

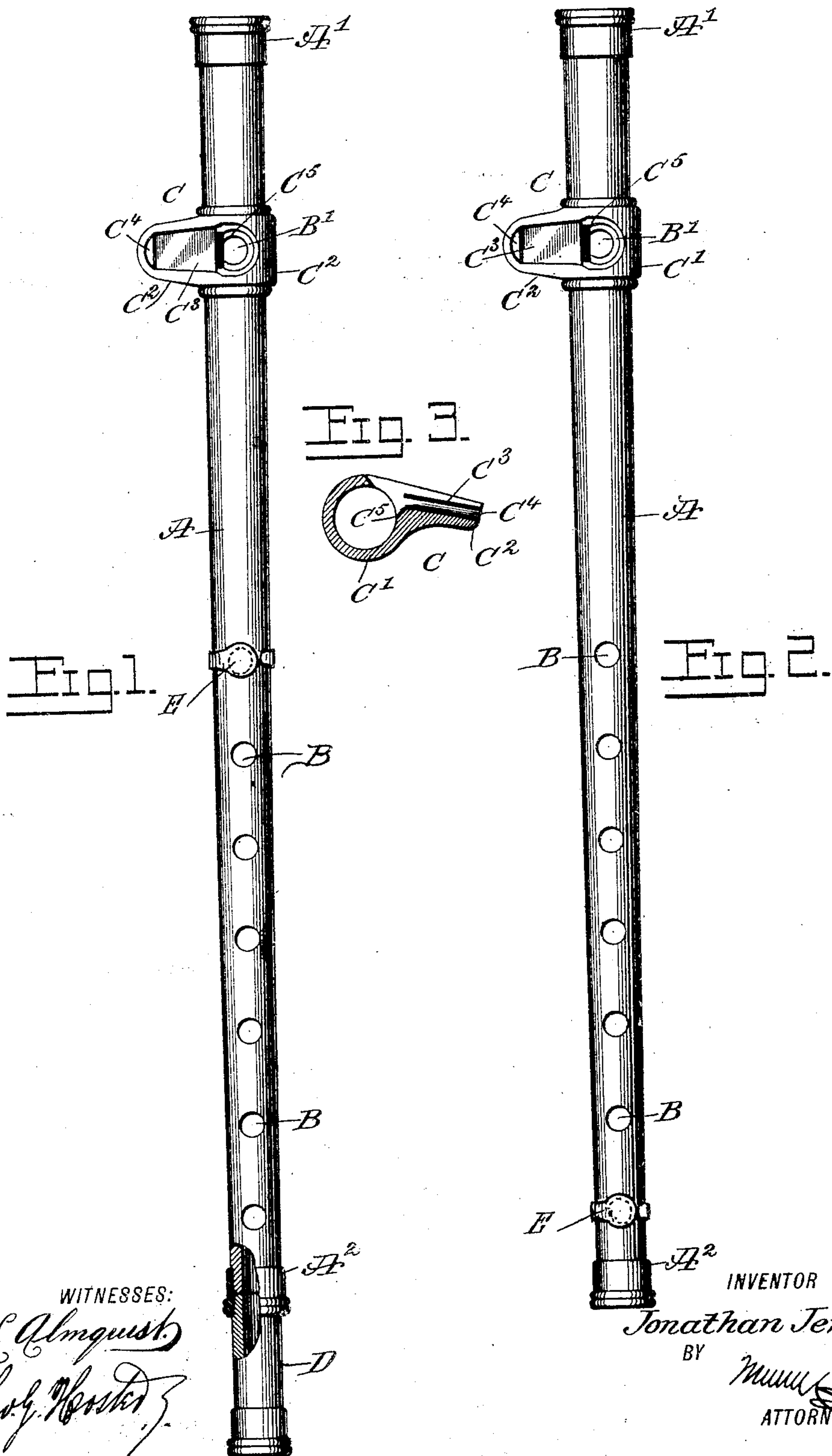
No. 801,086.

PATENTED OCT. 3, 1905.

J. JENKS.

FIFE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 10, 1904.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JONATHAN JENKS, OF MOUNT AUBURN, IOWA.

## FIFE.

No. 801,086.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 3, 1905.

Application filed May 10, 1904. Serial No. 207,276.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JONATHAN JENKS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Mount Auburn, in the county of Benton and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Fife, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to musical instruments of the flute type; and its object is to provide a new and improved fife arranged to permit the user to quickly and conveniently change the fife from a B-key fife to a C-key fife, or vice versa, and to permit of producing full and loud tones by proper admission of the air from the air-duct of the mouthpiece into the main tube.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the improvement shown in section and arranged as a B-key fife. Fig. 2 is a like view of the same arranged as a C-key fife, and Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the mouthpiece.

The tapering main tube A is closed at the end A', is open at the end A<sup>2</sup>, and is provided with the usual finger-holes B for controlling the pitch of the tones, there being an extra hole for a purpose hereinafter described. Between the upper finger-hole B and the end A' is arranged the mouthpiece C, having a head C' fitting the main tube A, and from the head extends transversely a lip C<sup>2</sup>, formed in its top with a groove, in which extends a removable slide C<sup>3</sup>, spaced from the bottom of the groove to form an air-duct C<sup>4</sup>, leading at its inner end to the hole B', opening into the main tube A. The bottom of the air-duct C<sup>4</sup> is rounded at its inner end at C<sup>5</sup>, as plainly illustrated in Fig. 3, so as to insure a proper passage of the air from the air-duct C<sup>4</sup> into

the hole B' to increase the volume of the air within the tube, and thereby allow a full sounding of the fife when the same is played. The slide is held removably to allow conveniently cleaning the air-duct of the mouthpiece whenever it is deemed necessary to do so.

The end A<sup>2</sup> of the main tube A is internally threaded to receive the threaded end of an extension-tube D for changing the C-key fife illustrated in Fig. 2 to a B-key fife, as indicated in Fig. 1. When the extension-tube D is in position on the main tube A, as shown in Fig. 1, then the operator closes the upper finger-hole B, and the fife is now a B-key fife. When it is desired to have a C-key fife, the operator simply unscrews and removes the extension-tube D and closes the lower finger-hole. The extra hole of the fife is to be closed by a valve of any suitable construction. In the drawings a spring-valve E, fitted to slide on the tube A, is shown for this purpose.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A fife comprising a main tube closed at one end and open at the other, the said main tube being provided with finger-holes, a mouthpiece at the closed end of the said main tube, and an extension-tube removably connected with the open end of the main tube.

2. A fife provided with a mouthpiece having a transverse lip, formed in its top with a groove, and a plate extending across the groove and spaced from the bottom thereof, to form an air-duct leading at its inner end to the main tube of the fife, the inner end of the bottom of the air-duct being rounded.

3. A fife provided with a mouthpiece having a transverse lip provided with a groove, and a removable slide carried by the lip above the bottom of the groove thereof.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JONATHAN JENKS.

Witnesses:

J. D. BURRELL,  
E. ROBINSON.