

Bunting's organ invention 1828

Dublin Evening Mail, Wednesday 22 October 1828, page 3 (paragraphs are editorial):

GREAT IMPROVEMENT ON THE ORGAN — The lovers of harmony will be much gratified to hear, that a great addition has been made to the powers of the organ by Mr. EDWARD BUNTING already well known in the musical world, as the collector and preserver of our ancient national Melodies.

By means of a very ingenious mechanical arrangement the performer is enabled to add the sound of the octave below to that of the note touched by his finger, thus forming what are called double diapasons, and producing a body and richness of tone hitherto deemed unattainable, except by adding considerably to the number of pipes, and increasing the expense of workmanship. It also gives still further powers to the performer by allowing him to introduce a variety of changes in the management of the stops.

The effect produced is such as to render an organ of moderate size and capabilities adequate to fill the largest place of worship. This invention has already been put to the test of experiment in St. Stephen's Church, near Merrion-square, where its character as an improvement of the utmost value has been established by the approval of a congregation well qualified to decide on its merits. The inventor's confidence in its success is such, that he has already taken the necessary steps to secure his right by patent, to a discovery which to all appearance will form an era in the history of organ building.

Transcribed by David Byers, 1 May 2018, Belfast.