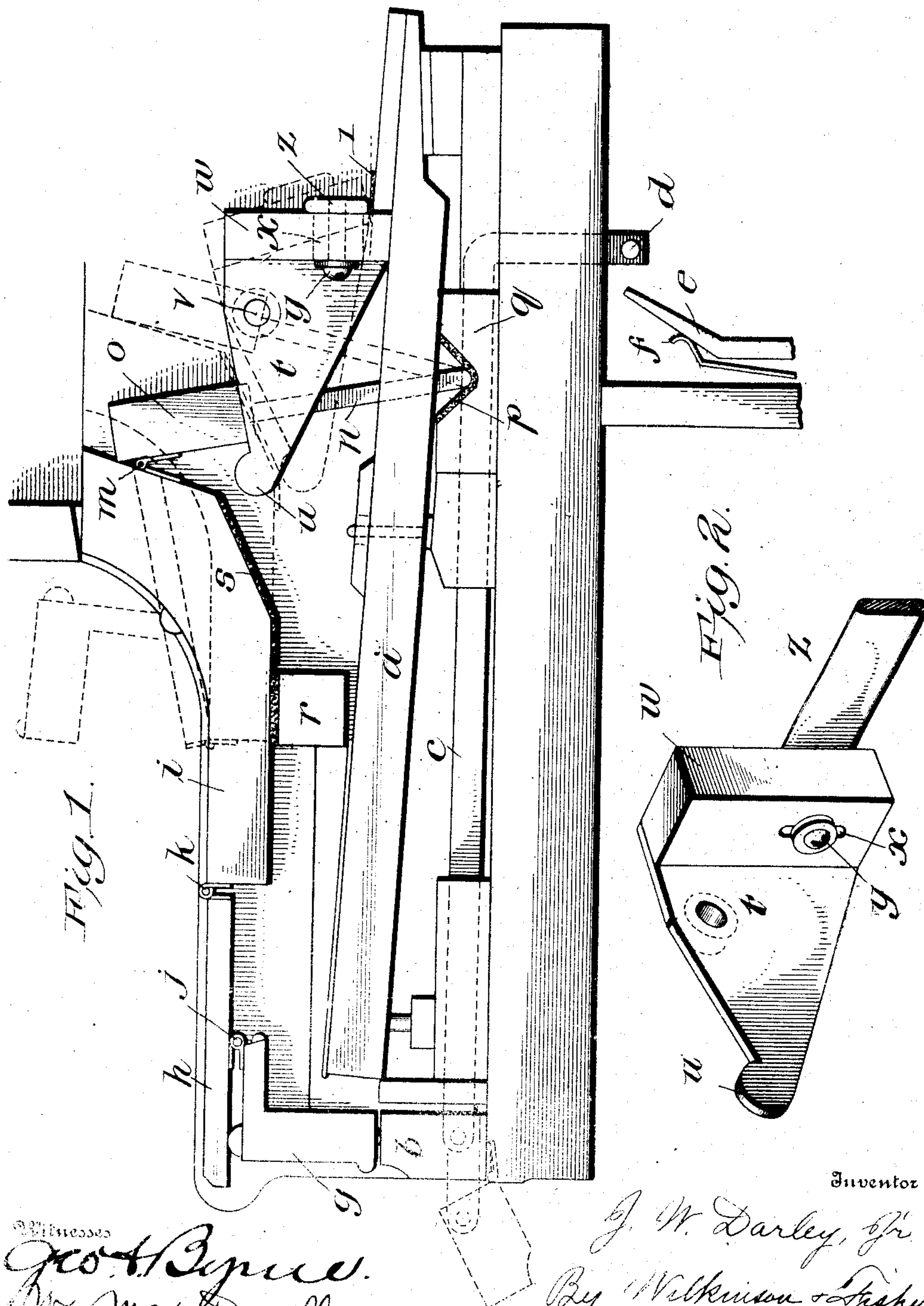


J. W. DARLEY, JR.  
SELF PLAYING PIANO ATTACHMENT.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 26, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses  
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No. 813,356.

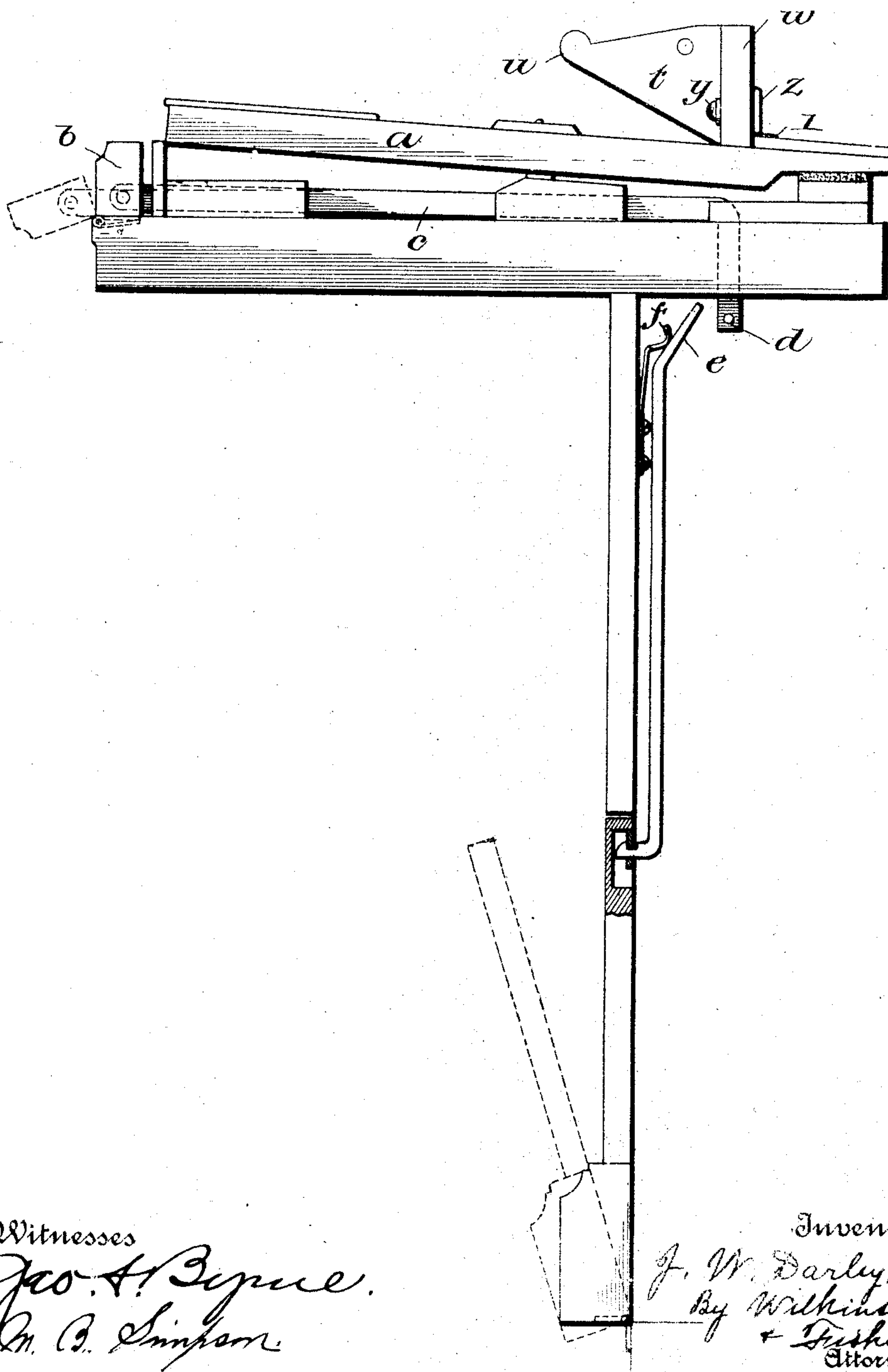
PATENTED FEB. 20, 1906.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SELF-PLAYING PIANO ATTACHMENT.

No. 813,356.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 20, 1906.

Application filed September 26, 1905. Serial No. 280,225.

*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 Piano Attachments; 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 improvements in self-playing piano attachments; and the object of my invention is to provide an attachment for a self-playing piano so arranged that the piano may be played in the ordinary way or be used as what is commonly known as a "self-playing" piano, and so that in the latter case the keys may be either locked against motion or may be allowed to move, at the will of the operator, since some persons prefer the one and others the other method.

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 an end view of a part of a piano, showing my attachment applied thereto, one of the sides thereof having been removed; and Fig. 2 is a detail view. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the piano-action.

*a* represents one of the keys mounted in the ordinary manner.

*b* represents a key-slip arranged to fold outwardly to permit the self-playing attachment to be operated. Connected to the key-slip *b* is a sliding rod *c*, which is bent downwardly and is provided with a horizontal pin *d*, which pin is adapted to engage the unlocking-rod *e*, which is controlled by the spring *f*, all of the parts named being of the same construction as that set forth in my companion application of even date herewith, Serial No. 280,224.

The piano-lid is composed of three parts hinged together, *g* representing the front piece, and *h* and *i* representing the two parts of the top piece.

*j* represents a hinge connecting the parts *g* and *h*, and *k* represents a hinge connecting the parts *h* and *i*.

Connected to the rear part *i* of the lid by

means of a hinge *m* is a lever *n*, the upper part of which is glued in a cross-rail. (Shown at *o*.) The lower end of the lever *n* is pivoted in a depression *p*, lined with felt or suitable material in the block *q*, supported on one of the side rails of the piano, this construction being in duplicate at each side of the piano. The part *i* is arranged to slide upon a cross-bar *r*, provided with a felt cover, and the rear portion of the lid *i* is beveled off, as shown at *s*, and provided with a felt strip.

On each side of the piano is a bracket *t*, substantially triangular in form and provided with a rounded extension *u*. The bracket *t* is pivoted on a pin *v*, and firmly attached to the bracket is a block *w*, which is slotted, as shown at *x*, for the reception of a screw *y*, all of these parts being duplicated on the other side of the piano. The screw *y* passes into a bar *z*, which runs entirely across the piano and is arranged at times to contact with the strips of felt *l* on the top of the keys *a*.

In the position shown in full lines in Fig. 1 the keys *a* are locked, the heavy blocks *w* holding down the bar *z* against the keys by gravity. If the parts *g* and *h* of the lid are turned backward, the keys are then exposed. If then the key-slip *b* is turned down into the position shown in the dotted lines in Fig. 1, the self-playing mechanism may be brought into play and the keys will still be locked. If, however, the operator prefers to see the keys move during the performance, as is often the case, all that it is necessary to do is to push the lid back into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, which is also the position for manual operation, whereupon the beveled portion *s* of the part *i* of the lid comes in contact with the extensions *u* of the brackets *t*, turning the brackets *t*, which carry with them the locking-bar *z*, into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that by the attachment described the piano may be either operated in the usual way or as a self-playing piano, and that in the latter case the keys may be either locked or free to move, at the will of the operator.

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

1. In a self-playing piano attachment, the



combination of keys, means for locking said keys, and a movable lid, said lid being adapted to engage with said means to throw it out of operation when desired, substantially as described.

2. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of keys, means for locking said keys, a lid composed of parts hinged together and adapted to be slid backward to strike a part of said locking means and thereby disengage them from said keys, substantially as described.

3. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of pivoted keys, a bar supported on pivoted brackets for locking said keys, and a movable lid, the parts being so arranged that the lid when slid backward strikes said brackets and prevents said bar from locking said keys, substantially as described.

4. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of keys, a lid composed of parts hinged together and having a beveled portion and adapted to be slid backward into the piano, a pivoted bracket located on each side of said piano, and a locking-bar adjustably secured to said brackets, said brackets being so arranged that the beveled portion of the lid as it is slid backward strikes said brackets and lifts said bar out of contact with said keys, substantially as described.

5. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of a lid composed of three parts hinged together, the rear part having a beveled portion, said lid being adapted to slide backward into said piano, a lever hinged to the rear part of said lid, keys, a bracket piv-

oted to each side of the piano, and a locking-bar for said keys adjustably connected to said brackets, the parts being so arranged that the beveled portion of the lid will strike said brackets when it is slid backward and lift said locking-bar out of contact with said keys, substantially as described.

6. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of means for unlocking the self-playing piano part, and means for locking said keys against movement or unlocking them at the will of the operator, substantially as described.

7. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of means for unlocking the self-playing portion, keys, pivoted brackets carrying a locking-bar for said keys, and a sliding lid adapted when slid backward to strike said brackets and lift said bar out of contact with said keys, substantially as described.

8. In a self-playing piano attachment, the combination of a key-slip and a bar operated thereby to release the self-playing portion of the piano, keys, a locking-bar for said keys, brackets pivoted to the sides of the piano supporting said bar, and a hinged and sliding lid adapted, when slid back, to strike said brackets and lift said bar out of engagement with said keys, 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.