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Fig. 5. 65



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MECHANICAL SPECIALTY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF ALDERSON, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

MUSIC-HOLDER.

981,026.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDGAR S. STEM and THOMAS S. BOYD, citizens of the United States, residing at Alderson, county of Luzerne, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Music-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to collapsible and portable devices for holding books or sheets of music, of the type shown in U. S. Patents 823707 and 823708 granted June 19, 1906.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide an improved holder for the backs of the leaves of sheet music, which holder serves as a standard or upright from the base.

Another object of the invention is to provide improved means on the base for holding a book of music open.

Another object of the invention is to provide an adjustable base plate which may be made to fit the music support or shelf of any piano.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in certain constructions and in certain parts, improvements, and combinations, which will be hereinafter described and then specifically pointed out in the claims hereunto appended.

Of the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a front elevation illustrating the novel music holder and turner as in operative position on a music rack or holder, the position of an open book or sheet of music being indicated by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 represents a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail front elevation of a portion of the base. Fig. 5 is an under plan view of the parts shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a view looking from the right of Fig. 4.

Similar reference characters indicate the same or similar parts in all of the figures.

The base 15 which may consist of a strip of wood, has an angle plate secured to its top, the upright portion of said angle plate being indicated at 16, the same forming a vertical strip against which the lower portion of the back of a music book or set of

leaves may rest. Mounted in suitable bearings on the base is a rock shaft 17 having a handle 18 and having arms 19 secured to it, a suitable spring 20 being employed to actuate the rock shaft so that the arms 19 will bear against the lower faces of the music and hold the leaves open. It is to be understood however that the arms 19 will be arranged to press against and hold open either the backs of the books or the covers of the sheet music, or all leaves excepting those which are to be turned by the arms and fingers hereinafter described.

When flexibly connected leaves of music are used in the form which is commonly known as sheet music, having no stiff binding, it is essential that some means shall be provided for grasping the back edges of the sheet music. The present construction in this respect comprises a standard consisting of a strip of sheet metal 21 of sufficient thickness, said strip having a tongue 22 at its lower end which tongue is slipped through a slot in the top plate of the base as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. The sides of the strip 21 slip between lugs 23 which are struck up from the material of the upright strip 16. This structure enables the standard or strip 21, and its leaf clamping members presently described, to be separated from or connected to the base members by a sliding movement. No screws or other fastening means are necessary, the lips or lugs 23 grasping the edges of the strip 21 with sufficient firmness so that, in connection with the tongue 22 entering the base, they will hold the standard firmly in upright position.

The standard carries vertical clamping rods one of which, 24, is fixed as by being soldered to the ends of lips 25 struck up from the material of the strip 21. Other portions of the strip 21 are struck up to form bearings for a rock shaft 26 having arms 27 to which a rod 28 is soldered. The upper end of said rod 28 is bent to form a handle or finger piece, and suitable springs 30 are employed to rock the shaft 26 in a direction to cause its arms to carry the rod

28 toward the rod 24. By operating the handle or finger piece 29, the rod 28 may be opened away from the fixed rod 24 to permit the introduction or removal of the rear edges of flexibly connected sheet music.

In the drawing I have illustrated a form of leaf turning mechanism which, however, being an independent invention, is not herein claimed. The leaf turning mechanism is contained within a casing 21 and may be operated either by the lever 59 or stirrup 62, as desired.

As best shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6, the base 15 may be provided with pads or feet 63 of suitable soft material to avoid marring the woodwork of the music rack 64 of the piano. To firmly hold the entire device in place on said music rack, the base is provided with an adjustable strip 65 having an upturned ear 66 at each end to receive a screw 67, said screw passing through a slot 68 in a lug 69 fixed to the end of the base 15. By means of this slot and screw connection, the strip 65 can be adjusted according to the width of the recessed portion or trough of the music rest of the piano or other musical instrument.

To hold the arms 19 away from the back strip 16 while a book or loose sheets are being put in place, a suitable catch is provided for the handle 18, said catch comprising a plunger 72 (see Figs. 1 and 2) which is mounted in the base 15 and normally projected by a spring 73 in a recess in the base behind the plunger. Said plunger is at such distance from the axis of the rock shaft 17 that the handle 18 will snap under it when turned to its limit outward and downward, but so that an inward pressure of the finger on said plunger will release the handle.

We do not limit ourselves to the precise details of construction illustrated and described, as the same may be variously modified within the limits of mechanical skill.

Having now described our invention, what we claim is:—

1. A music holder of the character described comprising a base having a slot in its top, an upright plate extending from said base and provided with spaced apart lugs in line with said slot, a standard slidably engaging said slot and lugs, and gripping means carried by said standard.

2. A music holder of the character described comprising a base provided with a standard, and a clamp carried by said standard comprising a stationary clamping member, a rock shaft provided with a second clamping member, a spring engaging said rock shaft to hold said clamping members normally in engagement, and means for moving said rock shaft in opposition to the tension of said spring.

3. A music holder of the character de-

scribed comprising a base provided with a standard, and a clamp carried by said standard comprising a stationary clamping member, a rock shaft provided with a second clamping member, a spring engaging said rock shaft to hold said clamping members normally in engagement, and an arm secured to said movable clamping member for moving said rock shaft in opposition to the tension of said spring.

4. A music holder of the character described comprising a base provided with a standard, a clamping rod rigidly secured to said standard, a spring-pressed rock shaft mounted in said standard, arms carried by said rock shaft, a second clamping rod secured to said arms, and means for actuating said rock shaft in opposition to its spring.

5. A music holder of the character described comprising a base provided with a standard, a clamping rod rigidly secured to said standard, a spring-pressed rock shaft mounted in said standard, arms carried by said rock shaft, and a second clamping rod secured to said arms and provided with a bent arm or extension forming an operating handle.

6. A music holder of the character described comprising a base provided with a standard having lugs struck up therefrom, a clamping rod rigidly secured to said lugs, a spring-pressed rock shaft mounted in said standard, arms carried by said rock shaft, a second clamping rod secured to said arms, and means for actuating said rock shaft in opposition to its spring.

7. A music holder of the character described comprising a base provided with a standard having lugs struck up therefrom, a clamping rod rigidly secured to said lugs, a spring pressed rock shaft mounted in said standard, arms carried by said rock shaft, and a second clamping rod secured to said arms, and provided with a bent arm or extension forming an operating handle.

8. The combination with a base provided with an upright extension therefrom, and a back holding clamp carried by said base, of a spring pressed rock shaft mounted in said upright and provided with leaf engaging arms, and means for locking said rock shaft with said arms away from said upright.

9. The combination with a base provided with an upright extending therefrom, and a back holding clamp carried by said base, of a spring pressed rock shaft mounted in said upright and provided with leaf engaging arms, and a spring pressed locking plunger for locking said rock shaft with said arms away from said upright.

10. The combination with a base provided with an upright extending therefrom, and

5 a back holding clamp carried by said base, of a spring pressed rock shaft mounted in said upright and provided with leaf engaging arms, one end of said rock shaft being bent to form an operating handle, and locking means arranged to engage said handle to hold said arms away from said upright.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

EDGAR S. STEM.
THOMAS S. BOYD.

Witnesses:

G. B. KLEEMAN,
H. H. DAVENPORT.