No. 871,158. PATENTED NOV. 19, 1907.

E. J. BABBITT.

BANJO ATTACHMENT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1906.

Fig 1

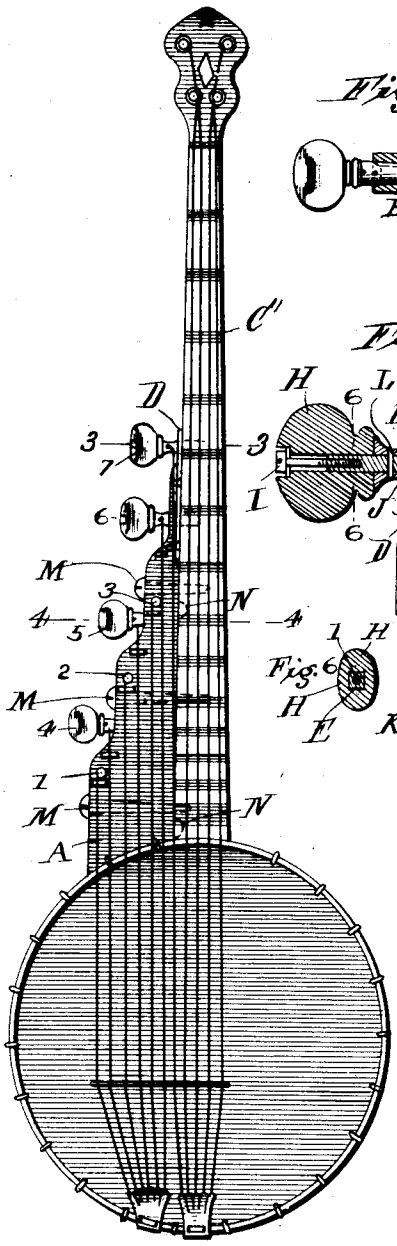


Fig. 4

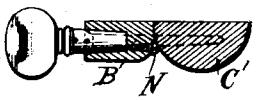


Fig. 3

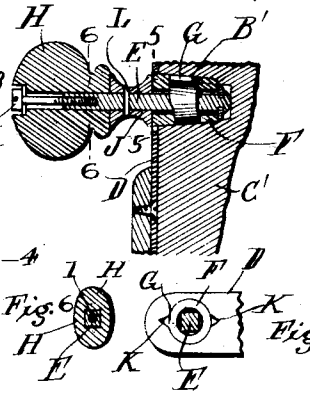
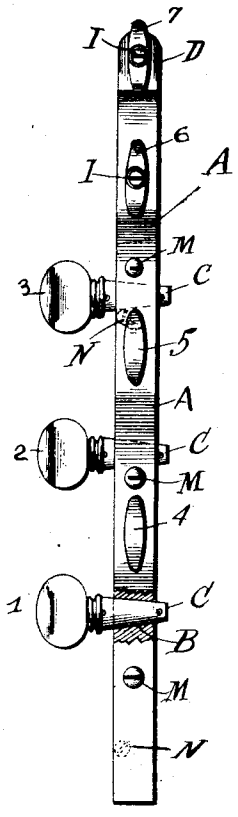


Fig. 6

Fig. 5

Fig. 2



WITNESSES.

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BANJO ATTACHMENT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELWIN J. BABBITT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Petoskey, in the county of Emmet and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Banjo Attachment, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates, generally speaking, to banjos, and specifically to an attachment whereby additional strings may be employed on the banjo, adapting the instrument to greater range in the combination of harmony, than possible with the ordinary, or five string banjo.

The invention resides in the peculiar and novel attachment shown by the accompanying drawing, and hereinafter described in detail, the novel features being pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing—Figure 1 is a top plan view of a banjo, with my attachment shown applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged edge view of the attachment. Fig. 3 is a broken away detail horizontal sectional view, taken at the point 3—3, through the banjo neck, and the upper key on the attachment. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view, taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a broken away combined plan and sectional view of the upper portion of my attachment, the section being taken on line 5—5, of Fig. 3, and Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

My improved attachment is mainly intended for application to banjos, but obviously is adapted for use with all similar string musical instruments.

In the practice of my invention I employ a suitable block or body portion A, provided with transversely arranged tuning pegs, 1, 2 and 3, more or less, and horizontally disposed tuning pegs 4, 5, 6 and 7, more or less. The pegs 1, 2 and 3 are arranged in suitable sockets B in the attachment body-portion A, see Fig. 2, with their upper ends projecting and provided with transverse perforations C for connection of the additional strings, in a manner common and well understood. The pegs 4 and 5 are seated in suitable sockets extending transversely into the body portion A, and the pegs 6 and 7 are similarly arranged, but made extending into transverse sockets B′, in the neck C′ of the banjo, as will be understood upon reference to Fig. 3 of my drawing.

To the upper or smaller end of the body-portion A, on its inner edge, I secure a metal plate D, through which the pegs 6 and 7 are entered, and extended into the banjo neck, substantially as shown by Fig. 3.

The pegs 6 and 7 are constructed with a stem E, having one end rotatively secured in a bushing F, and the latter is constructed with a rib G whereby to prevent the bushing from turning in its socket B′.

H denotes a suitable head secured on the outer end of the key-stem E, by means of a set-screw I entered through the head H and extended into a suitable axial screw-threaded socket in the adjacent end of the peg-stem, as will be understood upon reference to Fig. 3 of my drawing. A suitable spacing collar J is arranged on the stem E, between the head H and the bushing F, see Fig. 3.

Upon reference to Fig. 5 of my drawing it will be noticed that the openings through the plate D are constructed with key-slots K, to permit passage of the ribs G, on the bushings when the latter are entered into their sockets, and at the same time, have the openings snugly fit around the bushings.

In constructing the pegs 4, 5, 6 and 7, openings L are provided extending transversely through the collars J and peg-stems E, to provide means for attaching the additional banjo strings.

The body-portion of the attachment is arranged on one side of the banjo neck and secured by transversely entered screws M. Screws N, see Fig. 4, are seated into the side of the body portion, next to the banjo neck, the same being designed to rest against the under curved portion of said neck, and whereby through simple adjustment of the screws N, the attachment may be secured to the neck C′ by the screws M, supported level with the fret side of the banjo neck.

According to my invention, the auxiliary strings are tuned to the pitch of the notes which are usually obtained by fretting the ordinary strings. When the attachment is in place, the banjo is played with one hand only without using the frets.

I claim—

1. An attachment for stringed instruments, comprising a body-portion, and separate sets of string pegs on the body-portion,

one set of said pegs projecting horizontally or sidewise, from the body-portion, and the other set of said pegs projecting from the underside of the body-portion, at an angle to the aforesaid set of pegs.

2. An attachment for stringed instruments, comprising a body-portion, means for securing the body-portion in place, adjustable means whereby the body-portion may be secured with its top side in level plane with the upper side of its support, and two sets of string pegs on the body-portion, one set of said pegs projecting horizontally or sidewise from the body-portion, and the other set of said pegs projecting from the under side of the body portion, at an angle to the aforesaid set of pegs.

3. A banjo attachment comprising a body-portion, means for securing the body-portion to the banjo neck, adjustable means whereby the outer side of the body-portion may be supported level with the plane of the fret-side of said neck, and separate sets of string pegs on the body-portion, one set of pegs projecting horizontally or sidewise, from the body-portion, and the other set of said pegs projecting from the under side of the body-portion, at an angle to the aforesaid set of pegs.

4. The combination with a banjo, of an attachment comprising a body-portion, means whereby to support its top side level with the plane of the fret-side of the banjo neck, and separate sets of string pegs on the body-portion, one set of said pegs projecting horizontally or sidewise, from the body-portion, and the other set of said pegs projecting from the under side of the body-portion, at an angle to the aforesaid set of said pegs.

5. The combination in a banjo attachment, of a body-portion constructed with a reduced or smaller outer end, securing means, two sets of string-pegs on the body-portion, one set of said pegs projecting at an angle to the other set of pegs, a plate on the side edge of the body-portion adjacent to the banjo neck, the plate constructed with openings therethrough, and the banjo-neck constructed with sockets, said openings in the plate and sockets in the banjo-neck adapted to receive the string-pegs, bushings rotatably secured on the inner ends of the string-pegs, and means adapted to hold the bushings against turning action.

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