(No Model.)

N. LOCHBAUM.

MUSIC CASE.

No. 353,794. Patented Dec. 7, 1886.

Fig. 1.

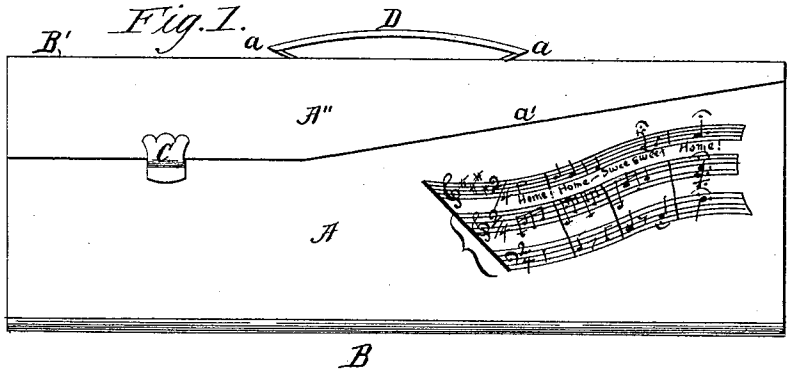
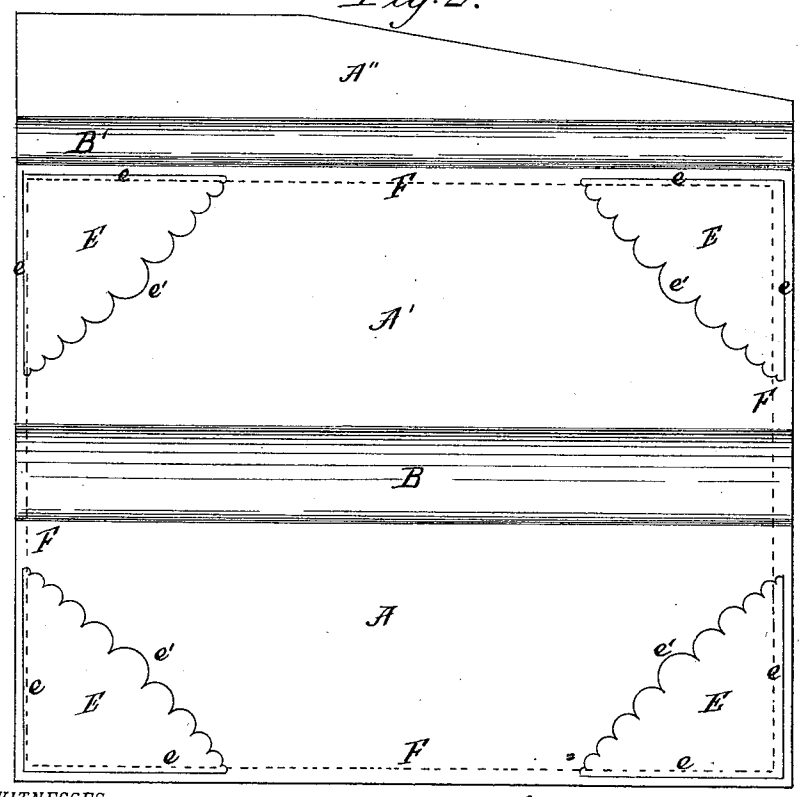


Fig. 2.



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NORBERT LOCHBAUM, OF BERLIN, GERMANY, ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES KAUFFMANN AND WILLIAM STRAUSS, BOTH OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MUSIC-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,794, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed October 4, 1886. Serial No. 215,227. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NORBERT LOCHBAUM, a citizen of the Empire of Germany, and a resident of the city of Berlin, in the said Empire of Germany, have invented a certain new and useful Music-Case, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful music case or holder so constructed that by its use the music is not rolled nor creased, is prevented from falling out, is easily inserted and removed therefrom, and tearing or breaking of the music is prevented.

Music-cases as heretofore constructed, so far as I am aware, have been made in two ways: first, a simple flat piece of cloth or leather in which the music is rolled up, and, second, a rigid tube, usually of leather or pasteboard covered with cloth, closed at one end and provided with a cap which fits over the other end. Those made of a flat piece of material must necessarily be soft and flexible, in order to be rolled up, and therefore very soon become wrinkled, and consequently defaced. They also require two fastening devices—usually tapes or straps—one near each end of the roll, because of the flimsy character of the material. Moreover, the ends are not closed. Therefore unless the music is rolled quite tightly within the case it is apt to drop out endwise. The other kind of case, made of tubular form, has a number of defects: First, if any considerable quantity of music is to be carried its volume is so great that it can with difficulty be introduced into the tube, and, moreover, must be wound so tightly that its own elasticity springs it out against the inside of the tube with such force that its removal therefrom is difficult, if not impossible, without tearing some of the sheets; second, the act of rolling the music so tightly frequently tears or breaks it, and the edges especially suffer injury; third, if the music is at all moist, or the hands of the person rolling it up are at all moist, the music becomes blurred by reason of the tightness of the rolling, especially if it be new music; fourth, the round shape of the tube makes a very inconvenient package, especially when desired to pack it in a valise or trunk, requiring considerable space; fifth, the little cap which fits over the end of the tube, being a separate piece, continually comes off and becomes lost, and to prevent this a strap is usually provided, passing over this cap, which has to be buckled and unbuckled each time the case is used; and, sixth, music which has been rolled so tightly as is necessary for insertion into the tube has to be unrolled and again rolled in the opposite direction before it will lie flat, and a large proportion of sheet-music is printed on paper of such quality that it will not rest flat on the music-rack, notwithstanding such reverse rolling.

In the drawings hereof the same reference-letters refer to the same parts in both of the figures.

Figure 1 illustrates the case closed, and Fig. 2 illustrates it open, the dotted lines showing a sheet of music in place.

A A′ A″ are three pieces, of comparatively rigid material, attached to each other by broad hinge-pieces B B′, so that they may be folded over upon each other, as shown in Fig. 1. The pieces A A′ are the cover-pieces, and the piece A″ a lid-like piece. These pieces A A′ A″ may be made of wood, card-board, straw-board, leather-board, metal, or any other suitable material, and the hinge-pieces B B′ may be made of leather, cloth, paper, or, in special instances, of metal, either an ordinary offset butt or interlocking links; but I prefer cloth or leather. They should be sufficiently wide to allow of expansibility, and, if desired, the hinge-pieces may be made of elastic webbing, whereby greater expansibility will be attained.

The lid-piece A″, I have represented as cut away on a bevel at *a′*. This is done in order to allow more space for the representation of a staff of notes, as hereinafter explained; but it forms no part of my invention.

I prefer to cover the case outside with leather or cloth, which may be stamped, pebbled, or otherwise ornamented, as desired, to give the case a good finish, and I also prefer to line it inside with any suitable material for the same reason.

C represents an ordinary snap-clasp, such as are now largely used on pocket-books, which holds the lid closed.

D is a handle attached to one of the long

edges of the case, by which it may be conveniently carried. I prefer to make this handle with bendable points at *a a*, and also at its junction with the edge of the case, or, in other words, with the hinge B', so that it will flatten down close, and thus save space.

E E E E are four corner-pockets, substantially triangular in shape and fastened at the edges *e e* to the inside of the parts A A' at the corners thereof which are farthest from the hinge B, and they are open at the other edge, (marked *e'*,) so that the corners of the sheets of music may be passed under them; and in order that they may accommodate a large number of sheets of music I prefer to bend downward the edges *e e*, which are attached to the pieces A and A', so that the pocket is offset somewhat from said pieces. Instead of this downward bending of the edges, however, the pockets may be gusseted at the edges *e e*, and thus made extensible.

A sheet of music in place within the case is illustrated by the dotted line F.

It is not essential that my case should have the overlapping lid-piece A''. The parts A A' may be simply folded upon each other and any suitable catch employed at their meeting edges, with or without a handle; but I prefer the overlapping lid-piece A''.

Another part of my invention consists in applying to the outside of the case a music-staff provided with note-designations consisting of certain bars of any desired tune or song. The staff may be double, as shown in Fig. 1, or single, as desired. This staff or staffs are employed to indicate the use for which the case is intended.

It will be noticed that in my music-case the sheets of music are simply bent once upon themselves, and that this bend is not sharp enough to crease the music.

I do not limit myself to the details of construction shown, because they may be readily departed from in details and still my invention be employed.

I am aware that writing-paper cases have been heretofore made which consisted of tablet-like parts which folded over upon each other, and also that blotting-paper pads for use on desks, &c., have been made with corner-pockets to hold the blotting-paper in place, and I do not therefore claim such features, broadly.

I am also aware of the United States Letters Patent granted to A. G. Buzby, dated July 30, 1867, No. 67,163, for portfolio. The invention therein described is not mine, because his pockets are not attached to the cover-piece, but are part of a separate rigid frame which is placed over the cover-piece and is attached to it. This frame, and also the rigidity of the cover itself, precludes the possibility of bending the cover; also, the pockets are not placed at the corners of hinged cover-pieces which are farthest from the hinge; but

I do claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a music-case consisting of cover-pieces A A', each substantially the size of half of a sheet of music, attached to one another at one of their edges, respectively, by a hinge, B, each of the covers being provided at the two corners thereof which are farthest from the hinge with sheet-confining pockets E, and means to hold the covers together at their free edges when closed, substantially as set forth.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a music-case consisting of cover-pieces A A', each substantially the size of half a sheet of music, attached to one another at one of their edges, respectively, by a hinge, B, each of the covers being provided at the two corners thereof which are farthest from the hinge with sheet-confining pockets E, and a hinged lid, A'', all combined and operating substantially as set forth.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a music-case consisting of cover-pieces A A', each substantially the size of half a sheet of music, attached to each other at one of their edges, respectively, by a hinge, B, each of the covers being provided at the two corners thereof which are farthest from the hinge with sheet-confining pockets E, a hinged lid, A'', and a handle placed on the edge of case when folded, and a fastening device for the lid when closed, all combined and operating substantially as set forth.

4. A music-case having two covers hinged together by an extensible hinge, whereby the covers will adjust themselves to the number of sheets of music placed between them, and pockets fastened to the corners of each of the covers which are farthest from the hinge which unites them, adapted to receive the corners of the sheets of music, substantially as set forth.

Signed at the city of Berlin, in the Empire of Germany, this 20th day of September, A. D. 1886.

NORBERT LOCHBAUM.

Witnesses:
SALOMON KAUFMANN,
B. ROI.