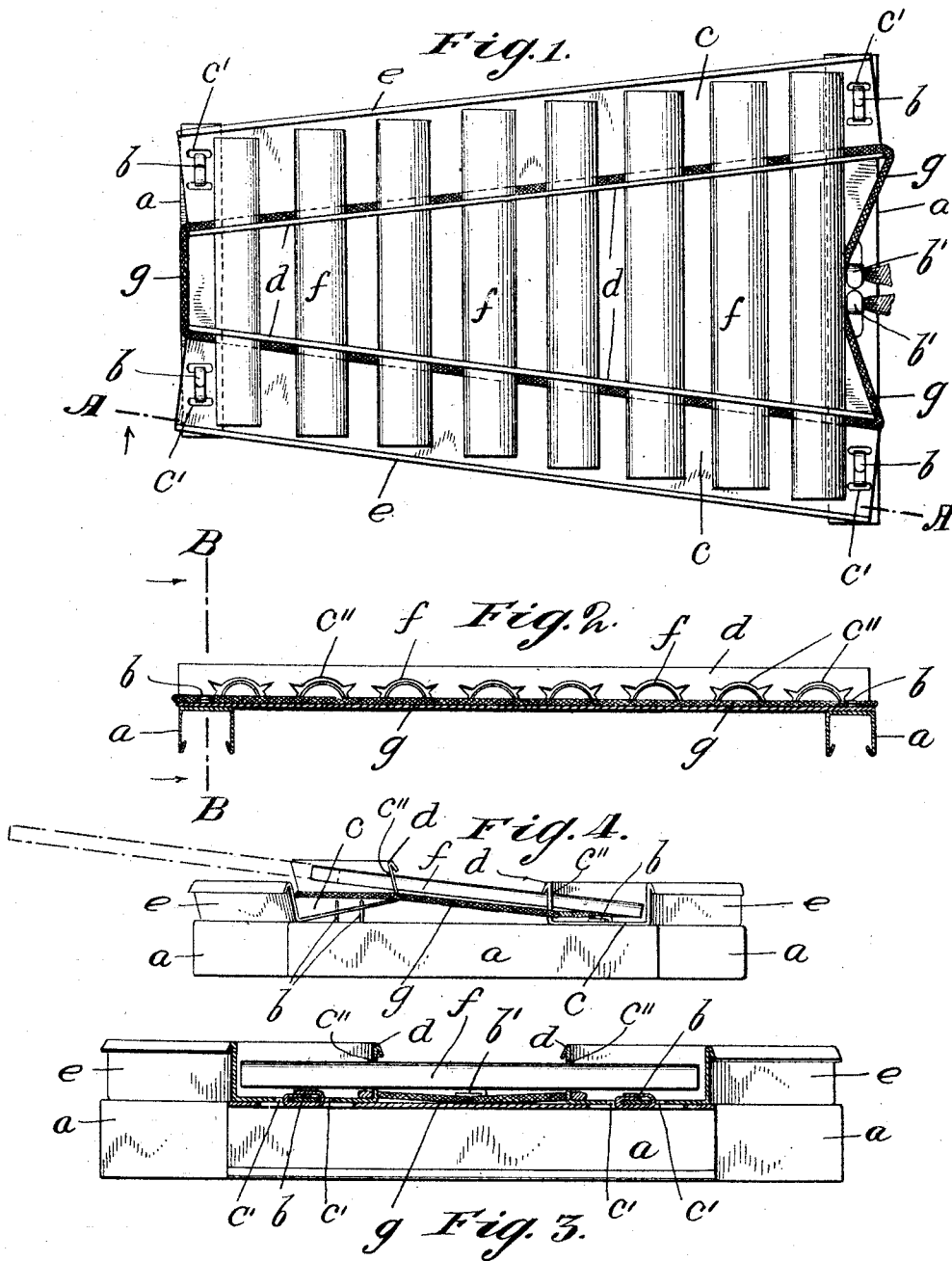


W. BARTHOLOMAE.
MUSICAL TOY.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 16, 1911.

1,024,878.

Patented Apr. 30, 1912.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MUSICAL TOY.

1,024,878.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 30, 1912.

Application filed November 16, 1911. Serial No. 660,563.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BARTHOLOMAE, a citizen of the United States, residing at the borough of Manhattan, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Musical Toys, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in musical instruments and particularly to musical instruments which may be manufactured cheaply and sold as toys; and an object of this invention is the provision, in an instrument of the character just referred to, of simple, cheap, efficient, secure and durable means for holding the sounding members.

Another object of this invention is to simplify and cheapen the construction and to increase the musical qualities, the efficiency and the attractiveness of the toy as a whole.

In the drawings illustrating the principle of this invention and the best mode now known to me of applying that principle, Figure 1 is a plan view of my new musical toy; Fig. 2 is a section on the line A—A of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a section on the line B—B of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is an end view illustrating the manner of inserting the sounding bars.

At each end the instrument is supported upon a widthwise-extending or transverse channel-bar *a* of sheet metal; and each of these channel-bars is formed near each of its ends with a pair of lugs *b*, which are struck up from the metal of the channel-bar. Extending lengthwise of the instrument and forming the side-members thereof is a pair of channel-bars *c* the ends of which rest upon the end channel-bars *a* and are formed with holes *c'* through which pass the lugs *b*. The latter are bent down toward each other so as to fasten or clench in place the lengthwise-extending side channel-bars *c* upon the widthwise extending end-channel-bars *a*. The inner wall *d* of each of the lengthwise-extending side channel-bars *c* are formed with holes *c''* through which pass the sounding bars *f*. The ends of the latter rest upon a piece of cord *g*, which extends around the inner walls *d* of the channel-bars *c* and is fastened to one

of the widthwise-extending end channel-bars *a* by means of a pair of lugs *b'*.

In instruments of this kind it is important to reduce the cost of manufacture in every way possible, in order that the instrument may be sold as a toy at a low price and yet at a profit. Heretofore it has been common to form the sounding bars in instruments of this character with holes through which are driven tacks into wooden sticks which extend lengthwise of the instrument to form supporting frame-members. This mode of manufacture requires much time and makes the item of labor high in the cost of manufacture. Moreover, in this prior construction, the tacks become loosened and the instrument dismantled.

In my new musical instrument, the sounding members *f* are assembled as follows (see Fig. 4): After one of the lengthwise-extending side channel-bars *c* has been firmly fastened to the supporting transverse end channel-bars *a* and while the other lengthwise-extending side channel-bars *c* remains still loosely mounted upon the latter, the last-named (or loosely mounted) lengthwise-extending bar *c* is tilted outwardly, as is shown on the left of Fig. 4. The operator is thus enabled to pass the sounding bars *f* rapidly through the holes *c''*, after which the loose channel-bar *c* is fastened securely in place. When the instrument is thus assembled, the outer walls *e* of the lengthwise-extending side channel-bars *c* are opposed to the ends of the sounding-bars *f* and hold the latter securely against displacement. This is an important feature of this invention. It is obvious that the lugs *b* may be readily loosened and the channel-bar *c* tipped and that, therefore, the wall *d* may be thrown again into the position shown in Fig. 4 so as to enable any one of the sounding-bars *f* to be removed and replaced; in short, the wall *d* is obviously readily displaceable with respect to the corresponding wall of the other channel member for the purpose of permitting the ready insertion and removal of the sounding-bars *f*.

I claim:

1. A musical instrument having a series of sounding bars; and a support for the same provided with retaining devices opposed to the ends of said bars for retain-

ing the latter against endwise displacement; said bars being loosely mounted and free to slide endwise on said support.

2. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with retaining devices opposed to the ends thereof for retaining the same against endwise displacement and with retaining means through which said members pass free to slide endwise and which retain the latter in spaced relation to one another.

3. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with walls opposed to the ends thereof for retaining the same against endwise displacement and with retaining means through which said members pass free to slide endwise and which retain the latter in spaced relation to one another.

4. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with retaining devices opposed to the ends thereof for retaining the same against endwise displacement and with walls formed with openings through which said members pass free to slide endwise and which retain the latter in spaced relation to one another.

5. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with a pair of channel members in which lie the ends of said sounding members.

6. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with a pair of channel members the inner opposed walls of which are formed with openings through which said

sounding members pass free to slide endwise.

7. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with walls one pair of which is formed with openings through which said members pass and the other pair of which is opposed to the ends of said members; one of the first-named pair of walls being readily displaceable with respect to the other wall thereof to permit the ready insertion and removal of the sounding members.

8. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with walls one pair of which is formed with openings through which said members pass and the other pair of which is opposed to the ends of said members.

9. A musical instrument having a series of sounding members; and a support therefor provided with walls one pair of which is formed with openings through which said members pass and the other pair of which is opposed to the ends of said members; one of said walls being readily displaceable to permit the ready insertion and removal of the sounding members.

Signed at the borough of Manhattan, city, county and State of New York this fifteenth day of November, A. D. 1911, in the presence of the two undersigned witnesses.

WILLIAM BARTHOLOMAE.

Witnesses:

E. I. MCCARTHY,
JAMES HAMILTON.