

The Side Drum or Military Drum derives its characteristic rasping nasal tone partly from its shallow depth, partly from a quadruple or sextuple strand of catgut (called 'snares') stretched across the lower of its two heads.

The Big Drum (so-called) is chiefly used in military bands to mark, by its powerful thud, the rhythm in marching. As with other instruments of its class, it is effective in inverse proportion to the frequency of its employment. It may be described as a short section of a large cylinder with a vellum head at either end, tightened by a bracing of cords from one to the other. The larger the drum, the more assertive the sound, and the lower the pitch.

The Kettledrum is a cauldron-shaped vessel of copper covered in with vellum, which can be stretched more or less tightly by screws placed round the circumference, the membrane yielding then a higher or lower definite note. In cavalry bands two drums are used, placed one on each side of the horse's neck. In orchestras two drums are required (of different sizes), and often three are used. The larger of the two drums should be able to go down to *f*, and the smaller up to the *f* above, giving a range of an octave to the two instruments, each drum having a range of a fifth.

The Tambourine may be played in several ways, either struck, shaken, or lightly rubbed with the fingers so that the head and 'gingles' only sound.

Included in what the French call the 'batterie,' though more correctly included under sonorous substances, are the Cymbals—circular plates of hammered gun-metal which ought