(No Model.)

G. D. B. PRESCOTT & M. A. NOWELL.

PIANO FRAME.

No. 545,814. Patented Sept. 3, 1895.

Fig. 1.

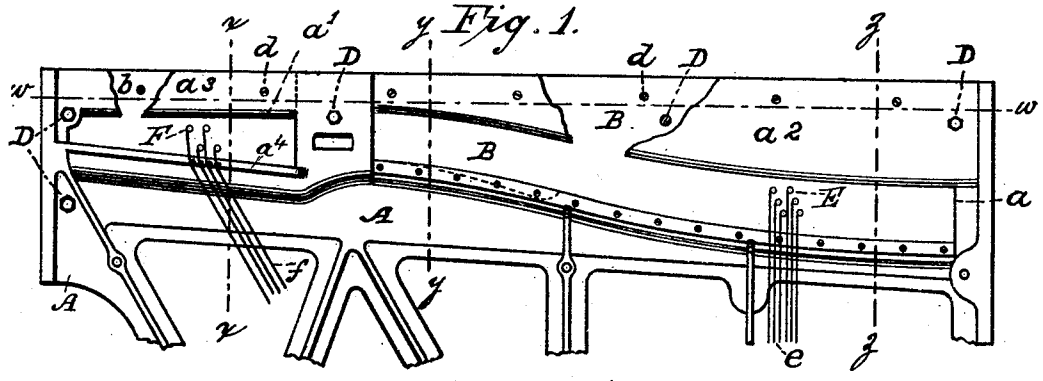


Fig. 2.

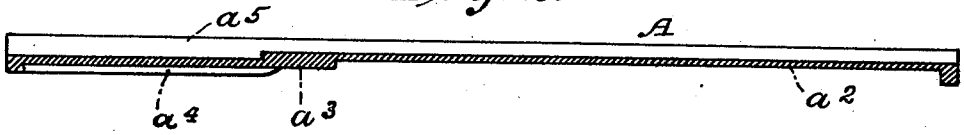


Fig. 3.

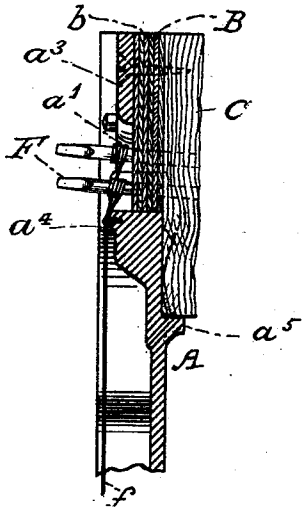


Fig. 4.

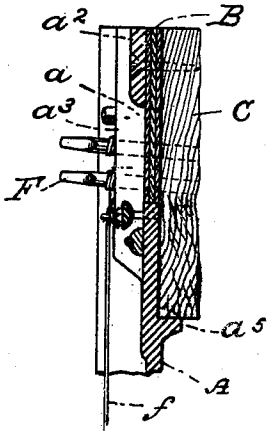
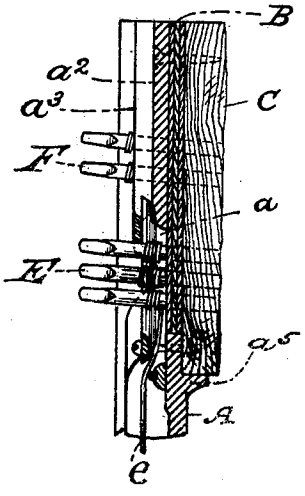


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE D. B. PRESCOTT AND MELVIN A. NOWELL, OF CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE, ASSIGNORS TO THE PRESCOTT PIANO COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

PIANO-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 545,814, dated September 3, 1895.

Application filed February 13, 1895. Serial No. 538,226. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE D. B. PRESCOTT and MELVIN A. NOWELL, citizens of the United States, residing at Concord, in the county of Merrimac and State of New Hampshire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metal Frames for Pianos; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates more especially to the upper portion of the metallic frame and to the pin-block for pianos. It is customary upon the timber called the "wrest-plank" to place several layers of veneer, through which the tuning-pins must pass before entering said wrest-plank, the object of said layers of veneer being to partially resist the strain of the strings on the tuning-pins, which would otherwise fall wholly upon said wrest-block, which is ordinarily composed of a single piece of timber. These veneers are secured together and to the wrest-plank by glue and are placed one upon another, having their grain running alternately in opposite directions, and various means have been employed as a partial assistance to the glue for retaining said veneers in place, and it is to this feature in piano construction to which our present invention more directly applies.

To this end our invention consists in providing a metallic frame of proper form to accommodate veneers extending to top of frame, and thus affording additional means for retaining them in place providing the glue fails to wholly perform its duty, which will be fully set forth in the following specification and claims, and clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same, of which—

Figure 1 is a broken elevation showing the upper portion of our improved metallic frame, the pin-block, and a few of the strings and tuning-pins in proper position, Fig. 2 being a longitudinal section showing the metal of the frame on line W W, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on line $x\,x$, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a vertical section at line $y\,y$, Fig. 1; and Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken at $z\,z$, Fig. 1.

Similar reference-letters designate corresponding parts throughout the various views.

A represents the upper part of the metallic frame, having the openings a and a' near its top, as shown, and through which in Fig. 1 may be seen, respectively, the veneers B b, forming the pin-block and which are attached to the wrest-plank C. That metal of the frame A which is above the openings $a\,a'$ is not on an equal plane with the metal below said openings, as shown best in Figs. 3, 4, and 5, that shown at a^2, directly over the opening a, being brought forward sufficiently to cause its rear face to be flush with the front metal below said opening, while that shown at a^3, which is over the opening a', is brought sufficiently forward to cause its rear face to be flush with the front face of the metal a^2. This offset in the metal above these openings is also clearly shown in Fig. 2, in which the bridge a^4 for the bass-strings and that portion a^5 of the frame forming a seat for the base of the wrest-plank are best shown. Thus it will be seen that a frame of our improved construction allows of covering the entire front surface of the "wrest-block" C with the layers of veneer B, and also permits of applying additional layers of veneers b for the tuning-pins of the bass-strings, all of which extend from the seat a^5 to the extreme upper edge of the frame, thereby obtaining the maximum glue surface, the full clasping strength of the upper portion of said frame, and utilizing the bolts and screws, respectively, D d as additional means of holding the pin-block, said bolts and screws passing through said veneers into the solid wrest-plank and serving to tightly clasp the same.

Having described our invention, what we claim as new is—

1. A metal frame for pianos provided with offsets in its rear face, and openings in said offsets for the reception of the tuning pins, the rear face of one of said offsets being on a plane with the forward face of the other, substantially for the purpose set forth.

2. A metal frame for pianos provided with

an opening for the tuning pins of the treble strings the metal above said opening being set forward as shown, and an opening for the tuning pins of the bass strings, the metal above said opening for the bass strings being set forward sufficiently to cause its rear face to be on a plane with the forward face of that metal above the opening for the tuning pins of the treble strings, all substantially for the purpose set forth.

3. A metal frame for pianos having openings, one for all the tuning pins of the treble strings, and one for all those of the bass strings, and having the metal above said openings set forward sufficiently to cause the rear face of that above the openings for the bass strings to be on a plane with the forward face of that metal above the opening for the treble strings whereby the veneers of the pin block may extend their full thickness, back of the metal above said openings to the top of said frame.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE D. B. PRESCOTT.
MELVIN A. NOWELL.

Witnesses:
J. B. THURSTON,
J. E. FERNALD.