

(No Model.)

F. G. SMITH.

PIANO.

No. 385,380.

Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

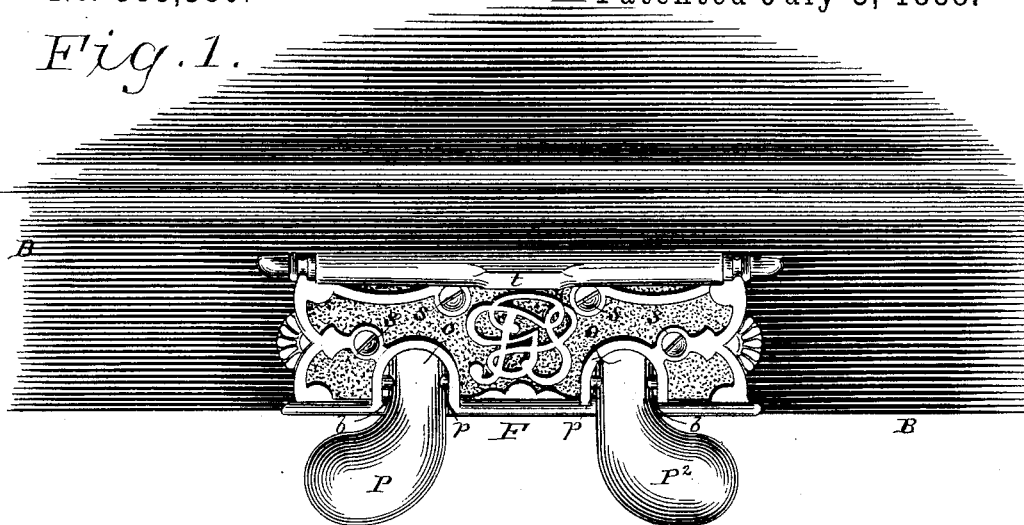


Fig. 2.

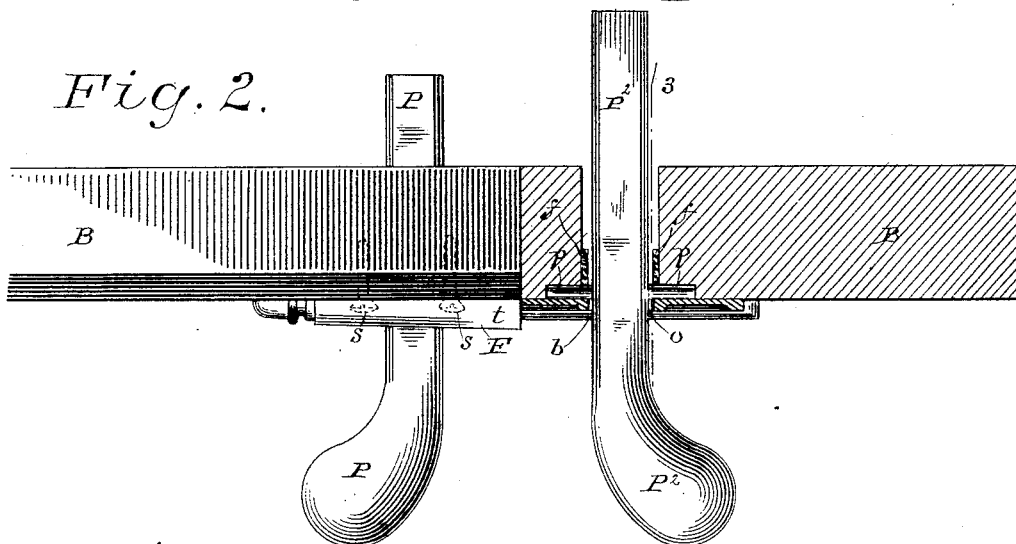


Fig. 3.

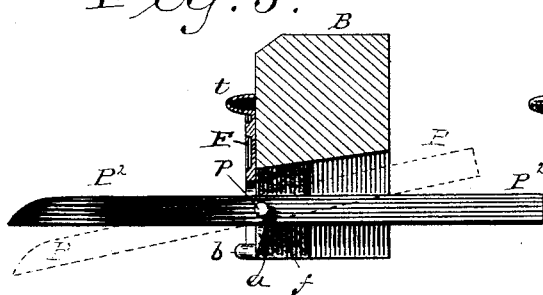
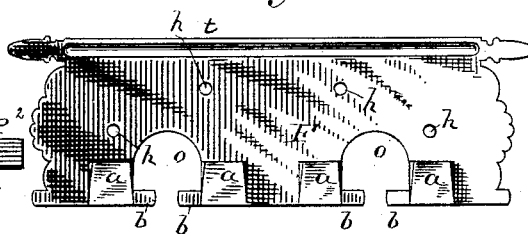


Fig. 4.



Witnesses,

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SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,380, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed November 25, 1887. Serial No. 256,147. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREEBORN G. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the State of New York, and having my principal place of business at No. 95 Fifth avenue, in the city of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Grand, Square, and Upright Pianos, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to what are known as the "pedal attachments" of pianos.

It consists in a novel front plate having each or all of several peculiar features of construction, in combination with the ordinary bottom frame or lyre, and with pedals which may be of a very simple style or of any preferred shape.

The objects of the invention are, first, to form in an inexpensive way unyielding supports beneath the pins which pivot the pedals, and, secondly, by the same means, in part, to prevent the entrance of mice beneath the pedals of upright pianos, and thus to prevent the destruction of the cloth and felt by these pests without additional attachments.

A sheet of drawings accompanies this specification as part thereof. Figure 1 of these drawings is a perspective front view of a mid-length lower portion of the front of an upright piano provided with my pedal attachment. Fig. 2 represents a plan view of the pedals and front plate, showing the latter and the front rail of the bottom frame, to which it is attached, half in section in the plane of the pivots. Fig. 3 represents a vertical transverse section on the line 3 3, Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a back view of the front plate detached.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

In providing an upright piano with my pedal attachment, the front rail, B, of the common bottom frame is recessed at its lower edge and in front, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and the pedals P P² are furnished with ordinary transverse pivot-pins, *p*, to form horizontal pivots, simply located farther front than is customary. Otherwise the pedals may be of the simple style shown or of any preferred shape. Fitted to the said recesses of the front

rail and to the shanks of the pedals, with their said pivot-pins *p*, is a front plate, F, preferably metallic and of ornamental design, which is provided on its back with projecting abutments *a*, Figs. 3 and 4, which form unyielding supports beneath the respective ends of each pivot-pin, the plate being tightly attached to the rail B by screws *s*, Figs. 1 and 2, accommodated by suitably-distributed holes *h*, Fig. 4, in the plate. The wood at the back of the pivots *p* and the customary felt cushions, *f*, Figs. 2 and 3, at the sides of the pedal-shanks, prevent vibration in the pedals. Said abutments are located at the sides of openings *o* in the front plate, F, which openings may be small, because of the location thus of the pivotal centers of movement at the very face of the front rail, B, while the entrance of mice beneath the pedals by way of the recesses in the bottom of said front rail is effectively prevented by bottom guards, *b*, forming parts of said front plate. The openings between these guards (seen in Fig. 4) need only be wide enough to admit the pedal-shanks edgewise.

The front plate, F, in addition to its functions above stated, forms a guard for the front of the piano, preventing its defacement by the shoes of players. To increase its efficiency for this purpose, the plate is constructed with the projecting top guard, *t*, which operates as a stop to keep the toes of the players' shoes from slipping upward off the plate.

I am aware that the pedals and pedal-openings of cabinet-organs have been provided with vermin-guards. These I do not claim.

Having thus described my said improvement in grand, square, and upright pianos, I claim as my invention and desire to patent under this specification—

1. In combination with the bottom frame and pedals of a piano, said pedals having horizontal pivots, a front plate attached to the face of said frame and having on its back abutments, upon the shoulders of which said pivots are supported, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. In combination with the bottom frame and pedals of a piano, the front rail of said

bottom frame having recesses in its lower
edge to accommodate the shanks of said ped-
als, and the latter having horizontal pivots
at the face of said rail, a front plate at-
5 tached to said face of the front rail and hav-
ing openings which coincide with said recesses,
and bottom guards integral with the body of

the plate to partly close said openings beneath
the pedals, substantially as hereinbefore set
forth.

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Witnesses:

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