N° 8166 A.D. 1906

(Under International Convention.)

Date claimed for Patent under Patents Act, 1901, being date of first Foreign Application (in France), } *7th Apr., 1905*

Date of Application (in the United Kingdom), 4th Apr., 1906

Under Section 1 (2) of the Patents Act, 1901, this Specification became open to public inspection at the expiration of twelve months from the date of the application in France

Accepted, 6th Sept., 1906

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

"Improvements in Guitars"

I Lucien Gélas, of 2, Rue Pillet Will, Paris, in the Republic of France, Professor, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

Guitars as hitherto manufactured, have their strings arranged flat on or parallel with the sound board, that is to say the strings are arranged in the direction parallel to the said board. The upper portion of the board is fixed by the neck which, being secured to it, necessarily limits the vibrations which it can give.

The improvements according to this invention, consist in making instruments in which the pull or arrangement of the strings is oblique relatively to the sound board and in which the said board is independent along the whole of its length, thereby increasing the sonority and richness of tone of the instrument.

These two results are obtained:—

1. The obliquity of the strings, by the shifting of the handle or neck upwards relatively to the bridge taken as an axis.

2. The independence of the board of the instrument by raising the sides of the box along a portion of its height, on the edges of which is placed a second board intended to be used as a support for the handle, and the inclination of which, directed towards the bridge, determines the line of the strings, which are consequently relatively parallel to the second board (that is to say flat) and distinctly oblique outwards relatively to the sound board itself.

It will be seen from the additional explanation hereinafter given, the exact differences between the new and the old systems.

By carefully considering the guitar of the old type, it will be seen that the "pull" or direction of the strings, generally called parallel pull, is not really parallel, but parallel in a very wide acceptation of the word. In fact, relatively to the sound board and to the handle which forms its continuation, the line of strings imperceptibly descends from the bridge towards the head, thus producing a downward or inward pressure on the sound-board. This is done in order to maintain in strict exactness the direction of the strings, their height above the neck, the permanency of the position of the handle or neck forming the continuation of the sound-board; finally, all the details of arrangement and construction characterising the guitar of the old type. By an erroneous interpretation, it

[*Price* 8*d*.]

would be easy, in fact, to move the handle of the old type guitar without even raising the sides and consequently to modify from inside outwards the actual line of pull of the strings. This would be passing to the system forming the subject of this patent.

As regards the obliquity of strings, I can increase the angle or pull by raising the point of attachment of the strings to the head or by raising the latter as much as necessary without raising for the purpose the sides of the box.

The accompanying drawing shows in Figures 1 and 2 a guitar of the new type, the side 2 of which is raised along a portion of its height, in order to obtain an oblique front board 1, to which is connected the neck, the strings will therefore assume the direction of the said front board, that is to say they will be parallel to it and oblique relatively to the sound-board 3.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In a guitar, the arrangement of the pull of the strings obliquely outwards relatively to the sound-board, substantially as described.

2. In a guitar two sound-boards, oblique relatively to each other one of which receives the bridge and is free from the neck and is capable consequently of vibrating throughout the whole of its length, the other being above the first and receiving the neck substantially as described.

3. A construction of guitar, in which the side is raised on a portion of its height, and supports a supplementary oblique board to which is connected the neck, the strings being parallel to the said supplementary board and oblique relatively to the sound-board, substantially as described.

Dated this 29th day of March 1906.

BOULT, WADE & TENNANT,
London Agents.

Redhill: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office, by Love & Malcomson, Ltd.—1906.

[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]

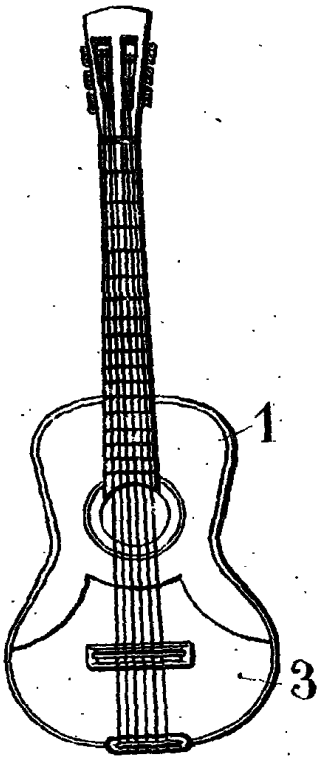

Fig. 1

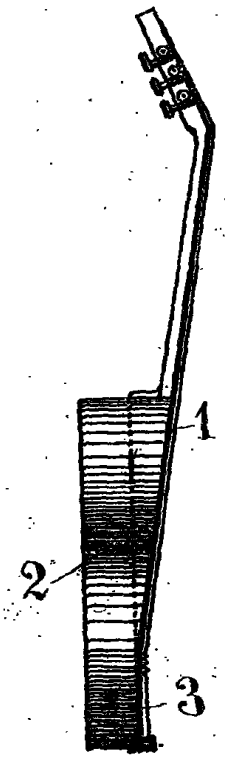

Fig. 2

Malby&Sons, Photo-Litho.