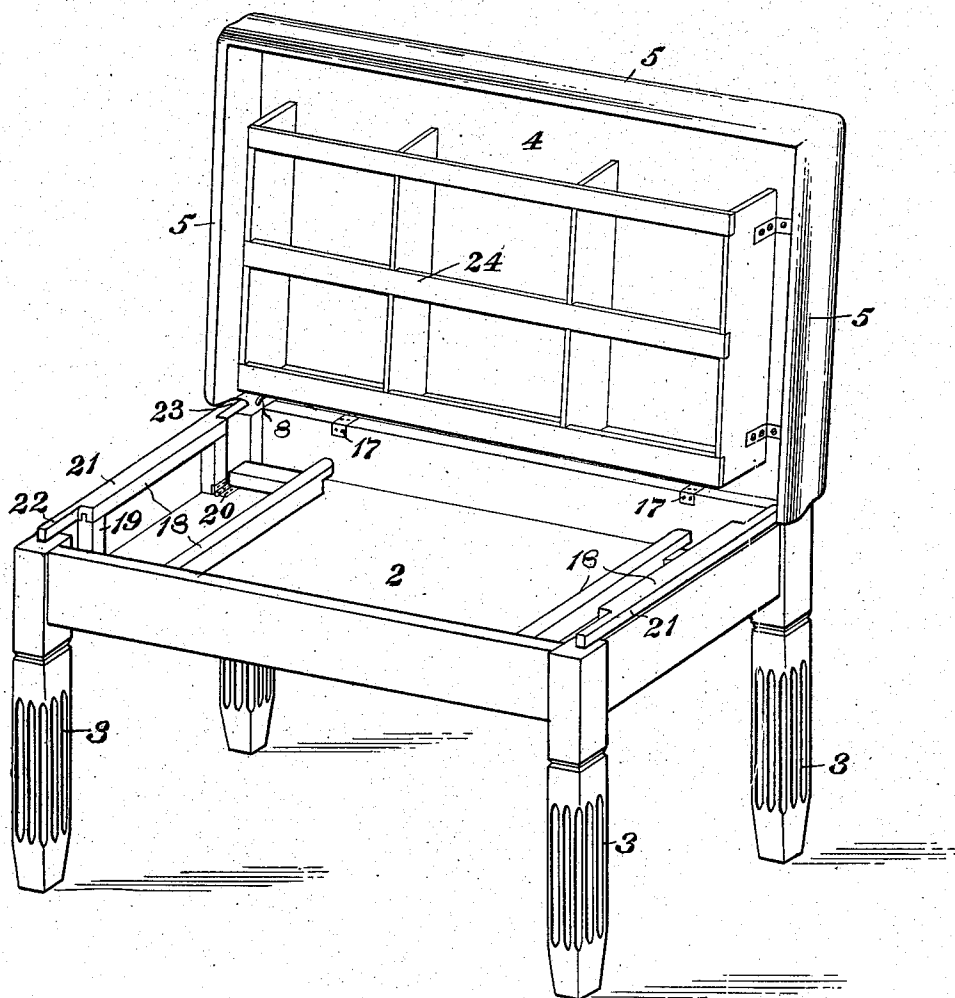


F. A. NOLL.
PIANO BENCH.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 16, 1910.

1,010,168.

Patented Nov. 28, 1911.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.



WITNESSES

Ella McConnell
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INVENTOR

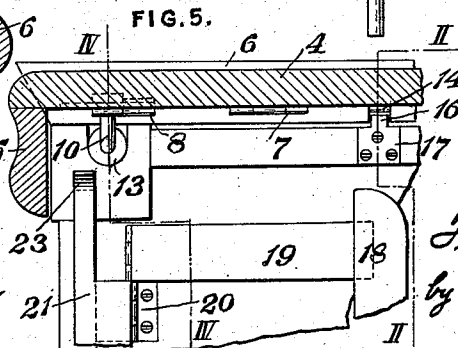
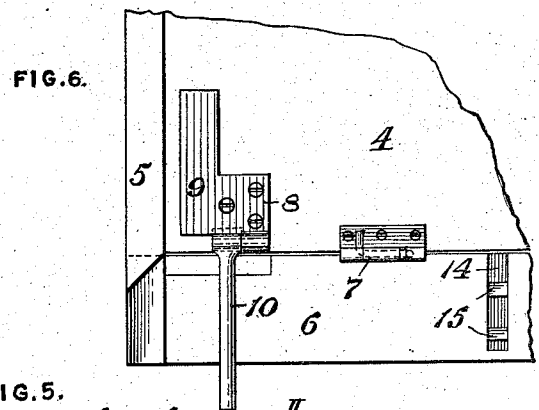
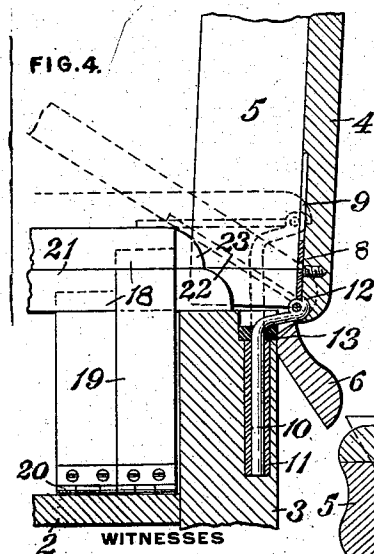
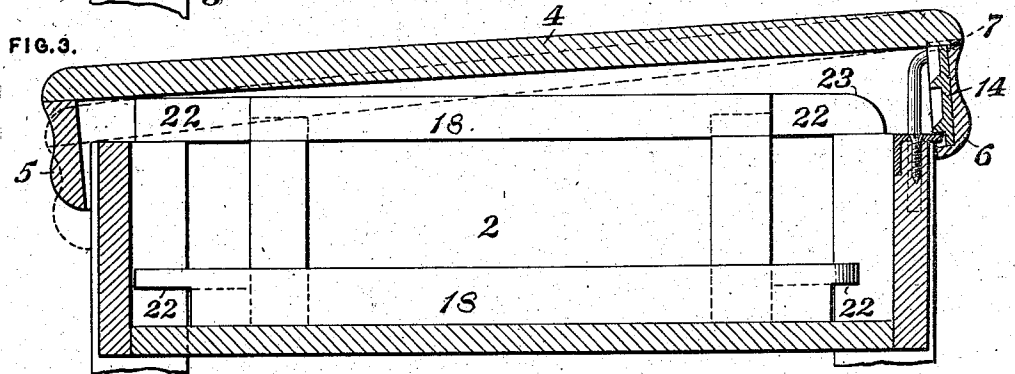
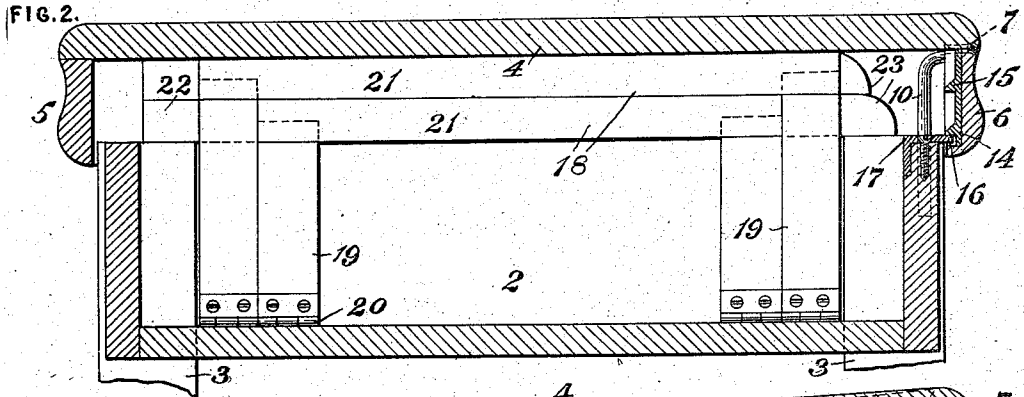
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK A. NOLL, OF ROSS TOWNSHIP, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

PIANO-BENCH.

1,010,168.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 28, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK A. NOLL, a citizen of the United States, residing in Ross township, county of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Piano-Benches, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a piano bench of simple, strong and durable construction, comprising a box-like body portion provided with a hinged cover or seat, adaptable for use in connection with pianos, automatic piano players, etc., in which the seat may be readily adjusted to any desired height and angle of inclination, and it is characteristic of my device that the seat will be equally firm and solid at any height, whether disposed horizontally or at an angle to the main body portion.

The invention includes extensible hinge connections between the seat and main body portion, which will permit the former to be raised, lowered and inclined as desired, without getting out of alinement with the latter, together with adjustable supporting members interposed between the seat and body portion and adapted to be folded down in the latter when not in use, and means for automatically locking the seat in any position to which it may be adjusted.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a piano bench of the class described adapted to form a receptacle for storing music, etc., and one which will present a handsome and uniform appearance when the seat or cover is adjusted at any desired height or angle of inclination.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction, and in the assemblage and combination of parts, hereinafter fully described and claimed and illustrated by the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a piano bench embodying my improvements, showing the seat or cover raised to give access to the music rack, with the supporting members adjusted to hold the seat in its intermediate raised position, when closed, Figs. 2 and 3 transverse sections on line II—II of Fig. 5, showing the seat elevated and in a horizontal and inclined position respectively. Fig. 4 a similar view on line IV—IV of Fig. 5, the seat being shown in the same position as in Fig. 1, in full lines and in its closed and intermediate position in dotted lines; Fig. 5 a plan view of one corner of the main body

with the seat raised and Fig. 6 an inner face view of the seat and the depending molding, hinged to its rear edge.

In Figs. 2 to 6, both inclusive, the music rack is omitted from the drawings for the purpose of better illustration.

Referring to the drawings, 2 is the box like main body, provided with supporting legs 3, of any preferred construction, and 4 is the seat or cover provided upon three of its edges with a depending molding 5, rigidly secured thereto and upon its remaining edge with a swinging molding 6, corresponding in size and contour to molding 5. Molding 6 is attached to the seat and normally held at right angles thereto, by means of spring hinges 7 of any preferred construction and together with molding 5 and seat 4 incloses and forms a cover for body 2, when in the position shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Molding 6 also serves to support one edge of the seat when the latter is inclined and prevent its tipping when raised above the body and horizontally disposed.

Seat 4 is adjustably secured to body 2 by means of extensible hinges 8. Each of said hinges consists of a plate member 9, and an L-shaped depending pin member 10, the former being adapted to be secured to the underside of the seat and the latter to slide freely in a vertical socket 11, fitted in the upper end of the adjacent leg 3. The knuckles of pins 10 are provided with stops 12 which serve as rests for the seat when it is in its open position, and the horizontal portion of the pins when the seat is lowered rest upon cushions 13 interposed between them and the upper ends of sockets 11, as shown in Fig. 4. The seat when closed, in its lowest horizontal position rests directly upon the main body 2, and in this position the depending molding 6, by reason of spring hinges 7, fits snugly in place against the molding 5, thus presenting a uniform appearance and entirely concealing all of the operative parts. Molding 6 is provided with one or more vertically disposed rack bars 14, having a series of teeth 15, adapted to engage and rest upon outwardly extending stops 16 formed on plates 17 secured to the upper rear edge of the body when the seat is elevated above the latter. When it is desired to change the seat from a horizontal to an inclined position the edge adjacent molding 6 is raised and in so doing the upper inclined portion of teeth 15 engage

stops 16 causing molding 6 to swing outwardly until the desired elevation has been reached, when spring hinges 7 will cause the molding to resume its normal position, with teeth 15 resting upon the stops 16, thus firmly supporting the adjacent edge of the seat at a greater height than the opposite edge, which is supported either directly upon the body or the supporting members, as shown in Fig. 3. It will be obvious that by simply swinging molding 6 outwardly the seat will be free to return to a horizontal position.

The seat may be supported at any desired height above the body upon supporting members 18 arranged within the body at each end thereof, each of said supporting members comprises a plurality of cross bars 21 of different lengths adapted to be supported one above the other, when raised into operative position, upon uprights or standards 19, hinged at their lower ends to the body, as shown at 20. The cross bars 21 project beyond uprights 19 and are cut away for a portion of their length at each end 22, to permit them and uprights 19 to nest together in line with each other, both when raised into operative position and folded within the body, thus forming a very compact and solid support. The ends of cross bars 21, adjacent hinges 8 are rounded off at 23, to form a rolling support for the seat while being lowered into operative position, as shown in Fig. 4, and plates 9 are made of sufficient length to form a bearing surface therefor.

While I have shown two supporting members at each end of the body, it will be obvious that any desired number may be used without departing from the nature of my invention.

In the operation of my device, when it is desired to elevate the seat it is first thrown back upon hinges 8, as shown in Fig. 1, the proper supporting members 18 at each end of the body turned up and the seat returned to a horizontal position thereon, in which position pins 10 will be partially withdrawn from sockets 11, with stops 16 engaging teeth 15, to prevent tipping of the seat, should pressure be applied to its edge overlapping the rounded ends 23 of the cross bars. The rounded off ends of the cross bars form a rolling support for the seat which will permit the latter to be lowered into a horizontal position without binding, or straining any of the attended mechanism. To lower the seat, it is again thrown back upon the hinges, causing molding 6 to swing outwardly when the seat will be free to return to the position shown in full lines in Fig. 4. One or all of the supports at each

end are then folded down on the body and the seat returned to a horizontal position as above described.

While my device is particularly applicable to piano benches, it may be applied to similar articles of furniture, and as shown in Fig. 1, a music rack 24, or any other suitable receptacle may be secured to the underside of seat 4 in any preferred manner.

I claim:

1. A piano bench comprising a body, a cover therefor adapted to form a seat, extensible hinges connecting the cover and body, and cover supporting means interposed between the body and cover, said supporting means comprising a plurality of cross bars of different lengths and standards supporting the same each at a different height but in line with each other, said cross bars projecting beyond the standards, the projecting ends of each bar being partially cut away to receive the standards supporting the other cross bars and the ends of all of the cross bars adjacent the hinges rounded off to form a rolling support for the cover when being swung into and out of operative position.

2. In combination with a piano bench a seat supporting member comprising a plurality of cross bars of different lengths, standards supporting the cross bars, each at a different height but in line with each other, said cross bars projecting beyond the standards and having one end rounded off to form a rolling support for the seat, with the projecting portions of each bar partially cut away to receive the standards supporting the other cross bars.

3. A piano bench comprising a body, a cover therefor adapted to form a seat, extensible hinges connecting the body and cover, supporting means interposed between the body and cover comprising a plurality of cross bars and standards supporting the same each at a different height but in line with each other, said cross bars projecting beyond the standards, the projecting ends of each bar being partially cut away to receive the standards supporting the other cross bars and the ends of all of the cross bars adjacent the hinges rounded off to form a rolling support for the cover, together with means engaging the body and cover to prevent tipping of the seat when disposed upon the supporting members.

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

FRANK A. NOLL.

Witnesses:

F. E. GAITHER,
CLARA M. HARPER.