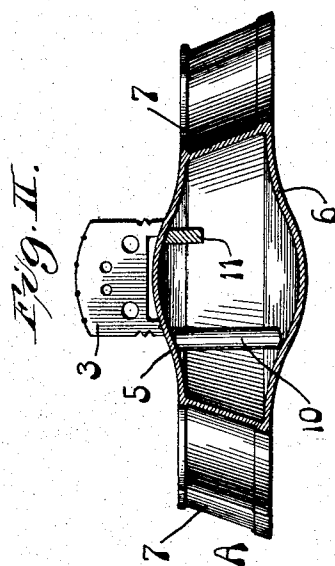
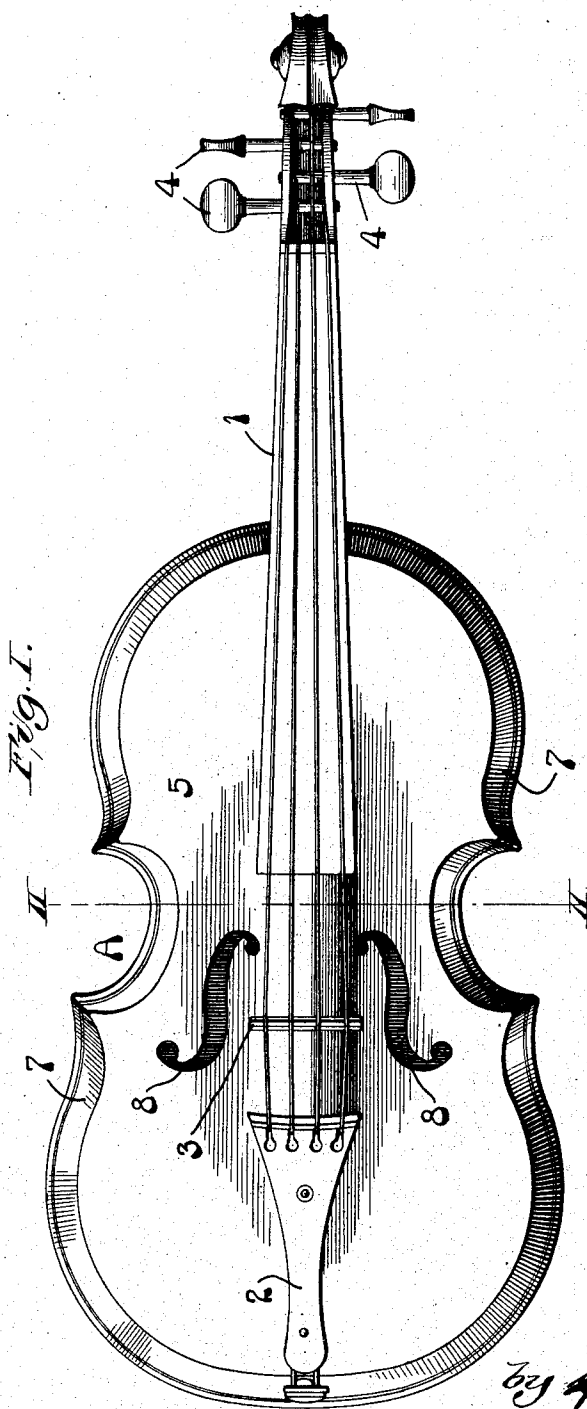


A. MORRIS.
 STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.
 APPLICATION FILED AUG. 30, 1915.

1,173,017.

Patented Feb. 22, 1916.



Inventor:
 A. Morris
by Knight & Co. Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM MORRIS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

1,173,017.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 22, 1916.

Application filed August 30, 1915. Serial No. 47,972.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM MORRIS, a citizen of the United States of America, a resident of the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stringed Musical Instruments, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of the specification.

My invention relates to improvements in stringed musical instruments, and more particularly to a combination of elements adapted to form part of a violin, viola, violoncello, guitar, guitar-mandolin or other musical instrument.

The object of the invention is to produce a musical instrument of this kind having its elements so arranged that the volume of sound of the instrument is very greatly increased, and in practice I have found that the sound of a violin constructed in accordance with the invention, is approximately equal to the sound of two ordinary violins. Obviously, this is a great advantage in a violin intended to be played in large music halls, and also in bands where two or more violins have been employed to produce the desired tone.

Figure I is a plan view of a violin constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. II is a transverse section on line II—II, Fig. I.

To illustrate the preferred form of the invention I have shown a violin provided with a hollow body A, a neck 1 extending from said hollow body, a tail piece 2 secured to the body, and the usual strings extending from the tail piece, over a bridge 3, and secured at their outer ends to the usual pins 4.

The hollow body comprises a belly 5, a back 6 the area of which is greater than the area of the belly, the marginal portion of the back being extended beyond the marginal portion of the belly, and side walls 7 which slope outwardly from the marginal edge of the belly 5 to the marginal edge of the back 6.

By extending the marginal portion of the back of a violin as herein shown, the area

of the back will be increased, and the acoustical qualities will be changed very materially, the tone being much louder and clearer. For example, the tone of a violin having a belly corresponding to the dimensions of the belly of a "three-quarter" violin and a back corresponding to the back of a "full size" violin, will be approximately equal to the tone of a full size violin. Although the desired loud and clear tone may be obtained by making a belly conforming approximately to one of the well known standards and a back conforming to the next larger standard, it is not necessary to follow this particular method in making the new instrument. In other words, it is not necessary for the back or belly to conform to any particular standard.

While it is difficult to make an exact comparison between the ordinary instruments and one constructed as herein shown and described, I have found by actual tests that the foregoing comparison is approximately correct. It will, therefore, be apparent that the new instrument is lighter, easier to handle and less expensive than an ordinary instrument possessing equal musical qualities.

Another advantage of the new body is that it may be fitted to the chin and neck of the player without the use of a chin rest, the sloping side wall being so formed that the corner at the junction of the belly and said side wall may be comfortably positioned under the chin of the player. The hollow body is preferably provided with the usual sound post 10 and base bar 11, the sound post being arranged between and fitted to the belly 5 and back 6.

I claim:—

1. In a stringed musical instrument, a hollow body having a belly, a back of larger area than said belly, and side walls uniting said back and belly.

2. A stringed musical instrument comprising a hollow body having a belly, a back of larger area than said belly, the marginal portions of said back being extended beyond the marginal edge of said belly, and side walls sloping outwardly from the marginal edge of said belly to the mar-

ginal edge of said back, and strings and string holders secured to said belly.

3. A stringed musical instrument of the character described comprising a belly member, a neck extending from said belly member, strings secured over said neck and belly member, a back member conforming approxi-

mately to the shape of said belly member, 10 said back member being larger in area than the belly member, and side walls sloping outwardly from the outer edge of said belly member to the outer edge of said back member.

ABRAHAM MORRIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."