F. G. W. PAIGE.

PIANO PANEL PROTECTOR.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 5, 1909.

962,043. Patented June 21, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

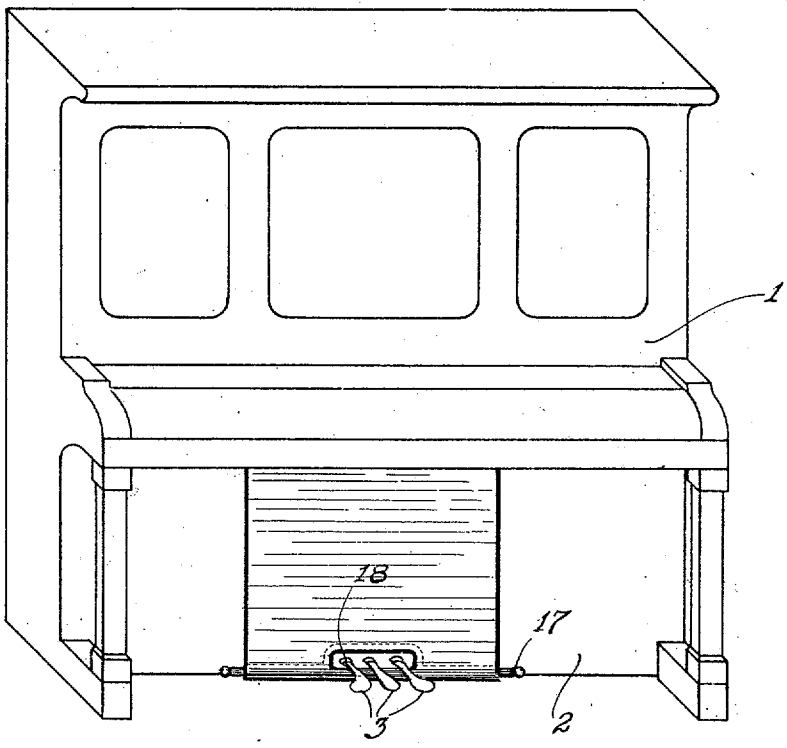
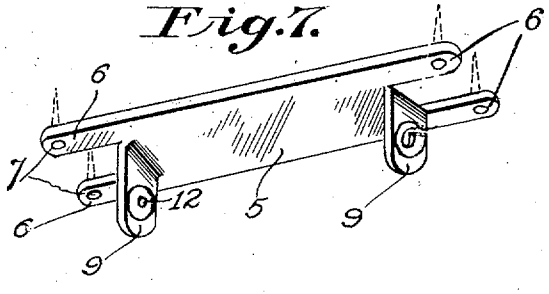


Fig. 7.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

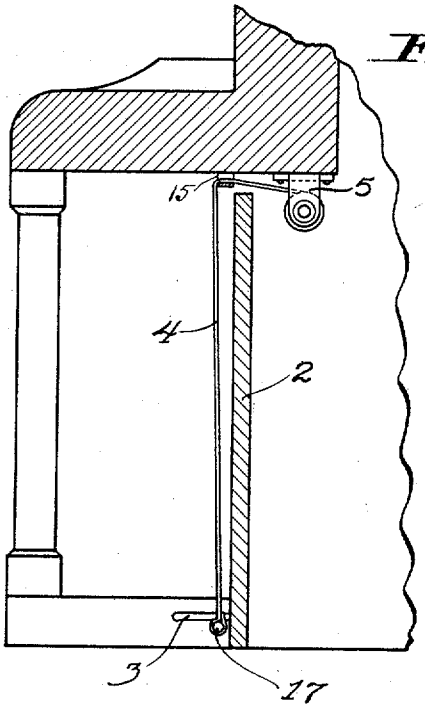

Fig. 5.

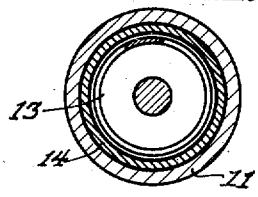

Fig. 4.

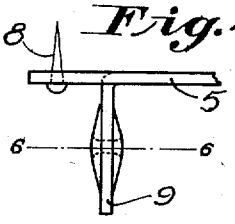

Fig. 6.

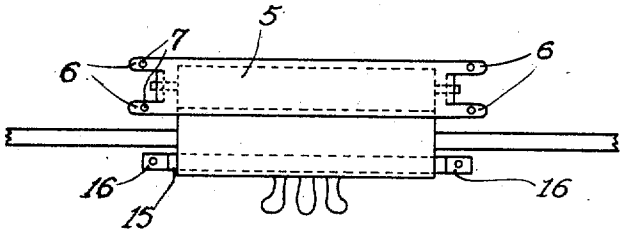

Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK G. W. PAIGE, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

PIANO-PANEL PROTECTOR.

962,043. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 21, 1910.**

Application filed June 5, 1909. Serial No. 500,347.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK G. W. PAIGE, subject of Great Britain, residing at Oakland, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Piano-Panel Protectors, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to piano panel protectors, and the object thereof is the production of means for protecting the front of the bottom panel board around the pedals, and thereby preventing the usual destructive marring of said panel by the shoe tips of the musician using the pedals.

Another object of the invention is the production of a curtain, which can be easily drawn and held beneath the pedals and can also be readily released, and will immediately be drawn to a withdrawn position and be out of view when it is not desired to use the curtain.

With these and other objects in view, this invention consists of certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a piano showing my improved device attached thereto; Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional fragmentary view of the piano, showing my improved device attached thereto; Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the roller supporting bracket shown supporting the curtain in front of the lower panel board. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view in elevation of one end of the roller supporting bracket. Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view of the roller showing the coil spring mounted therein. Fig. 6 is a section taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 4. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective looking at the under side of the roll supporting bracket.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 designates the body of the piano, which is provided under the key board thereof with the ordinary lower panel board 2 through which extend, near the lower portion thereof pedals 3. The panel board 2 is spaced apart, at its upper edge, from the lower edge of the key board, so as to allow the curtain hereinafter described to readily pass between the key board and the lower panel board.

Secured to the under surface of the key board support is a roller supporting bracket 5, which is provided, at each end, with a plurality of protruding fingers or portions 6, which portions are provided near their upper ends with apertures 7, through which are adapted to pass pins 8 for securing said bracket to the under surface of the key board support. The bracket 5 is also provided with depending arms 9 which are bent from the body portion 5 intermediate the fingers 6. One of the depending arms 9 is provided with an aperture 10, which is lined with any suitable material, preferably buck skin coated with graphite to form a good bearing for one end of the roller 11, which is adapted to be positioned therein. The lining for the aperture 10 overhangs each side of the arm 9, as shown in Fig. 6 and indicated at 12. Therefore, it will be obvious that the lining forms a substantially spool-shaped structure. Only one of the arms 9 is formed in accordance with the foregoing description, as the other is formed, as is the case with the ordinary curtain support in the following manner: The other arm 9 is provided with a slotted portion adapted to receive the squared end of the roller to which squared end is fixedly secured one end of the coil spring 13, which is positioned within the roller 11. The other end of the coil spring 13 is fixedly secured to the roller 11. Therefore, it will be obvious that when the curtain is drawn to the position as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the tension of the coil spring 13 will be increased and as soon as the lower end of the curtain 4 is detached from the pedals the curtain will readily withdraw or wind around the roller through the medium of the coil spring 13.

The roller 11 is lined upon its inner portion with a felt lining 14, which prevents the coil spring 13 from vibrating against the inner wall of the roller when the instrument is played. To the under surface of the key board support is also secured a bracket 15, which is provided with offset ends 16, which ends are adapted to be secured to the bottom of the key board support by any suitable fastening means. The curtain 4, which is attached at its inner end to the roller 11 passes through the bracket 15 and the bracket 15 is positioned a little in front of the panel board 2, so as to allow the curtain to be drawn in front of the panel board 2, without coming in engagement with

the same. A rod 17 is secured to the lower end of the curtain 4 and when the lower end is released from the pedals 3 the curtain, as previously stated, will immediately be wound around the roller and by means of the rod 17 the curtain will be prevented from being entirely wound around the roller for the reason that the ends of the rod 17 will engage the sides of the bracket 15 and prevent the outer end of the curtain from being drawn through the bracket. The lower end of the curtain 4 is provided with an aperture 18 which is adapted to engage the pedals 3 and hold the curtain in extended position. The edges of the aperture 18 are folded and stitched, so as to prevent the same from being made larger through wear.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that I have provided an adjustable curtain, which can be drawn over the lower panel board and protect the same from being marred while the instrument is being used, and can also be readily and quickly released, so as to be hidden from view when the same is not used.

It will also be obvious that I have provided simple and efficient means for supporting a curtain upon a piano.

What I claim is:

1. The combination with a piano having a slot in the upper part of the panel below the key board, and a guide located below the key board in front of said slot, of a spring-actuated roller mounted beneath the key board in the rear of said slot, and a curtain secured to said roller, and extending through said slot and guide and having means for securing it in lowered position over the front of said panel to the pedals.

2. The combination with a piano having a slot in the upper part of the panel below the key board, and a guide bracket below the key board in front of said slot, of a spring-actuated roller mounted beneath the key board in rear of said slot, and having means for preventing rattling of its spring, and a curtain secured to said roller, and extending through said slot and bracket and having a slot at its lower end for engagement with the pedals of the piano.

3. The combination with a piano having a slot in the upper part of the panel below the key board, and a guide bracket below the key board in front of said slot, of a spring roller mounted beneath the key board in rear of said slot, and a curtain secured to said roller and extending through said slot and bracket, and having a slot at its lower end to engage the pedals, and projections to prevent its end from passing through the bracket.

4. The combination with a piano having a slot in the upper part of the panel below the key board, and a guide bracket below the key board, in front of said slot, of a bracket with depending arms secured beneath the key board in the rear of said slot and provided with roller bearings, the roller bearing of one of said arms being cushioned, a spring-roller mounted in said arms, and a curtain secured to said roller and extending through said slot and bracket and having a slot at its lower end adapted to engage the piano pedals.

5. The combination with a piano having a slot in the upper part of the panel below the key board and a guide bracket below the key board in front of said slot, of a bracket with depending arms secured beneath the key board in the rear of said slot, and provided with roller bearings, the roller bearing of one of said arms being cushioned, a spring roller mounted in said arms and lined with felt to prevent rattling of the spring, and a curtain secured to said roller and extending through said slot and bracket and having a slot at its lower end adapted to engage the piano pedals.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FREDERICK G. W. PAIGE.

Witnesses:

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H. C. SCHROEDER.