

E. P. STEWART.
Music Notation.

No. 138,104.

Patented April 22, 1873.

1 = ♩ 2 = ♪

16 = ○

16 = —

Fig. 1.

med
blue
red

A B C

Fig. 2.

blue
red
blue

Sol La Si Do Re Mi Fa Sol

Fig. 3.

med
blue
red

Sol La Si Do Si La Sol Fa Mi Re Do

Fig. 4.

blue
red
blue

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EBENEZER P. STEWART, OF COTTON PLANT, MISSISSIPPI.

IMPROVEMENT IN MUSIC-NOTATIONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **138,104**, dated April 22, 1873; application filed December 31, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EBENEZER P. STEWART, of Cotton Plant, in the county of Tippah and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and Improved System of Musical Notation; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 indicate diagrams illustrating my new system.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to simplify the method of writing and to facilitate the reading of music.

The invention consists in writing music in figures which indicate the length of tone, and in writing canceled notes or figures for pauses, or, rather, rests, so that each canceled note will indicate the position and length of rest to be produced. Thus, in Fig. 1, the two red lines of the staff occupy a position of the note C, according to the letters written in the same figure. The notes on this staff may be written either by letters or by ordinary notes, but I prefer to write them, as in Fig. 2, with figures 4, 8, 12, &c., so that each figure will also represent the value of the note and its position. By canceling the notes where rests are to be produced or observed, as also indicated

in the several figures, the length of pause will be fully shown. The duration of notes, as represented by figures, may either be as indicated above, Fig. 1 in the drawing—that is to say, by writing 16 for a whole note, 8 for a half, 4 for a quarter, and 1 for one-sixteenth, &c.—or any other mode of representing the value by figures may be adopted. The position of the notes between the lines of the staff will be sufficiently distinct to indicate the pitch of the notes of the scale. Thus, when the key-line is in position of the note C, the note directly above such line will be D, the note equidistant between the key-line and the blue line of the staff will be E, that directly under the blue line F, and the blue line itself G, while the note directly above the blue line will be A, that directly below the key-line of the staff B, and the key-line C, all as described in Fig. 1.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In a system of music-notation, the method herein described of indicating rests by canceled notes or figures, substantially as shown and described.

EBENEZER P. STEWART.

Witnesses:

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