ADDENDA

The following statement of corrections and supplementary material does not appear in the published article, which is the version of record. It has been added solely to the offprint available from the author's personal website. These addenda are subject to revision and should not be cited without indicating that they are external to the article. The errata in the following section make terse reference to the points to which they apply. The material under the subsequent headings is more expansive. The date of the present revision of these addenda is given at the end of the text. All links to online resources provided in it have been verified on that date.

ERRATA

1. The following assertion is made on p.180 of the article:

> It is not clear if this mechanism was intended to be extensible into a larger number of bars…

The cited document states that there can be any desired number of bars.

2. The following assertion is made on pp.181–82:

> …G2703 is likely to have described at least the first of what were two new designs in the complete specification of GB188408888…

The innovation claimed in G2703 was most likely an extension of (German Patent) DE29930 that applied the initially patented damping mechanism to a piano. A merged description provided the provisional specification of the British patent (linked to below), The new designs claimed in the complete specification of that patent were not described prior to it by the patentees.

3. The following assertion about patent DE29930 is made on p.180:

> The date of the application…could not be located…

The application date was the business day following the priority date, 20 May 1884. The patent was issued on 5 January 1885.

REVISION

Zimmermann's application for US Patent 257808, submitted on 10 December 1881, outlines ways in which the claimed and illustrated damping bars might be modified to provide additional functionality. The article fails to recognise the significance of this, as well as the clear reflection of the altered mechanism in the complete specification of British Patent 188408888, submitted by Grob and Gütter on 11 March 1885.

This reduces the extent of the innovation commonly ascribed to Gütter and clarifies the priority between the US and GB patents. It also means that the article overstates its judgment of Zimmermann having misrepresented the coverage of his 1881 patent. The further implication that he may have acted in bad faith is entirely unjustified.

SCOPE

A statement of the article's scope appears on p.185:

> …bars that apply damping pads are now regarded as one of the definitive attributes of the autoharp. Bars with plucking or striking devices will therefore not be considered further.

This cut-off point is keyed to a device claimed in Gütter's complete specification of GB188408888, dated 1885. It replaces the damping pads on the bars illustrated in Zimmermann's 1881 patent, with plectrums. This marks a truly innovative departure from the 'autoharp' as Zimmermann initially defined the term.

Although Gütter did not use that label, instruments with a range of mechanical devices were subsequently patented explicitly as autoharps. An additional variant, also with a Northern European nexus, employs a different mechanism for applying damping pads to the strings. Although not encompassed by the initial statement of scope, it is fully relevant to the topic of the article.

Rather than each bar acting to mute strings that lie outside a designated chord, this device permits the vibration of all strings in an indicated pitch class. There is significant mechanical variation among implementations of this but the component operated by the player is commonly configured as a segment of a piano keyboard.

As defined in the scope statement, the autoharp presents the player with an array of buttons, seen in several illustrations in the article. The alternatives can be differentiated as 'chord-bar' and 'keyboard' autoharps (or zithers) but rigorous typological correlates remain to be defined.

A series of brief studies toward that end, with extensive background context, is located on the author's website. There is a suitable introduction at:

> https://loopholes.blog/keyboard-autoharp-gusli/

The evidence of Zimmermann's revised bar design not included in the article is detailed in similar studies (with additional ones pending) via an aggregated point of entry at:

> https://loopholes.blog/tag/autoharp/

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