No. 626,827. Patented June 13, 1899.

H. H. DRAUGHON.

BIRD CALL.

(Application filed July 22, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

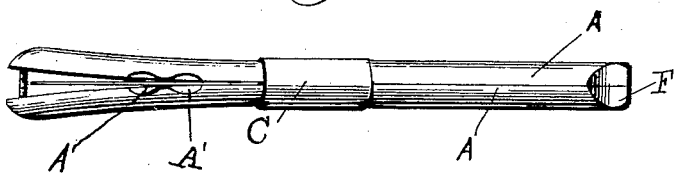


Fig. 2.

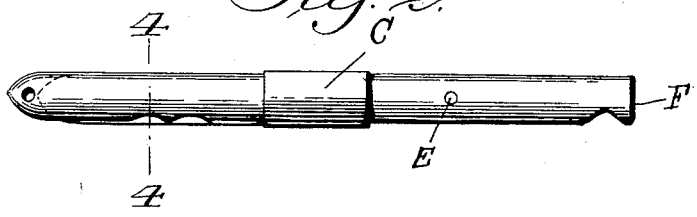


Fig. 3.

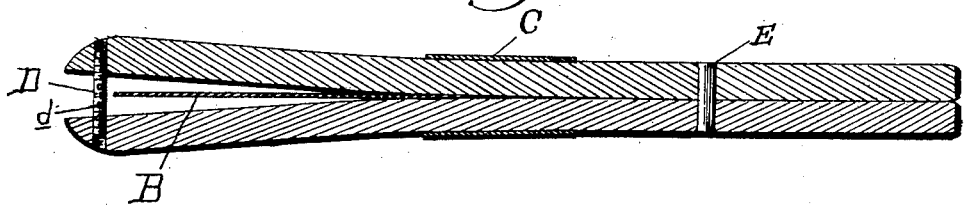


Fig. 4.

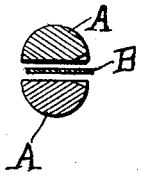
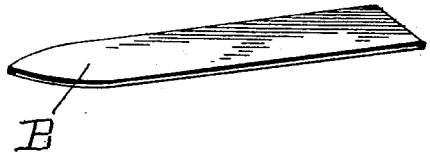


Fig 5.



Witnesses
L. C. Hills.
A. L. Hough

Inventor
H. H. Draughon,
by Franklin N. Hough
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARDY H. DRAUGHON, OF MINGO, NORTH CAROLINA.

BIRD-CALL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,827, dated June 13, 1899.

Application filed July 22, 1898. Serial No. 686,638. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARDY H. DRAUGHON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mingo, in the county of Sampson and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bird-Calls; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in bird-callers, and especially to a device whereby hawks, crows, and other birds may be decoyed within shooting range by means of a reed instrument which when being blown upon will make a note in imitation of the birds sought to be assembled.

More specifically, the present invention resides in the provision of a bird caller or decoy which is made of strips of material, between which is held at their flaring ends a reed, said strips being held together by means of a sliding band, the reed in said instrument being adapted to vibrate as the instrument is placed to the lips of the operator and a breath of air blown forcibly against the reed, suitable means being provided to hold the reed securely between the strips and for adjusting the reed laterally, so as to vary the tone of the instrument.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may relate the same consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claim.

My invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this application, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my bird-caller. Fig. 2 is a view taken at right angles to that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a central vertical and longitudinal section through the bird-caller, showing the relative arrangement of parts. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on line 4 4 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a detail in perspective of one of the reeds.

Reference now being had to the details of the invention by letter, A A designate the two strips of the instrument, which may be made of any material which may be found best adapted for the purpose, as of celluloid, vulcanized rubber, &c. These strips are convex on one side and flat on their adjacent edges, and between the two strips is held a reed B, which reed may be made of any suitable material, as of celluloid, aluminium, &c., and is held between the two strips by means of sliding band C, while the free end of the reed is tapered to a point and is allowed to vibrate between the forward ends of said strips A, in the space between the strips, which is afforded by distending said ends, as shown in the drawings, by means of a right and left threaded screw D, which has its opposite ends held in screw-threaded apertures in the ends of the strips, as illustrated clearly in Fig. 3 of the drawings. The two strips A A are held together by means of a bolt E, and when it is desired to contract the flaring ends between which the reed is held for the purpose of varying the pitch of the tone which it is desired to give forth the said double-ended screw may be turned by means of inserting a small pointed instrument in the apertures *d* in said screw and shortening the distance between the ends of the strips.

In order to adapt the instrument to impart when blown upon a certain pitch of tone, as for calling certain kinds of hawks, it is necessary to adjust the reed horizontally within the space between the strips, and in the cross-section in Fig. 4 is shown the reed slightly adjusted so that one of its edges will extend beyond the convex surfaces of the strips for this purpose. In order to prevent the reed from sticking to the adjacent flat edges of the strips A A by means of any saliva that may accumulate on the surfaces, I have recessed away the edges, as at A′, to prevent the reed sticking to the flat surfaces, and in order to determine readily the edge of the reed which is to be held in proximity to the strips when the instrument is being blown I have notched the side, as at F, in which the thumb or fingers of the operator can engage when the instrument is picked up.

When it is desired to adjust the reed between the strips or replace the same, the band C is merely slipped back to the right and the

reed inserted between the strips, after which the band may be forced up over the end of the reed, and the latter is securely clamped between the strips, as will be readily understood.

It has been found from experience that a bird-caller made in accordance with my invention is so constructed as to enable a person by its use to imitate the precise note of various birds of prey, and by this instrument such birds may be readily decoyed or attracted within convenient range and be destroyed.

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

A bird-caller, consisting of the two strips riveted together, and having oppositely-recessed edges, a clamping-band mounted thereon, a laterally-adjustable reed held between said strips, combined with a double-ended right and left threaded screw mounted in threaded apertures in the ends of the strips, to regulate the size of the space in which the reed is designed to vibrate, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HARDY H. DRAUGHON.

Witnesses:
FRANKLIN H. HOUGH,
A. L. HOUGH.