American Patrol

By: F. W. Meacham

Original Copyright: 1891

By Carl Fischer

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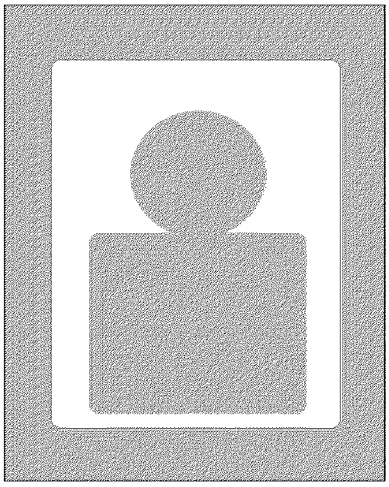


Meacham, Frank W.

DOB: 1865 (Buffalo, New York)
DOD: 1909 (New York, New York)

At the age of ten Meacham wrote a song called *Come Over the Sea* which was published by Chandler. His first success was *Down in the Cotton Fields*. His songs never really caught on, however, and he began to arrange music written by others. He quickly gained a reputation as one of the best arrangers of ballads in America.

Meacham's first hit for band was a set of waltzes called *Happy Life* which he wrote for the P.S. Gilmore band. The waltzes were so popular that three editions were published. At Gilmore's request, he wrote *Columbus March*, completing it in an hour's time. *Columbus March* was very popular and the printing quickly sold out. Most of Meacham's works were ghost written for others resulting in him not receiving the credit he deserves.

American Patrol (march) was published in 1891 by the Carl Fischer Publishing Company and in 1919 by Cora Meacham. Meacham's famous march was copyrighted on March 30, 1885 for piano. It was then arranged for band and published by Carl Fischer in November, 1891. The march opens with a simple drum cadence as if a band were approaching from a distance. Then the first melody, the composer's own, quietly begins and increases in volume as though the band were approaching. Then follows a medley of famous patriotic tunes including *Columbia, Gem of the Ocean*, *Dixie*, and *Yankee Doodle*. The pretend band marches past the parade-watching crowd with exciting strains and passes on with the music fading away. The piece concludes with a final burst of martial music.

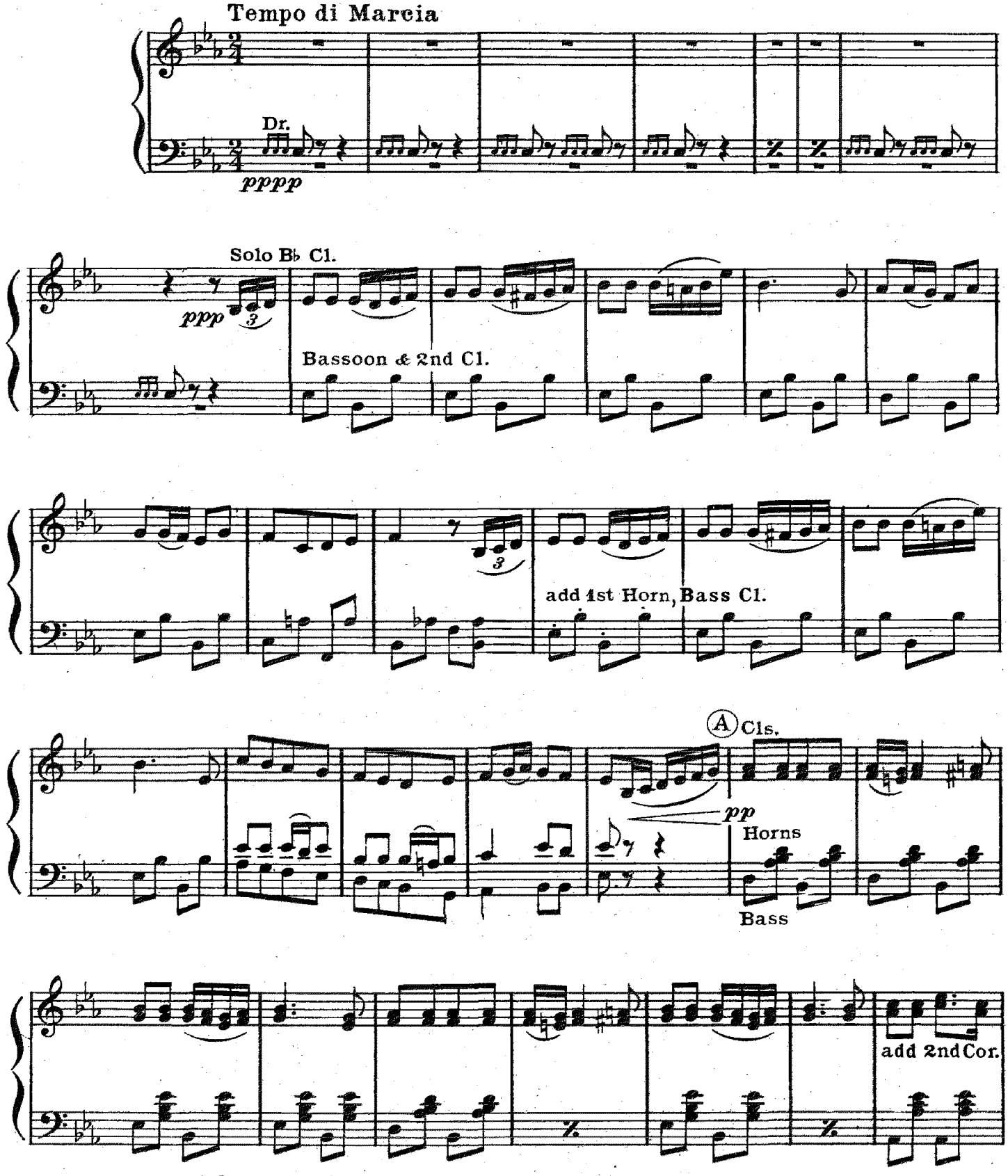
Program note researched by Marcus L. Neiman
Medina, Ohio

Additional information on either the composer or composition would be welcomed. Please send information to
marcusneiman@zoominternet.net

American Patrol

Conductor

F. W. MEACHAM



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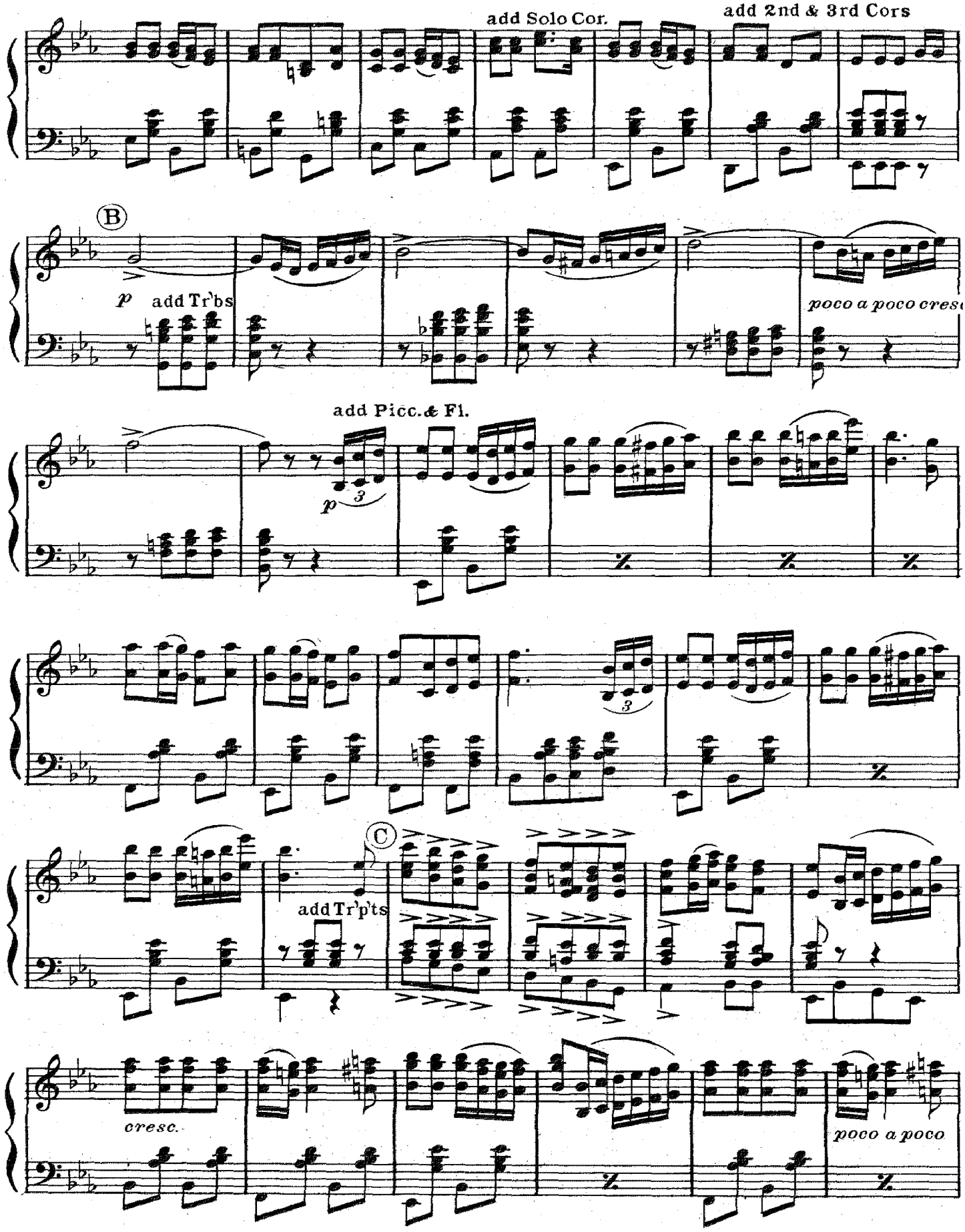
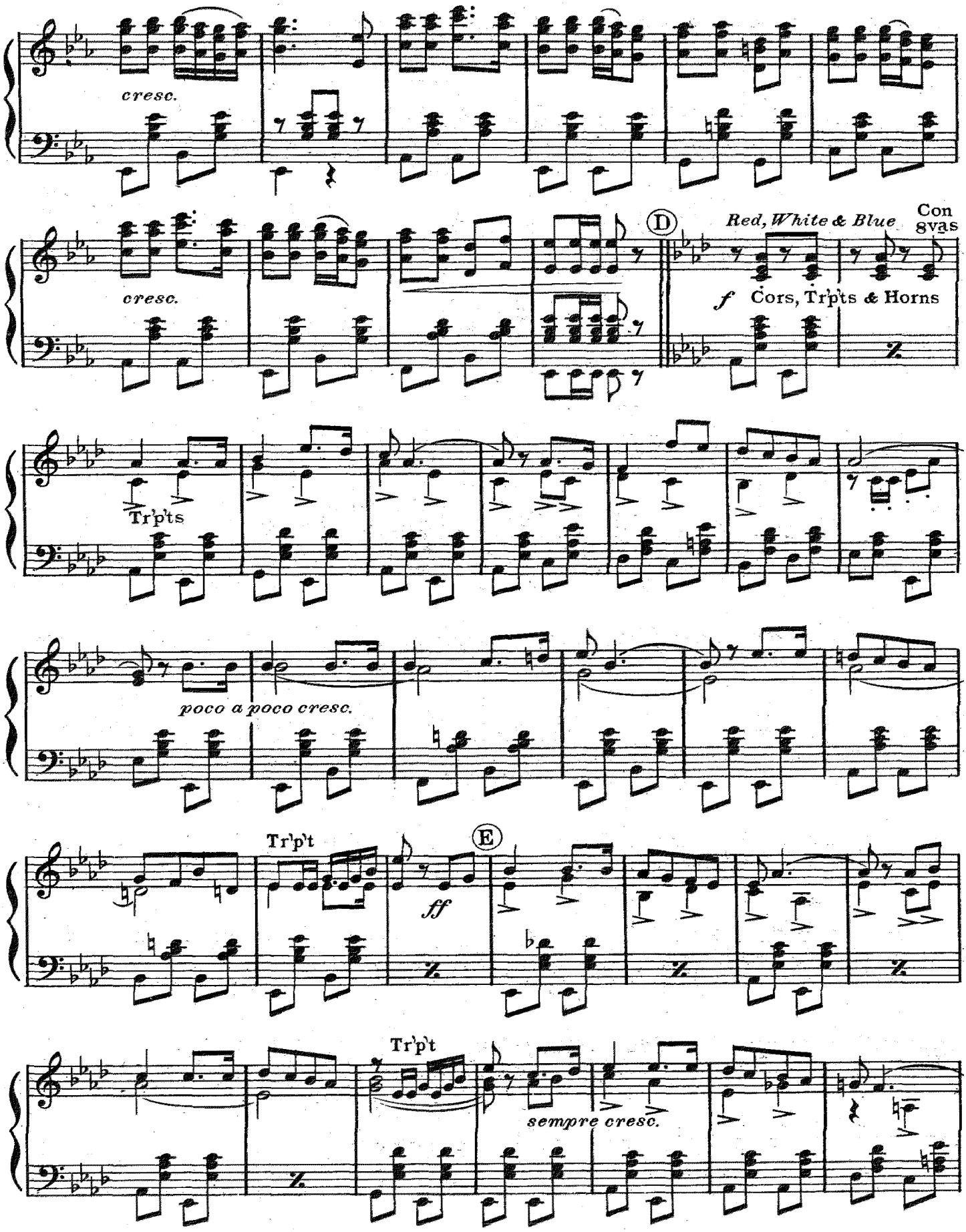
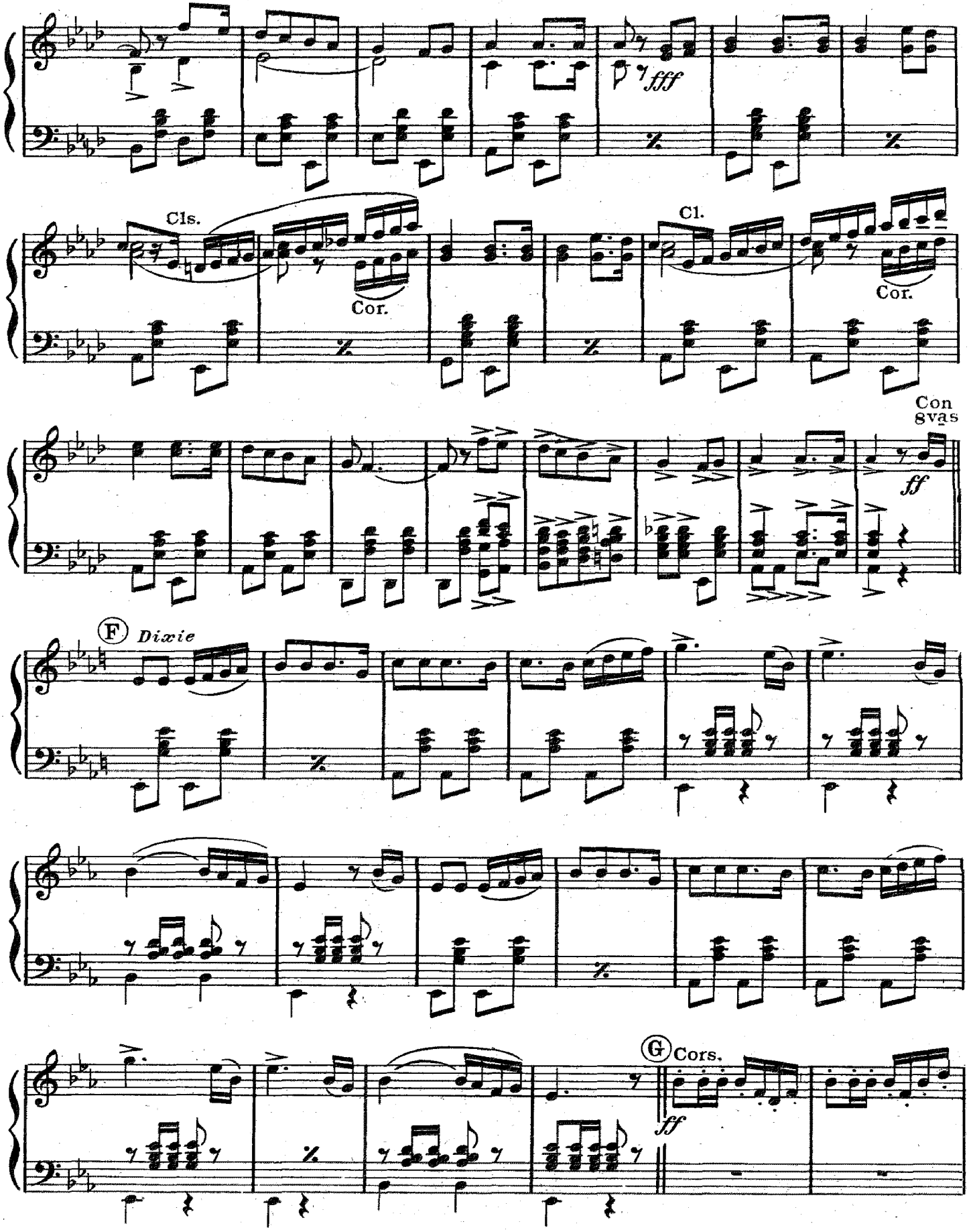
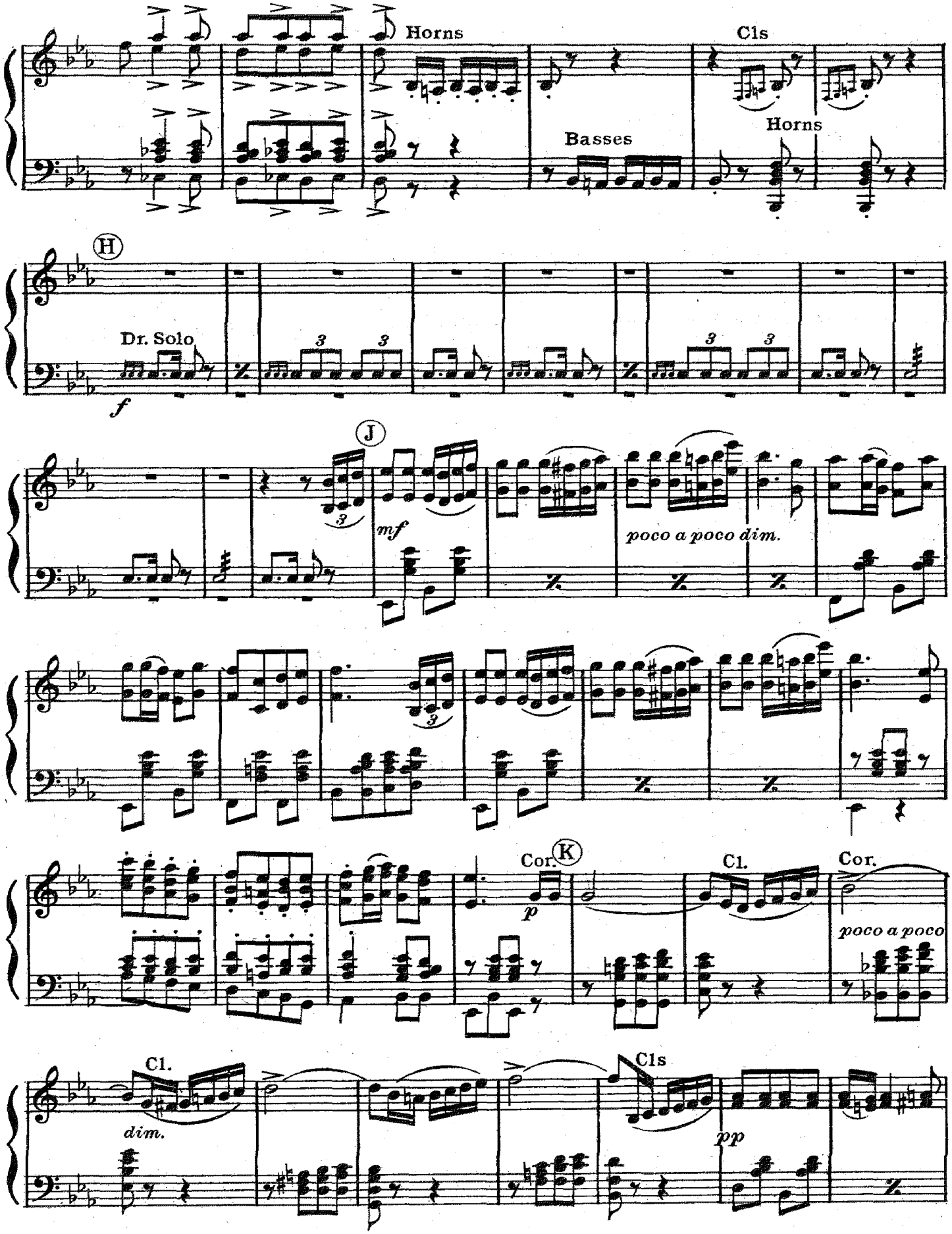
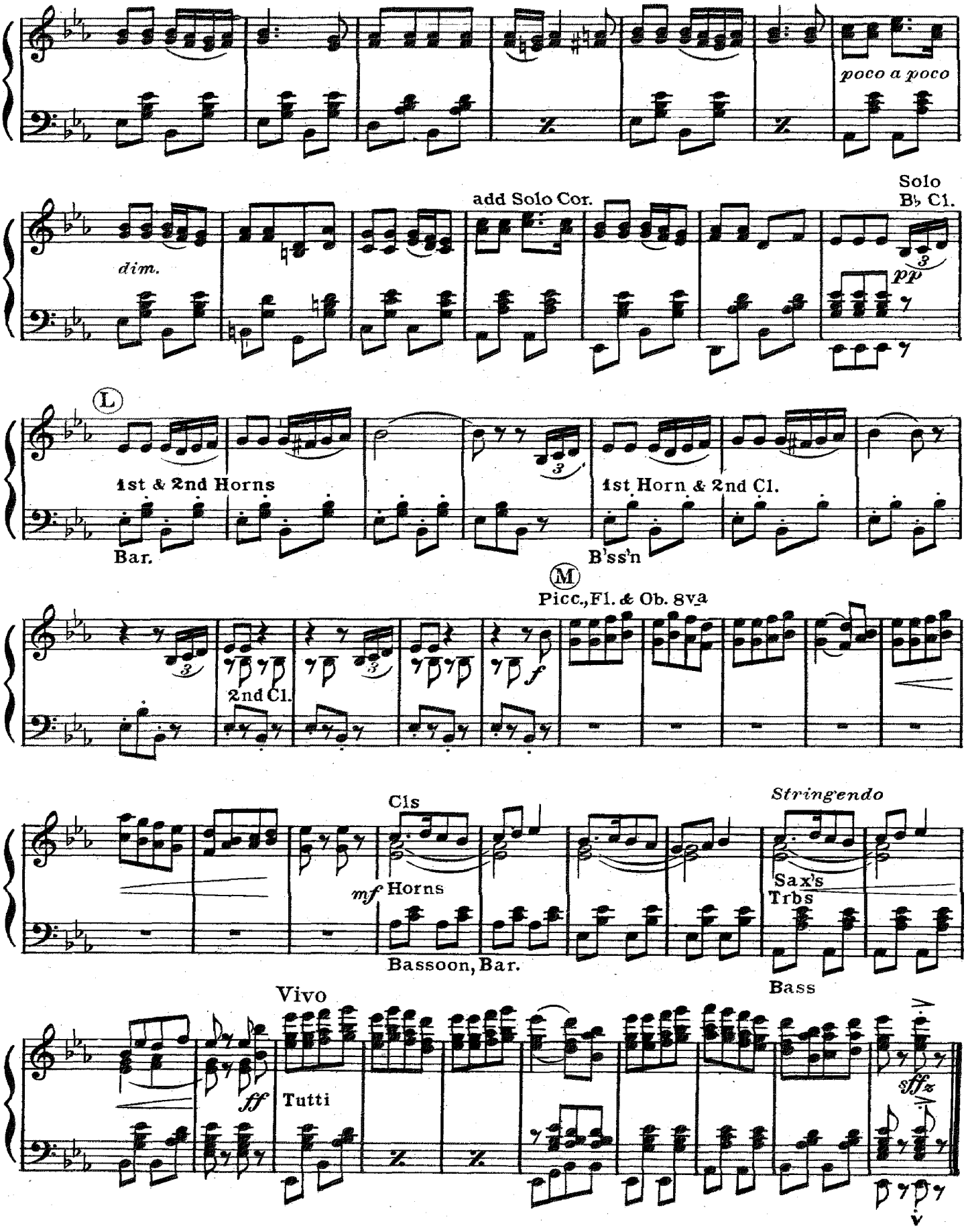
Copyright MCMXII by Cora Meacham
Copyright renewed 1919 by Mrs. Cora Meacham, Carl Fischer assignee.


add Solo Cor.
add 2nd & 3rd Cors
B
p
add Tr'bs
poco a poco cres
add Picc. & Fl.
p
3
3
C
add Tr'p'ts
cresc.
poco a poco


cresc.
cresc.
D
Red, White & Blue
Con 8vas
f Cors, Tr'p'ts & Horns
Tr'p'ts
poco a poco cresc.
Tr'p't
E
ff
Tr'p't
sempre cresc.


fff
Cls.
Cor.
Cl.
Cor.
Con
8vas
ff
F
Dixie
G
Cors.
ff


Horns
Basses
Cls
Horns
H
Dr. Solo
f
J
mf
poco a poco dim.
Cor.
K
p
Cl.
Cor.
poco a poco
Cl.
dim.
Cls
pp


poco a poco
add Solo Cor.
Solo
B♭ Cl.
dim.
pp
L
1st & 2nd Horns
Bar.
1st Horn & 2nd Cl.
B'ss'n
M
Picc., Fl. & Ob. 8va
2nd Cl.
f
Cls
mf Horns
Bassoon, Bar.
Stringendo
Sax's
Trbs
Bass
Vivo
ff
Tutti
sffz