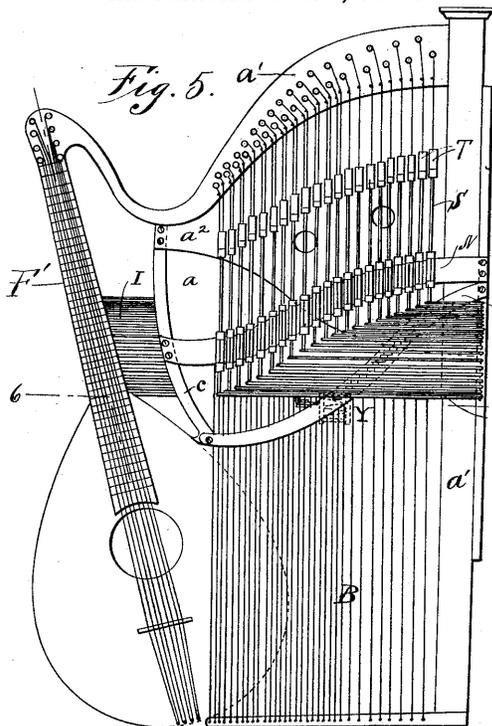


**Music Gizmos of the 1800s**

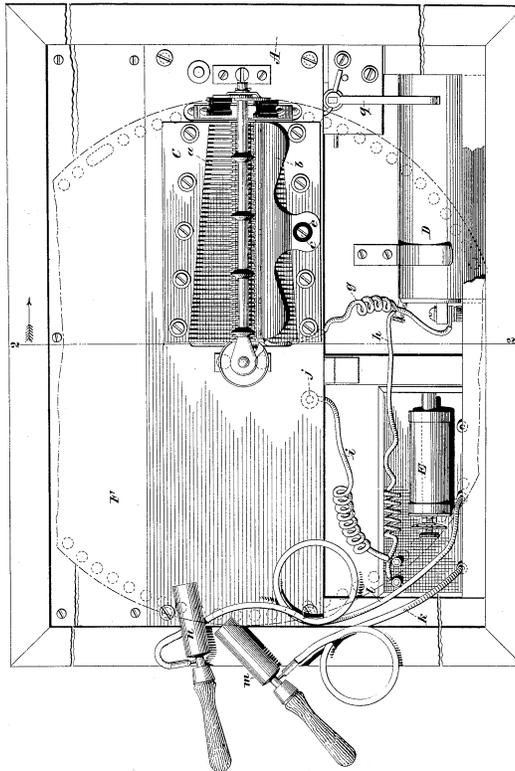
I've had fun before with the Google patent search, and here we go again. The illustrations and quoted texts are taken from the actual patents. For the full patents, go to Google and, under "more," find the patent search. Search for these particular ones by name or number.

**No. 612,005, V. Maggio, Musical Instrument. Oct. 4, 1898.**



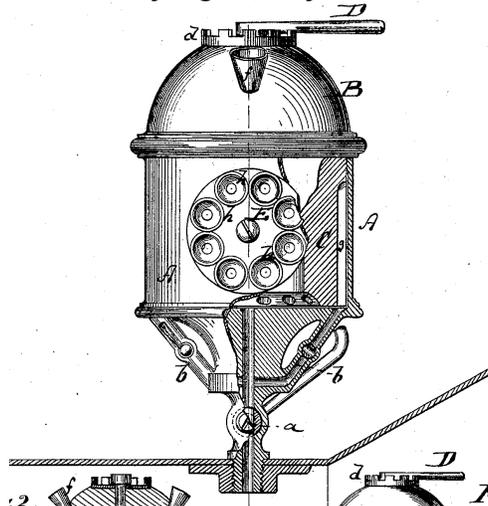
"...The instrument may be held in a convenient position, so that the mandolin can be played upon with the right hand, while with the the latter forces the hammer-lever S downthumb of the left hand the series of keys 7L may be depressed. When a key h is depressed, the outer end of the lever G will move rearward, thus operating the knucklejointed levers I and K, so that the outer end of the latter is forced rearward, which will pull the outer end of the top lever P rearward by means of the connecting wire or link Z and cause the inner end of said lever P to move forward and throw the right-angular lever Q and its pivotal arm R upward until ward and the hammer strikes the respective string..."

**No. 595,901, G. A. Brachhausen, Electrical Musical Instr., Dec. 21, 1897**



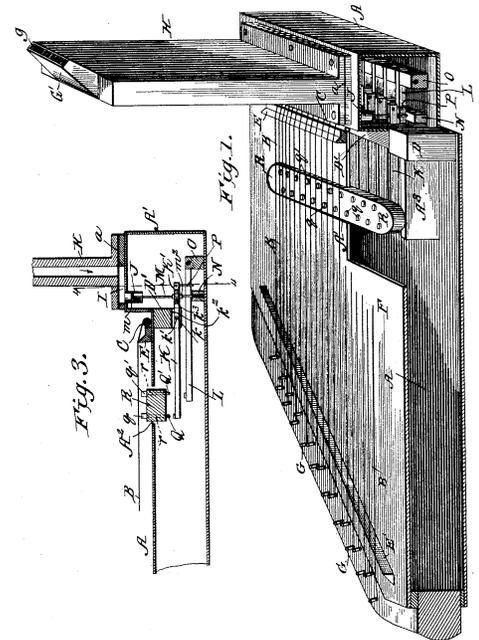
"...My invention...has for its object to produce a musical instrument having music playing devices combined with an electrical shocking device for administering electric shocks or impulses concurrently with the sounding of the notes...."

**No. 141,266, R. A. Filkins, Musical Railway Signal, July 29, 1873.**



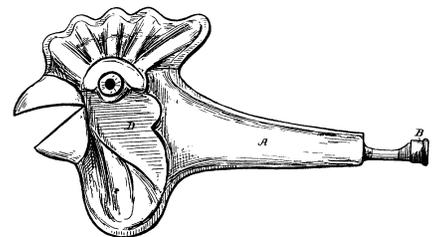
"...The object of my invention is to avoid the disagreeable and monotonous whistling of locomotive engines, and substitute therefor a more satisfactory method of signaling, and at the same time indicate different signals, by the combination of harmonious sounds, or by various successions of sounds..."

**No. 465,761, E.P. Hicks, Musical Instrument. Dec. 22, 1891.**



"...The player, by drawing in the breath and sucking up the air in the chambers I, will draw up the pistons, and in so doing raise the rear ends of the particular key or keys K, which in turn will, through the medium of the bent rods P, elevate the adjacent lever or levers L, which in turn will strike the plunger or plungers Q and move them in contact with the strings..."

**No. 21,841, A. Schoenhut, Trumpet. Sept. 6, 1892.**



"...The design relates especially to the enlarged end of the trumpet; and the essential feature of the design consists in forming this portion of the trumpet in simulation of a rooster's head with open beak..."

Thanks to Google for making patents more easily searchable, and to the US Government (that's us, folks) for keeping track in the first place. Since they are government publications, these patent documents are all in the public domain.