

YE ART OF YE FYFE

Being a Discourse on ye Proper Usage & Construction of a Mostly Musical Instrument. All-so Including a Briefe History of said Infernal Device.

History of Ye Fyfe

Ye Fufe was invented, no doubt, for it Rarely occurreth in nature.

It is indeed fortunate that Fyfing was invented shortly after Ye Fyfe was invented, else we should have no use whatsoever for Ye Fyfe. It is too hollow to provide a proper machine for beating mules and small children, and too Holely to function as a drinking straw.

Construction of Ye Fyfe

Take a stick and drill it through and puncture it with several Holes along its back. Many do err, and puncture its front, from which ye Fyfe can never recover.) Tune to taste by means of a small plug inserted in one end. (Some Fyfe-makers insert a plug in each ear, thus avoiding ye sound altogether.)

How to Make Sounds on Ye Fyfe

Choose a convenient Hole in ye Fyfe and place it just beneath thy lower Lip. Blow across ye hole. (A Fyfe uttereth not a sound if ye Hole is blown directly into; it must be played sidesaddle.)

If no sound emerges, you have chosen ye wrong Hole and must begin anew.

If an unearthly and piercing shriek issues forth, and ye entire country-side arouses, you have succeeded.

If you hear Music, you are not playing a Fyfe, you are playing a saxophone.

Uses of Ye Fyfe

Ye Fyfe provideth a fair imitation of a squealing pig, should need for that arise. Otherwise, ye Fyfe hath no use whatsoever in Peacetime.

In Wartime, ye Fyfe is played to waken ye soldiery and to send it to sleep; to warn ye Army of danger and to lead it into Danger; to dispatch men to gather food and to announce ye arrival of food. Fyfers, like Generals, never seem to make up their minds.

Proper Materials for Ye Fyfe

Fyfes, although not good ones, have been made from various materials, including wood.

Ye Cost of Ye Fyfe

A Fyfe, although not a good one, may be purchased at Ye cost of sleepless nights, burst ear drums, and loss of all thy friends.

Conclusion

Some scoff, or even snarl, at ye Fyfe, and call it bothersome, but it can produce a most welcome Sound if properly employed, vic., when ye Fyfer places his Fyfe in its Case and leaveth his house, and buries ye Case deeply in a worthless field.

Each night thereafter, from ye Fyfer's fyfeless house will come the sweetest musick a Fyfe is capable of, namely, blessed SILENCE.....