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TRACKER BOARD FOR PNEUMATIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

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908,492. Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

Fig. 1.

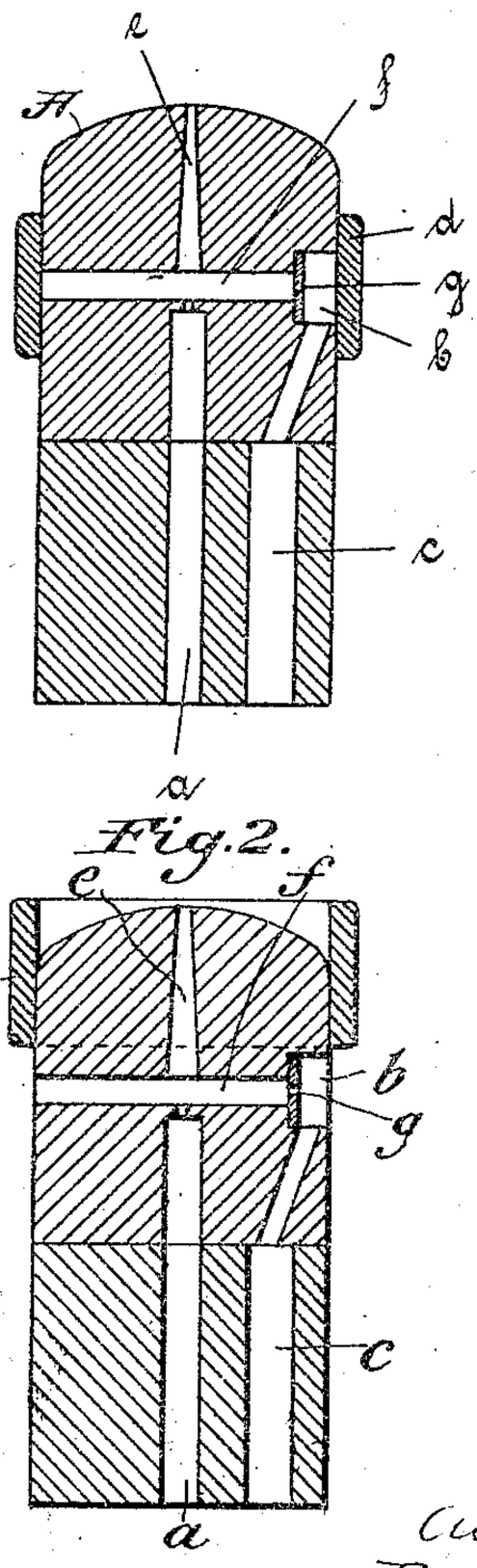

Fig. 2.

Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST PHILIPPS, OF FRANKFORT-ON-THE-MAIN, GERMANY.

TRACKER-BOARD FOR PNEUMATIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

No. 903,492. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST PHILIPPS, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and resident of Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tracker-Boards for Pneumatic Musical Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to pneumatically operated musical instruments in which a tracker board is employed, connected by air channels with pneumatically operated valves or other devices, which control the operation of the instrument. The cleaning of such channels presents practical difficulties on account of their small diameter, and it is the object of my invention to provide a construction for facilitating the cleaning of such channels and the separation and elimination of dust or other foreign matter.

The invention will be fully described hereinafter and the features of novelty pointed out in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 represents a cross section of a tracker board embodying my invention and Fig. 2 is a similar view with the parts in a different position.

a indicates one of the channels leading to the valves or other devices which govern the operation of the instrument. This channel is connected at the top with a cross channel *f* preferably extending entirely through the tracker board proper A. In the continuation of the channel *a*, is located the channel *e* leading to the upper face of the tracker board on which the music-sheet is adapted to rest. The cross channel *f* is enlarged at one end to form a chamber *b*, which is connected by a channel *c* with wind-producing devices such as bellows, in any approved manner. At the inner end of the chamber *b* I may locate a disk or strip *g* provided with an aperture or apertures connecting with cross channel *f*. A movable or removable cover *d* is employed for normally closing the outer end of the chamber *b* and the said cover may, if desired, be constructed to embrace the tracker board so as to also close the opposite end of the cross channel *f* as shown.

It will be seen that the wind-inducing devices, according as they are pressure or suction devices, will produce a current of air in one direction or the other in the channel *c*, chamber *b*, and cross channel *f*; from the latter the air current divides to the channels *a* and *e* respectively. This arrangement of channels in itself is advantageous and insures a sensitive operation. When the musical instrument is operated by suction any dust which may be drawn in through the channel *e* will have an opportunity to settle either in the chamber *b*, or (and this will generally be the case) in the channel *f* on the inside of the disk or strip *g*. By removing the cover *d*, or simply moving it aside so as to clear the opening of the chamber *b*, (see Fig. 2) the perforations of the disk or strip *g* are made readily accessible for cleaning, as is also the chamber *b*. By uncovering the other end of the channel *f*, these channels may be thoroughly cleaned. The channels *a*, *e* may be cleaned by inserting a needle or the like from above.

The drawing shows a contraction at the upper end of the channel *a*, which contraction may have the same diameter as the aperture in the disk or strip *g*. This contraction I prefer to employ when the wind-inducing devices are pressure devices, so that in this case dust will be retained first on the disk *g* at its aperture, and any foreign matter which may pass through said disk will be arrested at the constriction of the channel *a*. However, if the wind is induced by suction devices, I prefer not to use any constriction in the channel *a*.

Various modifications may be made without departing from the nature of my invention.

I claim:

1. A tracker board for pneumatically operated musical instruments, provided with a channel adapted to be governed by the traveling music-sheet, another channel, a cross channel connected with both of said first-named channels and enlarged at one end to form a chamber, a movable cover for said chamber, and a fourth channel connected with said chamber.

2. A tracker board for pneumatically operated musical instruments, provided with a channel adapted to be governed by the traveling music-sheet, another channel, a cross channel connected with both of said first-named channels and extending entirely through the tracker board, a fourth channel connected with said cross channel, and a movable cover for each end of said cross channel.

3. A tracker board for pneumatically operated musical instruments, provided with a channel adapted to be governed by the traveling music-sheet, another channel, a cross channel extending entirely through the tracker board and connected with each of said first-named channels, said cross channel being enlarged at one end to form a chamber, a perforated member located within said chamber, a fourth channel connected with said chamber, and means for movably covering the outer end of said chamber and the opposite end of the cross channel.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

AUGUST PHILIPPS.

Witnesses:
JEAN GRUND,
CARL GRUND.