

H. STEENBOCK.

ACTION FOR STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

(Application filed Apr. 1, 1902.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

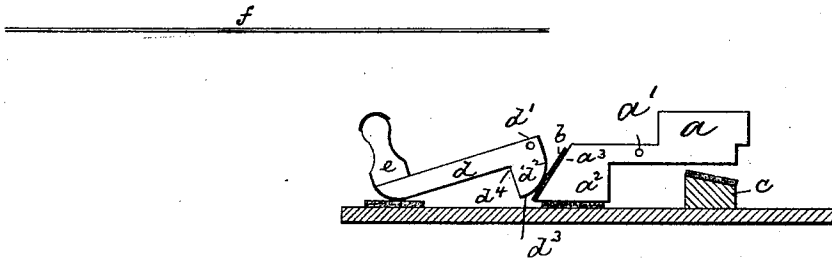
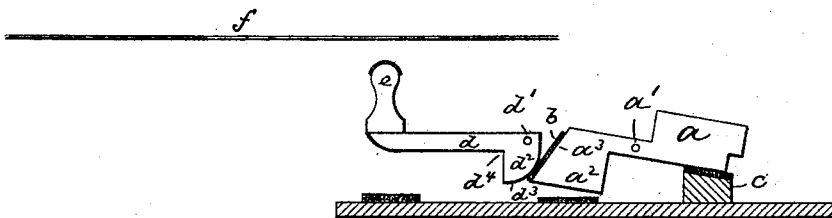


FIG. 2.



Witnesses:

Arthur Gruppe.
William Schuy.

Inventor:

Henry Steenbock
by his attorneys
Oeder & Smeier

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY STEENBOCK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ACTION FOR STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 717,130, dated December 30, 1902.

Application filed April 1, 1902. Serial No. 100,916. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY STEENBOCK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Actions for Stringed Musical Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an action for stringed musical instruments which is of simple construction and permits the hammer to fall quickly and freely away from the string.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of my improved action, showing the position of the parts with the key raised; and Fig. 2, a similar view with the key depressed.

The letter *a* represents the key of a stringed musical instrument turning on a fulcrum *a'* and enlarged at its end to form a downwardly-extending projection *a²*. This projection has an inclined straight rear plane *a³*, cushioned as at *b*. At its front a rail *c*, having an inclined cushioned face, limits the play of the key.

d is the hammer-shank, turning on fulcrum *d'* and carrying the upwardly-projecting hammer *e*, which joins the shank *d* at right angles. The shank *d* at its front is enlarged to form a projection *d²*, which extends to a point considerably back of pivot *d'*. This projection *d²* has a convex front plane *d³*, the curve being a quadrant struck from a point *d⁴* below and back of pivot *d'*. When the key is

raised, Fig. 1, the lower section of quadrant *d³* bears against the inclined plane *a³*. When the key is depressed, Fig. 2, the quadrant will first roll along the inclined plane and will entirely clear it while the hammer strikes the string *f*. As the hammer falls back the quadrant will reengage the inclined plane and will roll along the same after the key is released.

It will be seen that my action is of simple construction, responds quickly to the touch, and permits an unimpeded movement of the hammer.

What I claim is—

1. An action for stringed musical instruments composed of a key having an inclined rear plane, a hammer, and a hammer-shank having a convex front plane that is adapted to engage the rear plane of the key, substantially as specified.

2. An action for stringed musical instruments composed of a key having a straight inclined rear plane, a hammer, and a hammer-shank having a convex quadrantal front plane, the quadrant being struck from a point back of the hammer-fulcrum, substantially as specified.

Signed by me at New York city, New York, this 31st day of March, 1902.

HENRY STEENBOCK.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM SCHULZ,
F. V. BRIESEN.