

G. D. LAURIAN.  
 BRIDGE FOR STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.  
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934,678.

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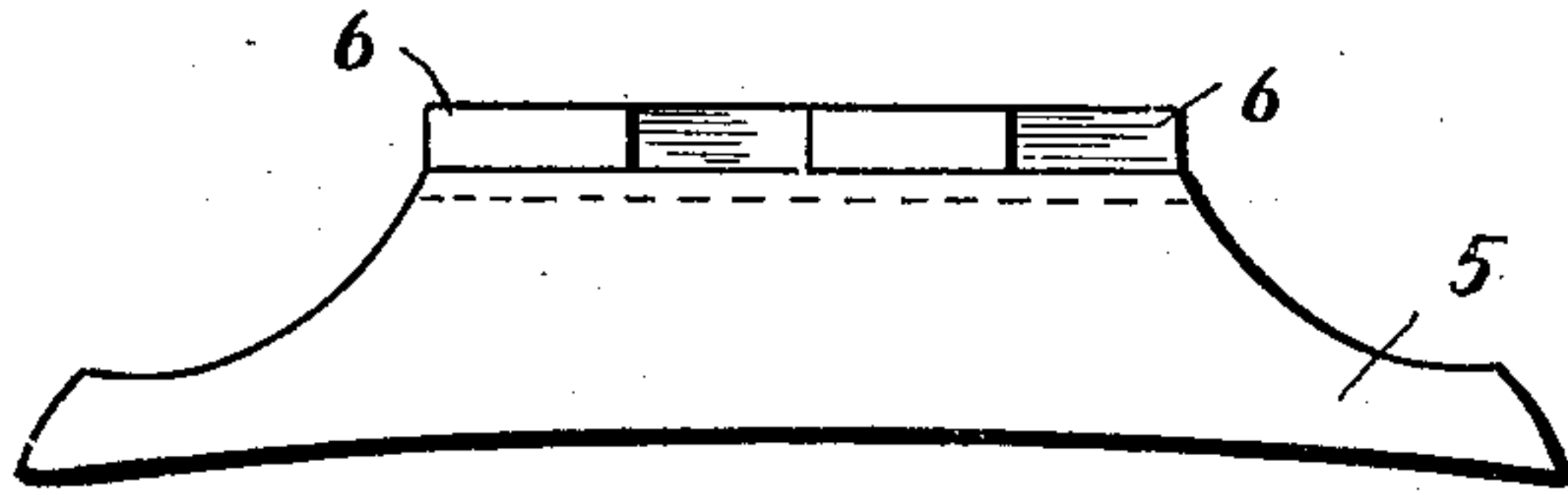


Fig. 2.

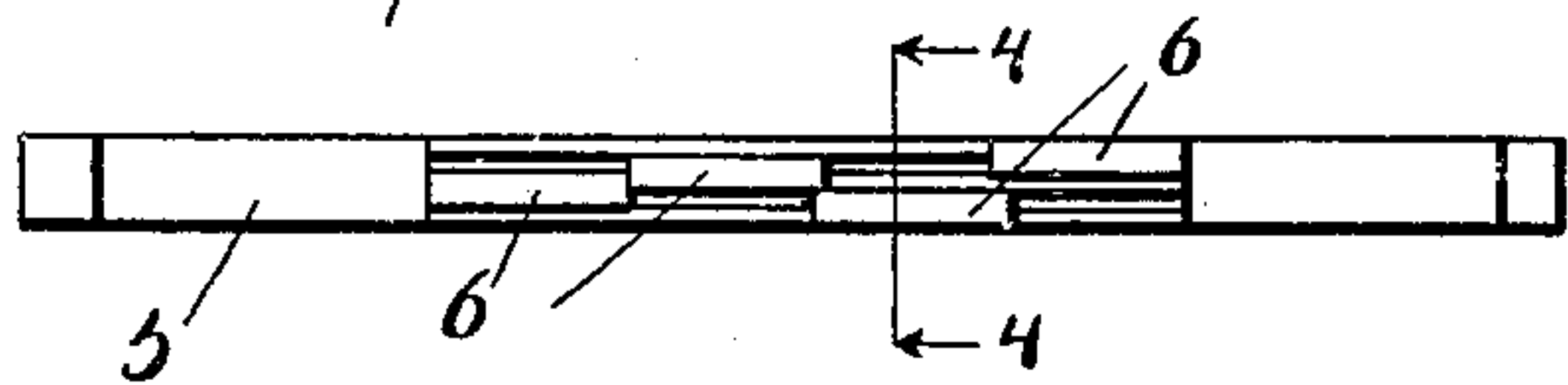


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

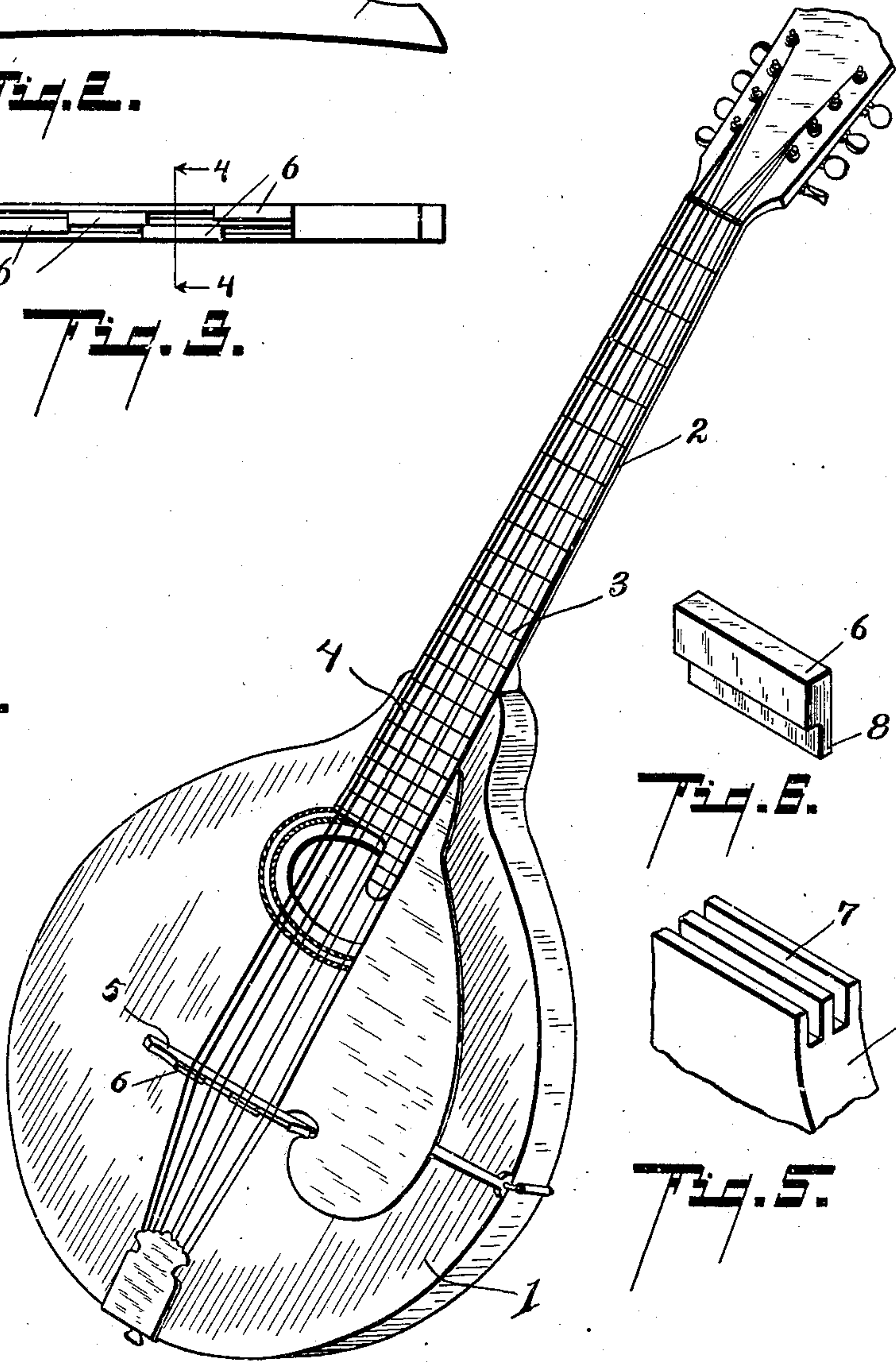


Fig. 1.

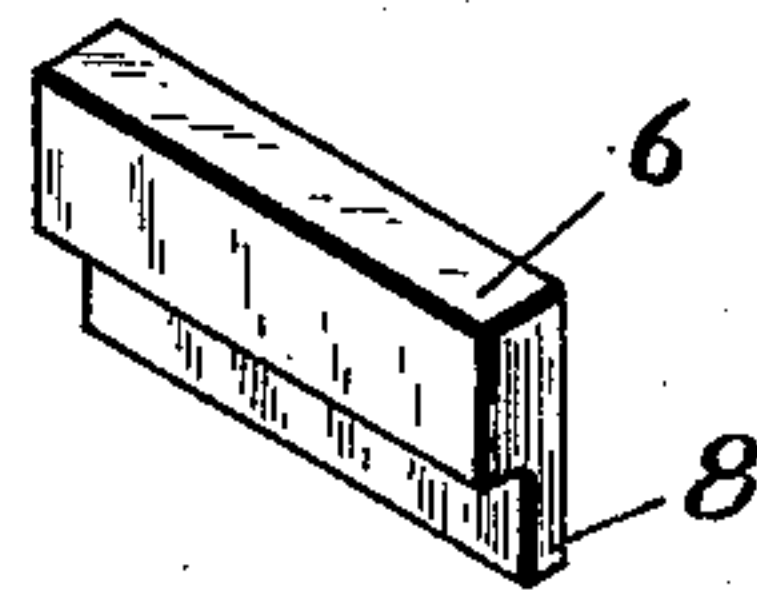


Fig. 6.

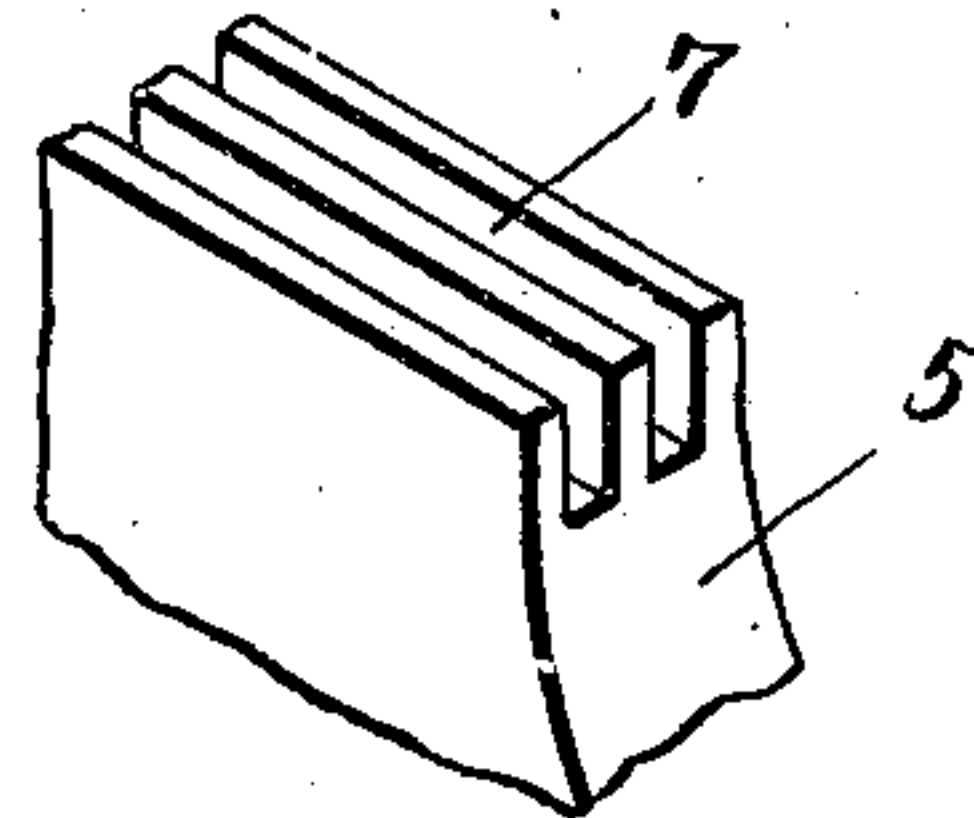


Fig. 5.

Inventor

George D. Laurian  
 By *Chapell & Co.*

Attorneys

Witnesses  
 Clara E. Braden  
 F. Gertrude Tallman



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE D. LAURIAN, OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO GIBSON MANDOLIN-GUITAR COMPANY, OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

BRIDGE FOR STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

934,678.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 21, 1909.

Application filed June 14, 1909. Serial No. 502,060.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE D. LAURIAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Kalamazoo, county of Kalamazoo, and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridges for Stringed Musical Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in bridges for stringed musical instruments.

My improved bridge is particularly adapted and designed by me for use on stringed musical instruments having frets, such as mandolins, guitars, and the like, although it possesses certain features of advantage for use on unfretted instruments, such as violins.

It is well understood that for example in the mandolin type of stringed musical instruments, there is a tendency for the tones in the upper positions to sharp, particularly on the heavier strings, because the heavier strings are stiffer in action, and therefore, do not stretch or give as readily as the lighter strings, and when the strings are changed as from a wound to an unwound string there is a tendency to sharp or flat accordingly as the bridge is adjusted for the one or the other so that readjustment is desirable.

It is the main object of this invention to provide an improved bridge for stringed musical instruments which may be adjusted to adapt the same to strings of different sizes and to wound and plain strings and to different instruments, and to different methods of tuning the instrument, and to in a large measure compensate for the tendency stated, thereby securing a more perfect equalization of the instrument.

Another object is to provide an improved bridge which may be readjusted to compensate for settling of the instrument by the renewal of certain parts only.

Further objects and objects relating to structural details, will definitely appear from the detailed description to follow.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the devices and means described in the following specification. The structure described constitutes one effective embodiment

of my invention. Other embodiments would be readily devised by those skilled in the art.

The invention is clearly defined and pointed out in the claims.

A structure constituting an effective and preferred embodiment of the features of my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a mandolin embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of my improved bridge. Fig. 3 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 4 is a cross section, taken on a line corresponding to line 4—4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective of the base portion of my improved bridge. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the stringed rests.

In the drawing, similar numerals of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing, the body 1 of the instrument illustrated is of the mandolin type and is provided with the usual finger board 2 having frets 3 thereon. The strings 4 are arranged in the well known manner.

My improved bridge consists of a base portion 5 having a plurality of openings therein to receive the string rests 6, the openings being preferably in the form of parallel longitudinal grooves 7 adapted to receive the bridge engaging tongues or members 8 of the string rests. These engaging tongues or members 8 of the rests are preferably offset from the vertical centers of the rests, so that, by reversing the rests in the grooves, the positions of the rests relative to the strings are changed; also, the positions of the rests may be varied by shifting in the grooves.

The bridge illustrated, having two of the rest-engaging grooves in each rest, may be adjusted to four positions, so that the rests may be easily adjusted to accommodate for the different sizes of strings and for different arrangement of the finger board relative to the sounding board,—that is, the nearer the strings approach a parallel with the finger board, the less variation is required in the bridge adjustment and vice versa. A further advantage of this construction is that the sounding board of the instrument fre-



quently settles with age to such an extent that a new bridge is required. As the bridge and sounding board conform to each other, to provide the instrument with an entirely  
 5 new bridge changes the tone of the instrument, but, by means of my improved removable and adjustable rests, the rests may be changed and the instrument thus repaired without affecting its tone.

10 My improved bridge may be adjusted by the user to adapt the same to the particular string used, and, at the same time, when adjusted, there is no possibility of the rests becoming displaced or changing position ac-  
 15 cidentally, or while the instrument is in use.

My improved bridge is very simple and economical in structure, and, at the same time, it possesses the advantageous features pointed out.

20 I have illustrated and described my improved bridge in detail in an embodiment which I have found practical in use. I am, however, aware, that it is capable of considerable variation in structural details without  
 25 departing from my invention. I have not attempted to illustrate or describe such variations, as the embodiment illustrated will enable those skilled in the art to apply the invention, under various conditions arising  
 30 in the practical application of the same.

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

35 1. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion having a plurality of longitudinal grooves in its upper edge; and a plurality of string rests having groove-engaging tongues thereon, said tongues being offset from the vertical center of said  
 40 rests whereby the position of said rests may be changed by shifting or reversing them in the said grooves.

45 2. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion having a plurality of longitudinal grooves in its upper edge; and a plurality of string rests having groove-engaging tongues thereon.

50 3. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion having a groove in its upper edge, and a plurality of string rests having groove-engaging tongues thereon, said tongues being offset from the vertical

center of said rests whereby the position of said rests may be changed by reversing them in the said groove. 55

4. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion having a groove in its upper edge, and a plurality of string rests having groove-engaging tongues thereon.

5. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion and a plurality of string rests, said bridge portion and string rests having co-acting engaging portions, the engaging portions of said string rests being offset from their vertical centers whereby the position of said rests on said bridge may be changed by shifting or reversing them in said engaging portions of said bridge. 60 65

6. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion and a plurality of string rests, said bridge portion and string rests having co-acting engaging portions, the engaging portions of said string rests being offset from their vertical centers whereby the position of said rests on said bridge may be changed by reversing them in said engaging portions of said bridge. 70 75

7. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion and a plurality of string rests, said bridge portion and string rests having co-acting engaging portions, whereby the position of said rests on said bridge may be changed by reversing them in said engaging portions of said bridge. 80

8. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion and a plurality of string rests, said rests having tongues thereon, and said bridge having grooves to receive said tongues, the tongues of said rests being offset from their vertical centers, co-acting for the purpose specified. 85 90

9. A bridge for stringed instruments, comprising a base portion and a plurality of string rests, said rests having tongues thereon, and said bridge having grooves to receive said tongues, coacting for the purpose specified. 95

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE D. LAURIAN. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

CLORA E. BRADEN,  
 MARGARET L. GLASGOW.