

**William Knabe & Company of Baltimore
Knabe Victorian Square Grand**

Serial #20298

Finish: Brazilian Rosewood

Age: 141 years

Manufactured: 1880 - 1885

Made in: United States

Founded: United States, New York, 1837

Current status: Still manufactured

William Knabe & Company was one of the finest piano builders in American history. Knabe was the official piano of the Metropolitan Opera and was known for its sweet yet robust tone quality which was ideal for vocal accompaniment.

Your piano is made with beautifully carved Brazilian Rosewood and is of the Rococo Victorian style with Cabriole legs, carved moldings and a fret-work music rack.





WM. KNABE & CO.'S GRAND WAREHOUSE, BALTIMORE—SHOWING INTERIORS AND EXTERIOR.
Nos. 1, 2, 3 AND 7 NORTH BAYVIEW AVENUE.

the employment and repairing of pianos; and the fact that of its 100 Baltimore street, corner—between the streets, where it is continuously kept a large stock of all sorts of pianos, such as grand, upright, and other small portable kinds—its convenience and splendid warehouse, doubtless the finest in the city.

When they first were so extensively employed in this branch, and these firms and great things pianos put much and so great has been the demand, and the popularity of these instruments, that Knabe & Co. continuously making important additions to their already extensive stock, in order to enable them to keep up with their orders.

The house of Knabe & Co. is one of the oldest and best established in the United States. Its reputation has not been made only upon its superior, old-fashioned, all-around, the latest pianos of that class of instruments, as well. The Grand Piano of this firm have helped to establish that reputation, and place the firm in a high position before the world. These Grand Pianos are also admirably in good of tone, touch and finish. It will then be seen that Knabe & Co. manufacture all classes of pianos, a fact which can only be stated of

the greatest manufacturers of the country. The business of Knabe & Co. is indeed enormous, and is easily equalled by that of any other firm in America. Their piano stock is not only in America, Canada and South America, but also in Europe, their name having been mentioned there by the great pianists who have visited that country.

To describe the plans of Wm. Knabe & Co. here is not all the benefit that could be bestowed upon them. Whenever they have been exhibited, they have invariably carried away the gold medal over all competitors. The first European and American pianos have been made and sold their various styles of instruments, and have repeatedly received these great distinguished reputations, and have grown to the date the most valuable witnesses of their superior, a line of which we submit.

Testimonial from Philadelphia.

"I have great pleasure in certifying that I have tried your Grand Pianos, and find them equal, if not superior, to any in this country. Among their great qualities, which distinguish them, is the richness of tone, the sprightly and easy touch, and volume of tone. Wishing



WM. KNABE & CO.'S GRAND WAREHOUSE, BALTIMORE—SHOWING INTERIORS AND EXTERIOR.
Nos. 1, 2, 3 AND 7 NORTH BAYVIEW AVENUE.

you all the success you so highly deserve, I am, sir, yours very truly,
S. THALHEIM.

Testimonial from Philadelphia.

"After having played on the Piano of Messrs. Knabe & Co. it is impossible not to bear testimony to their quality, which have acquired for them the highest reputation which they enjoy. The Piano of this manufacture, in which I have played, are exceedingly remarkable for their quality of tone. The tone is powerful, without harshness, and the upper tones reach clear and harmoniously without interference, and I do not hesitate to express in equal to these instruments my entire satisfaction, and to declare that they are equal, if not superior, to the best manufactured in Europe or in America by the most celebrated makers."
Signed,
J. M. GUTHRIE.

Testimonial from Boston.

"Though not personally acquainted with you, I have the much pleasure in saying you a commendation which, as a strict friend of justice and order, I cannot withhold from you. On a recent visit to Philadelphia, I

had the pleasure of participating in one of your pianos, and to my satisfaction, I found it to be every particular a most excellent one, and your name has, since that time, been fresh in my memory."
With much esteem, yours,
"J. H. LUTTER."

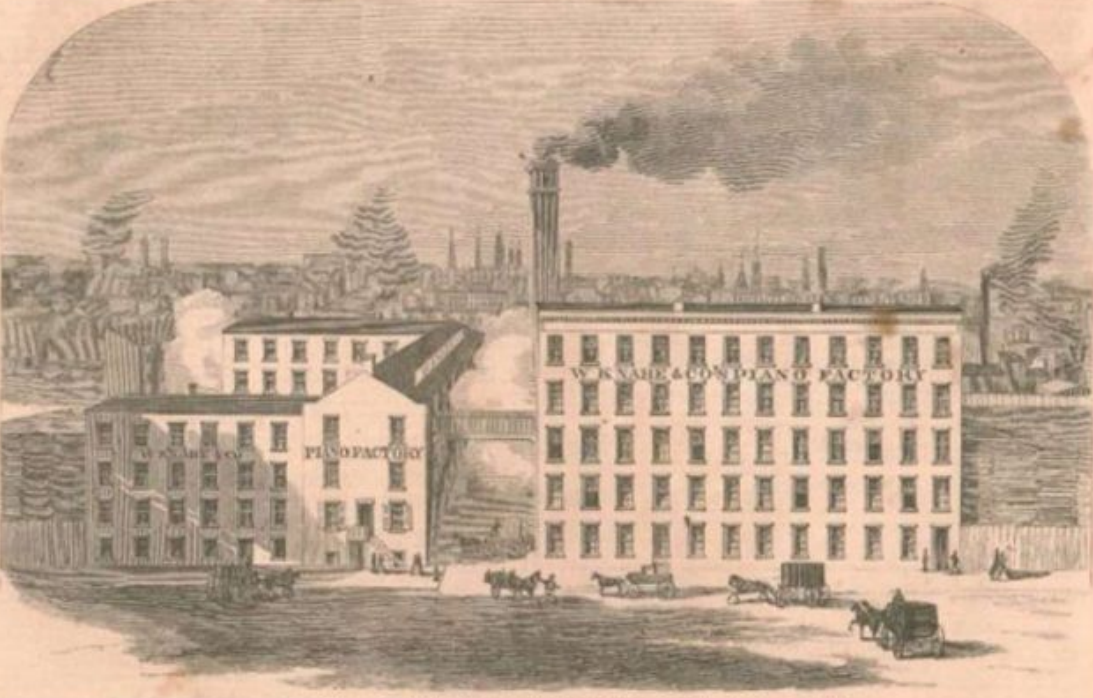
Testimonial from Worcester, Mass.

"I cannot but commend you upon the progress and improvement which you continually make in your pianos, which, in my opinion, rank among the very best in the country."
S. H. LUTTER.

Testimonial from New York.

"I was delighted on hearing the clear and full tone of your really American Pianos, and I congratulate you on the progress you have made in this branch of art."
S. H. LUTTER.

Exposition such as this show, from gentlemen so distinguished in affairs, are in evidence of the results of the piano manufactured by Knabe & Co. that they have no nothing to say, so that we can only endorse them.



ANTIQUAPIANOSHOP.COM
WM. KNABE & CO.'S PIANO MANUFACTORY, BALTIMORE—SHOWING COURSE OF BAYVIEW AND NORTH BAYVIEW AVENUE.

WM. KNABE & CO.

Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 7 North Eutaw Street,

Salesroom,

No. 207 BALTIMORE STREET,

(between Charles and Light Streets,)

BALTIMORE,

Manufacturers of

GOLD MEDAL PREMIUM

Grand and Square Piano-Fortes.

WM. KNABE & CO.

Would respectfully invite the attention of the public, and especially those in want of a **FIRST CLASS PIANO**, to their well assorted stock of instruments, which, for power and sweetness of tone, easy and agreeable touch, and beauty of finish, have by the best of judges, been pronounced unrivaled by any in the country.

As to the relative merits of our **PIANOS**, we would refer to the

CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE IN OUR POSSESSION, FROM

THALBERG, STRAKOSCH, G. SATTER, AND H. VIEUXTEMPS,

I cannot but congratulate you upon the immense progress and improvements which you continually make on your **Pianos**, which in my opinion, rank among the very best in the country.

M. STRAKOSCH.

Among the great qualities which distinguish your **Pianos**, is the evenness of tone, agreeable and easy touch, and volume of tone.

S. THALBERG.



I found that the Piano was, in every particular, an excellent one, and your name has, since that time, been fresh in my memory.

G. SATTER.

I was delighted on hearing the clear and full tone of your really *First Class Pianos*, and I congratulate you on the progress you have made in this branch of art. H. VIEUXTEMPS.

As also from some of the most distinguished professors and amateurs in the country; also, to the following **HIGHEST PREMIUMS**, received within the last three years: **GOLD MEDALS** at the *Maryland Institute*, 1855, 1856, 1857. **SILVER MEDALS** at the *Metropolitan Institute*, Washington, 1857; also, **MEDAL** at the *Franklin Institute*, Philadelphia, 1856; **FIRST PREMIUM** at *Mechanics' Institute*, Richmond, 1855 and 1856. All instruments of our manufacture have the full iron frame, and are guaranteed for *five years*.

Particular attention paid to the selection of instruments for distant orders, and a privilege of exchange granted at any time within 6 months, if the instrument should not prove entirely satisfactory. A liberal discount to Clergymen, Teachers and Schools. Terms liberal. Wholesale dealers will find it to their advantage to give us a call, as by greatly increased facilities, we are enabled to fill all orders with despatch.

Constantly on hand, a large assortment of **MELODEONS**, from the best Factories.

SECOND HAND PIANOS at *Great Bargains*, at prices from \$30 to \$150. Pianos Exchanged, Hired, and Tuned. A call is respectfully solicited.



Removing Action, Taking Detailed Measurements
(String Height, Key Slip, Key Height, Key Travel, String Number, Pin Number, etc.)



Deep Cleaning Keys, Piano Cavity, Soundboard (under strings), Key Sticks, Balance and Front Rails, Action, Catchers, Various Felt Rails, Buttons and Damper Mechanism



Repairing Hammer Flanges, Jack Pinning, Adjusting Hammer Cord and Spring



Repairing Damper Blocks, and Dampers



Evaluating Key-Tops for Repair, Color Match





Unique Keys.. over 33" long..(most pianos are around 7 - 9")



Cleaning and Buffing Keys



Evaluating Hammers and Possible Repair Solution..

They have a extreme shape, bore distance and rake (pitch) angles.

They also have deep string cuts which will require re-shaping and mating to strings.





Shaping and Aligning



Reaming Key Hole Spacing and Mortise (1/8")...
Easing Bushings, Repair and Adjustments.



Repairing
Jack/Wippen
Cord & Spring

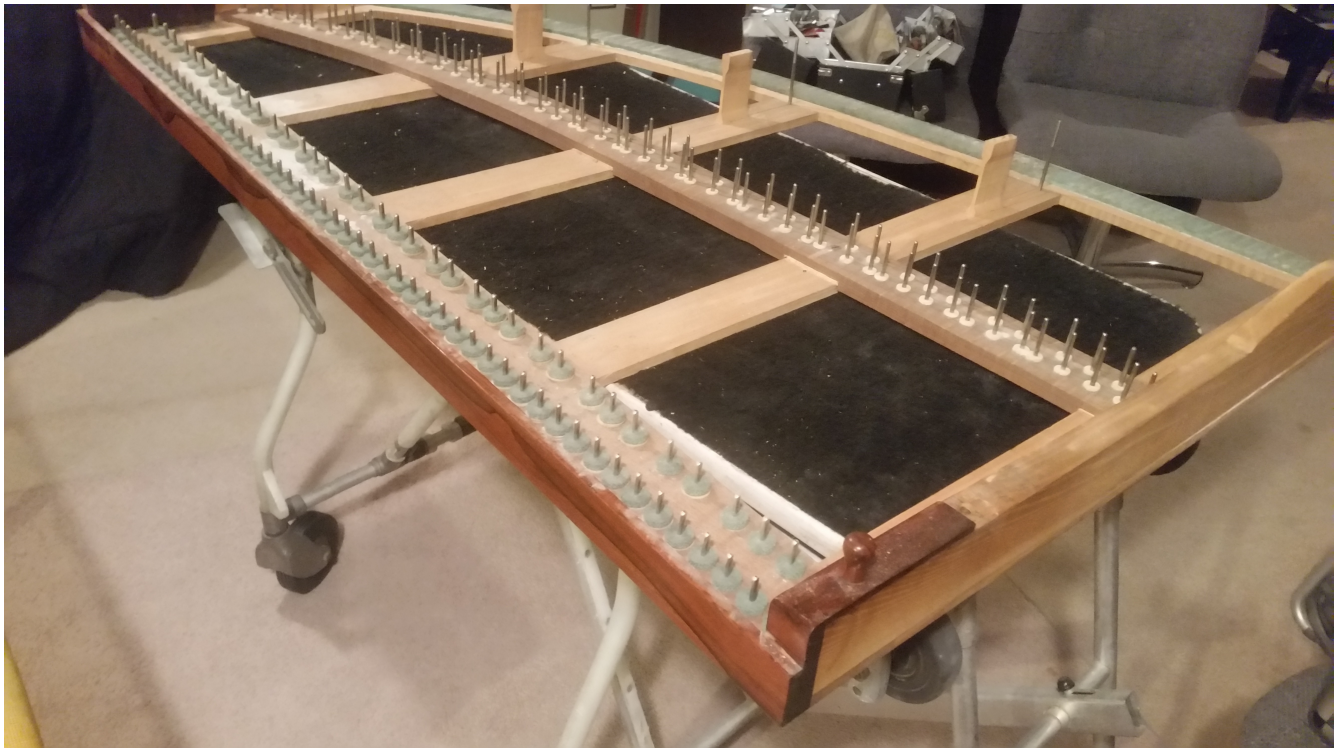
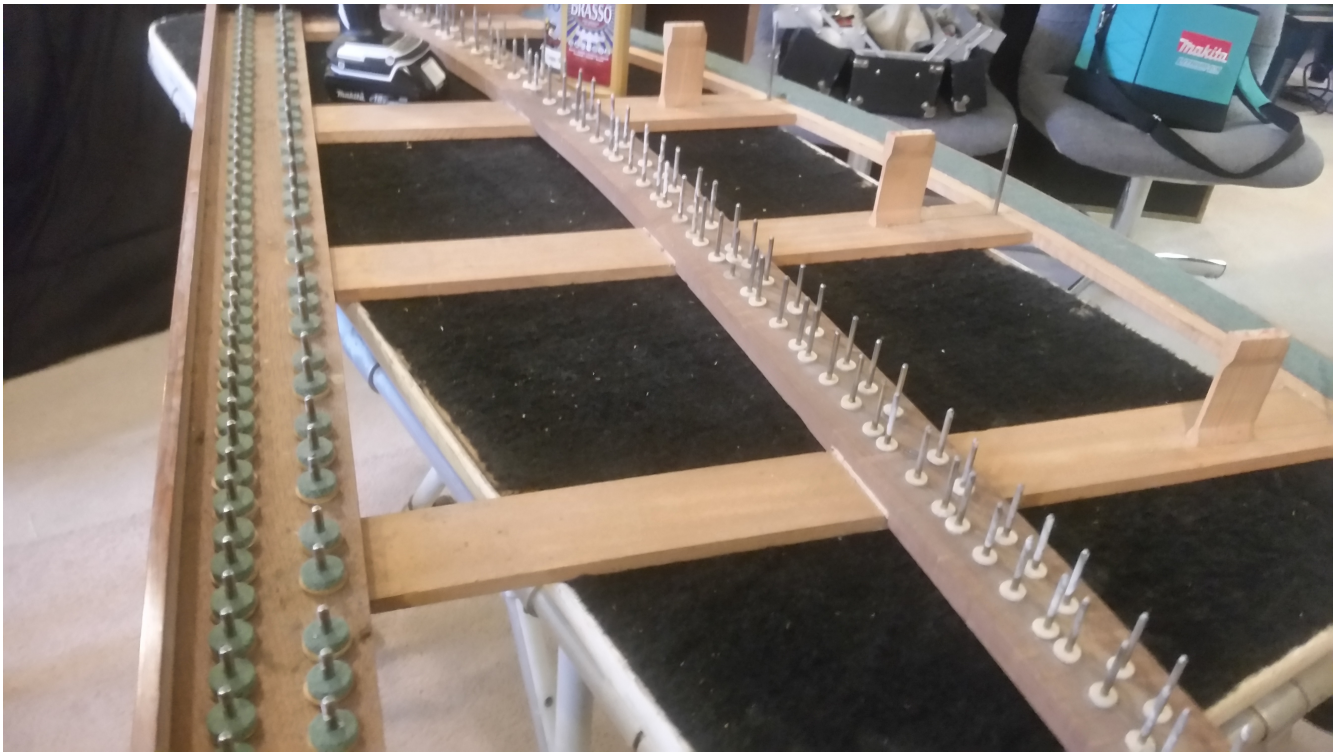
Regulating





First of several passes on Regulation.. .



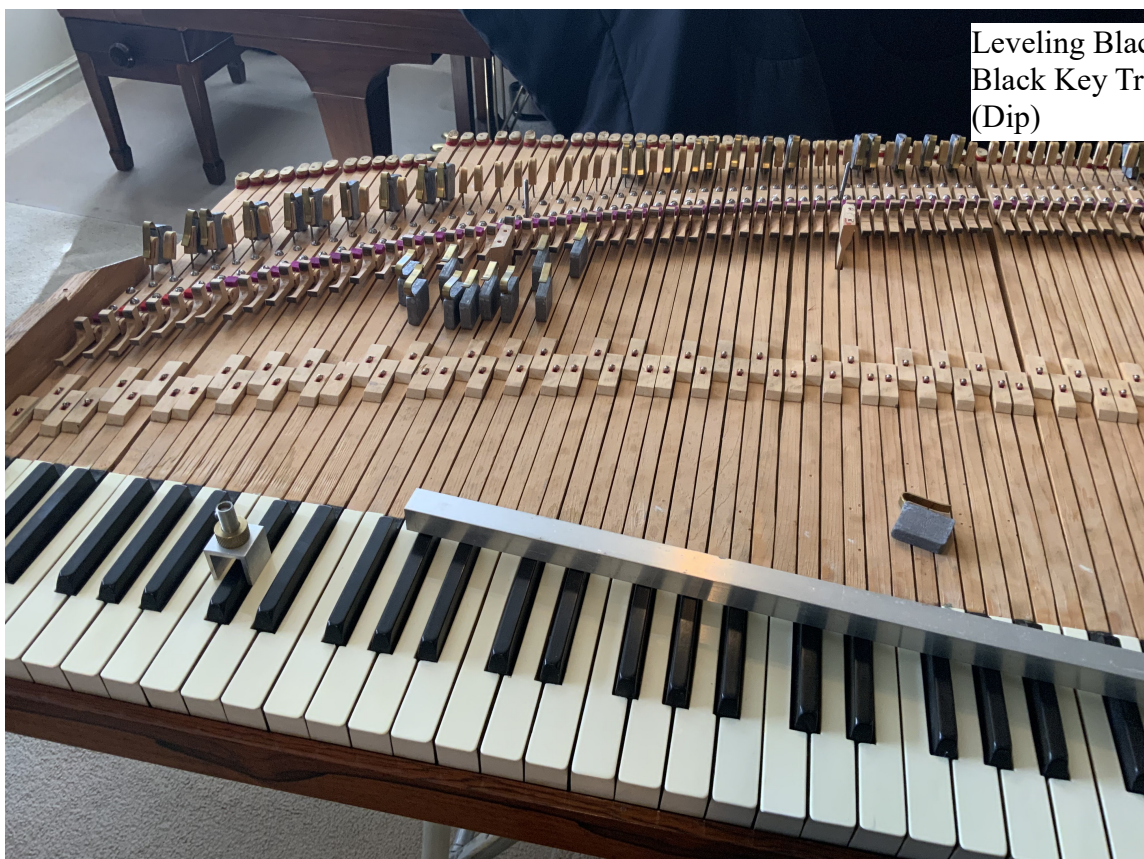


Balance Rail & Front Rail... polishing, prepping for regulation

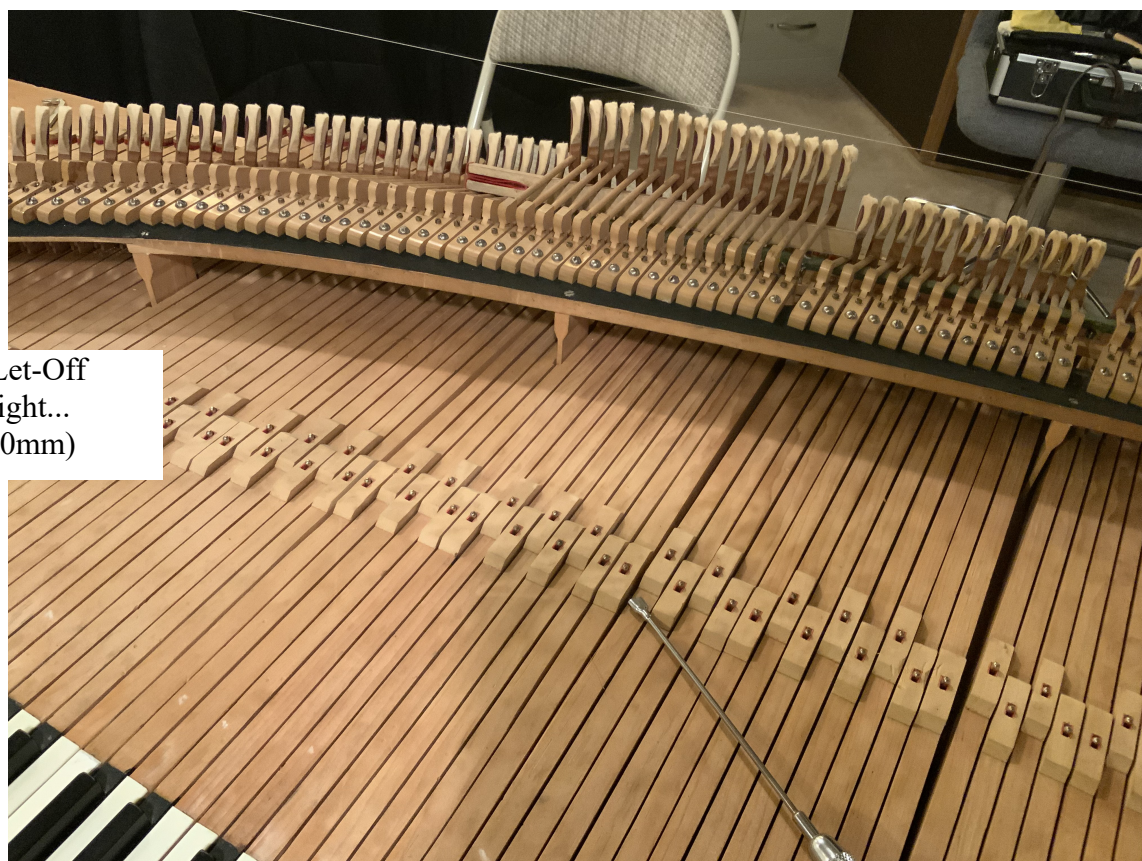


Leveling White Keys
Adjusting Key Travel

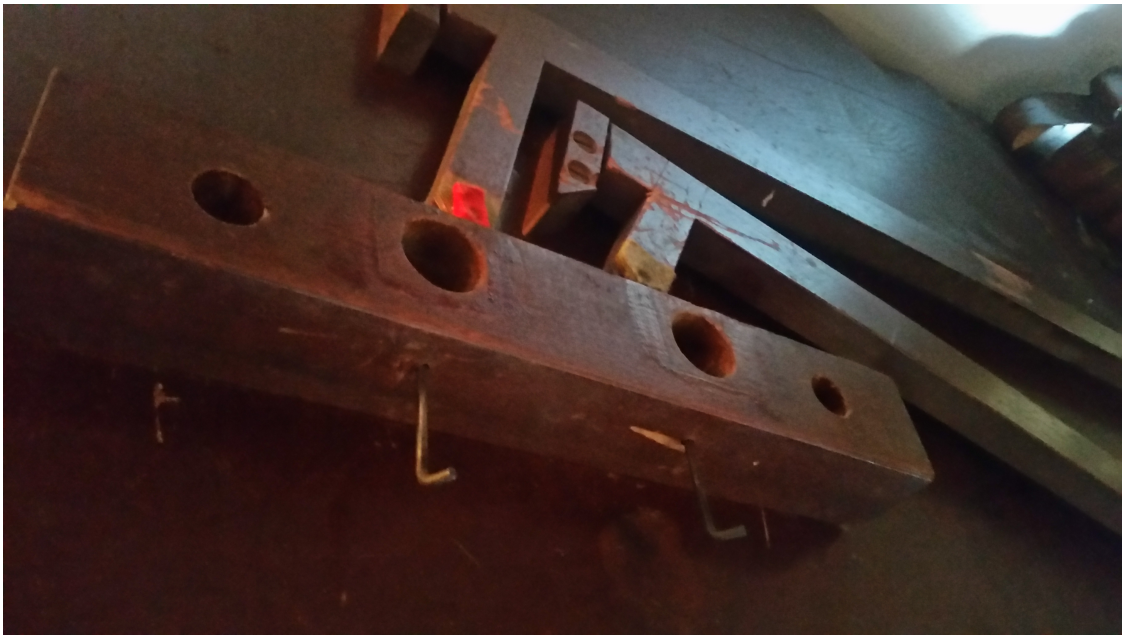




Leveling Black Key
Black Key Travel
(Dip)



Regulating Let-Off
to String Height...
(1.5mm- 3.00mm)



Repairing Pedal Lyre



Pitch Raise...

Multiple passes to help stabilize the tension in the strings.. (15 – 20 tons of string pressure)
First pass was over 300+ cents flat.. (likely added 4 – 6 tons of string pressure)

Fine Tuning...

Back in the 1800's there was no standard .. with some experimenting, I decided to bring the piano up to our standard of A-440Hz.

The tuning pins are near the rear of the piano, with the strings running parallel to the keys (all modern pianos are perpendicular)... being very careful, I was able to bring all the strings up to pitch without any breaking..

It sounds incredible for a 141 year old piano... ;-)



Beautiful Piano, with a lot of history...

The action has been completely regulated and refurbished. All the keys have been repaired or replaced. Dampers, pedal, back action have be repaired, replaced or regulated to work as well or better then when it was new.

I suspect it has never sounded or felt better in it's life. A joy to play.



Ken Foster, BM, RPT
(801)255-TUNE

KenFoster.com