

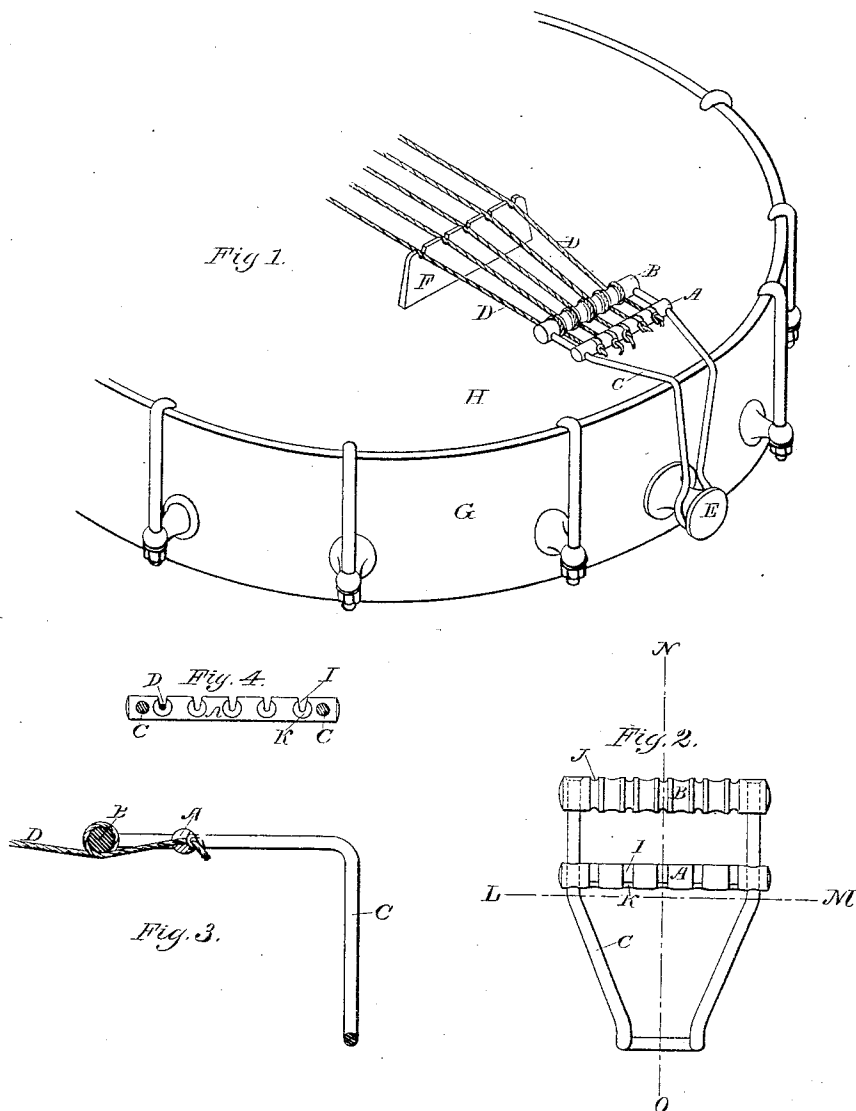
(No Model.)

F. H. HODGES.

BANJO TAIL PIECE.

No. 349,308.

Patented Sept. 21, 1886.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK H. HODGES, OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND.

BANJO TAIL-PIECE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 349,308, dated September 21, 1886.

Application filed September 26, 1885. Serial No. 178,310. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK H. HODGES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newport, in the county of Newport and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Tail-Piece for Banjos, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to banjo tail-pieces, the object being to provide a tail-piece by which the strings when attached will be brought near the head of the banjo, thereby holding the bridge firmly in place and improving the tone of the instrument, besides enabling the strain on the strings to be distributed, so as to diminish wear and allow the instrument to be tuned to a high key without risk of injury.

The invention is illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which Figure 1 is a representation of my invention attached to the banjo, showing the strings as it is intended they should be attached thereto, and the manner in which the strings are brought down to the head of the instrument. Fig. 2 is a top view and represents the tail-piece as it lies over the rim of the banjo. Fig. 3 represents a vertical section of the entire tail-piece on the line N O of Fig. 2, and shows the manner of fastening the strings, how the strain on the strings is distributed, and how they are brought down near the head of the instrument; and Fig. 4 is a section on the line L M of Fig. 2, and represents the bar to which the strings are first attached and my improvement in attaching strings thereto.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A is a round metal bar with five countersunk notches.

B is a round metal bar having five grooves passing around it.

C is the metal wire passing through and connecting A and B, and forming with them the tail-piece.

D D represent the strings of the banjo as they appear when using my invention.

E is a nut.

F represents a bridge.

G is the banjo-rim.

H is the head.

I and K indicate the countersunk notches in the bar A.

J shows the grooves in the bar B.

The round metal bars A and B, with the wire frame C, constitute the tail-piece as invented by me, and the parts are put together substantially as shown. The shape may be changed to adapt the tail-piece to any banjo.

In stringing up the instrument a knot is tied in the end of the string D, and the end of the string placed in the countersunk notch I. The string is then passed with an under turn around the bar B and drawn tight, the string resting in the groove J. Then proceed as with other tail-pieces.

I am aware that prior to my invention tail-pieces have been made with the wire frame C and a smooth bar in place of the bar B, to which the strings are tied. I do not therefore claim the wire C or the shape in which it is made, broadly; but

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A banjo tail-piece composed of the bar A, having a series of countersunk notches, the bar B, having a series of circumferential grooves, and the frame C, for connecting said bars, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the bridge F, the bar B, having a series of circumferential grooves, the bar A, provided with a series of countersunk notches, the strings D, secured to said bars, the bifurcated frame C, and the nut E, for securing said frame to the head of a banjo, substantially as described.

FREDERICK H. HODGES.

Witnesses:

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