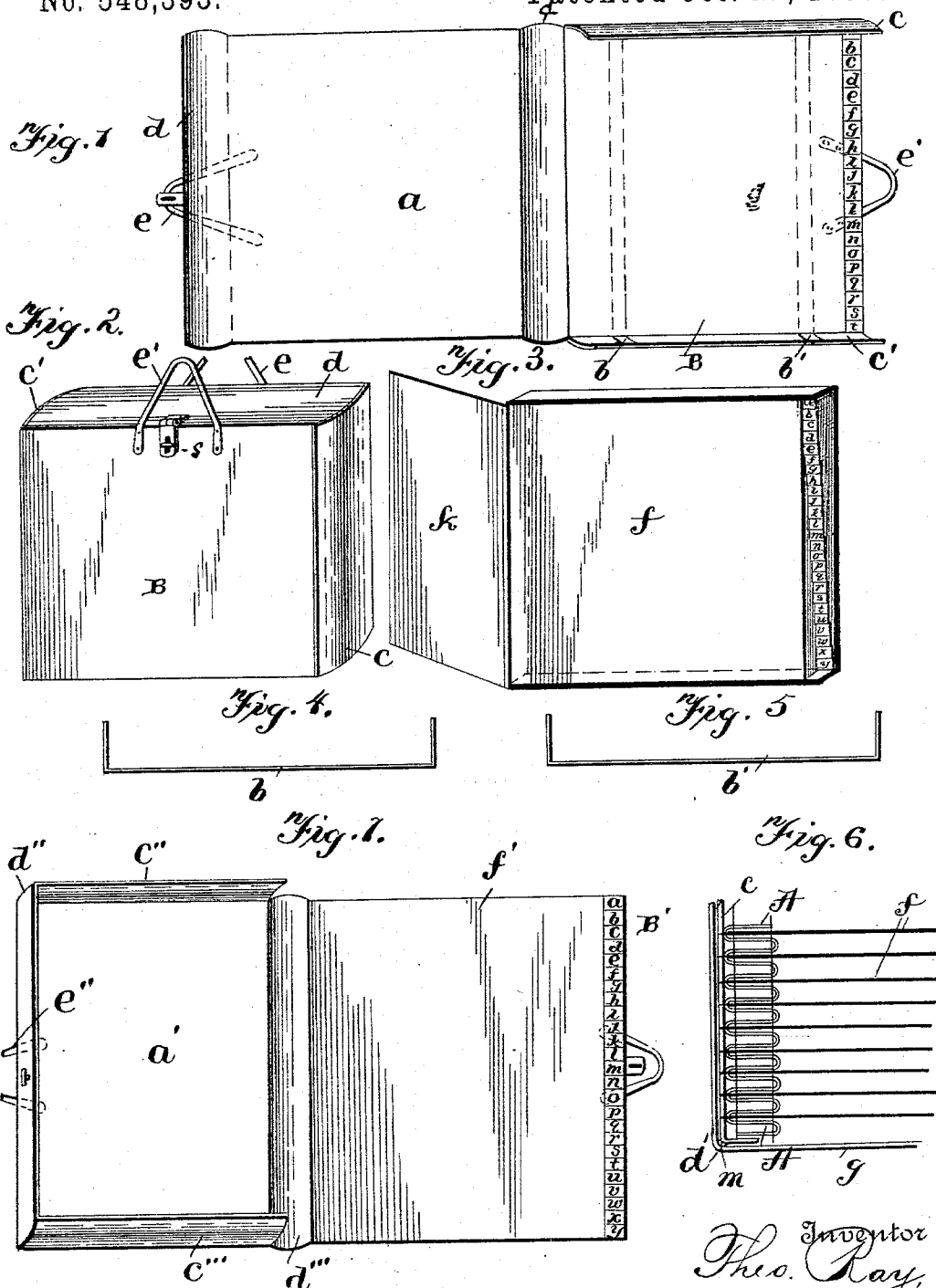


(No Model.)

T. RAY.
MUSIC CASE.

No. 548,393.

Patented Oct. 22, 1895.



Witnesses
Geo. E. Treach.
Geo. H. Snyder.

Inventor
Thos. Ray,
per
A. L. Jackson,
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

THEODORE RAY, OF MIDLAND, TEXAS.

MUSIC-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 548,393, dated October 22, 1895.

Application filed May 31, 1895. Serial No. 551,178. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE RAY, of Midland, in the county of Midland and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Music-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful music case or holder for carrying, protecting, and using sheet-music, and is so constructed that by its use the music is not rolled nor creased, is held in place, and it is not necessary to take the music from the case when it is to be used.

With these objects in view my invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts herein-after fully described, and afterward specially pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the case opened and the indexed folios in place. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of my invention closed. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the indexed folios with a fly-leaf open. Figs. 4 and 5 are detailed views of the metal braces. Fig. 6 is a detailed view in section showing how the folios are to be bound. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of my invention, showing a variation in the construction.

Like letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The letter *a* indicates the lid.

b and *b'* are L-shaped metal braces for strengthening the ends *c* and *c'*.

d is a concave flap for covering the front edge at index B.

d' is the hinged back edge which connects the lid *a* to the bottom *g*.

e and *e'* are two straps making a handle for the case, attached to the lid and bottom, respectively, and may be made of any suitable material. The handle is sewed or attached by beads to part *d*.

f indicates the folios, each of which has printed on it a letter of the alphabet, thus constituting an index for the music, each folio being cut away so that the index-letter can be seen without opening the folios. The folios are bound together by stitching or other substantial way, and a space is left between the

folios, so that two or more sheets of music can be inserted between them. This space is provided by putting guards between the folios, as shown in Fig. 6. The guards may be in one piece and made of pulp and covered with cloth; or they may be made of leather or flexible vulcanized rubber.

B indicates the index, and A indicates the guard. A piece of flexible material C is attached by sewing or gluing it to guard A. This piece C is either sewed or glued to bottom *g* at M.

The part *d* is concave and *d'* is convex, so that when the case is closed it resembles a book.

Fig. 1 shows the ends *c* and *c'* attached to the bottom *g*. Made in this way the lid *a* would cover the edges of ends *c* and *c'* when closed.

Fig. 7 shows the parts *c''* and *c'''* attached to the lid *a'*. The metal braces *b* and *b'* would be attached to the lid *a'* instead of being attached to the bottom *g*. *k* indicates a fly-leaf. The part *d* can be attached to the bottom *g* by means of a suitable latch and clasp, as *s*. The case is to be made of morocco or other leather, plush, cloth, wood, or paper, and to be neatly finished, with lid and bottom projecting, so as to give the case the appearance of a book when closed. The folios are to be made large enough to hold or cover sheet-music. The braces may extend the whole length of the case and up the end pieces, as shown in Fig. 1; or they may extend only far enough to brace the case firmly.

The sheets of music are to be placed between the folios. When it is desired to use a piece of music, turn the lid back and the folio next to the sheet to be used. It is not necessary to move the music from the case. The folios and the bottom of the case are to be bound together.

I do not limit myself to the construction shown, because various changes may be made without departing from my invention.

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

A music case consisting of folios *f*, bound together and having an index at B, a guard

A, of cloth covered paper pulp, for holding said folios apart, a bottom *g*, bound to said folios, and pieces *c*, and *c'*, attached to said bottom and strengthened by L-shaped metal
5 braces *b*, and *b'*, a concaved front edge *d*, hinged to the lid *a*, said lid being hinged to the convex back edge *d'*, which is hinged to bottom *g*, and a handle consisting of parts *e*, and *e'*, attached to lid *a*, and bottom *g*, respectively, all substantially as described.

THEODORE RAY.

Witnesses:

ELZA WHITE,
W. H. FUSCH.