

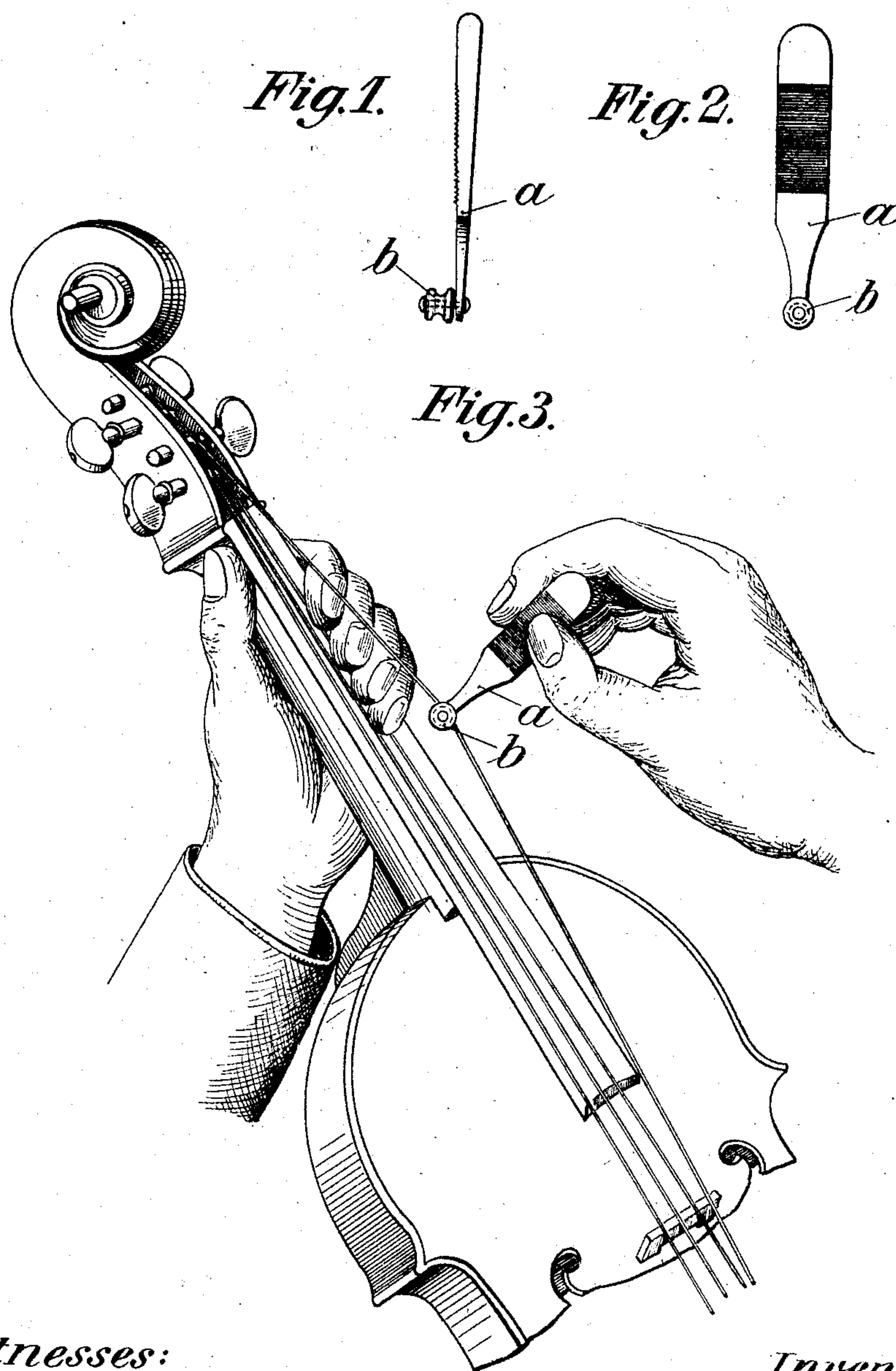
No. 881,269.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

J. W. VAN HOUTEN.

DEVICE FOR STRETCHING THE STRINGS OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 4, 1907.



Witnesses:

Edwin Miller  
Harold Baron

Inventor:

Johannes Wilhelmus van Houten

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHANNES WILHELMUS VAN HOUTEN, OF AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS.

DEVICE FOR STRETCHING THE STRINGS OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

No. 881,269.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed February 4, 1907. Serial No. 355,656.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHANNES WILHELMUS VAN HOUTEN, a subject of the Queen of Netherlands, and resident of Prinsengracht 1051, Amsterdam, Netherlands, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Stretching the Strings of Musical Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

10 It is well known that the strings of musical instruments, especially of violins after tightening up, or in tuning must be stretched, in order that the tone for which they are determined can be maintained longer. Hitherto this stretching was made by the hand, but it could only be accomplished in this way very imperfectly.

15 The present invention relates to a device by means of which this stretching can be accomplished in an easier and more perfect manner.

20 This device consists essentially of a small roller attached to a handle, by means of which the strings can be held up. The roller is led along the string, the latter being thereby pulled out at the same time.

25 In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 shows a front view, and Fig. 2 a side view of the new device. Fig. 3 shows how the device is used.

The handle *a* fashioned in any suitable manner is provided at or near the bottom

with a laterally projecting roller made from any material suitable for the purpose. The roller *b* should be made as small as possible so that it can be easily brought underneath the strings. For this reason it is desirable if the roller is journaled on a pin which is only fixed at one side as shown in the drawing. The roller is provided with a groove in the same manner as a pulley in order that the string may not slip off. The handle may be made rough in order that it may be firmly gripped by the thumb and finger.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

In a device for stretching the strings of musical instruments, in combination, a small handle of suitable form, a pin fixed with one end on the said handle, a small roller journaled on the said pin, and a groove of semi-circular cross-section on the periphery of the said roller, said grooved roller being adapted to be inserted under the strings of a musical instrument, substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 16th day of January, 1907, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHANNES WILHELMUS VAN HOUTEN.

Witnesses:

JAN ROELAND KINKER,  
WILLEM WAANING.