The Complete Marches of John Philip Sousa
Vol. 1 No. 2

The Honored Dead
March
(1876)

Full Score

As performed by
"The President's Own" United States Marine Band
“The Honored Dead” (1876)

The date of this march, as inscribed on the manuscript of a piano arrangement by C. H. Hattersley, is 1876. The occasion for the march’s composition is not known. When President U. S. Grant died in 1885, Sousa arranged the piece for band, apparently at the publisher’s request. It has rarely been performed but was fittingly used by the U. S. Marine Band in Sousa’s funeral procession.


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 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.”

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.

Trio (m. 26-33): After the dramatic introduction and forceful first strain of this dirge, the woodwinds should lead the new texture introduced in the brief trio. E-flat clarinet in the upper octave may tacet as well as E-flat cornet, which doubles part of the solo cornet line. Solo and first cornet may continue to play to color the woodwinds, but one on a part is appropriate. Second and third cornet may tacet, as they double the harmonies provided by the horns. All instruments should rejoin in m. 34.

Final strain (m. 42-end): This reprise of the trio melody can be altered once again first time through, bringing the dynamic down to mezzo-piano. The upper octave should be present with the flute and E-flat clarinet, but piccolo may tacet first time, as well as all cornets and trombones. All instruments rejoin at fortissimo with the pick-up notes to the repeat and play the final strain fortissimo as printed second time. The D.C. is then played through to the marked Fine ending.
Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Full Score

Slow March.

Flute/Piccolo

Oboe (optional)

Clarinet in E♭

Solo & 1st B♭ Clarinets

2nd B♭ Clarinet

Bassoon (optional)

1st & 2nd Alto Saxophones (optional)

Tenor Saxophone (optional)

Baritone Saxophone (optional)

E♭ Cornet (optional)

Solo B♭ Cornet

1st B♭ Cornet

2nd & 3rd B♭ Cornets

1st & 2nd F Horns

3rd & 4th F Horns

Baritone

Euphonium

1st & 2nd Trombones

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Percussion

Snare Drum

This Edition in the Public Domain - 2015

As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band
Funeral March
THE HONORED DEAD
(1876)
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Flute/Piccolo

Slow March.

ff

5

mf
cresc.

9

molto
ff
cresc.

16

moto
ff

21

To Trio  Finé

26

TRIO

ff

38  [+ Picc. 1st time]

43

[mp]ff

47

1.  [+ Picc.]  2.  D.C.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Oboe

(optional)

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Eb Clarinet

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

Solo & 1st B♭ Clarinet

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

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Funeral March
THE HONORED DEAD
(1876)  JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

3rd B♭ Clarinet

Slow March.

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Funeral March
THE HONORED DEAD
(1876)  JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Bassoon
(optional)

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Tenor Saxophone

(optional)

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Baritone Saxophone

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

As played by “The President's Own” United States Marine Band

This Edition in the Public Domain - 2015
Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

Solo B♭ Cornet

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

1st B♭ Cornet

(1876) JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

1st F Horn

(1876) JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

To Trio Finé
Funeral March

THE HONOURED DEAD

2nd F Horn

(1876) JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

ff

D.C.
Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

3rd F Horn

(1876) JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

4th F Horn

(1876)  JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

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Funeral March
THE HONORED DEAD
(1876)
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Slow March.

ff

p

mf

p

cresc. molto

ff

To Trio

Finé

TRIO

p

ff

[mp] ff

1. 2. D.C.
Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Bass Trombone

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Funeral March

THE HONORED DEAD

(1876)  

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Drums

Slow March.

Snare Drum

Bass Drum (no cyms.)

ff

p

cresc.
molto

ff

17

To Trio

Finé

TRIO

Triangle

p

4

Drum

ff

[mp] ff

D.C.

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