

L. K. FULLER
Organ-Cases.

No. 150,017.

Patented April 21, 1874.

Fig. 1.

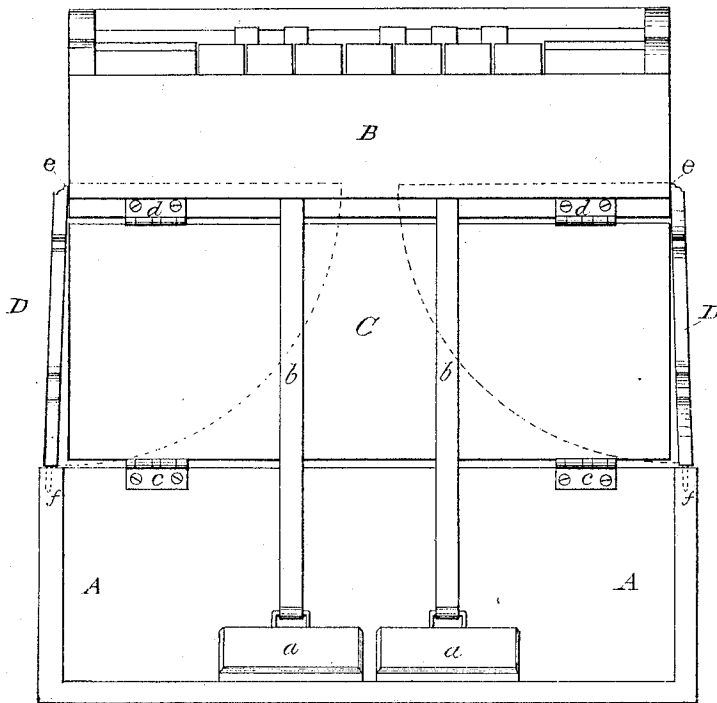


Fig. 2.

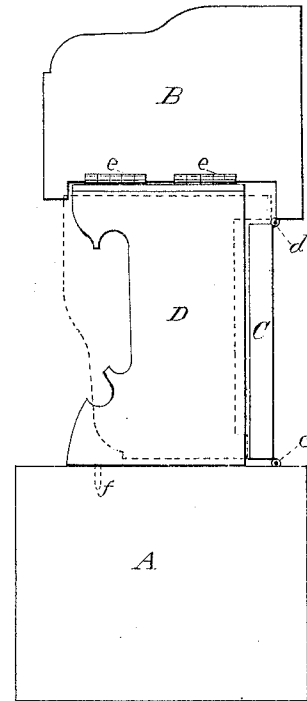


Fig. 3.

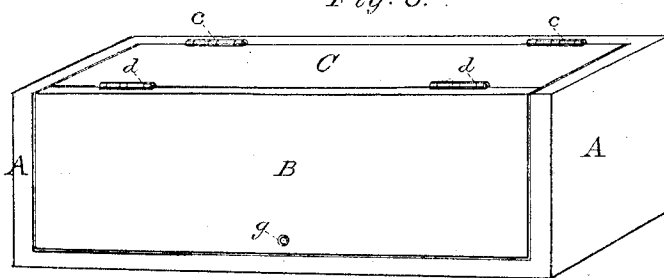
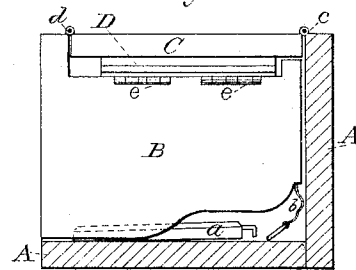


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

Inventor.

Charles M. Higgins.

Levi K. Fuller.

Arthur C. Fraser.

Per Burke & Fraser.

attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LEVI K. FULLER, OF BRATTLEBOROUGH, VERMONT, ASSIGNOR TO J. ESTEY
& COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN ORGAN-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **150,017**, dated April 21, 1874; application filed
January 31, 1874.

CASE 1.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI K. FULLER, of Brattleborough, in the county of Windham and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Musical-Instrument Cases, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in an improved case, designed for reed-organs and similar instruments, constructed of hinged sections, so arranged as to be capable of being folded into a compact and portable form, and which may be readily unfolded and arranged in an operative position when desired, thereby especially adapting the instrument to be used by excursion-parties, traveling troupes, missionaries, &c., for which purposes the bulk and want of portability of such instruments have heretofore unfitted them.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a front elevation of my improved folding organ-case, shown unfolded and in position for use. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the case when folded for transportation. Fig. 4 is a transverse view of the same, the lower box or portion of the case being in section and the other parts in elevation.

The case is constructed, as shown in the drawings, of three divisions, the lower, A, consisting of the bottom, back, and two ends of an oblong box; the upper section, B, being of similar form, but sufficiently smaller to close within the lower, and the intermediate one, C, consisting of the middle back portion of the case and the two end portions D D, the latter being hinged, preferably, to the upper section in such a manner as to fold against its under side, and the three several divisions hinged to one another, so that they will fold within the base in the form of a box, of which the middle division forms the top and the upper one the front, as shown in Fig. 3. The pedals *a a* are arranged within the lower division and hinged to the bottom thereof, as seen in Figs. 1 and 4, and are connected, by straps *b b*, with the bellows of the instrument arranged in the bottom of the upper division B. To the top

of the back of the lower part A is hinged the part C, which forms the back of the case when the same is opened, as shown in Fig. 1, but when the case is folded together forms the top, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4; and to its upper edge is connected, by the hinges *d d*, the upper division B, in which are arranged all the operative parts of the instrument, except the pedals. These parts, viz., key-board, reeds, valves, bellows, &c., may be of the ordinary construction, and need no description. At each end of the upper chest, at *ee*, are hinged the ends D D, which, when the case is unfolded, rest upon the ends of the lower box A, and, with the part C, serve to support the top section in an upright and secure position, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2. They are provided with projecting pins *ff*, or equivalent device, Figs. 1 and 2, which enter corresponding recesses in the ends of the part A, to retain them in position, and suitable catches may be provided to hold them more securely in position, if desired. In folding the case the pedals are first disengaged from the straps *b b* and laid down on the bottom of the box A, as seen in Fig. 4. The upper part of the case is then raised slightly and moved backward upon the hinges *ee* until the pins *ff* of the parts D D are disengaged. These parts are then folded in under the bellows, in the position represented by the dotted lines in Fig. 1. The upper section B is then folded upon the hinges *d d* forward against the part C, as represented by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, and the whole is then turned upon the hinges *ee* into the lower section A, as shown in Fig. 4, and secured by the lock *g*, Fig. 3. The instrument is now folded into the compact form of an oblong rectangular box of convenient size for portability, which may be readily transported from place to place, rendering it peculiarly adapted for picnic, yachting, or other excursion parties, traveling musicians, missionaries, &c., for which purposes the common organ is not adapted, owing to its bulk and rigidity. In the folding of the case the operative parts of the instrument, namely, keys, reeds, bellows, &c., are in no way interfered with or

displaced, as they are secured permanently within the upper chest B, which is always moved bodily in folding the case, without displacing these parts or exposing them to injury, and when the case is unfolded, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, which is the work of but a few moments, the instrument is at once ready for use, and may be performed upon with as much ease and convenience as the common rigidly-incased instruments.

I do not wish to confine myself to the precise construction and arrangement of the several portions of the case herein shown by which I produce a folding case, as modifications may be devised by which the same result may be obtained; nor do I wish to limit its application to wind or reed instruments, as it may be applied to stringed instruments also, if found desirable; but

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A musical-instrument case, the base, sides, back, and top of which are hinged together, so as to render the same capable of being folded into a compact form for transportation, and by unfolding be placed in operative position, all being constructed, combined, and arranged as herein shown and described.

2. In combination with the base A and upper section B, the hinged leaves or sections D D C, as shown and described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LEVI K. FULLER.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR C. FRASER,
CHARLES M. HIGGINS.