This invention relates to a device for supporting and turning sheet music. The present embodiment is designed for use with sheet music which consists of front and back pages and an intermediate page, the former pages being constituted of parts of a continuous sheet, while the intermediate page is a leaf that is loose from the others. In the playing of such music, only the intermediate sheet has to be turned. Popular sheet music at the present time is published in the above form in two standard sizes.

The objects of my invention are to provide a device for supporting and turning sheet music of the above class that is adjustable to accommodate publications of the two standard sizes; to provide a device of the aforesaid character that is neat of appearance and that is very efficient; and to provide a construction for devices of the aforesaid nature that is simple, that is economical of production, that is especially convenient of use, and that is practically immune from disorder, the co-acting parts of the turning mechanism being of such character that there is no likelihood of their becoming injured if subjected to a reasonable amount of abuse.

An embodiment of the invention wherein the foregoing objects, with other and more limited ones, are attained, is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein Fig. 1 is a front view of the device; Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on the line 2--2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the latch mechanism; and Fig. 4 is a sectional detail of the clip for connecting a leaf of music to the turning arm.

The device is constructed of a few parts, and the majority of these are formed from wire of a suitable gauge. The device comprises a base that is preferably made of some light, stiff material, such as laminated wood, although for the sake of clearness it is shown in the drawing as being of a solid piece. To the corners of the base 1 are applied pads 2 of rubber or the like to prevent the marring of pianos or music stands on which the device is placed. Rotatably attached to the base 1 at about its transverse center and in a vertical position, as by means of eyes or staples 3, is a rock shaft 4 which has its upper end turned laterally immediately above the top staple 3 to provide a turning arm 5. It is similarly treated at its lower end to produce what I shall term a keeper 6. The outer end portion of the arm 5 is bent downwardly and then outwardly in parallelism to the major portion of its length to form a branch 7 beyond which the extremity of the arm is turned upwardly and backwardly upon itself to provide a finger 8. This finger is spaced slightly from the branch 7. Carried by this portion of the arm is a clip 10 of standard type which is comprised of a split cylindrical spring 11 and opposed jaws 12 having handles 13 that extend through slots in the spring 11. In connecting the clip to the arm it is assembled in the following manner: The split cylindrical spring 11 is engaged in a lateral direction through its split side with the branch 7 of the arm 5 and is then rotated between said branch and the finger 8 until the split in the spring faces downwardly. The spring is then expanded and the jaws 12 are inserted upwardly into the spring and their handles 13 are projected through the slots in the spring and disposed on opposite sides of the finger 8, and when the parts are thus put together the clip is effectively held to the arm without danger of its becoming dislodged. No soldering or other means of connection is necessary.

Cooperating with the keeper 6 is the nose 15 of a latch 16 that is preferably formed, as is the shaft 4, from stiff, resilient wire, and between the body portion of the latch and the nose 15 the wire is formed to produce a loop which I shall term a finger piece 17. At the end opposite the nose 15 the wire is curled over to form a relatively small eye 18 through which a screw or other attaching means 19 is inserted for securing the latch to the base 1. At a point somewhat remote from the attaching means 19 the latch is fastened by a staple 20 to the base, and near its free end it is embraced...
by an elongated staple 21 which serves to limit the vertical movement of said end and restrict it to a course of movement adjacent, and parallel to the plane of, the base. A coil spring 22 surrounds the lower end of the shaft 4 and one of its ends bears against the base 1 and its opposite end is hooked about the keeper 6. By reason of this arrangement, the spring tends to rotate the shaft 4 in a direction to carry the leaf of music, that is attached to the arm 5 by the clip 10, over to the opposite side of the base so as to reveal the reverse side of said leaf and also the last page of music. The shaft is maintained in the position in which it is shown in the drawing by the engagement of the keeper 6 with the end of the latch nose 15. When it is desired to turn the music, the finger piece 17 is depressed so as to release the keeper 6 and allow the spring 22 to rotate the shaft 4 as aforesaid. To protect the base 1 from being marred by the clip 13 when the music is turned, and to avoid the noise that would occur by the striking of the clip against the base, I provide the base with a buffer 24 of felt, rubber, or the like against which the clip strikes.

25 is a music support that is preferably formed of a piece of wire to the shape best shown in Fig. 2, and the terminals 26 of the support are adapted to be engaged within an upper set of holes 27, or a lower set 28, in the base. It may be explained that the support is somewhat under tension when its extremities are engaged with the holes of either set so that the inherent resiliency of the wire whereof the support is constructed will serve to hold the extremities of the support within the holes.

To prevent the suction created by the turning of the intermediate leaf of music from lifting the back leaf, the latter is adapted to be held against the base 1 by a retaining device 30 that is shown as formed from a piece of wire that is turned laterally at its upper end and then rearwardly for engagement within a hole in the base, the device being further secured to the base by a staple 32. The manner of using the device is apparent from the foregoing description. I wish to point out, however, that by reason of the nature of the engagement between the keeper 6 and the latch nose 15, the former may be released from the latter by pressure somewhat in excess of that which is normally exerted by the spring 22 wherefore, if a user grasps the arm 5 and turns the music without depressing the latch, no injury to the parts results. The feature responsible for this is the rounded engaging surfaces of the keeper and latch nose.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a music supporting and turning device, the combination of a base, and means on the base for supporting a sheet of music, said means consisting of a wire member having parts formed to provide a ledge on which the sheet of music rests and having its extremities turned toward the base, the base having vertically spaced apertures in which said extremities are adapted to be engaged.

2. In a music supporting and turning device, the combination of a base, and means on the base for supporting a sheet of music, said means consisting of a resilient wire member having parts formed to provide a ledge on which the sheet of music rests and having its extremities turned toward the base, the base having a plurality of sets of opposed holes, the extremities of said support being adapted to be inserted in the opposed holes of the respective sets whereby the support may be adjusted with respect to the base to accommodate sheets of music of different sizes, the support being under tension when its extremities are engaged in opposed holes.

3. In a device of the character set forth, a turning arm having slightly spaced apart substantially parallel portions, and a clip consisting of a split cylindrical spring encircling one of said portions and having its split side remote from the other portion, and a pair of jaws inserted within said spring and having their gripping edges extending through the split thereof, the jaws having finger pieces and the spring having slots through which said finger pieces are extended on opposite sides of said other portion.

4. In a device of the character set forth, a turning arm comprised of relatively heavy wire, the end portion of said arm being turned laterally and then parallel to its body portion to provide a branch beyond which the extremity of the wire is turned upwardly and over said branch to form a finger that is in spaced parallel relation to the branch, and a clip secured to said branch and consisting of a split cylindrical spring encircling the branch and confined between the same and said finger and arranged with the split side of said spring opposed to the finger, and a pair of jaws inserted within said spring and having their gripping edges extending through the split thereof, the jaws having finger pieces and the spring having slots through which said finger pieces are extended on opposite sides of the previously mentioned finger.

5. A device of the character set forth comprising a base, a heavy wire shaft rotatably supported thereby in a vertical position at substantially the transverse center of the base, the upper end of the shaft being extended laterally to provide a turning arm while its lower end is similarly extended to form a relatively short keeper that is in substantially parallel relation to the turning arm, means on the turning arm for attaching thereto a leaf.
to be turned, a latch on the base cooperating with the keeper to hold the shaft in a position with the turning arm overlying one end portion of the base, said latch consisting of a piece of wire whose body portion is contiguous to the base and substantially in alignment with the keeper, one end of the latch being secured to the base while its opposite end is turned outwardly and thence inwardly and rounded for engagement with the rounded side of the keeper, and means tending to rotate the shaft so as to swing the arm to a position adjacent the other end portion of the base upon release of the latch, the latch being releasable by reason of the nature of the engagement of the latch with the keeper by a force somewhat in excess of that exerted by the shaft rotating means.

6. A device of the character set forth comprising a relatively thin wooden base, a heavy wire shaft disposed vertically of the base at substantially the transverse center thereof, eyes wherein said shaft is journaled and which are provided with parts embedded within the base, the upper end of the shaft being extended laterally to provide a turning arm, means at the extremity of said arm for attaching the upper edge of a leaf to the arm, the lower end of the shaft being turned laterally to form a relatively short keeper that is in substantially parallel relation to the turning arm, a spring surrounding the lower end of the shaft and having one of its ends engaged with the base and its opposite end secured to the keeper, and a wire latch whose body portion is contiguous to the base and substantially in alignment with the keeper, said latch having one of its ends secured to the base and its opposite end portion turned outwardly and thence inwardly so that the end of said wire latch is disposed in holding relation to the keeper, and means on the base for confining the free end of said latch to a limited and given course of movement.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

HARMON O. ENSIGN.