

P. J. MEAHL.
ADJUSTABLE TRACKER.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 17, 1910.

1,013,301.

Patented Jan. 2, 1912.

Fig. 1.

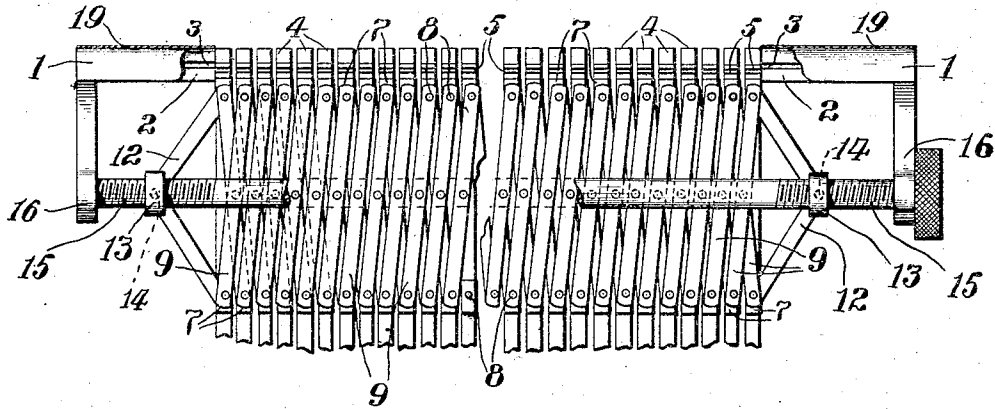


Fig. 2.

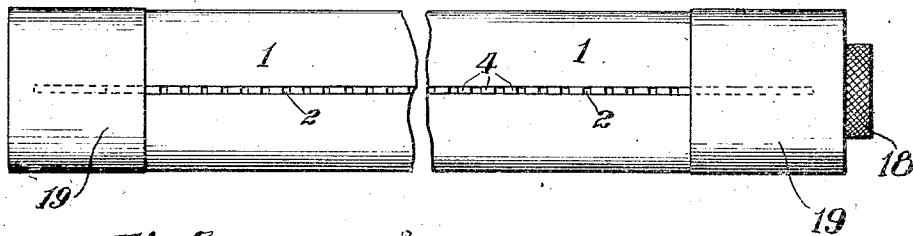


Fig. 3.

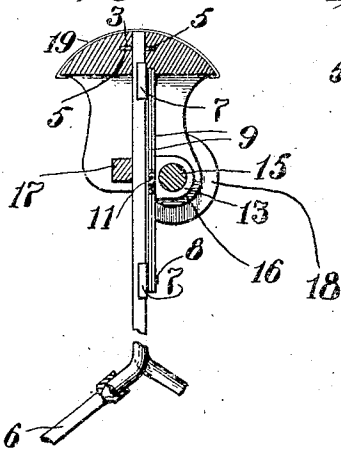


Fig. 6.

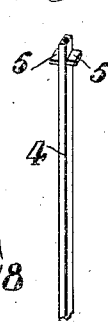
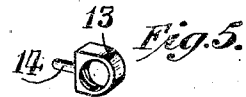


Fig. 4.



Attest:
Raymond Richardson
Raymond Richardson

P. J. Meahl Inventor:
by *Osbert Tunny* his Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP JACOB MEAHL, OF BAYONNE, NEW JERSEY.

ADJUSTABLE TRACKER.

1,013,301.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 2, 1912.

Application filed December 17, 1910. Serial No. 597,941.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP JACOB MEAHL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Bayonne, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Trackers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a new and improved adjustable tracker for music playing instruments of the class which make use of a perforated music sheet, which is drawn over the tracker.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved tracker, which is simple in construction, has a single row of tracker ducts in alinement, which tracker ducts can readily be adjusted so as to adapt them for music sheets having a varying number of longitudinal rows of slots of different sizes in the several sheets and of different spacing and arrangements and which tracker also permits of readily adjusting the ducts to compensate for shrinkage and expansion in the transverse direction of the perforated music sheet by simple and easily manipulated means.

In the accompanying drawings in which like letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures: Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved adjustable tracker, parts being broken away and others shown in section. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, parts being broken away. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the sliding hinge pin pieces for the lazy tongs. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the nut. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the duct tubes. The tracker 1 is provided in its top with a longitudinal slot 2, in the vertical walls of which two opposite horizontal and longitudinal guide grooves 3 are cut. A number of duct tubes 4, say eighty-eight, preferably flattened, having their upper ends curved in conformity with the transverse curvature of the top of the tracker, are loosely placed vertically into the slot 2, side by side, so that their upper curved ends are substantially flush with the curved top of the tracker and each duct tube 4 is provided near its top with opposite side lugs 5, which rest loosely in the guide grooves 3 and prevent vertical movements of the duct tubes, but permit moving them toward and from each other. Each duct tube 4 is connected at its lower

end by a flexible tube 6 with the well known valve mechanism of a striker pneumatic.

A U-shaped slide 7 is mounted on the upper and lower end part of each duct tube 4, below the tracker, and each has a pivot pin 8, which form pivots for the ends of two members 9 of a lazy tongs, and the members 9 are crossed and pivoted to each other at the intersections by pivot pins 11. The end members of the lazy tongs are each pivotally connected, at the upper and lower ends, by pivoted links 12 with a nut 13 having a side pivot 14 for the inner ends of said links. These nuts are mounted on the oppositely threaded end parts of a screw 15 in the end standards 16 of the tracker, which standards are united by a bar 17. A milled disk or button 18 or analogous device is fixed on one end of the screw 15 for turning it in one direction or the other. The tracker bar is provided with a fixed cover 19 made of cloth, leather, rubber or like flexible material at each end.

As is well known, the slots in 88 note commercial perforated music sheets are spaced much closer transversely than those for 65 note music, so that the row of ducts in the tracker is longer for the 65 note music than the row of ducts for the 88 note music. When the 88 note perforated music sheet is to be used the button 18 is turned to bring the upper ends of the duct tubes together so that the combined length of their upper ends corresponds to the width of an 88 note sheet and by turning the screw 15 one way or the other the duct tubes are adjusted to register precisely with the longitudinal rows of slots in the music sheet. If this sheet has shrunk or expanded transversely under climatic, atmospheric or thermometric influences, corresponding adjustment of the duct tubes can also be made. If 65 note music is to be used the screw 15 is turned to move the duct tubes from each other until their upper ends register with the spacing of 65 note music, the end ducts not required for 65 note music passing under the covers 19 which close their upper ends.

The duct tubes 4 may be made of metal, hard rubber, celluloid or other composition.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A tracker, for musical instrument playing attachments, having a longitudinal slot

in its top, duct tubes mounted loosely in said slot, and movable in alinement, toward and from each other, and means for so moving them, substantially as set forth.

5 2. A tracker, for musical instrument playing attachments, having a longitudinal slot in its top, duct tubes mounted loosely in said slot, and movable in alinement, toward and from each other, and means for so moving
10 them simultaneously, substantially as set forth.

3. A tracker, for musical instrument playing attachments, having a longitudinal slot in its top, duct tubes loosely mounted in said
15 slot, with their upper ends substantially flush with the top of the tracker, and movable, in alinement, toward and from each other, and means for so moving them, substantially as set forth.

20 4. The combination with a tracker for a playing attachment for musical instruments, having a longitudinal slot in its top, of a series of duct tubes movable, in alinement, toward and from each other in said
25 slot, means for so moving them and covers at the end parts of the top of the tracker, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination with a tracker for a playing attachment for musical instruments, of a series of duct tubes movable in alinement toward and from each other, and a lazy tongs device for moving them, substantially as set forth.

35 6. The combination with a tracker for a playing attachment for musical instruments, of a series of duct tubes movable in alinement toward and from each other, and a lazy tongs device for so moving them, the members of the lazy tongs having movable
40 pivoted connections with the tubes at the ends of each tube, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination with a tracker for a playing attachment for musical instruments, having a longitudinal slot in its top,

of a series of duct tubes movable in alinement, toward and from each other in said slot, and a lazy tongs device for moving them, and a right and left screw for operating the lazy tongs device, substantially as set forth.

8. The combination with a tracker, having a longitudinal slot in its top and longitudinal guide slots in the walls of the slot, of duct tubes mounted loosely in the slot and having projections entering said grooves and means for moving the duct tubes toward and from each other, substantially as set forth.

9. The combination with a tracker having a longitudinal slot in its top, of duct tubes mounted movably toward and from each other in said slot, guides for guiding the tubes in the slot and preventing vertical movement of the tubes and means for moving the tubes toward and from each other, substantially as set forth.

10. The combination with a tracker having a longitudinal slot in its top, of duct tubes movable toward and from each other in said slot, of lazy tongs connected with the tubes, end standards for the tracker and a screw for operating the lazy tongs mounted in said standards, substantially as set forth.

11. The combination with a tracker for playing attachments for musical instruments, of a series of duct tubes movable in alinement toward and from each other and a fixed cover of yielding material under which the end groups of duct tubes may pass, substantially as set forth.

Signed at New York city, in the county of New York, and State of New York, this 16th day of December, A. D. 1910.

PHILIP JACOB MEAHL.

Witnesses:

M. E. McNinch,
R. G. Breen.