J. ALBERT.

TUNING PEG FOR VIOLINS, &c.

No. 31,288. Patented Feb. 5, 1861.

FIG. 1.

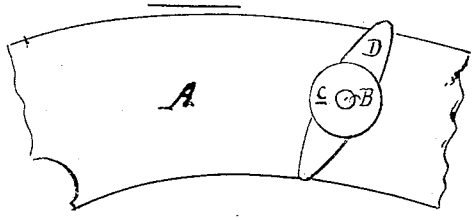


FIG. 2.

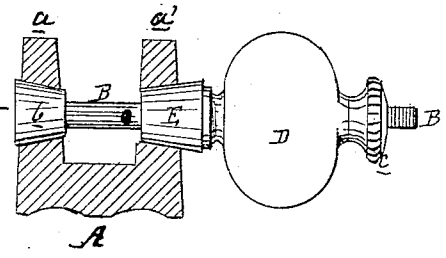
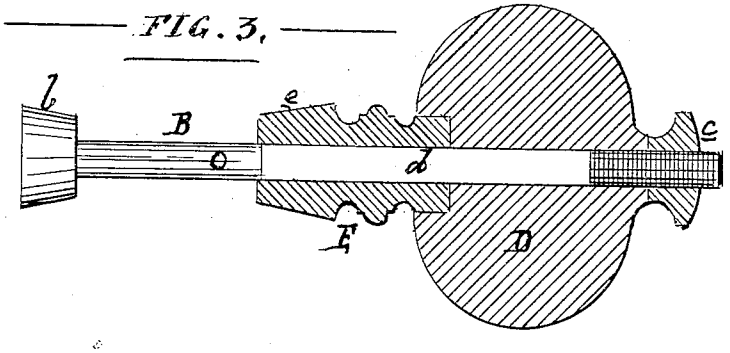


FIG. 3.



Witnesses { Chas. Howson
Saml. Harwood

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Atty for J. Albert

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN ALBERT, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

TUNING-PEG FOR VIOLINS, &c.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 31,288, dated February 5, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ALBERT, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tuning-Pegs for Violins, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My improved tuning peg consists of a pin or bolt having a tapering head at one end and a nut at the opposite end in combination with a handle having a tapering projection the whole being constructed and applied to a violin or other stringed instrument substantially as described hereafter for the purpose of preventing any slipping of the strings and of adjusting the same with nicety and rapidity.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation.

On reference to the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side view of part of the handle of an ordinary violin with my improved tuning peg, Fig. 2 a transverse section of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 a sectional view of my improved tuning peg of a proper size for application to violoncello.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents a portion of the neck or handle of a violin through the two ribs *a* and *a'* of which pass my improved pegs the peculiar construction of which will be best observed on reference to Figs. 2 and 3.

B is a metal pin or bolt having a tapering head *b* at one end, the opposite end being screwed for the reception of a nut *c* which is of such a form and is so serrated or milled as to be readily turned by the finger and thumb.

D is the handle of my improved peg having a projection E the end *e* of which is made tapering to correspond with the tapering head *b* of the pin B. A portion of this pin is round as shown in Fig. 3 and the portion *d* is square, this square portion passing freely through the handle D and its stem E, the nut *c* on the screwed end of the pin bearing against a projection on the said handle. By turning this nut *c* in one direction the handle with its tapering projection E may be moved toward the tapering head *b*, and after turning the nut in a contrary direction the handle with its tapering projection may be moved away from the tapering head of the pin.

In applying my improved tuning peg to a violin or violoncello, tapering recesses are formed in the ribs *a* and *a'*, of the neck or handle of the instrument, the tapering recess in the rib *a* being adapted to receive the tapering head *b* of the pin B and the tapering recess in the rib *a'* to receive the tapering projection E of the handle D.

The string of the instrument is passed through a hole in the round portion of the pin B after which the handle D is turned and with it the pin so that the string may be coiled around the latter until it has been stretched to the proper tightness when the nut *c* is turned so as to force the tapering end of the projection E of the handle and the tapering head *b* of the pin into their respective tapering openings in the handle A, thereby so thoroughly securing the pin that it cannot turn and allow the string to become slack.

When the string has to be loosened the nut is unscrewed to a limited extent when the tapering head *b* and tapering projection E may be readily turned in their respective openings on turning the handle D.

It is well known that considerable difficulty and delay are experienced in adjusting the ordinary pegs of violins to that nicety which a correct tuning of the instrument demands and that the pegs are apt to slip thereby causing much annoyance to the performer on the instrument. Attempts have been made to remedy these evils by the application of the well known worm and worm wheel arrangement which is sometimes applied to harps. Although this arrangement prevents the slipping of the pegs it involves the necessity of much delay in winding up the strings in the first instance.

It will be readily seen without further description that by means of my improved pegs the strings can be tightened and slackened more readily and the proper tuning

effected to a greater nicety than by the ordinary pegs, and that the strings may be effectually secured against slipping.

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

The pin B its tapering head *b* and nut *c* in combination with the handle D and tapering projection E the whole being constructed and applied to a violin or other stringed instrument substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN ALBERT.

Witnesses:

HENRY HOWSON,

JOHN WHITE.