

Brisson & Cie Band Instruments

Paris

The Brisson & Cie band instruments were a line sold through J. W. Pepper in the late 1890s until 1903 as well as Sherman, Clay & Company in San Francisco, California in 1915. These may have come from various sources, but if the cornets are any example, they were made by Bohland & Fuchs of Graslitz, Austria (later Kraslice in the Czech Republic); one of the largest factories in Europe and the most commonly found import to the US from that period.

Two examples of Brisson brass sold by Pepper are a tenor trombone with #23309 dating to c.1896 and a valve trombone with #27115 dating to c.1898. A complete line of brass is shown in the 1902 and 1903 (below) catalogs. They are gone by the 1904 catalog.

A. Rosenberg started a music store in San Francisco in 1853 and sold the business to Lander Sherman and Clement Clay in 1870. In 1892, they incorporated as Sherman, Clay & Co. By the 1980s, they had sixty stores nationwide and in 2013, they sold the last stores to Steinway & Sons. Their 1915 catalog includes six Brisson cornet models shown below. They are not mentioned in a listing from 1922 in *Music Trade Review*.

1903 Brisson & Cie / JW Pepper

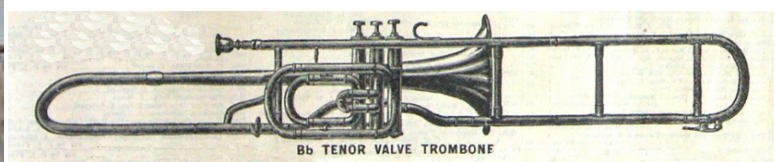
Bb Cornets

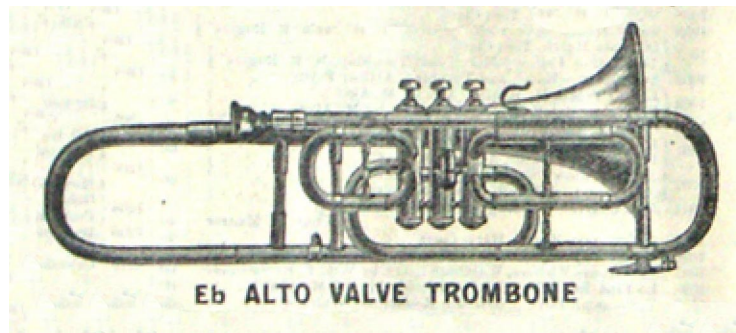


C Cornets

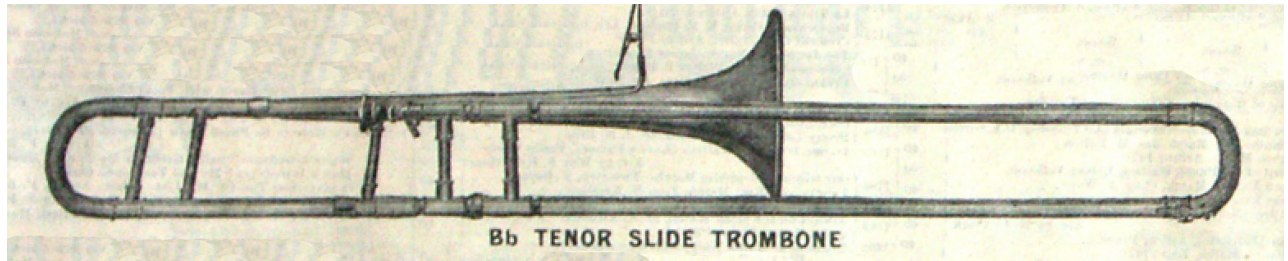


Bb Tenor Valve Trombone #27115 c.1896 and matching 1903 catalog image

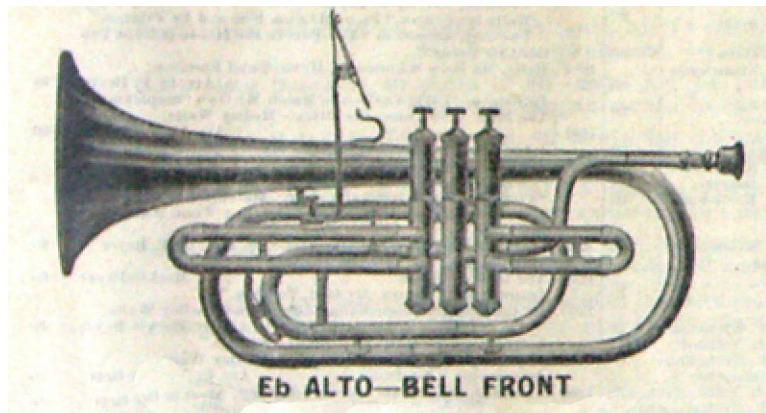




E♭ ALTO VALVE TROMBONE

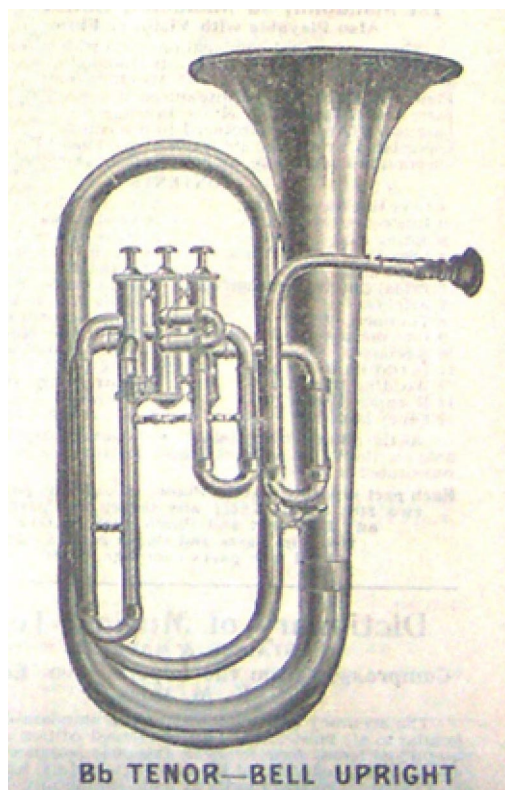


B♭ TENOR SLIDE TROMBONE



E♭ ALTO—BELL FRONT

Tenor & matching example from Horn-u-copia.net



B♭ TENOR—BELL UPRIGHT

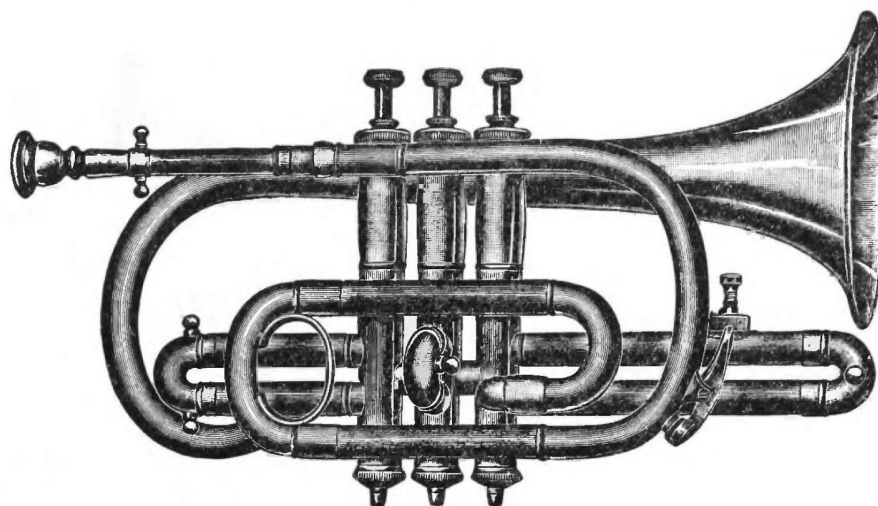




Bb Tuba and matching example from Horn-u-copia.net



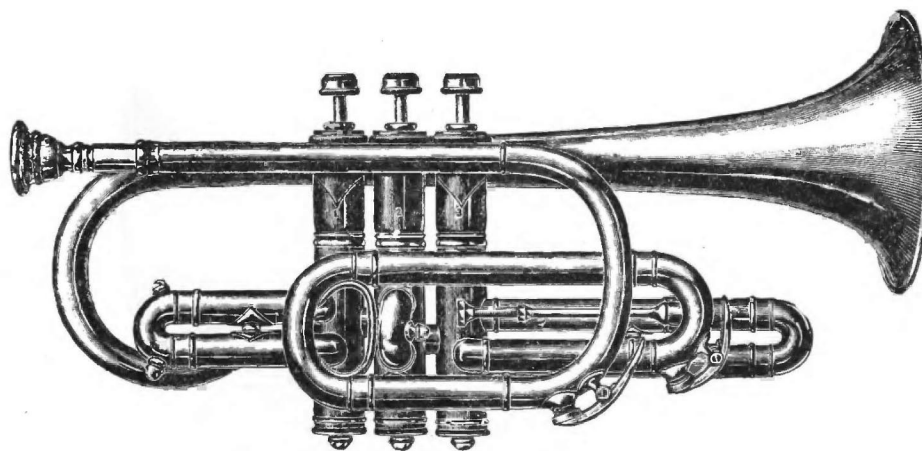
1915 Brisson & Cie Cornets



Although low priced this instrument is well made throughout, has a light piston action and a good free air passage. It is of up-to-date medium length model and comes equipped with B $\flat$ and A shanks, German silver mouthpiece and music rack. Built in high pitch with tuning slide sufficiently long to draw to low pitch.

No.	Each
R0 —Brass, highly polished.....	\$ 8.00
R0N—Same, nickel plated.....	10.00

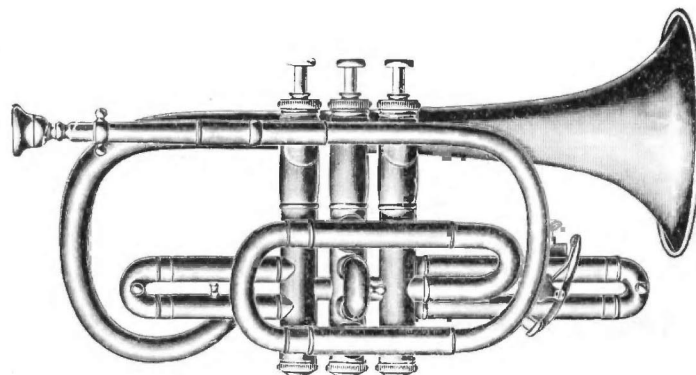
In comparison, American made cornets from makers like Buescher, Conn, King, and Martin from this same period ranged from \$58 to \$75 in a polished brass finish. It gives you an idea of how cheap the imports were at the time. Since the build quality is close, the main difference would have been in the labor or currency exchange rate.



Another inexpensive Cornet in which we offer wonderful value for the money. The instrument is built on graceful lines with continuous mouthpipe avoiding the use of shanks, is free and easy blowing, has improved short action German silver light valves and is equipped with the quick change to A attachment so necessary for orchestra work. The valve buttons are German silver inlaid with pearl. Built in High Pitch with an extra Low Pitch tuning slide. Furnished with German silver mouthpiece and a music lyre.

No.	Each
R3 —Brass, highly polished.....	\$12.00
R3N—Same, nickel plated.....	14.00

B $\flat$ and A
Cornet

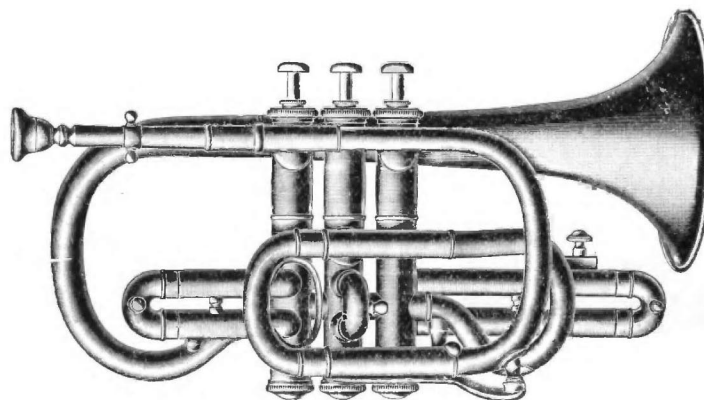


High and Low
Pitch

A Besson model Cornet of correct scale and surprising blowing qualities for its price. Short action, light French piston valves well fitted. Equipped with a tuning slide long enough to draw to low pitch, B $\flat$ and A shanks, German silver mouthpiece and music lyre.

No.	Each
R1 —Brass, highly polished.....	\$10.00
R1N—Same, nickel plated.....	12.00

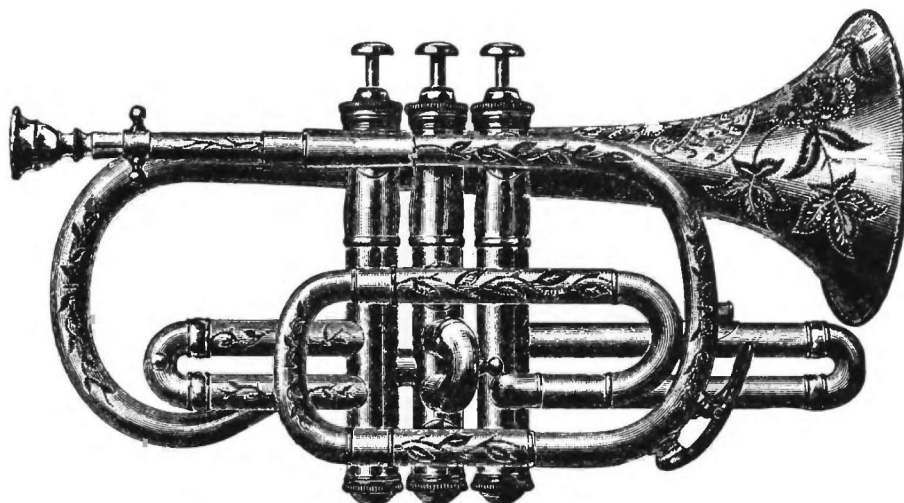
B $\flat$ and A
Cornet



High and Low
Pitch

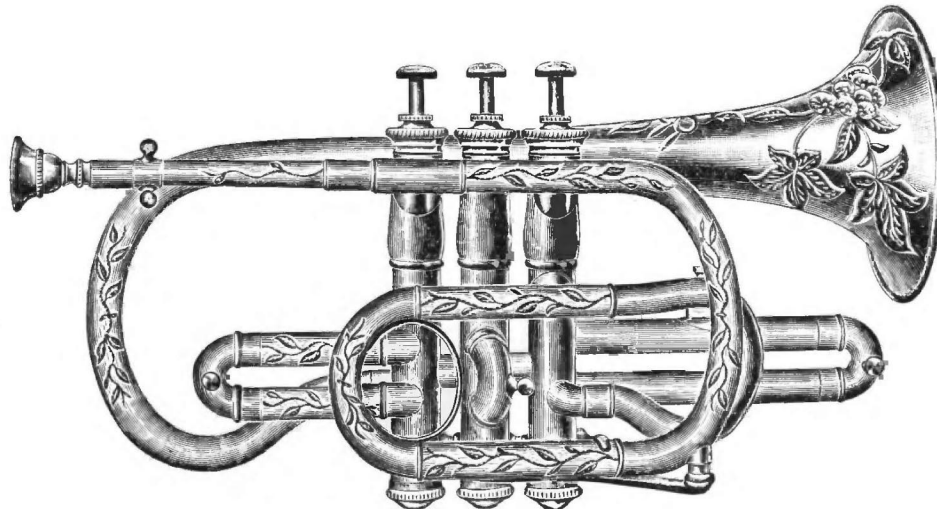
This Brisson Cornet is built on the lines of the Courtois, a make which was for many years regarded as the world's standard. It has a double water key, is of large, free bore, easy blowing and well in tune. The tuning slide is of sufficient length to draw to low pitch. Furnished with B $\flat$ and A shanks, German silver mouthpiece and music lyre.

No.	Each
R2 —Brass, highly polished.....	\$11.50
R2N—Same, nickel plated.....	13.50



Besson model, handsomely engraved, light action German silver French piston valves. Tuning slide made sufficiently long to draw to low pitch. Furnished with B $\flat$ and A shanks, German silver mouthpiece and music rack.

No.	Each
R10 —Brass, highly polished.....	\$13.00
R10N—Same, nickel plated.....	15.00
R10S—Same, silver plated, satin finish.....	19.50



Courtois model, double water key, handsomely engraved, light action German silver French piston valves. Tuning slide draws to low pitch. Furnished with B $\flat$ and A shanks, German silver mouthpiece and music rack.

No.	Each
R20 —Brass, highly polished.....	\$15.00
R20N—Same, nickel plated.....	17.00
R20S—Same, silver plated, satin finish.....	21.50