

A. KIESLING.
Piano-Lid Props.

No. 152,122.

Patented June 16, 1874.

fig. 1

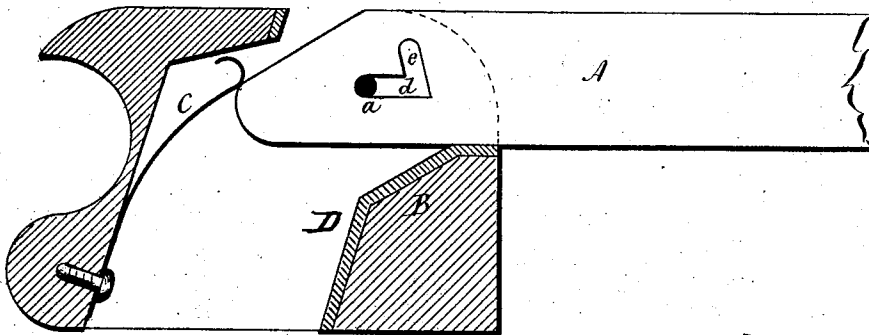


fig. 2

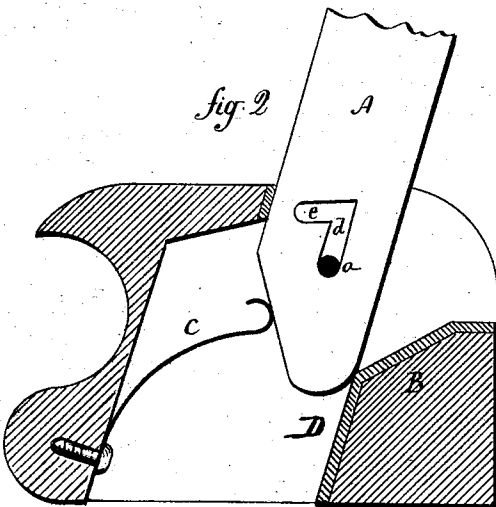


fig. 3

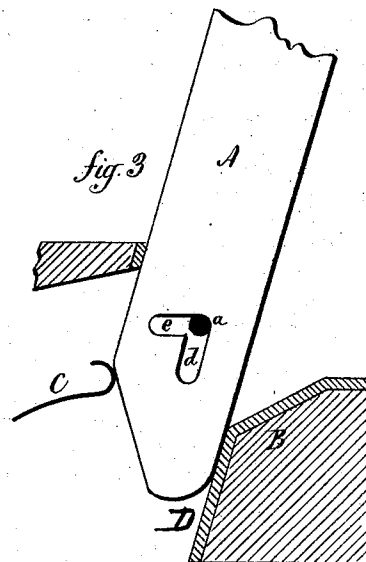


fig. 4

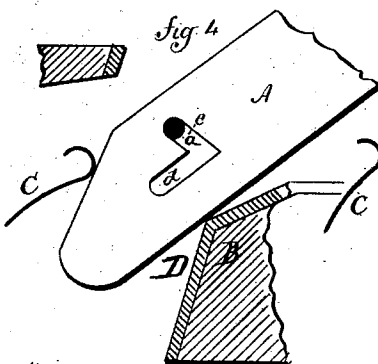
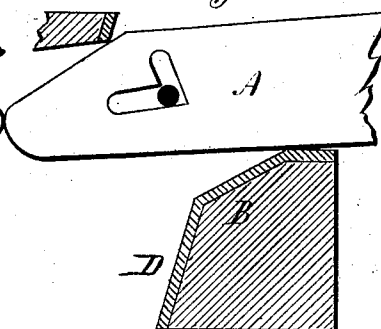


fig. 5



Witnesses.
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ALEXANDER KIESLING, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN PIANO-LID PROPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **152,122**, dated June 16, 1874; application filed May 2, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER KIESLING, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Piano-Top Prop; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a side view in the position when the top is down; and in Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5, the same in different positions.

This invention relates to an improvement in the prop to support the top of pianos when opened. These props have usually been arranged by pivoting one end to the inside of the case; then, when required to support the top, they must be turned up by hand—a very great inconvenience for a single person.

The object of this invention is the construction of a prop which shall be automatic both in opening and closing the piano-top, so as not to require any manipulation save the simple raising of the top; and the invention consists in forming an angular slot in the prop, to work around the stationary fulcrum, combined with a spring to force the prop into the various positions on the fulcrum, as more fully hereinafter described.

A is the prop, of substantially the usual form; *a*, the fulcrum, in substantially the usual position. At the point where the prop is attached to the fulcrum I form a V-shaped slot, *d e*, one side, *d*, of the V being substantially parallel to the under edge of the prop, the angle toward the free end, as seen in Fig. 1. Beneath the prop is a bearing, B, upon which the lower edge of the prop rests when the top is closed, and forward of the prop is a spring, C, which bears the prop backward, so

that when closed the fulcrum *a* will be at the extreme forward end of the part *d* of the slot, as seen in Fig. 1. The spring C bears down upon the prop forward of the fulcrum; hence, when the top is raised, the prop will rise with it, turning upon the fulcrum to the position in Fig. 2, the heel of the prop striking a bearing, D, there resting. When the top is let down upon the upper end of the prop, it will slide down until the angle of the slot reaches the fulcrum, as in Fig. 3, there to rest and support the top.

When it is desired to close the top, raise it so as to take the weight from the prop, when the spring will force the prop backward, the slot *e* passing over the fulcrum, the heel held by the bearing D to the position in Fig. 4; then close the top, and in its descent it will press down the prop, which, in its descent, strikes the bearing B, which forces up the heel of the prop, the slot *e* passing over the fulcrum to the position in Fig. 5; then the spring forces the prop backward, bringing it to its position of rest, as seen in Fig. 1, ready for the reopening of the top.

In practice, I prefer to inclose the heel of the prop in a case which will contain the bearings B D, the fulcrum, and spring, it being more convenient to apply the prop thus constructed than to form the bearings and arrange the fulcrum and spring in the case.

While designed especially for pianos, this device is alike applicable for similar purposes.

I claim as my invention—

The prop A, provided with the angular slot *d e*, combined with the fulcrum *a*, bearings B D, and spring C, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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