Semper Fidelis March

by: John Philip Sousa

Original Copyright: 1888
By: Carl Fischer

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John Philip Sousa

DOB: November 6th, 1854 (Washington, DC)
DOD: March 6th, 1932 (Reading, PA)

John Philip Sousa wrote the most famous American military marches of all time, including "Stars and Stripes Forever," earning him the nickname "the March King"; he was also known as a great bandleader, and organized the famed concert and military group, Sousa's Band. Born in Washington, D.C., on November 6, 1854, Sousa followed in the footsteps of his father, a musician in the U.S. Marine Corps, and enlisted by the age of 14. Before this, Sousa had studied violin with John Esputa. While active in the Marines, he composed his first march, "Salutation."

Around the age of 16, Sousa began studying harmony with G.F. Benkert, then worked as a pit orchestra conductor at a local theater, followed by jobs as first chair violinist at the Ford Opera House, the Philadelphia Chestnut Street Theater, and later led the U.S. Marine Corps Band (1880-1992). Although most famous for his marches, Sousa composed in other styles as well, including a waltz, "Moonlight on the Potomac"; a gallop, "The Cuckoo" (both in 1869); the oratorio "Messiah of the Nations" (1914); and scores for Broadway musicals The Smugglers (1879), Desiree (1884), The Glass Blowers (1893), El Capitan (1896; which was his first real scoring success), American Maid (1913), and more.

Sousa formed his sternly organized marching band in 1892, leading them through numerous U.S. and European tours, a world tour, and an appearance in the 1915 Broadway show Hip-Hip-Hooray. Sousa's Band also recorded many sides for the Victor label up through the early '30s. His most famous marches include "The Stars and Stripes Forever" (1897), "U.S. Field Artillery March," "Semper Fidelis" (written in 1888, it became the Marine Corps anthem), "Washington Post March" (1889), "King Cotton" (1895), "El Capitan" (1896), and many more. In addition to writing music, Sousa also wrote books, including the best-seller Fifth String and his autobiography, Marching Along. Actor Clifton Webb portrayed Sousa in the movie about his life entitled Stars and Stripes Forever. The instrument the sousaphone was named after this famous composer and bandleader. ~ Joslyn Layne, All Music Guide

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Semper Fidelis (march). The march was copyrighted in 1888 by the Carl Fischer Company of New York (New York). This march takes its title from the motto of the United States Marine Corps - *"Semper Fidelis" - Always Faithful.* The trio is an extension of an earlier Sousa composition, *"With Steady Step,"* one of eight brief trumpet and drum pieces he wrote for *The Trumpet and Drum* (1886). It was dedicated to those who inspired it -- the officers and men of the United States Marine Corps.

A summary of his complete works by category can be found at the following link:

http://www.dws.org/sousa/content/view/22/

Sources

Picture:

http://www.empire.k12.ca.us/capistrano/Mike/capmusic/modern/american%20composers/sousa/Marine1.jpg

Biography:

http://www.answers.com/topic/john-philip-sousa
http://www.dws.org/sousa/

Output:

http://www.dws.org/sousa/content/view/22/

Bierley, Paul E. *The works of John Philip Sousa* (1984), Integrity Press, Westerville, OH., p. 56-7. (Gladiator)

Bierley, Paul E. *The works of John Philip Sousa* (1984), Integrity Press, Westerville, OH., p. 89. (Thunderer)

Program note researched by Marcus L. Neiman
Medina, Ohio

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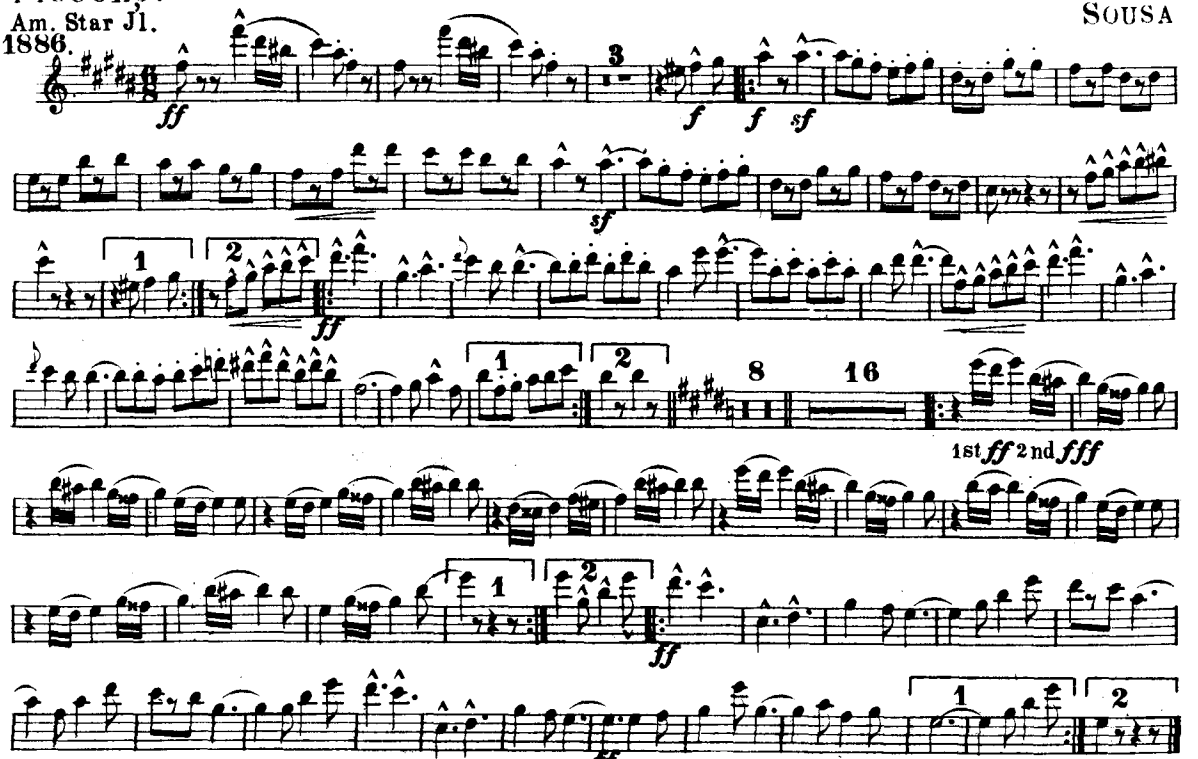
Semper Fidelis March.

PICCOLO.

Am. Star Jl.

1886.

SOUSA



Carl Fischer, New York

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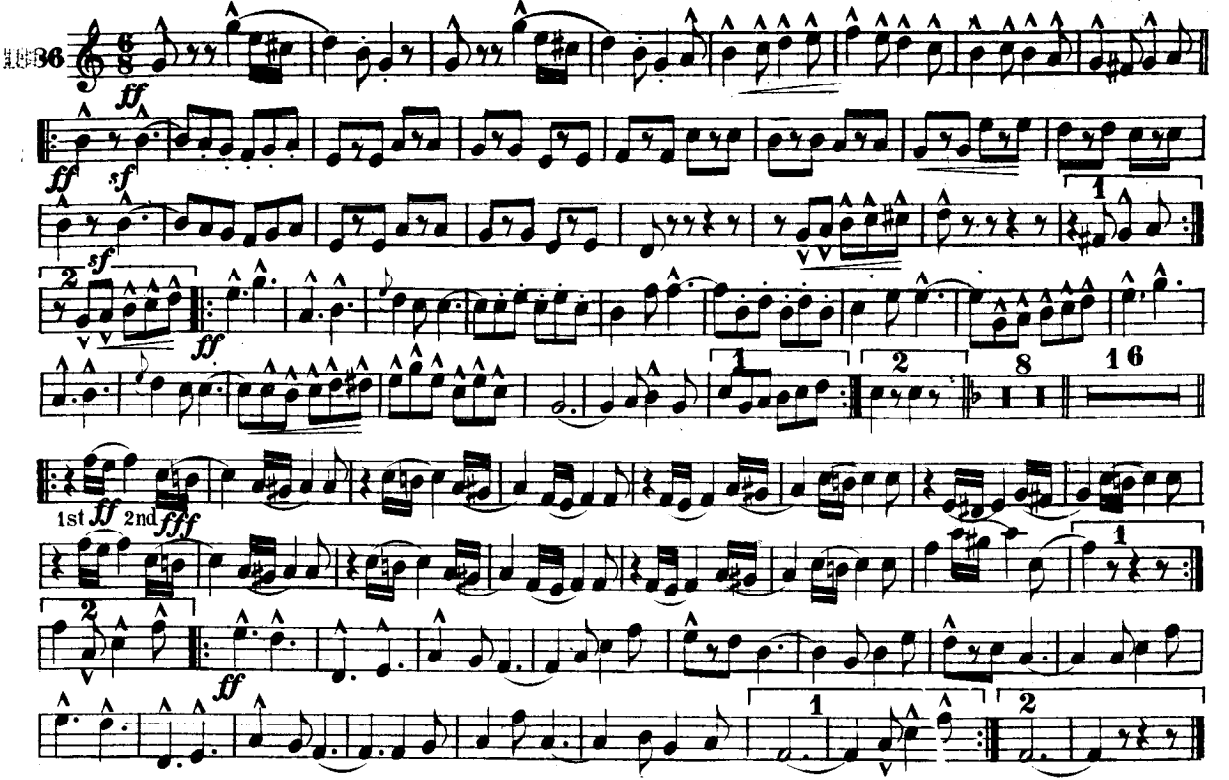
Semper Fidelis March.

OBOE.

SOUSA.



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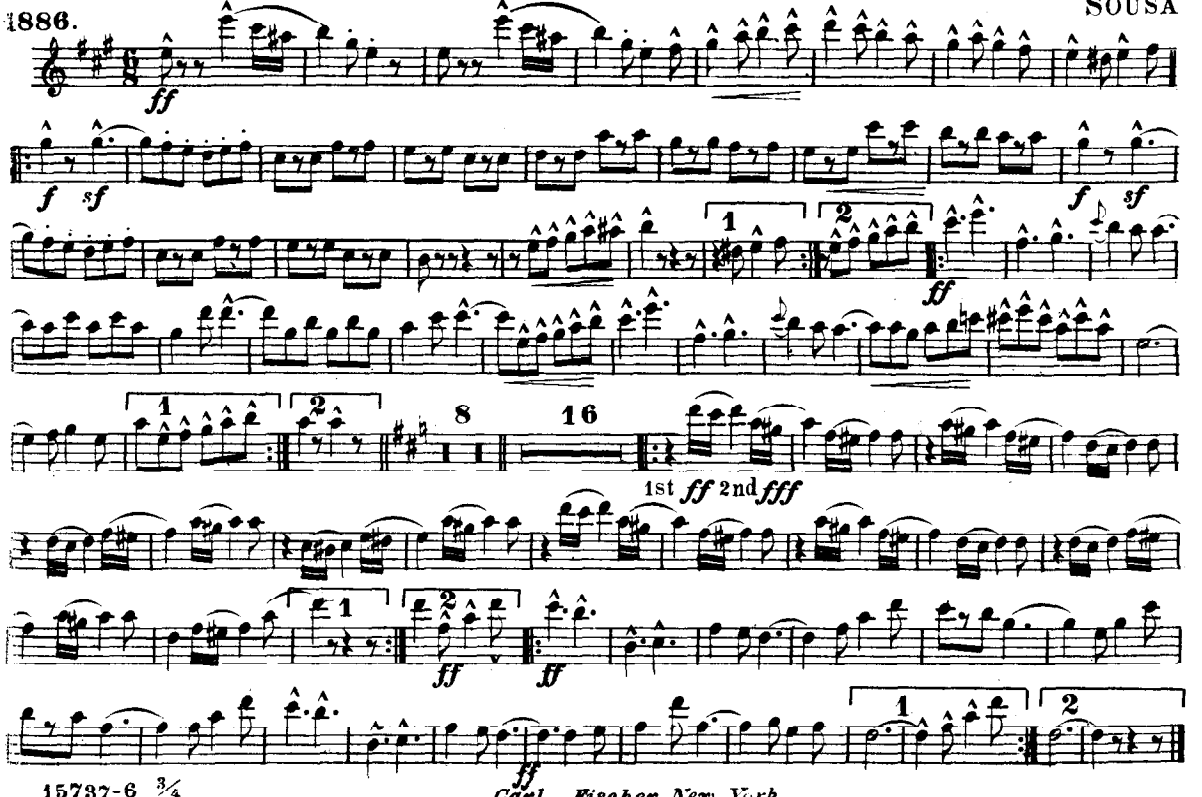
Semper Fidelis March.

E♭ CLARINET.

SOUSA

1886.



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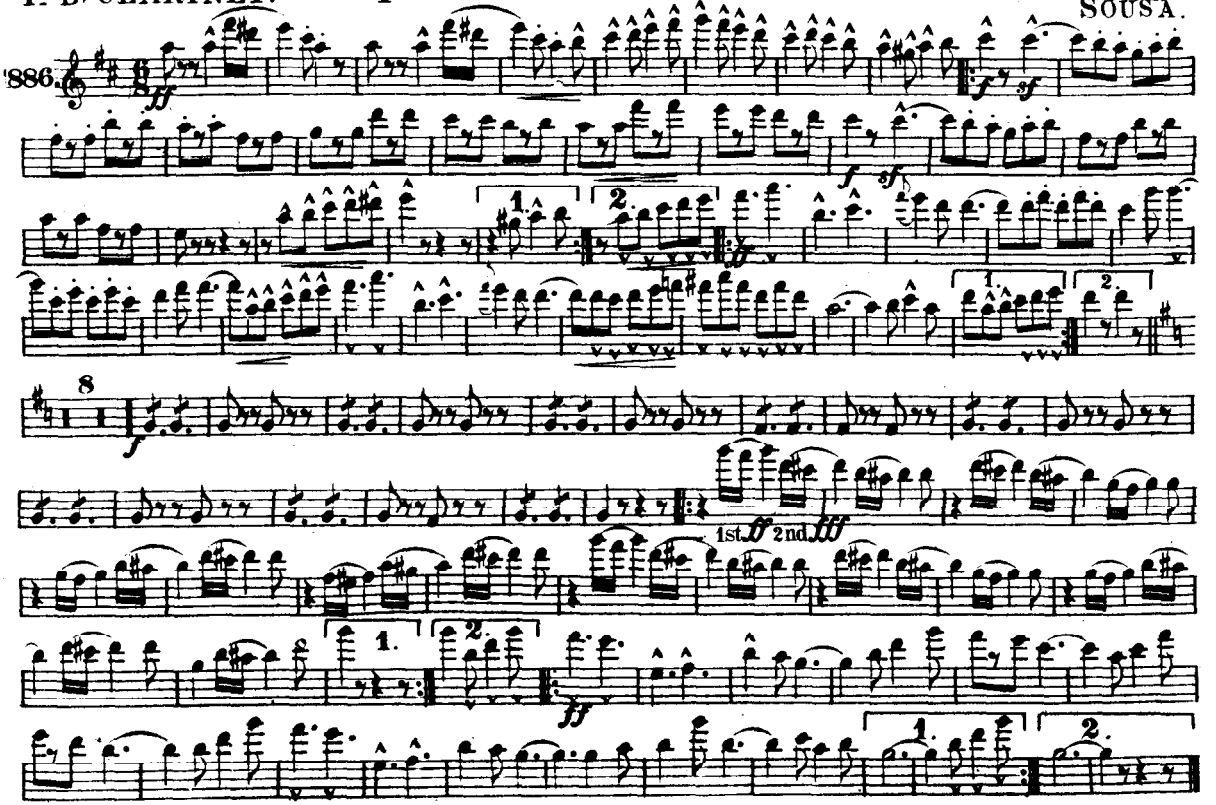
SOLO OR
1st B♭ CLARINET.

Semper Fidelis March

SOUSA.



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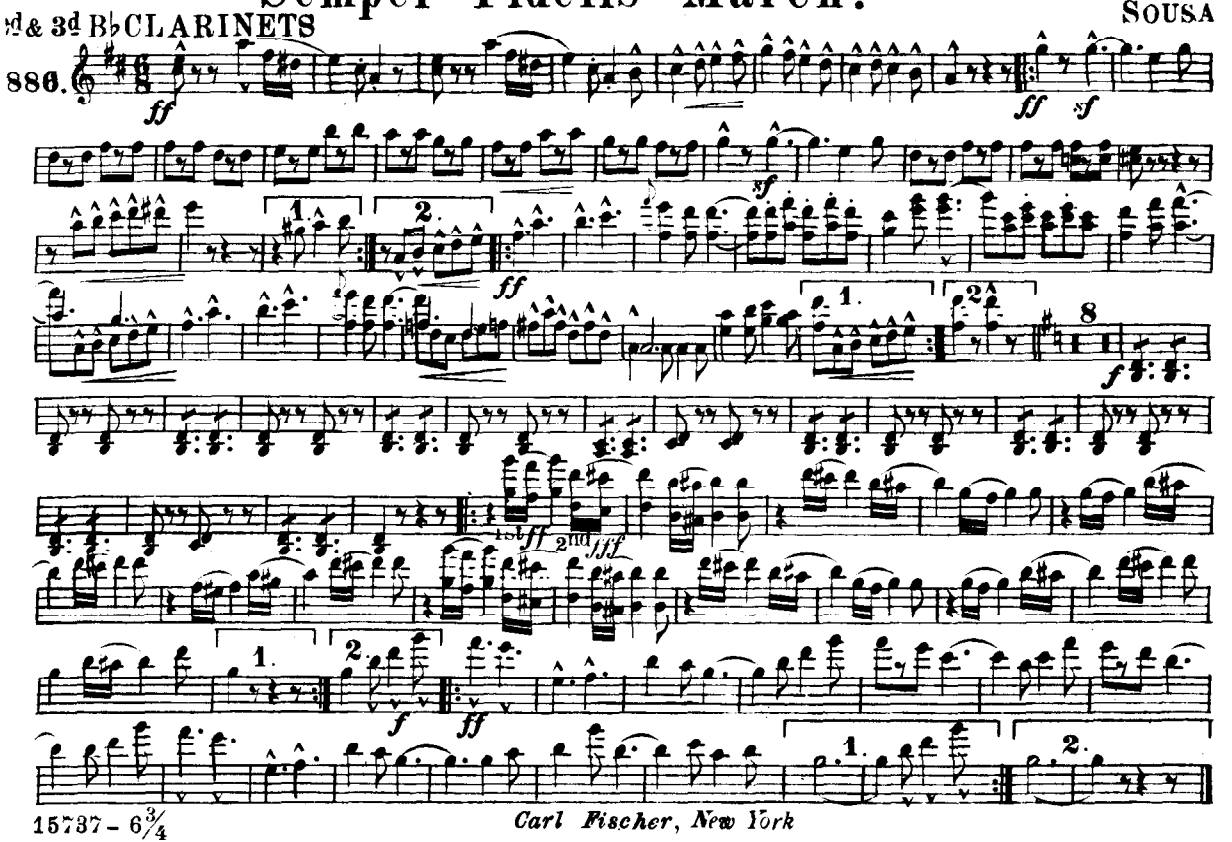
Semper Fidelis March.

SOUSA



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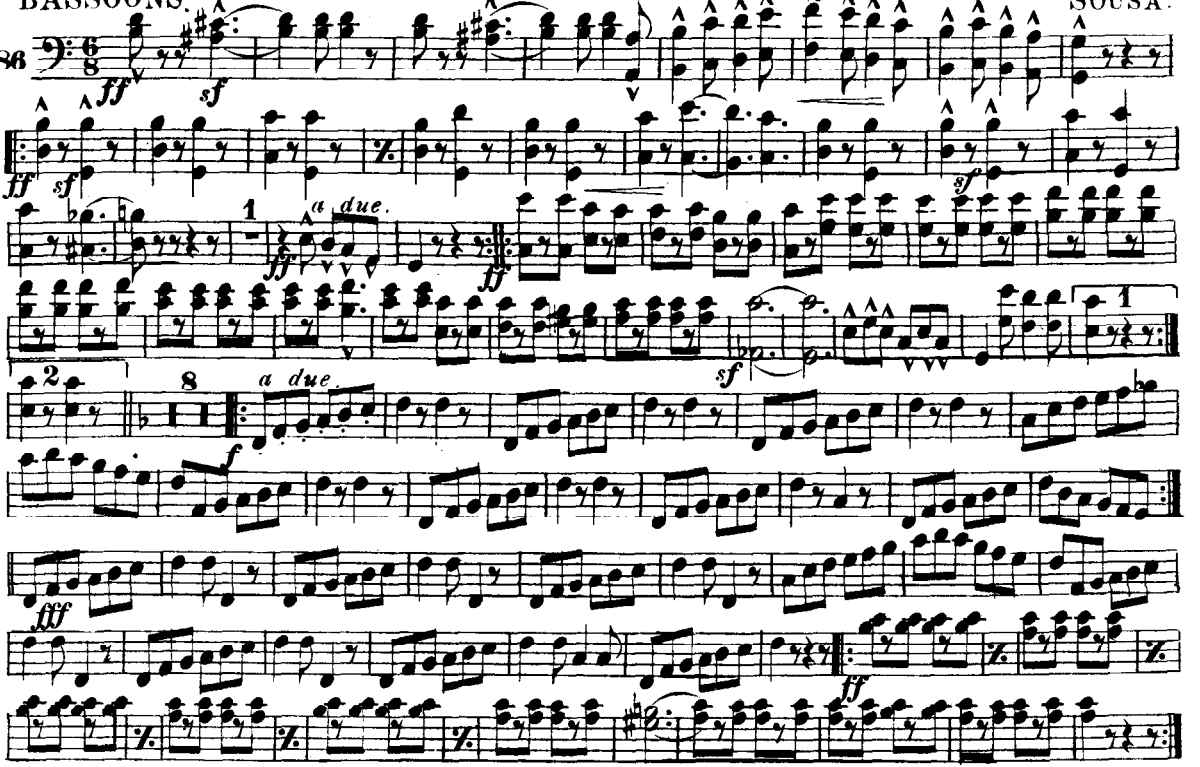
Semper Fidelis March.

BASSOONS.

SOUSA.

1886



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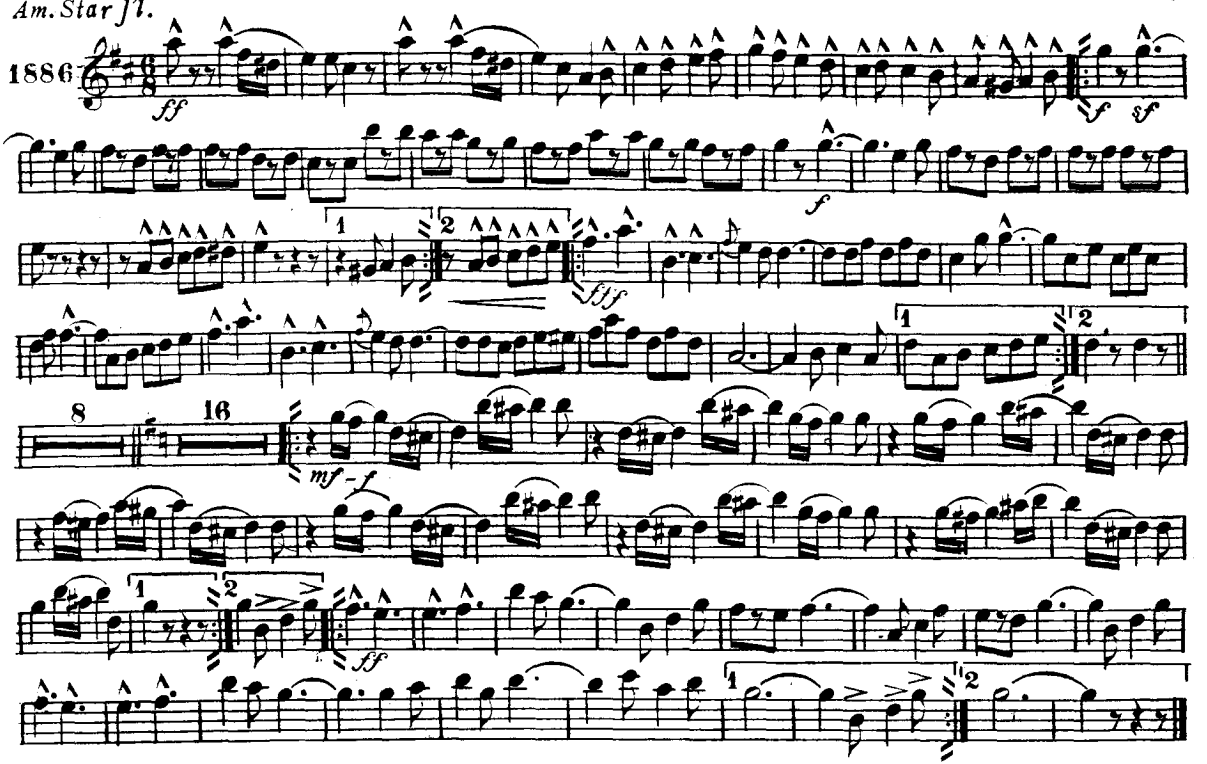
Semper Fidelis.

Soprano Saxophone

Sousa.

Am. Star Jl.

1886



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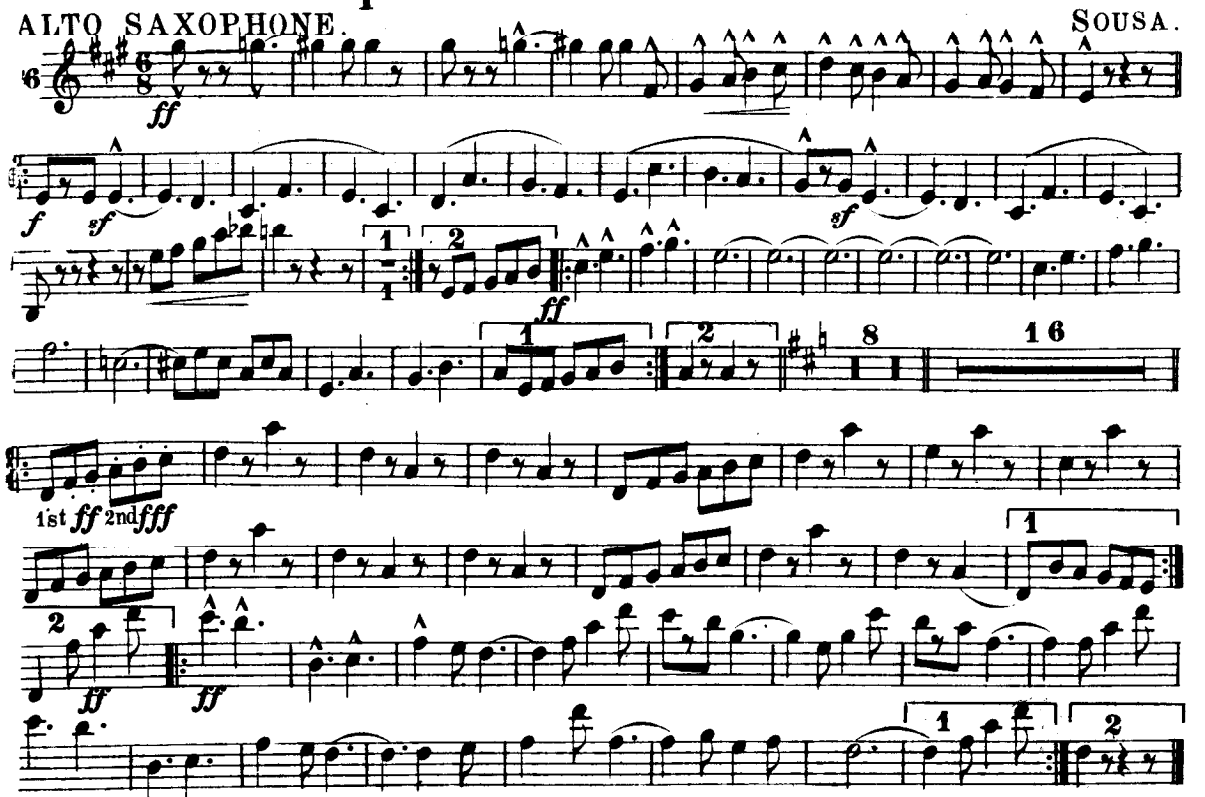
Semper Fidelis March.

ALTO SAXOPHONE.

SOUSA.



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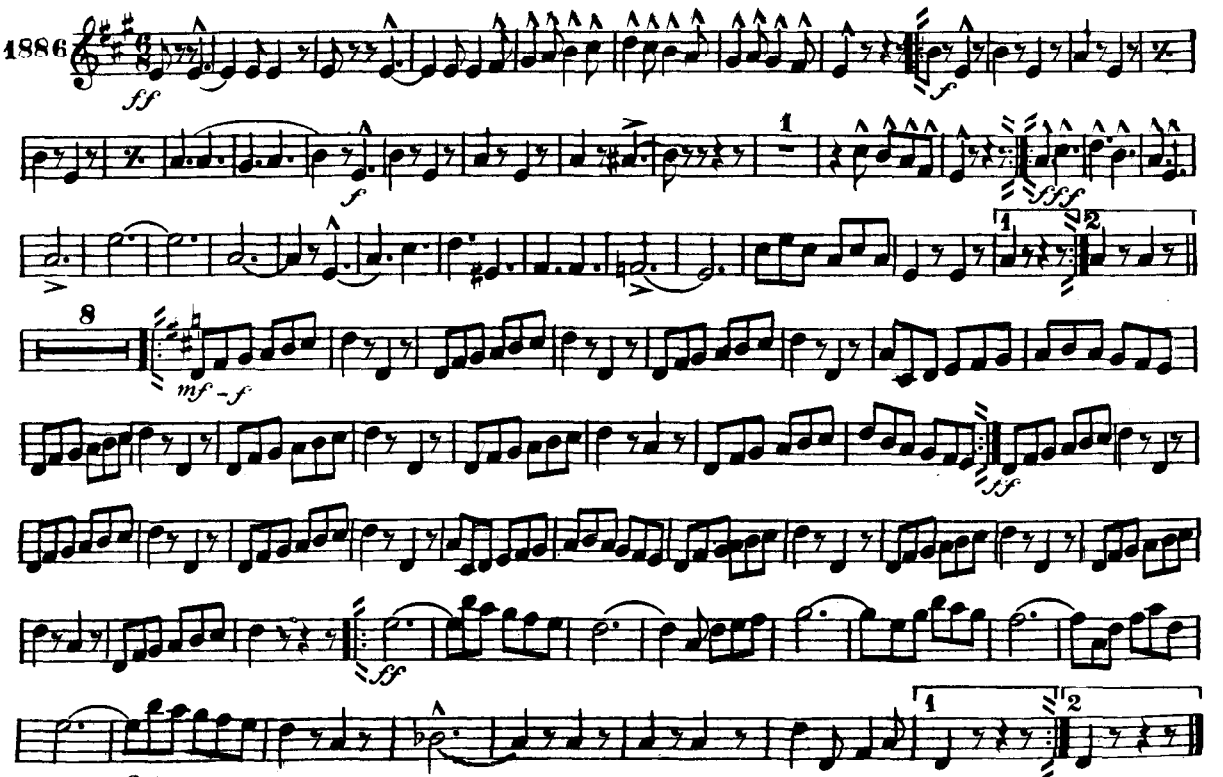
Semper Fidelis.

Baritone Saxophone

Sousa.



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Carl Fischer, New York.

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Semper Fidelis March

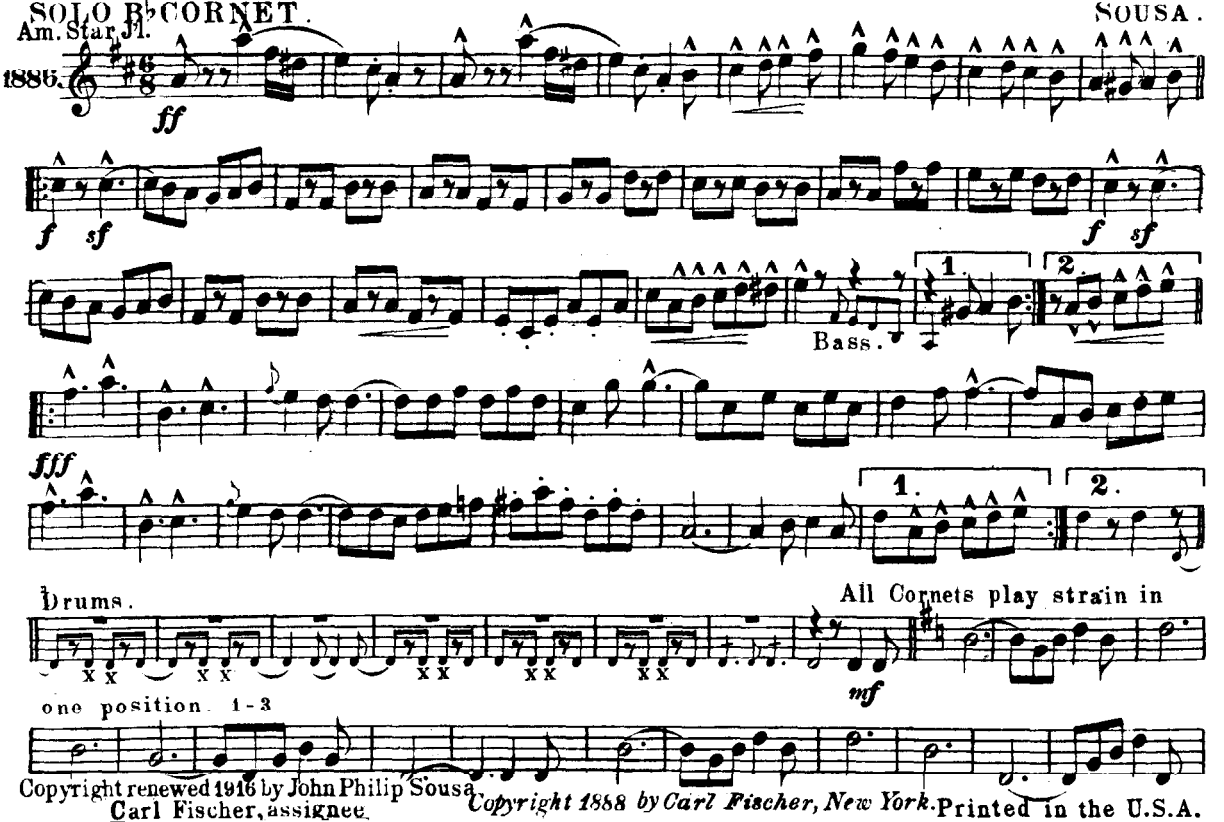
Full Band 60¢

SOLO B♭ CORNET.

SOUSA.

Am. Star Jl.

1886.



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Carl Fischer, assignee.
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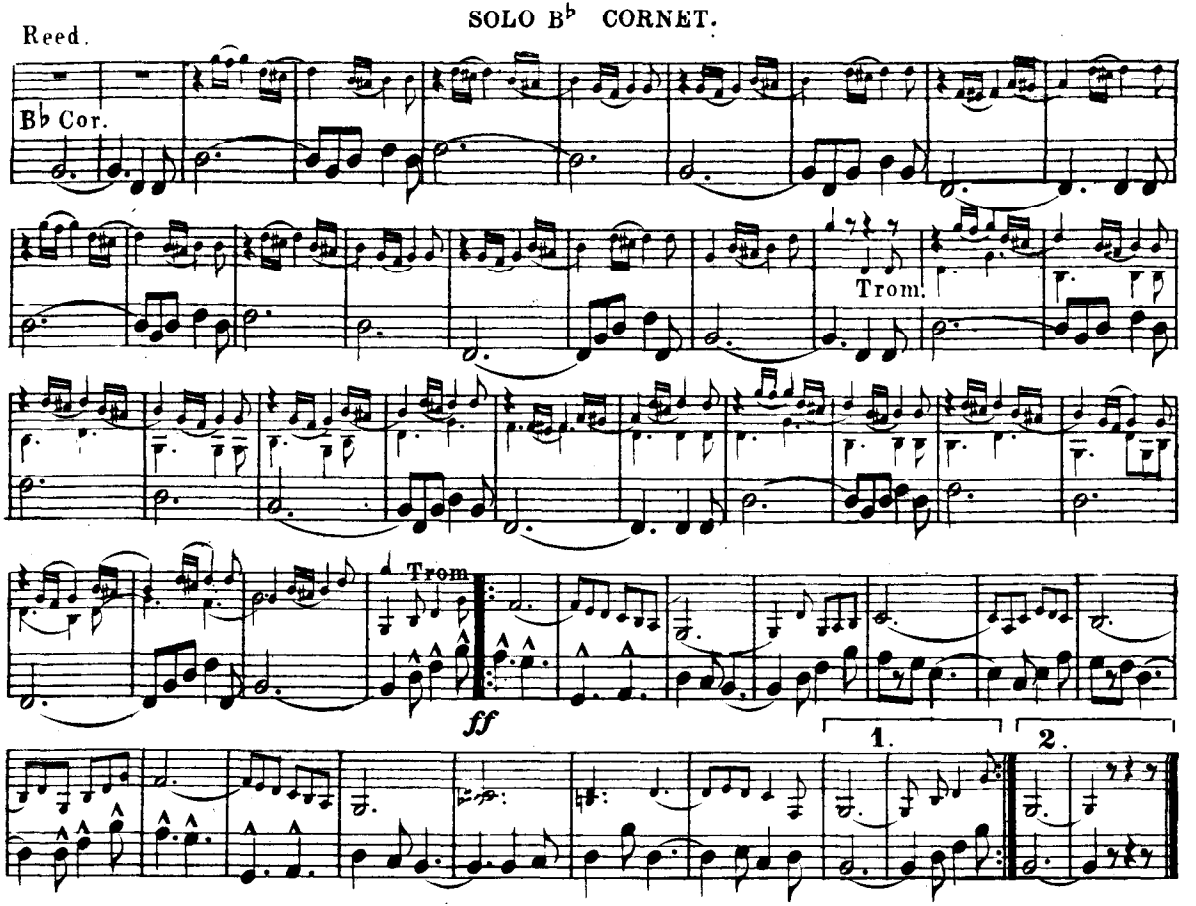

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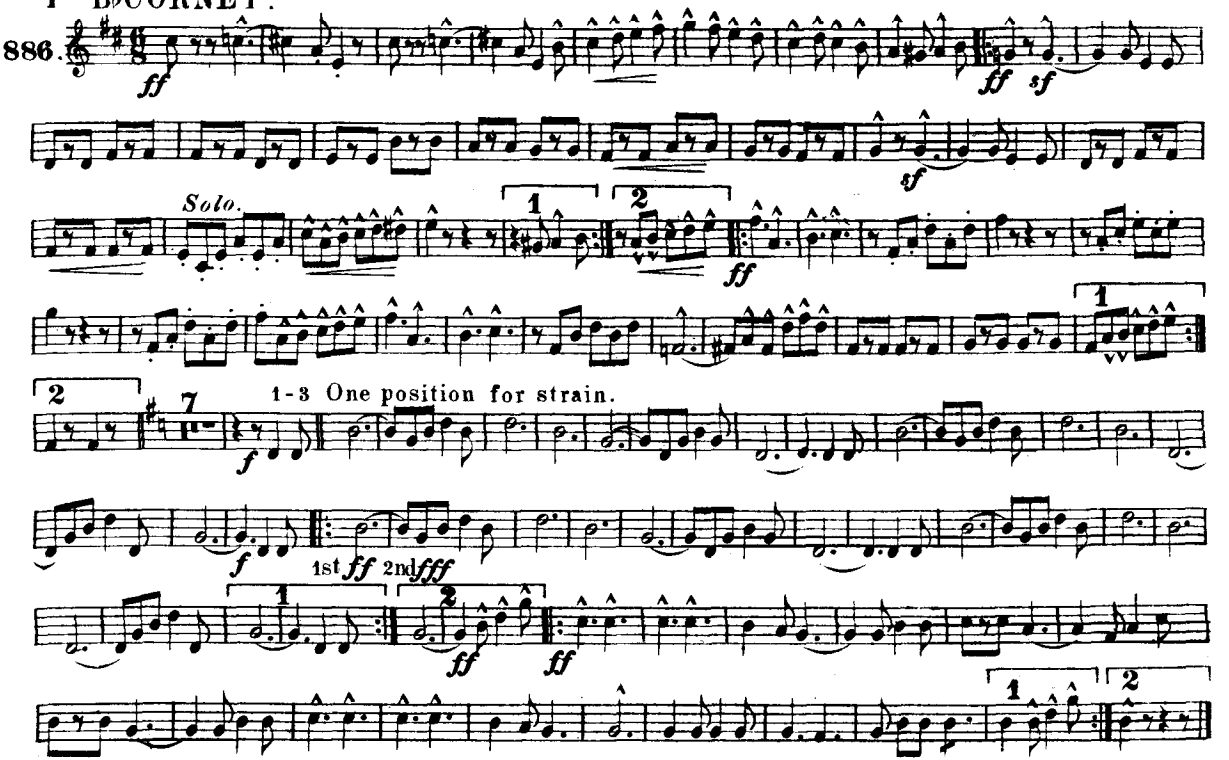
Semper Fidelis March.

1st B♭ CORNET.

886.



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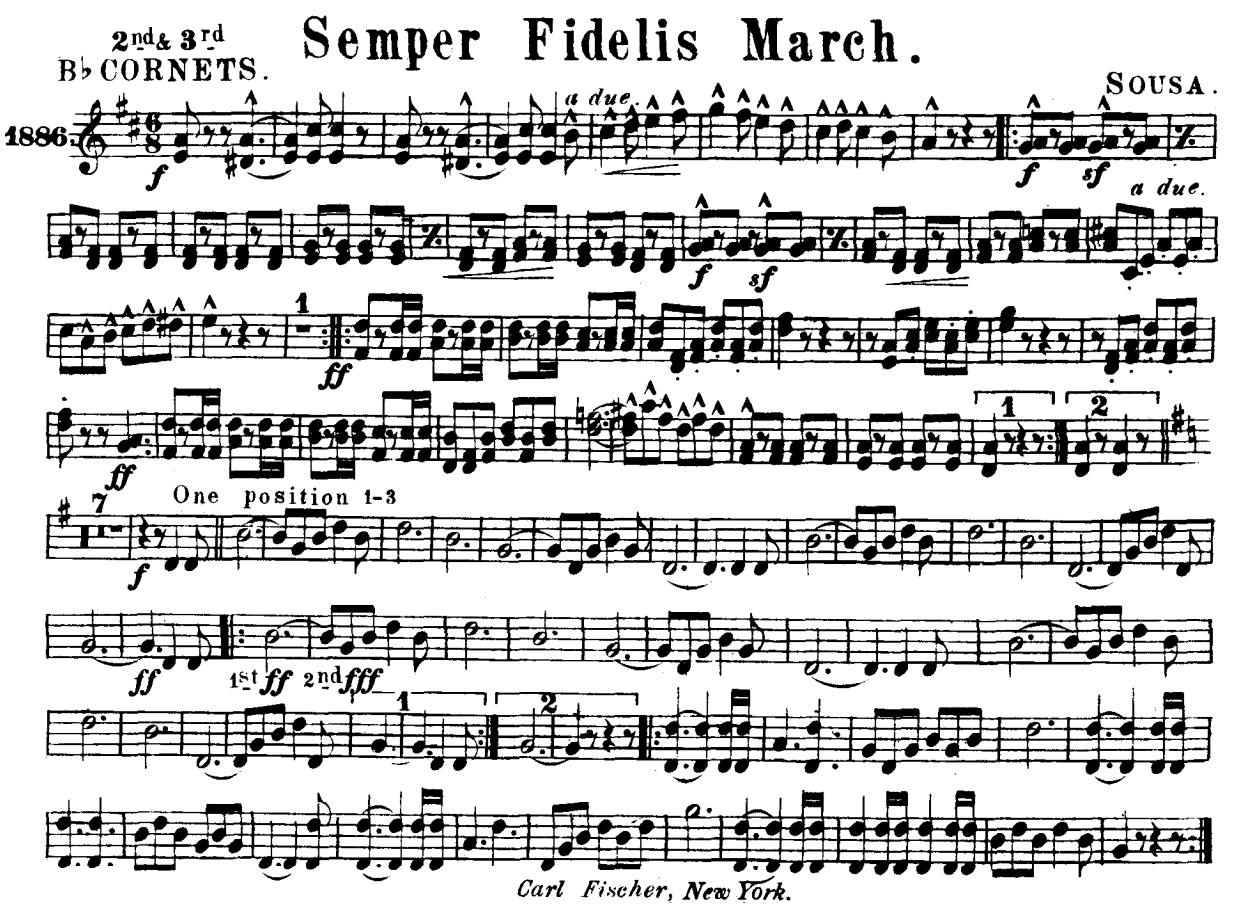

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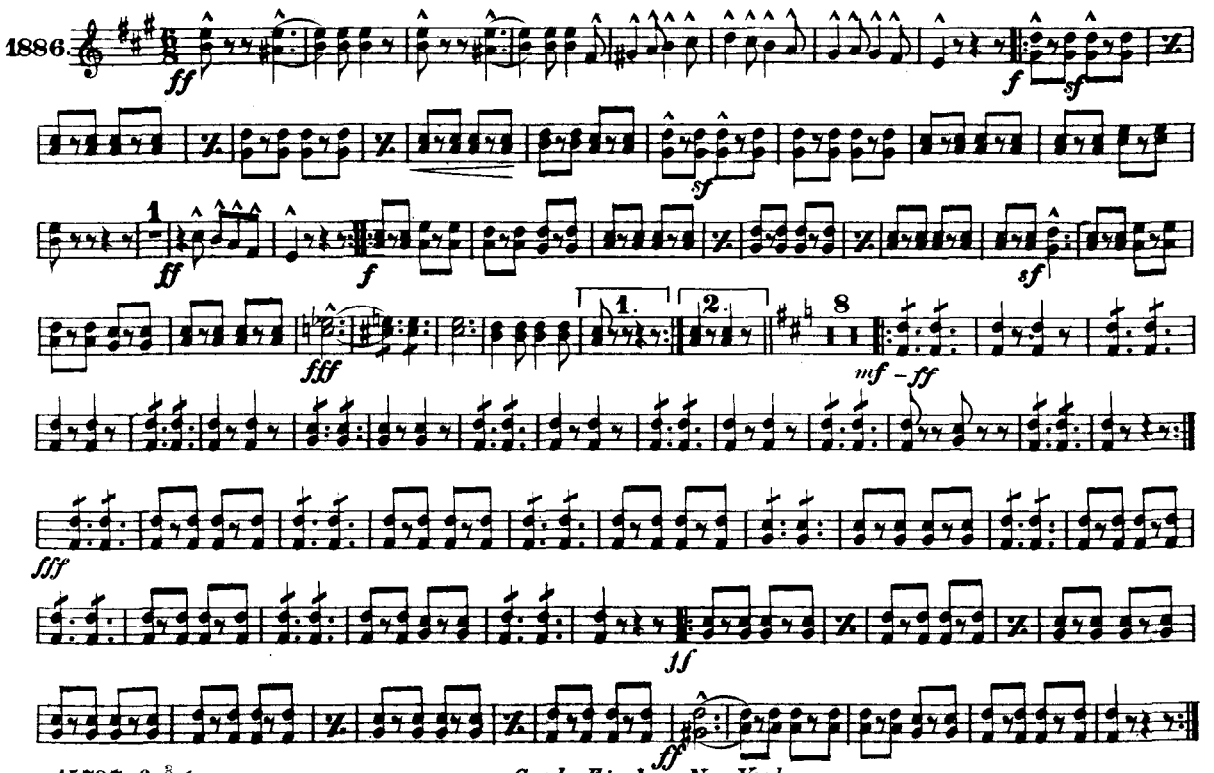
Semper Fidelis March.

1st & 2nd ALTOS.

SOUSA



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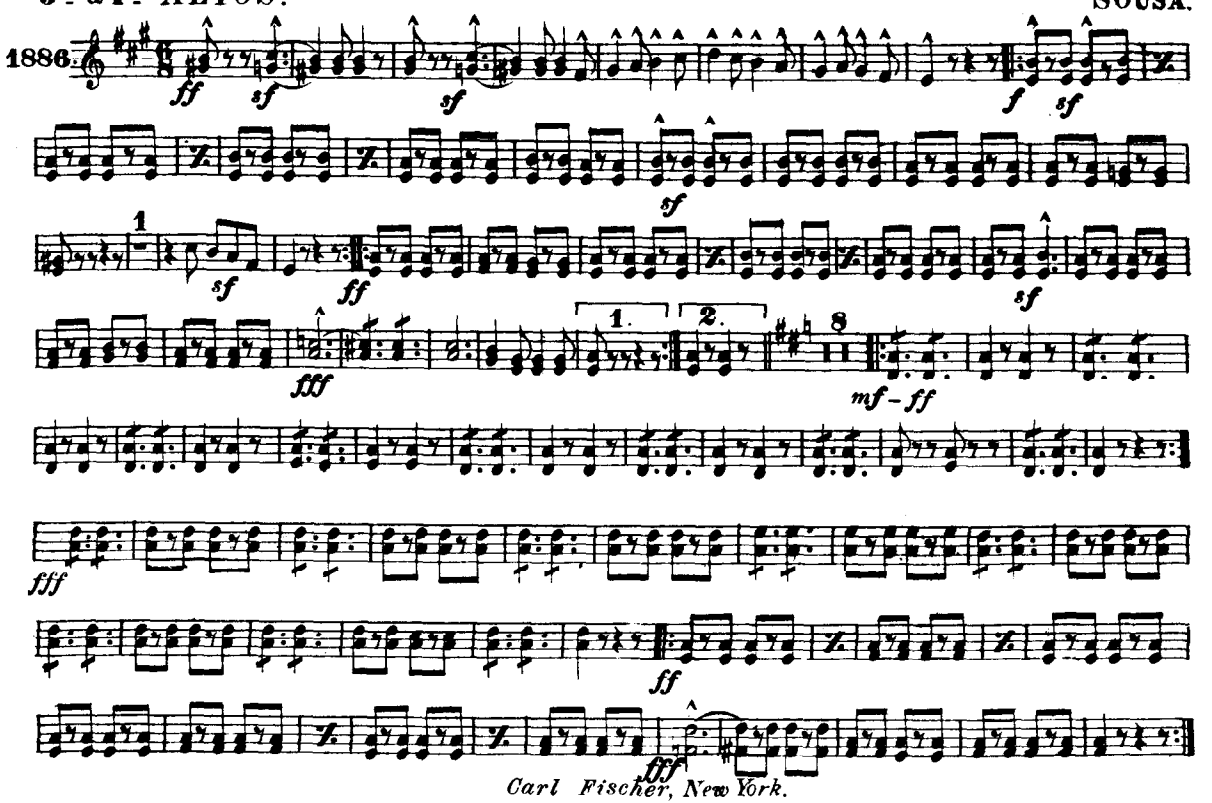
Semper Fidelis March.

3rd & 4th ALTOS.

SOUSA.



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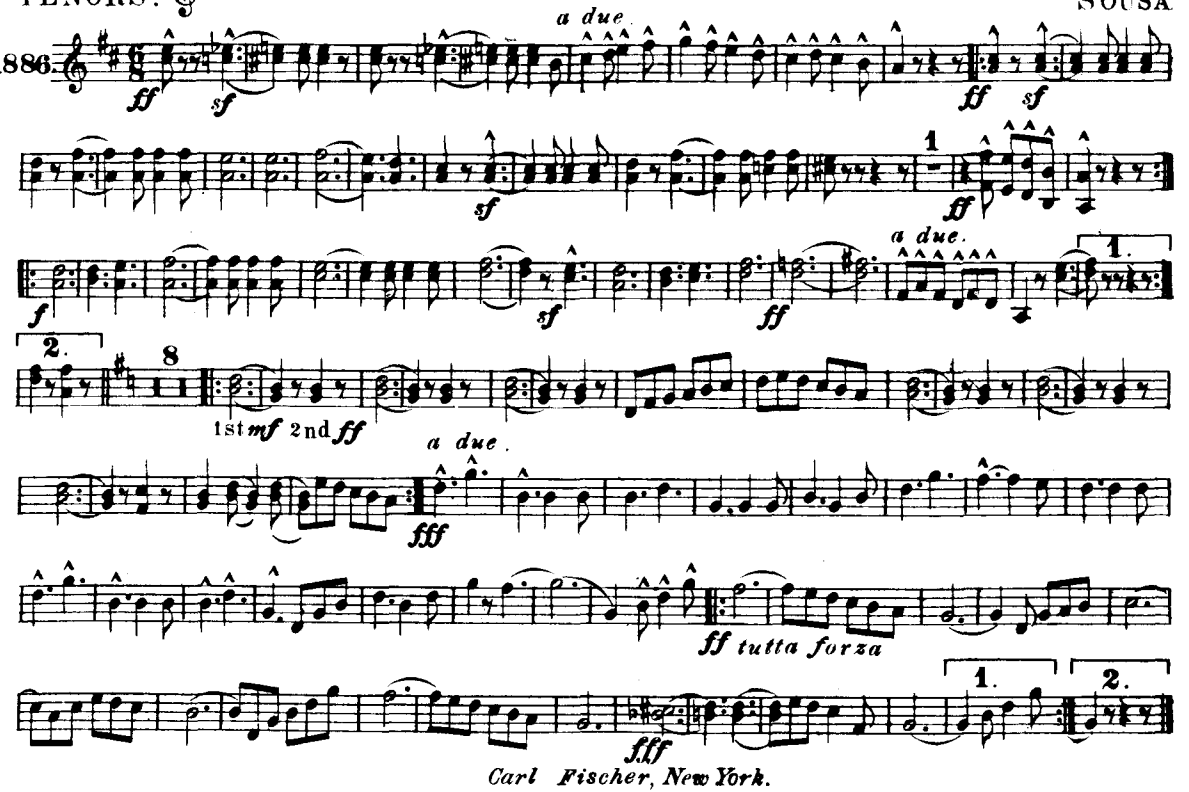
Semper Fidelis March.

TENORS.

SOUSA

1886.



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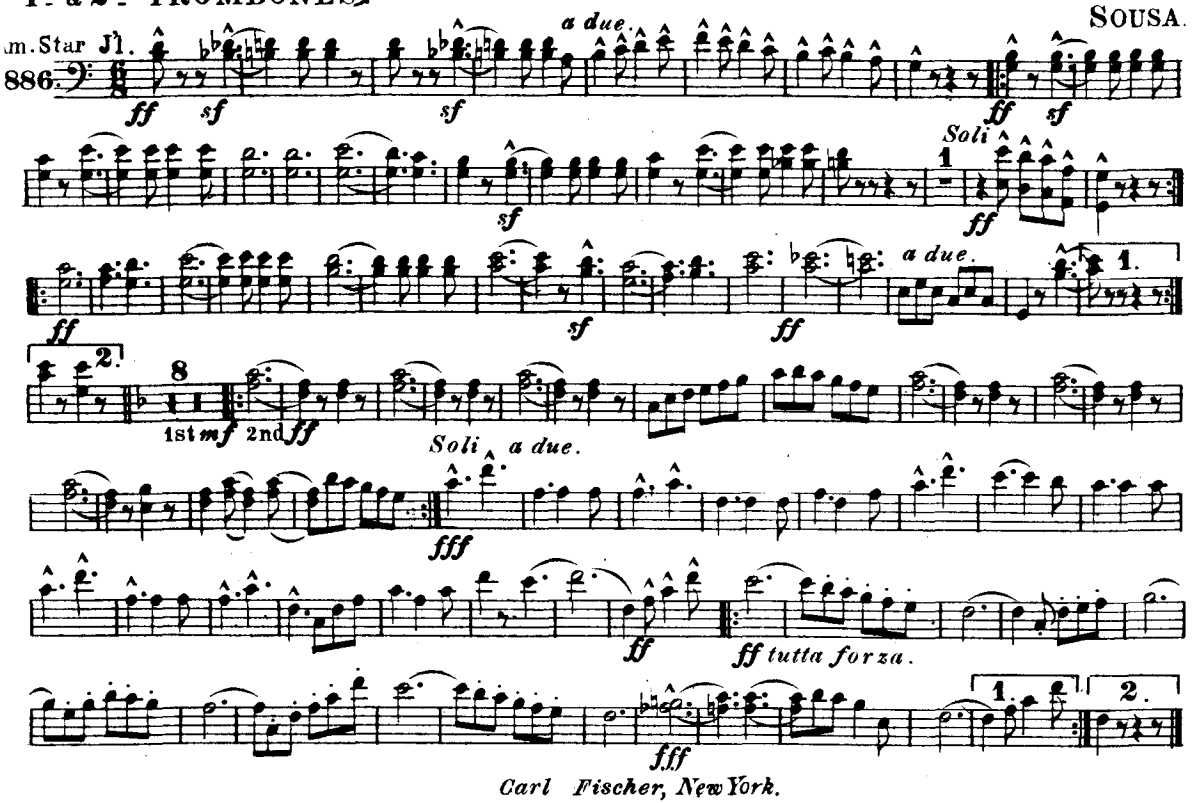
Semper Fidelis March.

1st & 2nd TROMBONES

SOUSA.



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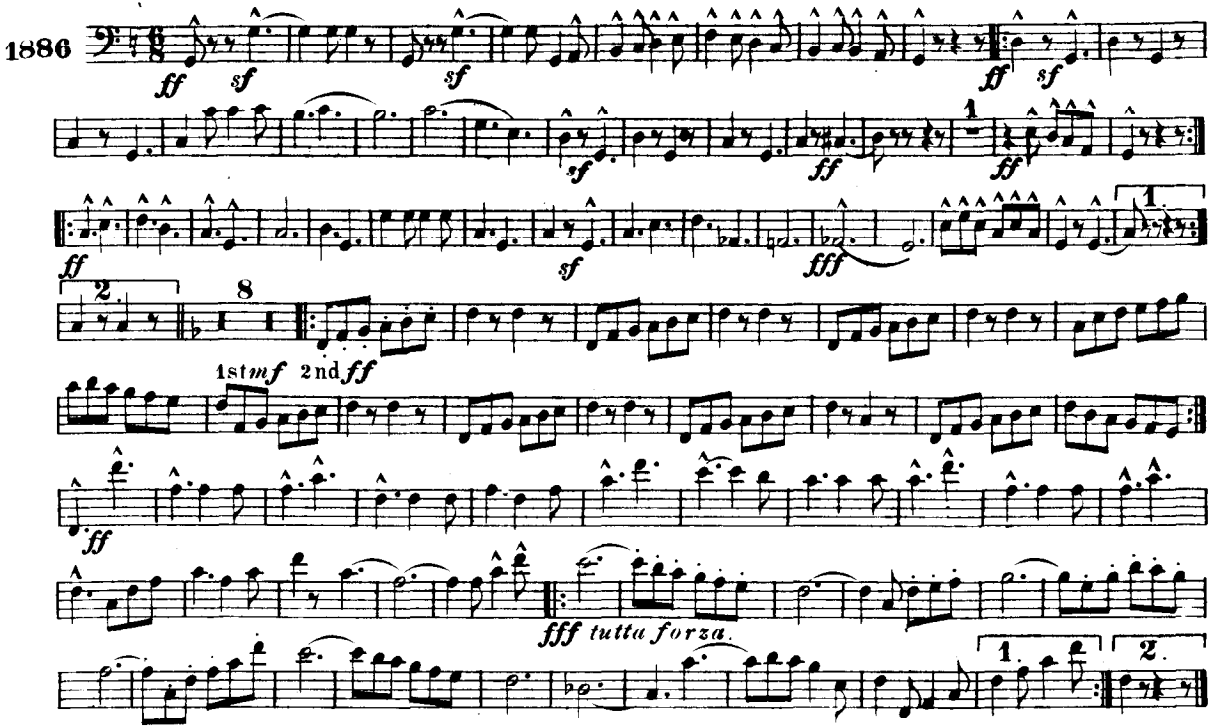
Semper Fidelis March.

B♭ BASS
or
3rd TROMBONE.

SOUSA.



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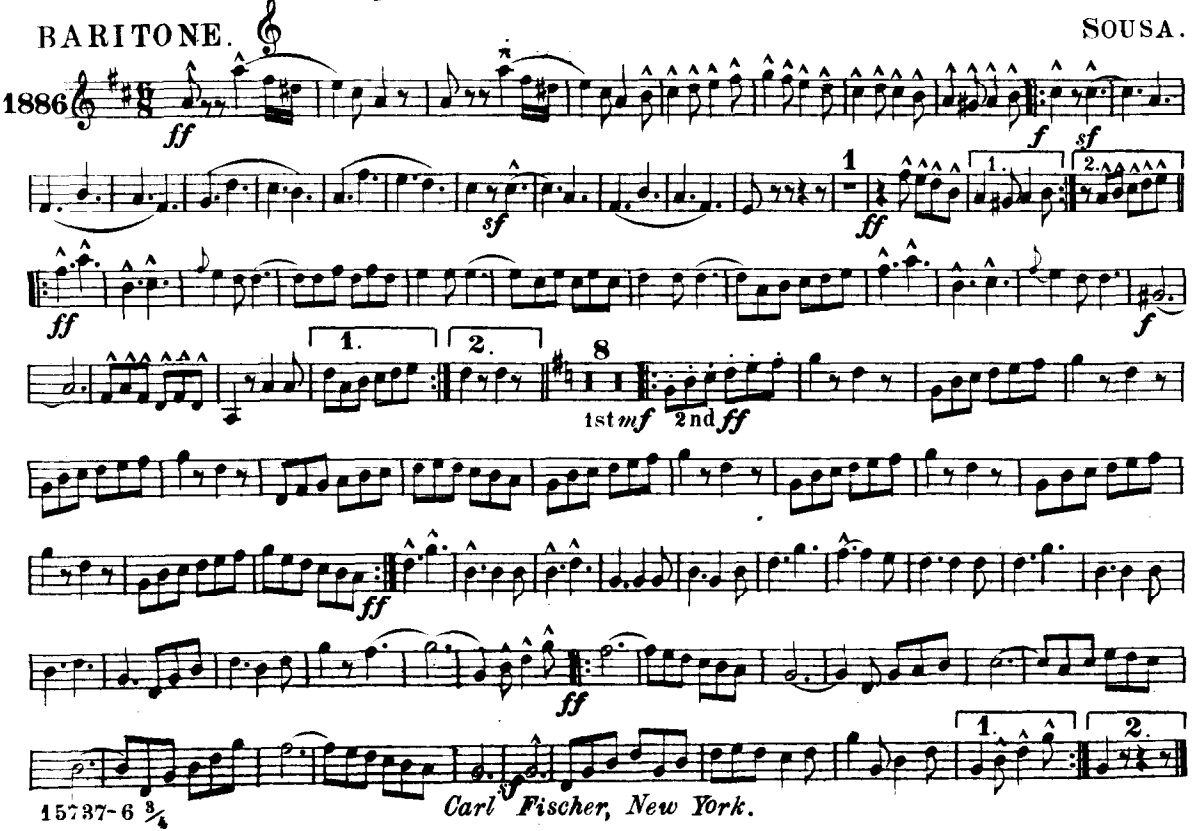
Semper Fidelis March.

BARITONE.

SOUSA.



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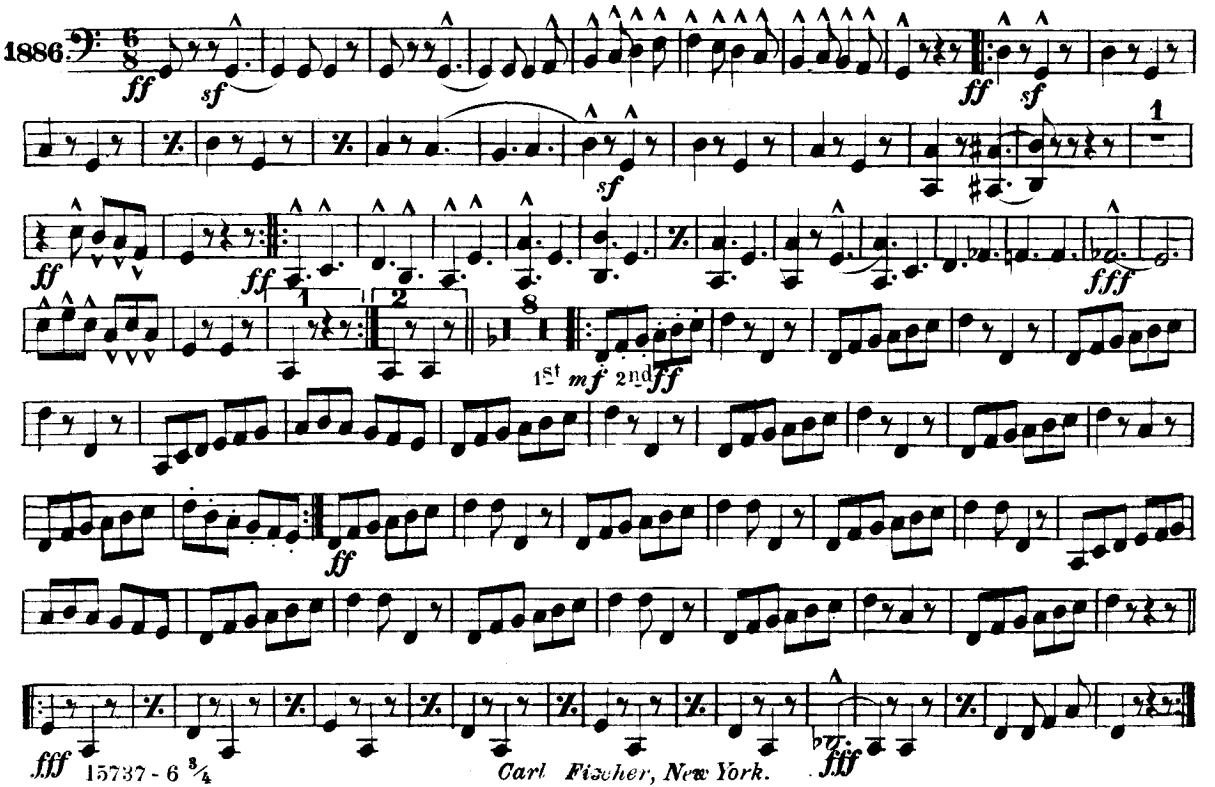
Semper Fidelis March.

BASSES.

SOUSA.



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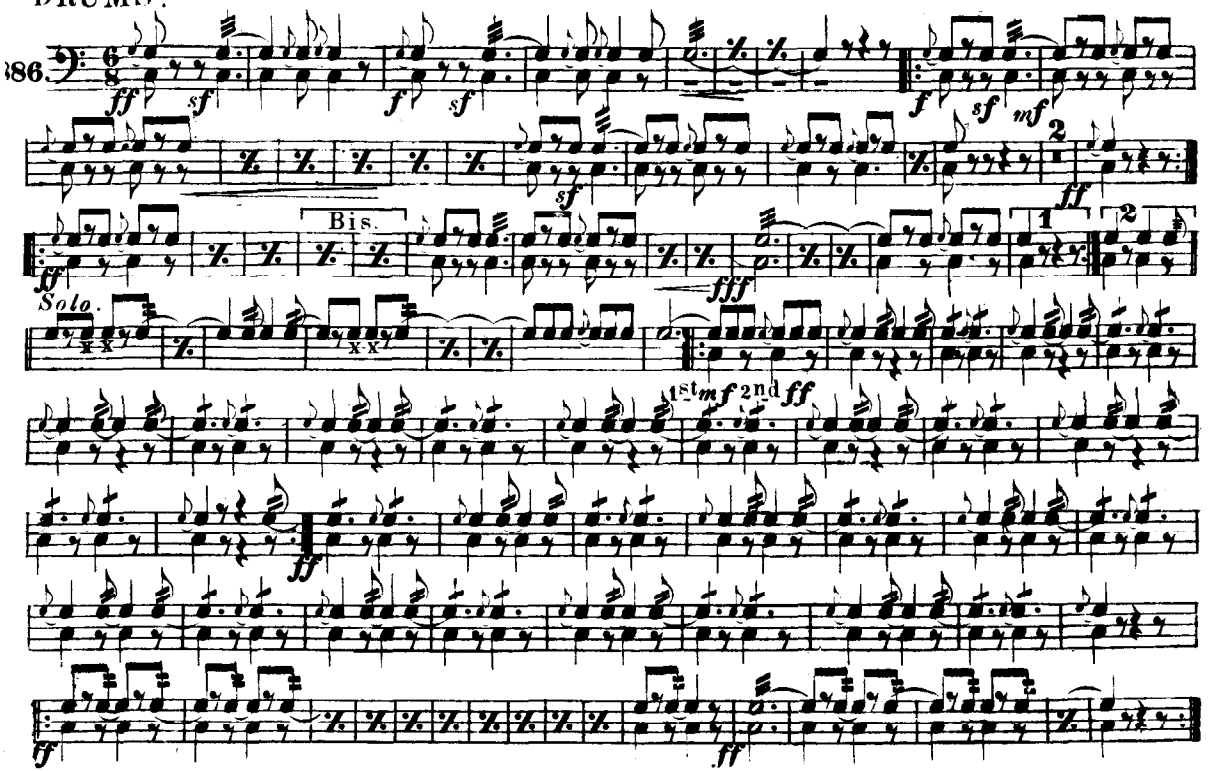
Semper Fidelis March.

DRUMS.

SOUSA.



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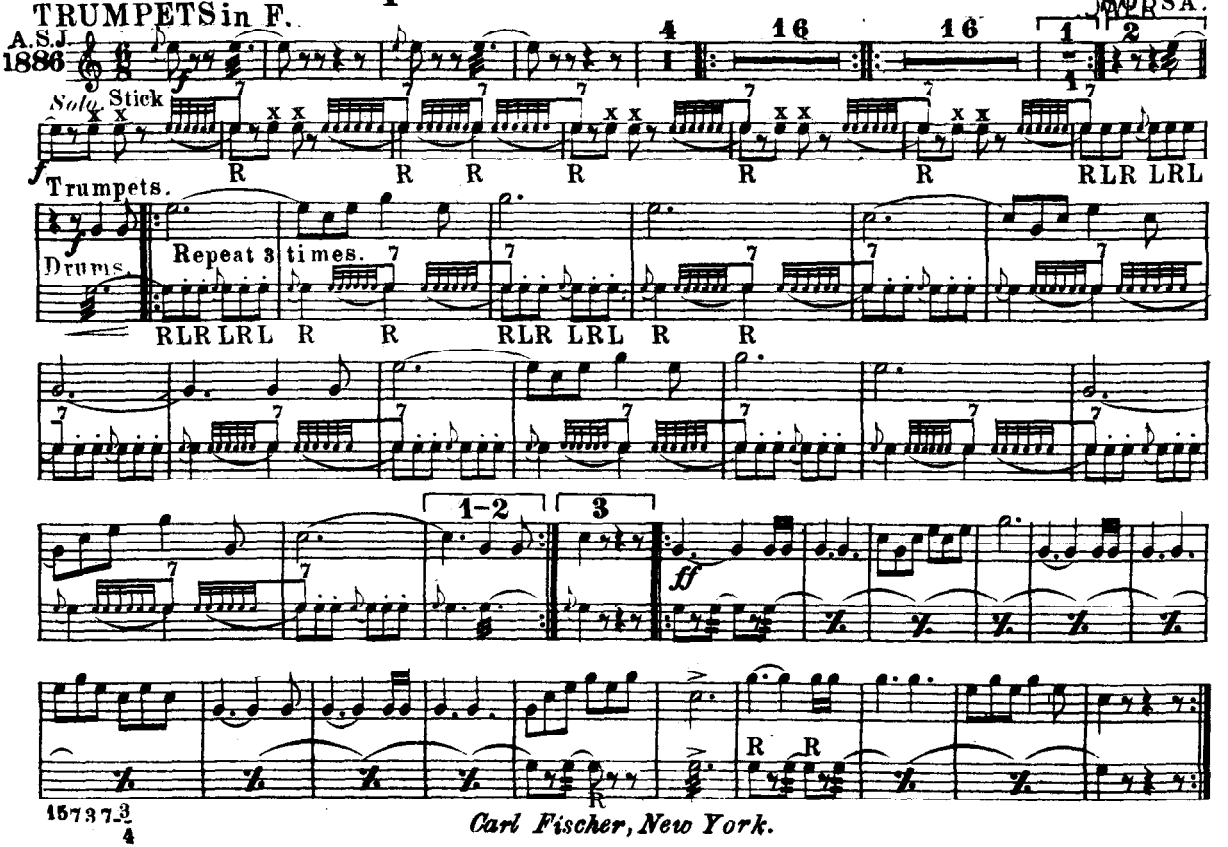
REG^tal DRUMS and TRUMPETS in F.

Semper Fidelis March.

SOUSA.

A.S.J. 1886



Solo. Stick

Trumpets.

Drums.

Repeat 3 times.

R R R R R R RLR LRL

RLR LRL R R RLR LRL R R

1-2 3

ff

R R R

15737 3/4

Carl Fischer, New York.