

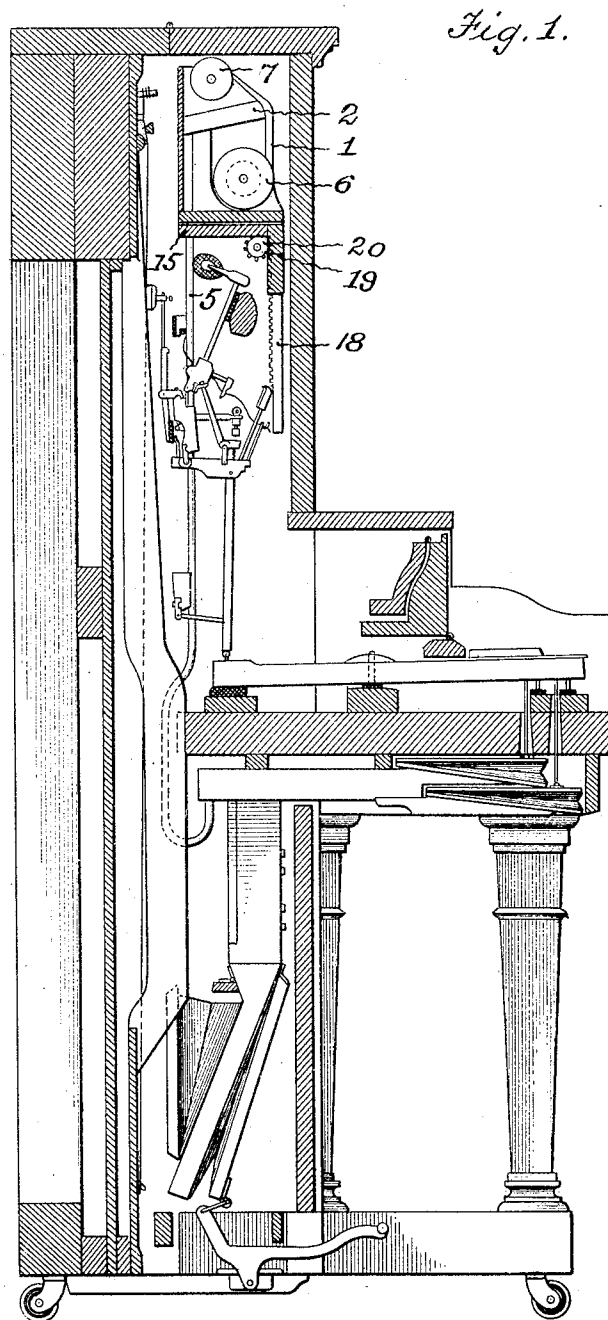
No. 855,672.

PATENTED JUNE 4, 1907.

R. A. RODESCH.
AUTOMATIC PIANO.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 30, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Attest:

Henry Moe
Chas. H. Bull.

Inventor:

Robert A. Rodesch
by *Robert Burns*
Attorney

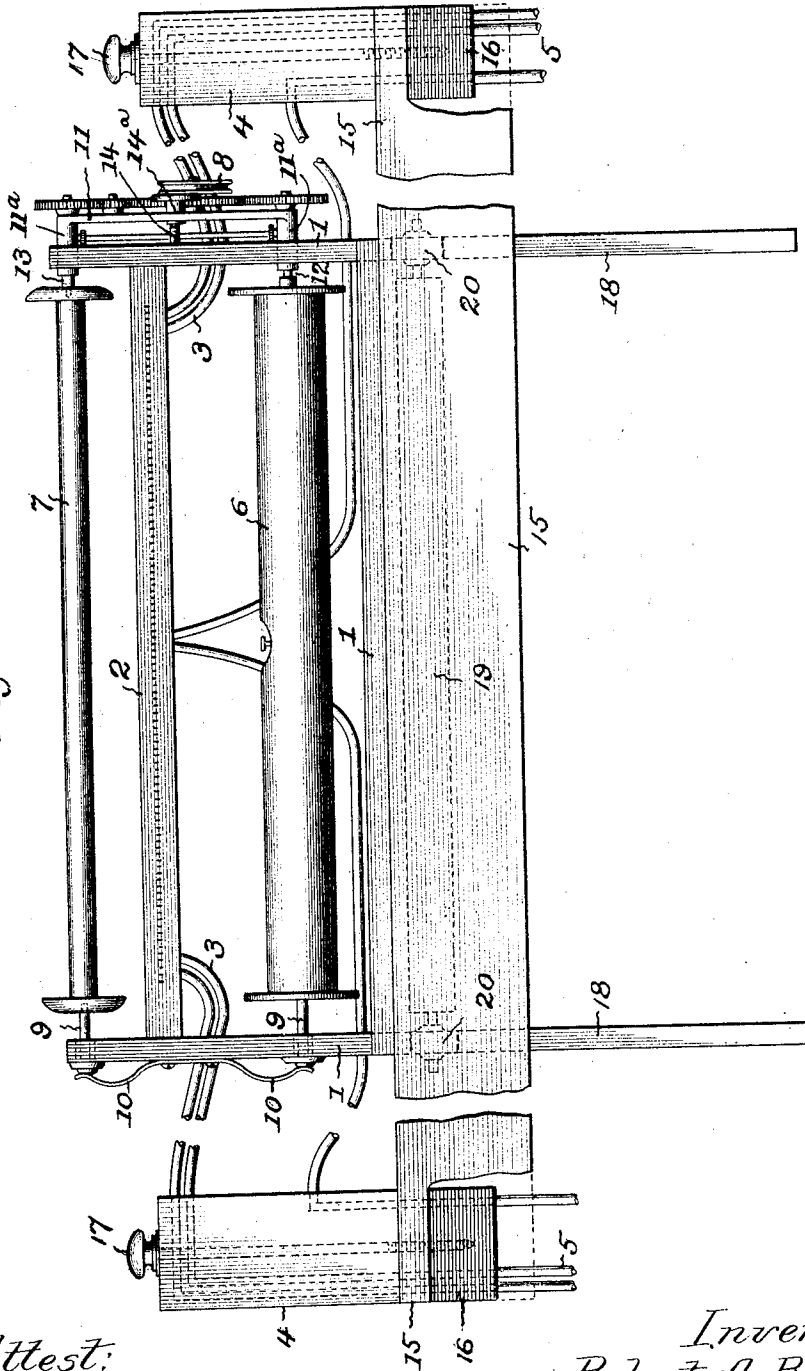
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.



Attest:

Henry Moe
Chas. H. Buell

Inventor:
Robert A. Rodesch.
by Robert Burns
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT A. RODESCH, OF DIXON, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO RODESCH
PIANO AND PLAYER CO., A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

AUTOMATIC PIANO.

No. 855,672.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 4, 1907.

Original application filed September 11, 1905, Serial No. 277,814. Divided and this application filed July 30, 1906. Serial
No. 328,402.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT A. RODESCH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Dixon, in the county of Lee and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Automatic Pianos, of which the following is a specification.

This is a divisional application of my application filed September 11, 1905, Serial Number 277,814.

This invention relates to that class of automatic piano players in which a pneumatically actuated playing mechanism is controlled by a traveling perforated music sheet or like controlling means; and the present improvement relates particularly to improved means for adjusting the rolls and music sheet with relation to the tracker board and has for its object to provide a simple and efficient structural formation and combination of parts whereby the take-up and rewind rolls with the music sheet are adjusted or transposed laterally with relation to the tracker board in an accurate and convenient manner, all as will hereinafter more fully appear.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a transverse sectional elevation of an upright piano, having the present improvement applied. Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary front elevation, illustrating the arrangement of the tracker board, music sheet carrying mechanism, etc.

Similar numerals of reference indicate like parts in both views.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents the carrying frame of the tracker board, take-up and rewind rolls and their usual accessories. In the construction shown, such frame is arranged in the upper portion of the piano-casing to the rear of the upper front board of such casing, and is made vertically adjustable so that when the hinged cover of the piano casing is thrown back, said carrying frame can be raised above the top of the piano into a convenient position to display to view the music or controlling sheet as it passes over the tracker board. The described arrangement and vertical adjustment of the said carrying frame is claimed in my companion application, of even date herewith Serial Number 328,401.

2 is the tracker board of any usual construction carried by the frame 1; such

tracker board will have the usual series of air inlet passages connected by a series of pipes or ducts 3, with a corresponding series of passages in the end trunks 4; the series of passages in said end trunks have connection in turn by a series of pipes or ducts 5, with the usual corresponding series of passages in the exhaust chest of the pneumatic playing mechanism which contains the primary pneumatics, as fully set forth in my aforesaid companion application, Serial Number 328,401.

6 is the take-up roll, and 7 the rewind roll, for the usual perforated music or controlling sheet. Such rolls are arranged at opposite sides of the tracker board and are adapted to move and guide the perforated music sheet over the openings or passages in said tracker board, as usual in the present type of self-playing pianos, and to this end a suitable spring or other equivalent motor, not shown, will be operatively connected to a pulley 8 carried by said frame 1, and having operative connection in turn with said rolls.

In the present improvement the holding centers 9 at the inner ends of the rolls 6 and 7, are journaled in and extend through an end of the frame 1 and are adapted to yield under the influence of a spring 10 secured to said end to permit of a limited longitudinal adjustment of said rolls in effecting an adjustment of the perforated music or controlling sheet with relation to the tracker board.

11 is a yoke member having an adjustment in the opposite ends of the frame 1 longitudinally with the rolls, and provided with journal sleeves 11^a adapted to afford bearings for the operating shafts 12 and 13 of said rolls; such yoke is adapted to have endwise bearing against the adjacent ends of the rolls so as to resist the end thrust of the same due to the spring 10 before described.

14 is an adjusting screw secured to the adjacent end of the frame and projecting through the yoke, and 14^a is a nut working upon the screw and bearing against the yoke member by which adjustment is imparted to the yoke member 11 longitudinally with the rolls.

15 is a board or rail carrying the end trunks 4, before described, and in turn attached to the side cheeks 16 secured in a permanent manner in the interior of the piano, as set forth in my aforesaid application, Serial Number 328,401.

17 are screws by which the rail and end trunks 4 are secured to the side cheeks 16, in a readily detachable manner.

18 are depending rack bars at the respective ends of the frame 1, moving in suitable guides in the board or rail 15 aforesaid, so as to be guided vertically.

19 is a spring roll journaled on the board or rail 15, and provided with pinions 20, engaging the aforesaid rack bars 18, the arrangement being such that the spring tension of the roll 19 will counterbalance the weight of the frame 1, and the parts mounted thereon, and so that said frame will remain at any vertical adjustment at which it may be placed by the operator.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

20 In an automatic piano, the combination of a carrying frame, a fixed tracker board se-

cured to the carrying frame, take up and re-wind rolls arranged in a longitudinally adjustable relation to the tracker board, holding and sliding centers for the rolls mounted 25 in one end of the carrying frame, a spring secured to the said end and pressing against the holding centers so as to move said rolls in one direction, a slidable yoke member for the rolls having journaled sleeves whereby 30 it is mounted in the other end of the carrying frame, a screw secured to the carrying frame and extending through the yoke member and a nut adjustable upon the screw and bearing against the yoke member for moving said 35 rolls in an opposite direction.

Signed at Chicago, Illinois, this 27th day of July 1906.

ROBERT-A. RODESCH.

Witnesses:

ROBERT BURNS,
HENRY MOE.