

"In Memoriam" (1881)

(In Memoriam: Garfield's Funeral March)

Washington's best-known Mason in 1881 was President James A. Garfield, who was a member of Columbia Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar. Sousa was also to belong to this same organization five years later, but during Garfield's presidency he was being worked in the lower degrees of Masonry.

Sousa was not well acquainted with the President, but he was greatly shaken at the news of his assassination. In the autobiography he tells of hearing paperboys shouting the news of Garfield's death. It was unexpected, because the President had been recovering satisfactorily from the gunshot wound of two months earlier. Shocked, Sousa rose from his bed and went outside for a walk. With the event weighing heavily on his mind he walked all through the night and into the next morning. When he returned home he immediately committed the dirge "In Memoriam" to paper.

The dirge was played by the U. S. Marine Band as the President's body was received in Washington and then again at its final resting place in Cleveland. It was afterward played infrequently by the Marine Band until half a century later, when it was played while John Philip Sousa's body was being escorted to the grave in Congressional Cemetery.

Paul E. Bierley, The Works of John Philip Sousa (Westerville, Ohio: Integrity Press, 1984), 63. Used by permission.

Editorial Notes

Throughout Sousa's career as a conductor, he often altered the performance of his marches without marking or changing the printed music. These alterations were designed for concert performances and included varying dynamics and omitting certain instruments on repeated strains to expand the range of the musical textures, as well as adding unscripted percussion accents for dramatic emphasis at key points in the music. Although Sousa never documented his performance techniques himself, several players who worked extensively with Sousa provided directions for his frequently performed marches, most notably cornetist Frank Simon. Sousa continued to conduct many of his earlier marches later in his career with these unique alterations, but he rarely returned to several of the marches composed between 1873 and 1880. Although no written confirmation exists for how Sousa might have performed these earliest compositions, select elements of his typical performance practices can also be applied to these works, including his two funeral marches.

The Complete Marches of John Philip Sousa appears in chronological order and is based on some of the earliest known sources for each composition. These newly edited full scores correct many mistakes and inconsistencies found in the parts of early publications; however, all remaining markings and the original scoring are preserved. Additionally, the alterations traditionally employed by the United States Marine Band in performance are incorporated throughout; either those specifically documented by Sousa's musicians or changes modeled on the customary practices of "The March King."

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Performance practices that deviate from the original printed indications are described below and appear in [brackets] in the score. In many instances these indications appear side-by-side with the original markings. An open diamond marked with an accent in the cymbal part indicates that the cymbal player should let that accent ring for an additional beat before rejoining the bass drum part.

First strain (m. 1-16): The pick-up 16th note at the very end of the first strain (m. 16) and leading into the second strain was originally marked *piano* in some parts, but not in the cornets. All instruments should play this *subito piano* on this final note.

Second strain (m. 17-32): An added crescendo in the cornet parts helps the transition to the fortissimo dynamic of the next strain.

Trio (m. 41-48 and m. 53-end): Cornets may tacet for this first statement of the trio theme; however, trombones should continue to play. Cornets rejoin for the brief interlude that follows in m. 49 and all instruments play for the final *fortissimo* statement of the trio theme.

(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)Flute **JOHN PHILIP SOUSA** Lento. Marcia funebre. TRIO. Grandioso

(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Oboe



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

Eb Clarinet

(1881)



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Solo & 1st Bb Clarinet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

2nd Bb Clarinet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

3rd Bb Clarinet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Bassoon



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

Eb Alto Saxophone



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Bb Tenor Saxophone



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

Eb Baritone Saxophone

(1881)



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

1st Bb Cornet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

2nd Bb Cornet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

3rd Bb Cornet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

4th Bb Cornet



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

1st F Horn



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

2nd F Horn



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

3rd F Horn



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

4th F Horn



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

Baritone, T.C.

(1881)



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)Baritone **JOHN PHILIP SOUSA** Lento. Marcia funebre. 17 24 31 43 55

(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

1st Trombone



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

2nd Trombone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Lento. Marcia funebre. 17 TRIO. p con espressione 43 56

(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Bass Trombone



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Tuba



(President Garfield's Funeral March)

(1881)

Percussion

