

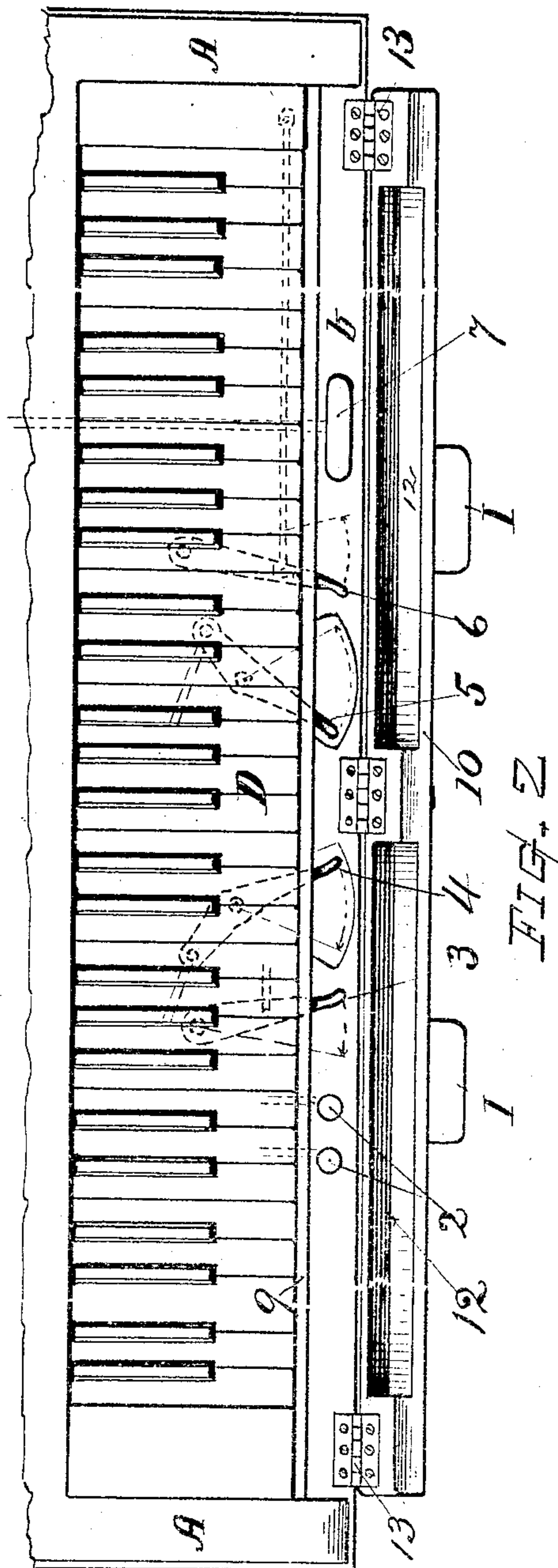
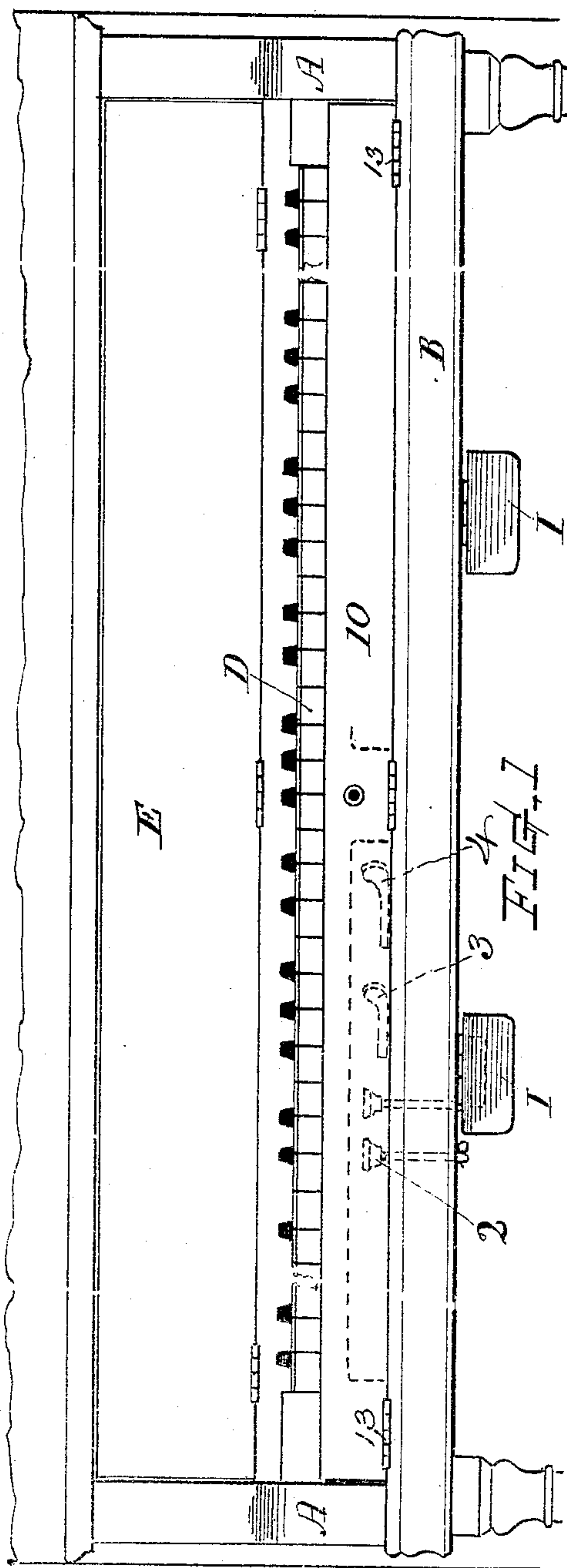
No. 816,726.

PATENTED APR. 3, 1906.

N. D. HOSLEY.
AUTOMATIC COMBINATION PIANO.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 3, 1904.

2 SHEETS--SHEET 1.



Witnesses.
Fred N. Flinn
Simon & King

Inventor.
Nelson D. Hosley
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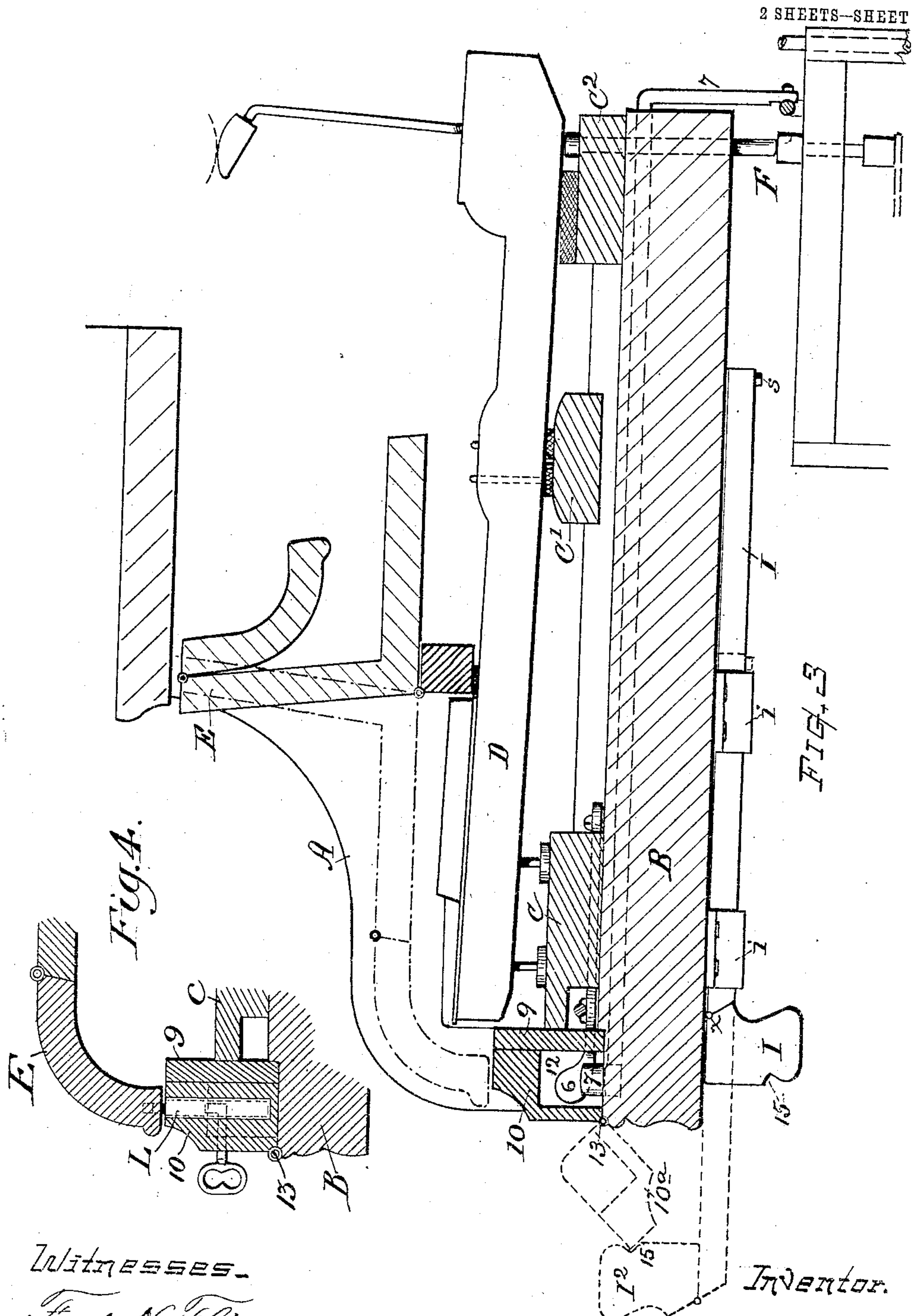
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELSON DAGGETT HOSLEY, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO
WILCOX & WHITE COMPANY, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT, A COR-
PORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

AUTOMATIC COMBINATION-PIANO.

No. 816,726.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 3, 1906.

Application filed September 3, 1904. Serial No. 223,226.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELSON DAGGETT HOSLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Automatic Combination-Pianos, of which the following, together with the accompanying drawings, is a specification sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable persons skilled in the art to which this invention appertains to make and use the same.

The object of my present invention is to afford, in a combination-piano, a practical and convenient arrangement of the manipulatory devices at the front of the piano-manual and to provide an efficient, neat, and desirable recessed key slip or containing bar having a movable or hinged member that can be opened and closed to expose or conceal the manipulatory terminals pertaining to the automatic operating mechanism and arranged along the front of the keyboard; also, to provide, in combination with the piano-casing and expression-manipulating devices, an adjustable hand-rest, as more fully hereinafter explained.

To this end my invention consists in means the nature, preferred construction, and operation of which is illustrated in the drawings and explained in detail in the following description, the particular subject-matter claimed being hereinafter definitely set forth.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of a portion of a piano having my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 represents a plan view of the keyboard and adjacent parts of a piano, illustrating the invention with its members disposed as in open position. Fig. 3 represents a transverse vertical section of such parts of a combination-piano mechanism as will more fully illustrate the nature of this invention. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary cross-section at the central part of the key-slip adjacent to the lock.

In the drawings, the parts marked A represent the ends of the case; B, the key bottom or bed; C, the front rail of the key-frame; C', the fulcrum or balance rail, and C² the back rail of the key-frame. D indicates the manual-keys, and E the fall-board or cover; all of which parts may be of well-known or suitable construction.

F indicates mechanism for operating the keys automatically. Such mechanism can be of any suitable construction. It is not shown in detail herein, as mechanisms for such purpose and for giving control and expression in its action are well known.

The parts marked 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 represent the fingering ends or manipulatory devices whereby the expression or accentuation mechanism pertaining to the automatic action are controlled, the tempo-movement regulated, and winding and rewinding devices for the music-sheet put into and out of operation. In the present application I have shown the manipulatory members only. These are disposed with their terminal ends at or within the key-slip space overlying a ledge of the key-table. It will be understood that the invention or parts here shown can be employed with different kinds of automatic action mechanisms, expression mechanisms, and music-winding mechanisms of well-known or suitable construction, the manipulatory devices being respectively formed and connected therewith in any convenient or suitable manner, but located with the finger-receiving ends of said devices disposed within or beneath the key-slip or face-piece in front of the manual-keyboard over the ledge of the key-bed. As herein illustrated, 2 and 7 indicate expression and accentuation manipulators; 4, the music-winding and reroll shifter; 5, the tempo-regulating lever, and 3 and 6 pedal-actuating devices; but other order of placement may in some instances be employed.

The key-slip or casing portion at the front ends of the keys D is formed of two members, a thin lining member 9 and an outer finish member 10, having at its lower rear side a recess or recesses affording a hollow space for containing or inclosing the terminal ends of the various manipulatory devices, as indicated in Fig. 3. The outer member 10 is movably combined with the casing, it being preferably hinged at 13 to swing forward and downward, as indicated in Fig. 2 and by dotted lines 10^a on Fig. 3, so as to expose the manipulatory devices when the piano or instrument is to be played automatically, or again closed into position, as shown in Fig. 1 and in full lines on Fig. 3, when the piano is used for manual-playing or when not in use.

When the member 10 is normally closed, the manipulatory devices are concealed and a perfect exterior finish is presented similar to the non-automatic pianos. The movable
 5 key-slip member 10 may extend the full width of the keyboard, or if in any instance desired it can be made of less length or in sections of a length to cover the groups of manipulatory devices.

10 The lock L for retaining the keyboard-cover E is fitted in the movable member of the key-slip, so that both the cover and the hinged slip are retained when the case is locked. Said lock may be of any suitable
 15 construction.

I indicates an adjustable rest device supported upon the key bottom or bed B and arranged to slide or swing in a manner to permit of its being drawn out so that its front end
 20 projects from beneath the bed and key-slip member, as indicated by dotted lines I² on Fig. 3, to serve as a rest for the member 10 when opened or as a rest for the hand of the operator while manipulating the expression-
 25 controlling devices. The outer end of the rest I is preferably hinged to its supporting bar or body at x and formed in a manner to turn upward (see Fig. 3) for bringing the rest-surface more nearly to the level of the key-
 30 slip range when in use. The slide-bar of the rest is best provided with a suitable stop or stud s for limiting its outward movement or adjustment at the desired position. When
 35 not required for use, the fore end can be turned down and the rest device retracted beneath the bed B. The head of the rest is best formed with a seat-surface 15 for supporting the movable key-slip member 10 when the latter is in open position.

The exterior of the key-slip member may 40 be made to correspond with the finish of any piano whereon it is used, so that when closed the devices of the automatic action are not visibly apparent; but the instrument pre-
 45 sents the appearance of an ordinary piano-front with no detractive features.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an automatic piano, the combination with the key-bed, manual-keys, and an auto- 50 matic action having its expression-controlling manipulators disposed at the edge of the key-bed in front of the manual-keys; of an adjustable rest device supported on the key-bed with its head member, when at extended 55 position, projecting in front of the expression-controlling device as a rest for the hand of the operator, and retractable to a position beneath the key-bed, substantially as set forth. 60

2. In an automatic piano or like instrument, the combination with the key-bed, the manual-keyboard, and expression-manipulating devices having their terminals at the front of said keyboard; of a key-slip member 65 adapted for concealing said manipulating device, and hinged to swing forward for exposing the same, and an extendible rest device adjustably connected with the key-bed and having means for supporting the key-slip 70 member when at open position, and for resting the hand of the operator thereon.

Witness my hand this 1st day of September, 1904.

NELSON DAGGETT HOSLEY.

Witnesses:

A. G. KUHNLE,
 C. L. PIERCE.