Aug. 6, 1929. C. P. CORWIN 1,723,767

TAILPIECE MOUNTING FOR SELF PLAYING VIOLINS

Original Filed March 16, 1927

Fig. 1.

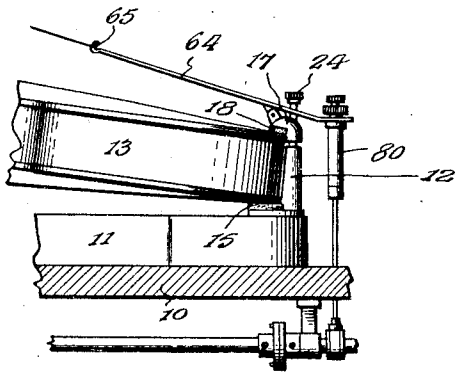


Fig. 2.

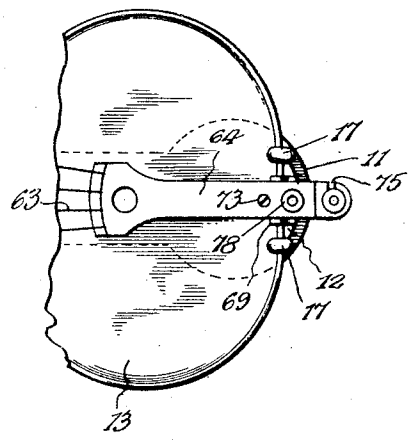


Fig. 3.

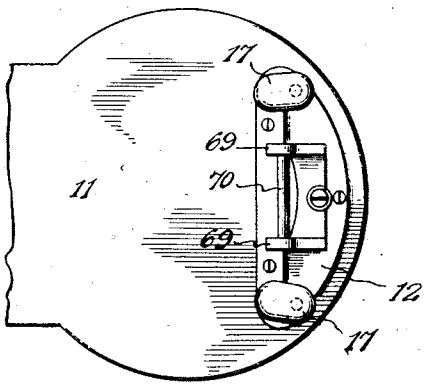
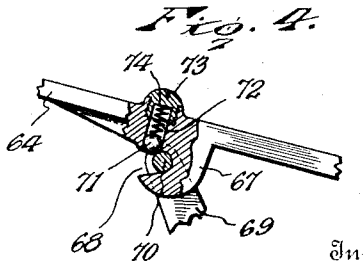


Fig. 4.



Inventor

C. P. Corwin.

By Lacey & Lacey, Attorneys

Patented Aug. 6, 1929. 1,723,767

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES P. CORWIN, OF BROWNWOOD, TEXAS.

TAILPIECE MOUNTING FOR SELF-PLAYING VIOLINS.

Original application filed March 16, 1927, Serial No. 175,782. Divided and this application filed February 28, 1928. Serial No. 257,660.

This application is a division of an application, Serial No. 175,782, filed by me March 16, 1927, the present invention relating to the mounting for the tailpiece of a self-playing violin whereby the tailpiece may be easily attached or detached when necessary, will be firmly held in place when attached, and will be permitted to vibrate to attain desired tremolo effects. The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing and will be hereinafter fully set forth and defined.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of so much of a violin and its support as is necessary to an understanding of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same;

Fig. 3 is a view of the support with the violin removed, and

Fig. 4 is a detail section through the tailpiece mounting.

In the drawing, the numeral 10 denotes a shelf which is secured rigidly within a suitable casing and upon which a bed plate 11 is fixed, the tail end of the violin body 13 resting on a pad 15 of felt or similar material at the foot of a standard or bracket 12 which rises from the bed plate. Within the standard 12 are clamping rods provided at their upper ends with heads 17 projecting over the top of the violin body and provided on their under faces with pads 18 so that contact of metal with the violin body is avoided. The strings 63 are attached to the tailpiece 64, as indicated at 65, in the usual or any convenient manner.

The tailpiece 64 is disposed over the central longitudinal line of the violin body and on its underside is provided with a pendent hook or lug 67 having a notch 68 in its front side, the said hook or lug being adapted to enter between lugs or ears 69 on the upper side of the post 12 and engage with a pivot pin 70 mounted transversely between the said lugs 69 and supported thereby. The tailpiece will thus be pivotally or rockingly mounted upon the post and, in order to prevent accidental detachment of the tailpiece, a ball 71 is mounted in a socket 72 formed in the tailpiece, the upper end of the socket being closed by a plug 73 and a spring 74 being disposed within the socket between the plug and the ball so as to press the ball to the lower end of the socket. It will be understood that the lower end of the socket is contracted slightly so that, while the ball may project through the same, it cannot escape therefrom. When the tailpiece is moved forwardly so that the notch 68 will ride into engagement with the pivot pin 70, the ball will be pressed upwardly but as soon as the notch clears the center of the pin 70 the ball will spring outwardly so as to engage the pin and thereby retain the tailpiece thereon.

The outer end of the tailpiece is extended beyond the tail end of the violin body and is formed with a laterally extending notch 75 whereby it may be engaged with a tremolo mechanism, indicated at 80. The tailpiece is also provided with an opening 78 therethrough to permit the insertion of the adjusting pin 24, which controls the clamping heads 17, when necessary. It will thus be seen that the tailpiece not only serves as a support for the outer or rear ends of the violin strings but is also rockingly mounted and will be constantly oscillated through a small arc as the machine operates, thereby obtaining a tremolo action. This tremolo action is very desirable in violin playing and by providing the tremolo mechanism I am enabled to obtain the same effect when a long note is played as when a violin is played by hand. On short notes, the tremolo effect is not noticeable.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. In a self-playing violin, the combination of a post, a violin having one end supported by said post, a pin carried by the upper end of the post, a tailpiece provided on its upper side with a depending hook to engage said pin, and a spring-pressed detent mounted in the tailpiece to engage said pin and retain the tailpiece in engagement therewith.

2. The combination of a support for a violin body, a transverse pin carried by the upper end of the support above the violin body, and a tailpiece detachably pivoted on said pin and extending longitudinally over the violin body.

3. The combination of a support for a violin body, a transverse pin carried by the upper end of the support above the violin body, a tailpiece engaged with said pin to rock thereon, and yieldable means for retaining the tailpiece in engagement with the pin.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES P. CORWIN. [L. S.]