

COUESNON & CO. United Houses of Gautrot Aine & Co., Gautrot Marquet, Triebert, Tolou, Barbier, PARIS,

At the Head of Exhibitors having obtained the GOLD MEDAL at the PARIS EXPOSITION, 1889.

PARIS, 25th October, 1889.

DEAR MR CLAXTON.—We take pleasure to inform you that Messrs. Couesnon & Co have obtained a Gold Medal at the "Universal Exhibition of Paris, 1889," and we beg to enclose a list of the Awards obtained for Musical Instruments by different manufacturers, classified by Order of Merit.

This is an official document which we have obtained from the International Jury and of which we guarantee the correctness, and we are glad to call your attention to the fact that Messrs. Couesnon & Co. stand **FIRST** of all the Brass Band Instrument Manufacturers of the World, who have made a show in the Paris Exhibition.

Soliciting the favour of your orders, to which we will give our usual attention, we remain, yours most respectfully,

From "Musical Journal," December, 1890, page 4.

FENWICK, FRERES & CO

THOMAS CLAXTON, Esq., TORONTO.

PARIS, December 13th, 1889.

DEAR SIR.—We beg to enclose Invoice for three cases of instruments shipped per steamer "La Gascogne," from Harve to New York in bond to Toronto.

Mr. Couesnon has been very much pleased with your printed card, and is much obliged to you for the same. He has taken the liberty to put in one case a new Slide Trombone, exact model of Courtois, which has been acknowledged by the Jury a better instrument than Courtois. With the compliments of the season, we remain, yours very truly,

From "Musical Journal," January, 1890, page 4.

FENWICK, FRERES & CO.

THOMAS CLAXTON, Esq., TORONTO.

PARIS, December 24th, 1889.

DEAR SIR.—We are in receipt of your esteemed favors of the 9th and 10th. We guarantee that the list which we have published of the Awards of the Exhibitors, by order of merit, is an exact copy of the decision of the Jury. But as the official documents of the work of the different Juries will be published and printed at the French Government Printing Office, you may for the present bind yourself to give an official proof of our assertion.

The decision of the Jury was governed by a certain number of points, and we had more points than Fontaine-Besson; this is a positive fact, which that official document will confirm.

We are much obliged to you for taking our interest in the matter so much to heart in Canada, and you may depend that we will stand by you. Yours most respectfully,

From "Musical Journal," January, 1890, page 4.

COUESNON & CO.

"In regard to the truthfulness of our contentions, and to show up the untruthfulness of those who say that Couesnon & Co. did not take the first place in order of merit, I will publish, if not next month, the month following (or as soon as the French Government Press reports reach me) the actual points by which Messrs. Couesnon & Co. obtained the first place over Mr. Fontaine-Besson and Mr. Antoine Mille."—Extract from correspondence, page 15, "Musical Journal," January, 1890.

T. CLAXTON, Esq., TORONTO, CANADA.

PARIS, July 31st, 1891.

DEAR SIR.—By to-day's mail we send you our new illustrated catalogue of Brass Band Instruments.

We also beg to enclose copy translation of an extract from the Jury's Official Report, Paris Exhibition, 1889, showing indisputably that Messrs. Couesnon & Co. have obtained the **First Gold Medal**, and that all other brass band instrument makers, such as Besson, Mille, Millereau, etc., have to take a back seat. We have in our possession one copy of this official report printed at the National Printing Office by order of the French Government, and the enclosed is copy translation of an extract taken from page 63 of this report. We are going to have it fixed on a piece of boarding, and certified correct by a Government official, and will send it to you in one of your cases. We will also do our best to obtain a copy of the entire report to send on to you, but it is pretty difficult to get hold of one, and as we have only one, you can readily understand that Messrs. Couesnon cannot well part with it, as they have to show it every day to their customers when they drop in to see them. We will see what your friends have to say, now that we prove conclusively what we advanced twelve months ago. We remain, yours most respectfully,

FENWICK, FRERES & CO.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION, PARIS, 1889.

Extract from the Jury's Official Report, page 63, published at the request of the French Government, and printed by the National Printing Office.

MEMBERS OF THE JURY.—Ambroise Thomas, Mahillon, Thibouville-Lamy, Gand, Dickinson, Clarke, Gavioli fils, Arnold, Cavaille-Cool, Lecomte, Ruch, Havac, Dumoustier de Fredilly, Salvayre.

The Exhibit shown by Mr. Couesnon (94 Rue d'Angouleme, Paris) gives evidence that some decided improvements have been accomplished by this house since 1878. His instruments are well made and well tuned. These considerations, and his interesting exhibit of Flutes and Sarrusophones decided the Jury to award him the necessary number of points to place him at the head of the Exhibitors having obtained the Gold Medal.

Mr. Couesnon's Exhibit was composed of brass instruments of all kinds, and a complete set of wood instruments.

CORNETS.—One cornet (of a cheap pattern) was found good, and of extraordinary quality for the price; another, of a more expensive kind, had good tone and fine tune.

BARITONES, BASSES and TUBAS.—The Baritones, Basses and BB♭ Tubas are well tuned and of fine tone.

FRENCH HORN.—The French Horn, with and without valves, is of fine tone.

SARRUSOPHONES.—The Sarrusophones, Basses in B♭, and Contra Basses in C—played with great talent—gave full satisfaction to the Jury, who appreciated the peculiar tone of these instruments.

FLUTES.—A Piccolo in D♭, a Flute of cylindrical bore, in C, and a bass Flute, was found perfect in tune, and of fine tone. We took note of a Piccolo in C, Barbier model, in which one of the keys was so disposed as to enable the player to close the lower part of the pipe, and the sharp notes of which produced some exceptionally fine sounds.

HAUTOBOIS.—The Hautbois, descending the scale as low as B♭, had good time, and of desirable correctness.

BASSOONS.—The Bassoon, of fine sonorousness, and in perfect tune, it is handy, and easy to play.

Bandsmen desirous of purchasing first-class Band Instruments should apply to

Thomas Claxton

Sole Agent for Canada of the above Brass and Wood Band Instruments. Genuine Besson and Courtois Cornets always in stock.]

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