T. MEINHOLD.

Accordion.

No. 207,759. Patented Sept. 3, 1878.

Fig. I.

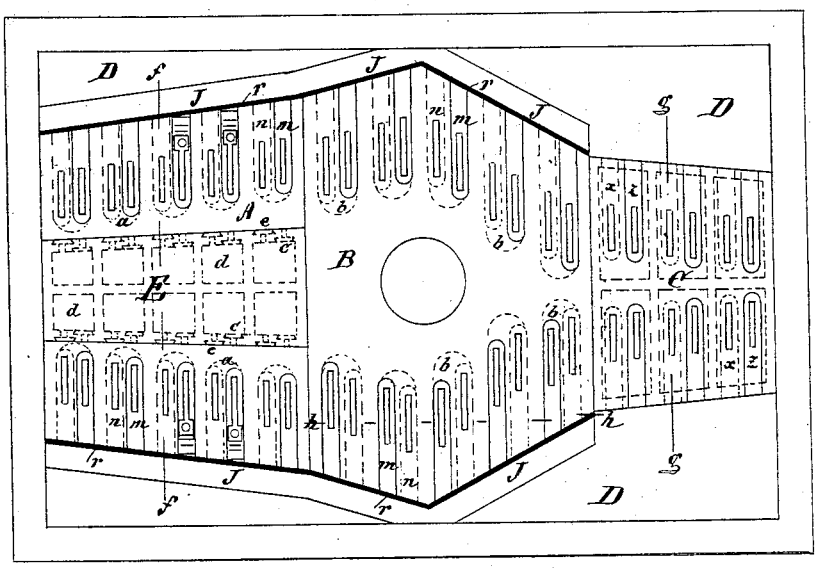
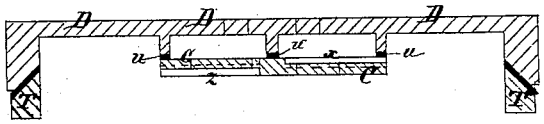


Fig. III.



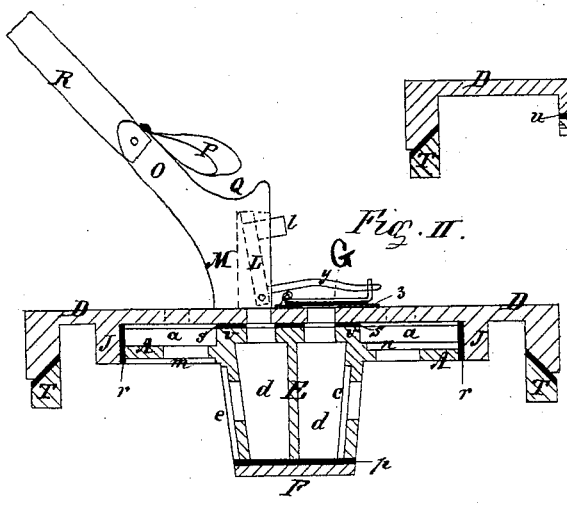
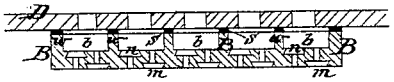


Fig. II.

Fig. IV.



Witnesses.

Abram H. VanBlarcom

J. H. Simpson.

Inventor:

Theodore Meinhold

per Henry C. Roeder

Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE MEINHOLD, OF KLINGENTHAL, SAXONY, GERMANY.

IMPROVEMENT IN ACCORDIONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,759**, dated September 3, 1878; application filed June 17, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE MEINHOLD, of Klingenthal, Saxony, Germany, have invented new and useful Improvements in Musical Instruments, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention, applicable to accordions, concertinas, organinas, and similar instruments, consists in the construction and peculiar shape of the hand-piece by which the instrument is worked; further, in the construction of the reed-cells and reed-boards to facilitate the introduction and removal of the free reed, and whereby a greater number of free reeds can be introduced into an instrument.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure I represents a bottom or inside view of the reed-board. Fig. II is a section at line *f f* of Fig. I. Fig. III is a section at line *g g*, Fig. I, and Fig. IV is a section at line *h h*, Fig. I.

Similar letters represent similar parts in all the figures.

A B C are the reed-boards. The inner side of the reed-boards A and B have cavities *a* and *b* cut into the same by boring the end of the cavity by means of a suitable boring-tool, and then cutting out toward the outside edge, thereby forming the required cells for the reeds. In these cells a recess, *n*, is grooved out dovetailed, as shown in Fig. IV, for the reception of the free reeds, and similar recesses *m* are made on the outside of the board. The side edges of the free reeds are made dovetailed to fit and slide easily into these recesses *n* and *m*, facilitating thereby the putting in and taking out of the free reeds whenever required.

Against the solid parts *v* and *w* of these boards A and B buff-leather packing *s* is placed, to form a tight joint between the same and the top plate D of the accordion or other instrument. Against the outer edges of these boards A and B projecting pieces J, fast to the top plate D, are fitted, provided at their inner edges with buff-leather packing-strips *r* to make a tight joint at these outer surfaces. In the central part of the board A a raised part, E, is arranged, divided by suitable partition-plates into any desired number of cells *d*. In the outer walls of these cells the cavities *c* and *e*, similar to those above described, are made for the reception of the inner and outer free reeds.

It will be perceived that by the arrangement of this raised part E the free reeds, instead of being situated parallel to the top plate D, are at an angle with the same, and that thereby the number of free reeds which may be arranged in an instrument of a given size will be considerably increased. Instead of arranging this raised part E on the board A, the same may be attached directly to the top plate D. This raised part E is closed by a suitable cover, F, made air-tight by means of buff-leather packing *p*, in the usual manner.

The reed-board C has only the cavities *x* and *z* for the reception of the internal and external free reeds, and the corresponding cells are in this case made on the under side of the top plate D. Upon the partitions of these cells this board C is fastened and made air-tight by the usual buff-leather packing *u*. With each of the several cells the usual apertures passing through the top plate D are made and connected. These apertures are closed by valves G. These valves are hinged to a plate, 3, attached to the top plate D; or the same may be hinged directly to said top plate, and are provided with the usual soft material on their under side.

L is the key to operate the valve, hinged to the hand-plate M in the usual manner, and either projecting outside of the surface at its upper end or provided with a projecting knob, *l*, for the purpose of operating the same. To the lower part of this key L a suitable spring-rod, *y*, is attached, connected at its outer end with the valve G to operate the same.

M is the hand-plate on top of the top plate D, to which a suitable loop-strap, P, to receive the thumb of the hand, and a hand-strap, R, are attached. The upper part of this hand-plate M is provided with a curved raised part, O, and with a cavity, Q, or recess for the thumb to lie and rest in, and by which construction greater facility is given for operation.

T is the flame to which the flexible material forming the bellows and wind-chest is attached. This frame is made beveled on its edges, (see

Fig. II and III,) and provided with the usual packing between it and the edges of the top plate D.

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

1. In accordions, concertinas, and similar instruments, the reed-boards A and B, having cavities *a* and *b*, forming the cells, and cavities *n* and *m* for the sliding reeds, and constructed to fit between projecting pieces J, provided with suitable packing *r*, fast to the body or top plate D, substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

2. A fixed holder or hand-plate, M, provided with a raised part, O, and cavity Q on its upper part, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The hinged valve G, in combination with the spring-rod *y* and key L, arranged to operate in the manner specified.

THEODORE MEINHOLD.

Witnesses:
HENRY E. ROEDER,
J. B. NONES.