

Basic Detail Report



Cornet, [c, B, B-flat], A [and A-flat]

Date

1887-1889 ca.

Primary Maker

F. Besson

Description

Silver-plated brass, double loop, tuning slide at second bow (with tuning-slide extension for B-flat/A/A-flat), removable leadpipe (A shank), three Périnet valves (1, ½, 1½), top-sprung, spring outside stem, alignment by one key on piston (nickel silver), modèle anglais, single water key at first bow, windway 3-2-1 One silver-plated brass tuning shank for A; tuning-slide extension for B-flat/A/A-flat. C/B-flat and B shanks missing; A-flat shank or crook missing. According to the Besson stock books (Horniman Museum and Gardens, London), this "Cornet en ut" was sold to "City" (meaning London) on June 30, 1888, and sold to Carl Fischer in New York on November 28, 1889. It was part of a batch of 3 (38151-3) and was numbered no

later than 15 October 1887, if the serial numbers are strictly chronological. According to the markings found on the inner slides of the first and third valves, the instrument served the keys C, B, B-flat, A, and A-flat. C and B were achieved without the tuning-slide extension; while B-flat, A, and A-flat required the use of the extension. The C shank served both C (without) and B-flat (with the tuning-slide extension). A similar Besson echo cornet with all original parts and alternative high/low pitch slides is preserved at the Musical Instrument Museum Edinburgh (no. 1451).

Dimensions

Height: 330 mm Tube length: 1120 mm, 1251 mm, 1400 mm Bore diameter (initial, minimum, tuning slide, valve slides): 12.9 mm, 10 mm, 11.6 mm, 11.9 mm Bore diameter (shank, initial, minimum): 9.4 mm, 9.1 mm Bell diameter: 118 mm