

R. GLOSSA.  
DOOR FOR PIANO PLAYERS.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 29, 1908.

931,752.

Patented Aug. 24, 1909.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 8

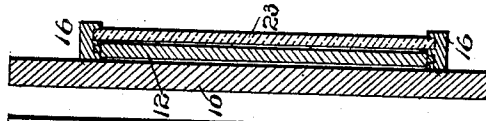
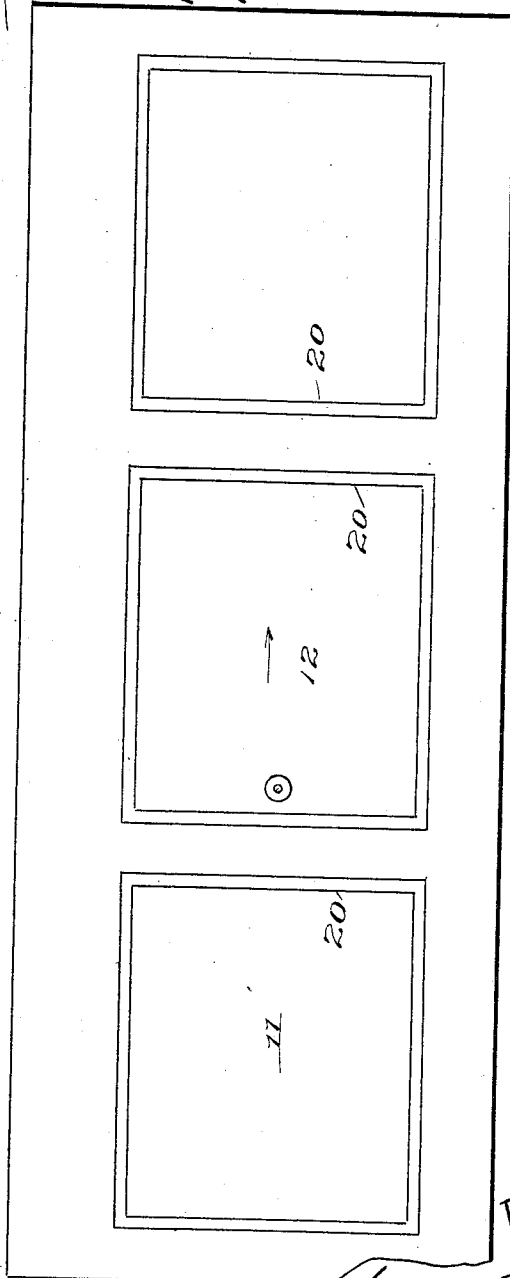


Fig. 1



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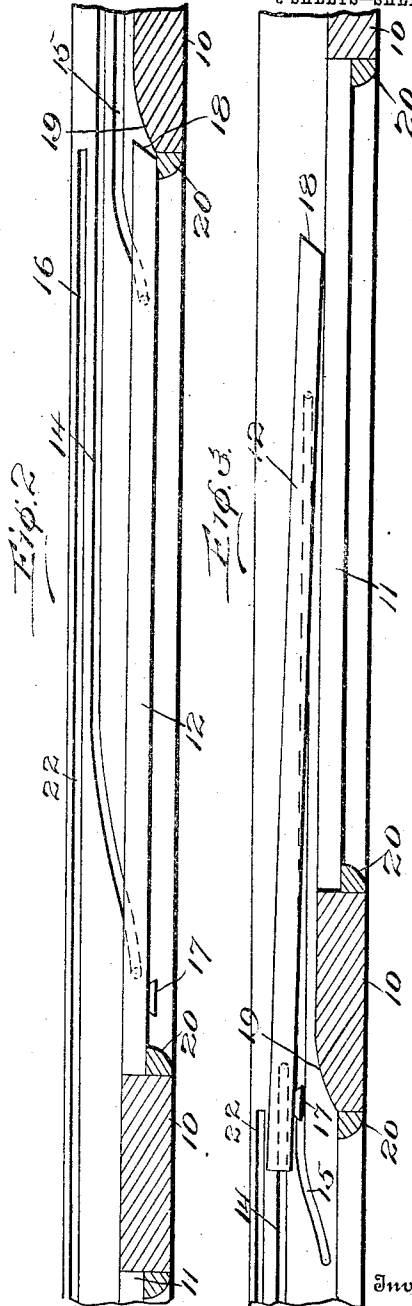
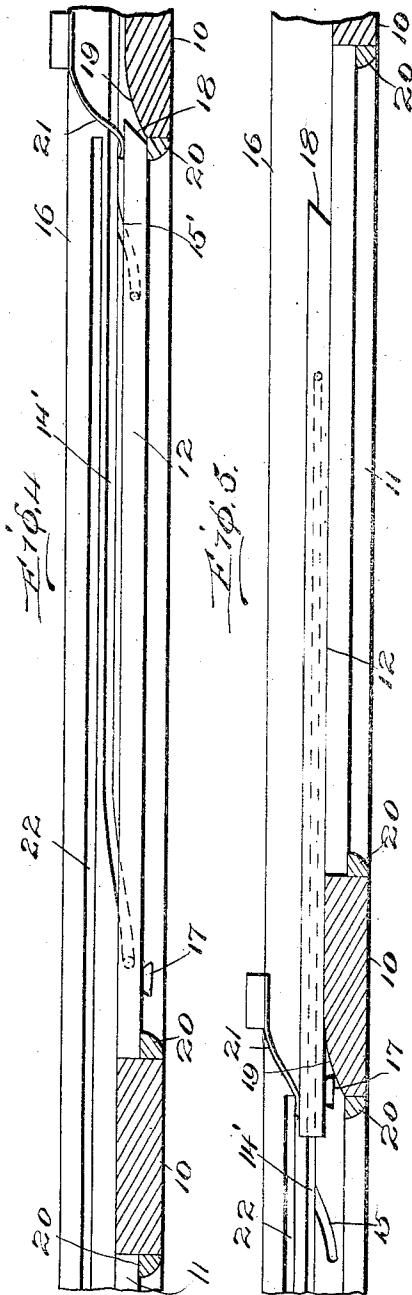
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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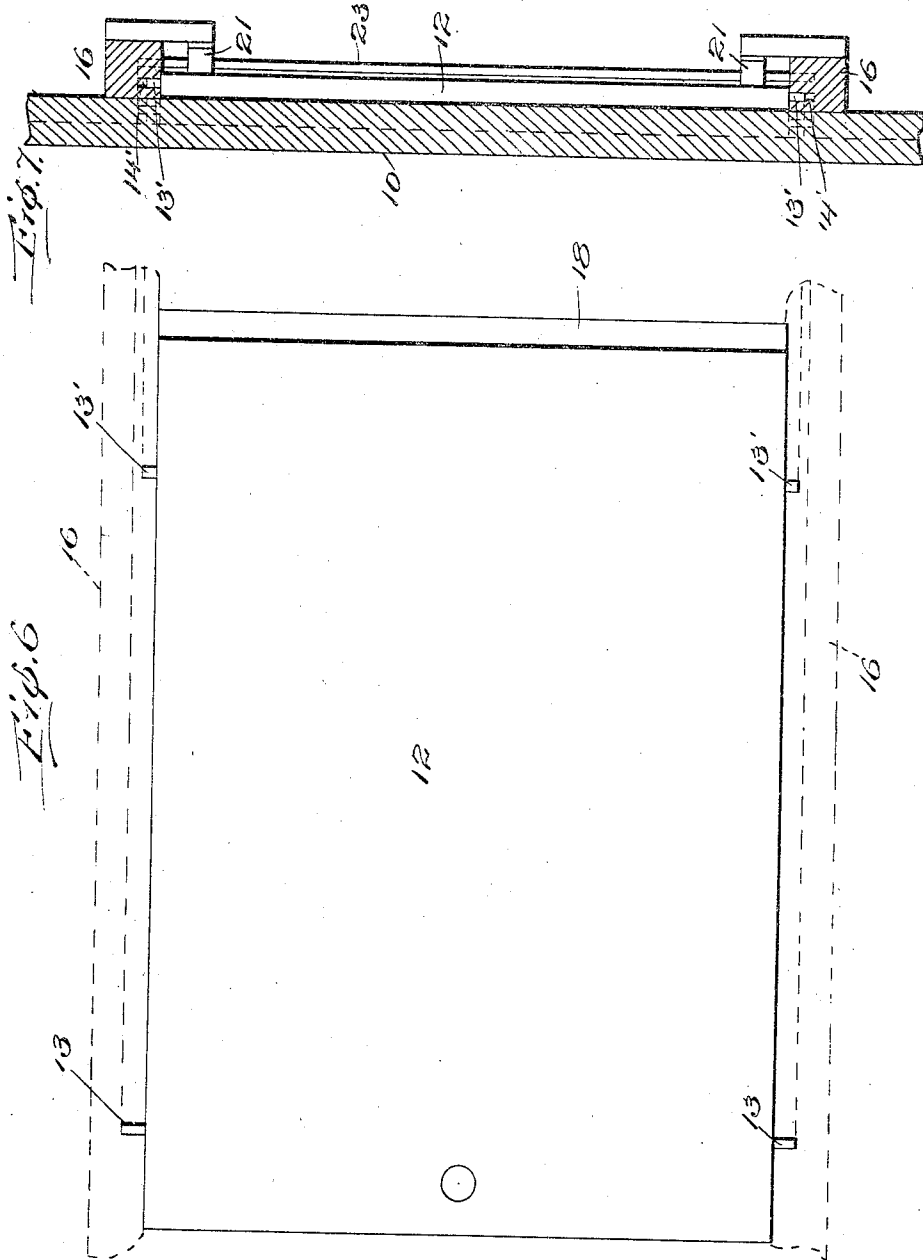
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## DOOR FOR PIANO-PLAYERS.

931.752.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 24, 1909.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RAYMOND GLOSSA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Doors for Piano-Players; and I 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 to doors for player pianos, and has for an object to provide a door resembling in all respects one of the regular panels of the piano front.

It is well known that in player pianos where a tracker bar is positioned above the keyboard, a panel is ordinarily employed movable in some way vertically slidable, which opens the recess within the body of the piano in which the tracker bar and associate mechanism is disposed.

In the ordinary piano construction the panels in the front of the piano are set about a quarter of an inch deep with respect to the main portion of the front of the piano and in the ordinary construction of the player piano sliding panel it is necessary to have such panel set deep enough to clear the construction of the front of the piano ordinarily an inch thick so that the panels upon the side do not correspond in depth with the center or movable piano.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a center movable piano which in closed position will appear to the eye practically the same as the side panels and be disposed at substantially the same depth but with provision for moving the panel to clear the frame construction as well as the side panel toward which it moves.

With these and other objects in view, the invention comprises certain novel constructions, arrangements and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a conventional view of the front of a piano showing three panels, the center one of which embodies the present invention and is movable longitudinally in the direction indicated by the arrow. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the track upon which one embodiment of the present invention slides. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the track shown with the panel

moved to open position. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the track showing a single track instead of a double track as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 and with the panel in closed position. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the single track construction, such as shown at Fig. 4, shown with the panel in open position. Fig. 6 is a front elevation of the movable panel removed showing the pintles which engage the track grooves. Fig. 7 is a transverse sectional view of the track showing the panels in end elevation, and of the double track embodiment. Fig. 8 is a transverse sectional view of the frame and single track showing the sliding panel in end elevation.

Like characters of references designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The frame 10 of the present construction is similar in most respects to the ordinary front frame portions of the ordinary piano and embodies the usual upright portions and horizontal portions dividing the front into panels 11 upon the ends and 12 in the center, the latter of which is the movable panel.

It will be noted, especially from Figs. 2 to 4 inclusive, that the frame construction of the piano shown at 10 is such that the panels, both 11 and 12, are seated wholly within the thickness of such frame construction and cannot be moved horizontally without in some manner clearing the frame construction. To accomplish this purpose the sliding panel 12 is provided with pintles 13 and 13' adapted to engage and slide within grooves 14 and 15, respectively, formed in the guide strips 16 which may be integral with the frame construction of the piano or may be separate strips as shown at Figs. 7 and 8.

It will be noted that the grooves 14 and 15 curve suddenly backward so that the first movement of the sliding panel when actuated by engagement with the knob or handle 17 is rearwardly and the panel itself is preferably provided at its forward edge with a bevel 18 more readily to pass over the beveled corner 19 of the frame-work 10. About the opening is, of course, employed the usual bead or molding 20, the same in relation to all of the panels, which bead or molding forms an abutment against which the sliding panel rests when in closed position.

It will be noted from Figs. 2 and 3 that the groove 14 is disposed farther rearwardly than the groove 15 so that the sliding panel 12, when in open position, is disposed somewhat removed from parallelism with the panel 11 as shown in Fig. 3. To avoid this last arrangement the track groove may be arranged as shown at Figs. 4 and 5, employing substantially a single groove 14' and with a short groove 15' communicating therewith. The groove 14' is deeper than the offset groove 15' as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 6 and the pintles 13 are longer than the pintles 13' so that the pintles 13 may not enter within the groove 15' but will always follow the groove 14'. By this arrangement it will be seen that the first movement of the sliding panel of the construction shown at Figs. 4 and 5 is similar to that shown at Figs. 3 and 4, to wit, suddenly rearwardly, the pindle 13' following the groove 15' and the pindle 13 following the groove 14' until the pindle 13' passes from the groove 15' into the groove 14' when both pintles follow the same groove as shown particularly in Fig. 5 with the sliding panel parallel with the stationary panel 11.

In closing the reverse movement is followed, and to insure the pindle 13' entering the groove 15' a spring 21 is employed bearing upon the inner surface of the movable panel at what is normally the forward edge in the opening movement, so that as the sliding panel moves to closed position the pressure of the spring 21 upon such sliding panel will force the pindle 13 to enter the groove 15' to close the sliding panel to the position shown in Fig. 4.

It is customary to employ a plate of glass within the sliding panel to close over the tracker bar while the player piano is being operated, and for such purpose a groove 22

is employed in which a sheet of glass 23 is mounted to move slidably.

While the member 16 containing the grooves are shown in plan as the bottom only, it is to be understood, of course, that similar reverse grooves are employed above the upper edge of the sliding panel to accommodate the upper pintles 13 and 13' in similar manner.

What I claim is:—

1. The combination with a frame, of guide strips defining a panel opening and provided with grooves of different depths, and a panel provided with pintles of different lengths adapted to move selectively in the grooves of different depths.

2. The combination with a frame defining a door opening and having inclined grooves of different depths extending from adjacent each side of the opening and leading to and communicating with a longitudinal groove, of a panel adapted to close the opening and having pintles of different lengths at each side seated and movable each within one of the grooves.

3. The combination with a frame defining a door opening having inclined grooves of different depths extending from adjacent each side of the opening and leading to and both communicating with a single longitudinal groove, of a panel adapted to close the opening and having pintles of different lengths at each side seated and movable each within one of the grooves of different depths and both within the longitudinal grooves.

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

RAYMOND GLOSSA.

Witnesses:

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