

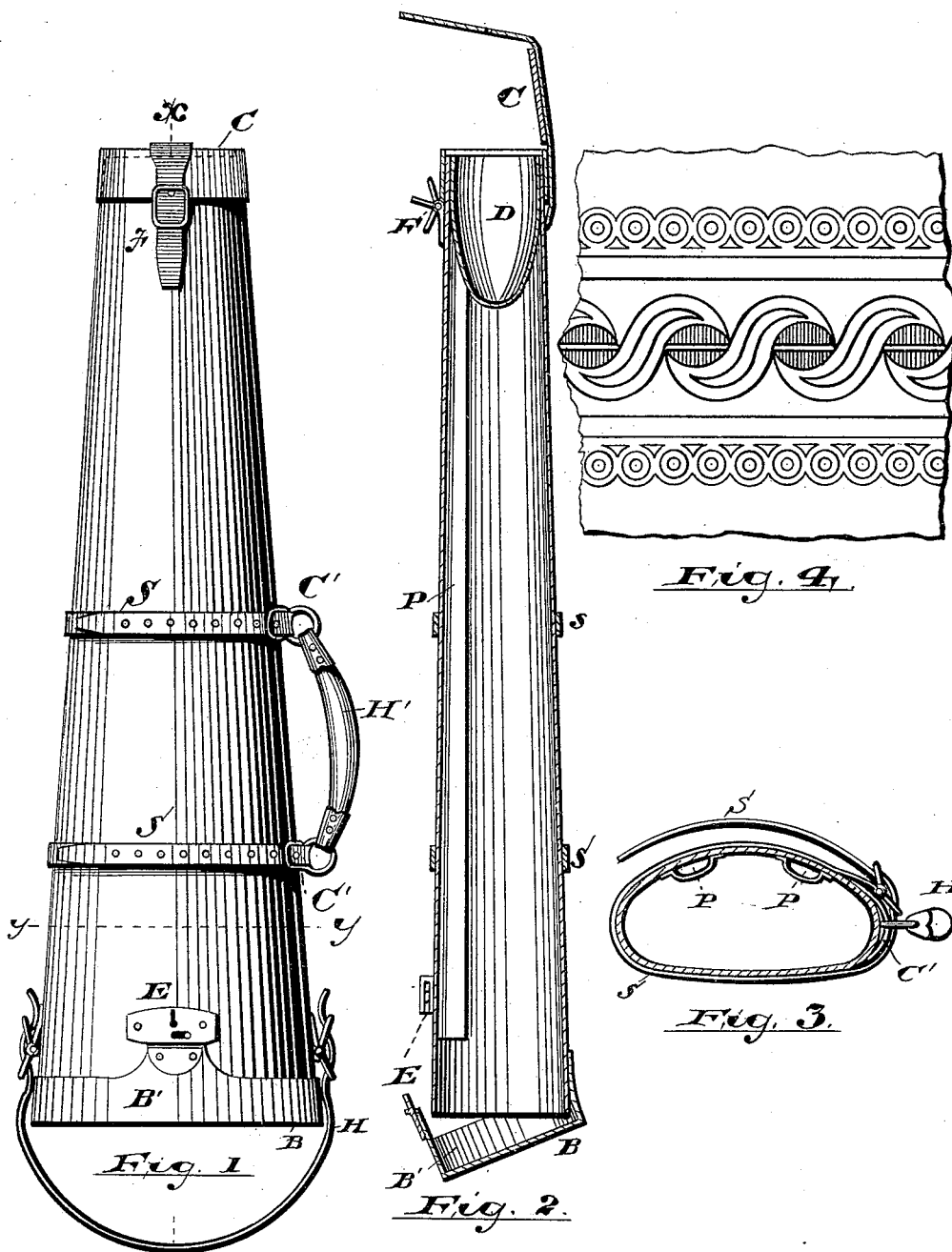
(No Model.)

A. T. VAN WINKLE.

VIOLIN CASE.

No. 386,442.

Patented July 17, 1888.



WITNESSES:

INVENTOR:-

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ASA T. VAN WINKLE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO JOHN MAULBETSCH AND GEORGE D. WHITTEMORE, BOTH OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

## VIOLIN-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 386,442, dated July 17, 1888.

Application filed April 14, 1887. Serial No. 234,853. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ASA T. VAN WINKLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Violin-Cases; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to facilitate the insertion and removal of the instrument from the case, to provide convenient receptacles for the bow and strings, resin, &c., required by the musician, and to provide a case which shall be thoroughly water-proof, light, and in every way convenient for handling and transportation.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a plan view of a violin or violacase embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through line *x*. Fig. 3 is a transverse section through line *Y* of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a plan illustrating an ornamentation.

Violin-cases as heretofore used are objectionable in many particulars. For example, in most cases of a uniform taper the lids extend the whole length of the case and have to be taken upon the knee and the lid opened to get access to the instrument or the interior compartments containing the bows, resin, strings, &c., which is very inconvenient. In other cases not of a uniform taper the supplemental compartments for resin, &c., are formed at the side and are necessarily shallow and inadequate to meet the requirements, owing to the lack of space, without encroaching upon the interior space provided for the instrument. In other cases no pockets are provided for the bows, &c. My object has been to overcome all these objections.

In carrying out my invention I construct a case, A, entirely of leather, in order to secure lightness and render the same impervious to water and free from the liabilities to swell and

shrink, crack or split, or become damaged in handling by transportation.

The shape of the case is in some respects similar to those heretofore in use. It differs, however, in that both ends are made flat, so as to facilitate its standing on end when not in use, thereby requiring the least space, and at the same time making access to the several compartments very convenient without taking the case upon the lap or laying it down lengthwise, as it is adapted to stand upon either end, as will be manifest upon reference to the drawings. The case is also of a uniform taper from end to end. It is also provided with lids B and C to open and close at both ends, and at the smaller end is arranged a pocket or receptacle, D, for resin, strings, and other articles which may be needed by the performer. The lids are provided with convenient fastening devices E and F, which in the present case are a strap and buckle at the smaller end and a lock-catch at the other, the catch working automatically. The lid B, which covers the top or larger end of the case, is provided with a flange, *b'*, which encircles and covers the top end, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. The case is also provided with a strap-handle, H, at the top, adapted to be attached or removed at pleasure, so that if desired the instrument may be carried thereby endwise. It is also provided with a handle, H', at the side, and also with straps S, which encircle the case, and are held in place—both straps and handle—by suitable loops, C', arranged at such points as may be desired or is convenient. The object of said straps is to provide means for carrying shawls or any other articles, which may be conveniently fastened to said case by said straps, which are provided with buckles and perforations for such purposes.

The tapering form of the case renders it capable of holding snugly violins or violas of different sizes, as will be manifest.

The inside of the case is preferably lined with plush, canton-flannel, or any other suitable material, with suitable pockets or receptacles, P, formed therein for the bows, the whole forming a most desirable, convenient, light, and durable article, and in every way

superior to those now in use, and, being made of leather, it is capable of elaborate ornamentation, as is illustrated in Fig. 4, which may be impressed thereon by suitable dies or tools at a comparatively trifling expense.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

As an improved article of manufacture, a leather violin or viola case, combining therein a body flat at both ends and larger at one end than the other and of a uniform taper from end to end, provided with a receptacle for a violin or viola, two pockets arranged within said receptacle for the bows, a receptacle at the smaller end for resin, strings, &c., a lid at

each end to admit of access to said receptacles and pockets, straps S, secured to the outside of said case, handles, as described, arranged at the larger end and at the side, respectively, said parts being arranged with relation to each other and adapted to operate substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of April, 1887.

ASA T. VAN WINKLE.

Witnesses:

OLIVER DRAKE,  
CHARLES H. PELL.