

Victors March, The

**Elbel, Louis
arr: Schremser, E. R.**

The Victors March

**by: Louis Elbel
arr: E. R. Schremser**

**Original Copyright: 1899
By: Elbel Bros.**

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Elbel, Louis

DOB: October 28, 1877 (South Bend, Indiana)
DOD: May 2, 1959 (Ann Arbor, Michigan)

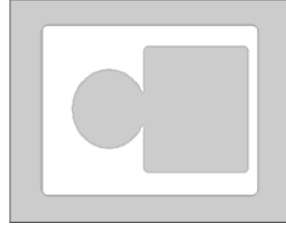
Louis Elbel was born in South Bend, Indiana, on October 28, 1877, one of six brothers and two sisters in the family of Lorenz and Johanna Elbel. All were musical, and a family orchestra was formed which also included five brothers of Lorenz. Lorenz founded the Elbel Brothers Music Store in South Bend in 1870, and Louis later managed it.

Louis Elbel attended the University of Michigan from 1896-1899. He was a member of the track team and tied the world record for the indoor 40-yard dash. In the fall of 1899, he went to Leipzig, Germany, to study with Martin Krause, and returned in the summer of 1901. In addition to his work at the family music store, Elbel was active as a concert pianist, presenting recitals and piano-lecture recitals. He performed with the Theodore Thomas Orchestra in 1907.

In addition to his The Victors march, Elbel composed several piano pieces, songs, and works for small orchestra. The Victors is his most popular work and is regarded as one of the finest college songs of all time. It was quickly adopted by the University of Michigan as their fight song, and it became a tradition for Elbel to conduct the Michigan Band in his march at homecoming football games and other events.

The trio of The Victors is similar to the last section of George M. Rosey's march, Spirit of Liberty (written several months earlier). The two composers were reported to be good friends, and this arrangement was presumably made by mutual agreement. The march by Rosey [originally Rosenbergl] has long since been forgotten, but The Victors has become a much-revered work, particularly at the University of Michigan.

Elbel died in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on May 2, 1959. The University of Michigan Band founded the Elbel Club in his honor, and donors contribute money to support band operations.¹



Schremser, Jr., Edward R.

DOB: unknown
DOD: unknown

E.R. Schremser, Jr., the son of a New York City musician, was leader of the 4th Regiment Band in Detroit, Michigan, in the 1890s. Concurrently, he led his own professional band there.²

¹ Rehig, William H., Bierley, Paul (editor). *The encyclopedia of band music*. Integrity Press, Westerville, OH. (2005). CD, used with permission.

² Ibid.

Victors, The (march one-step) was published in 1899 by Elbel Brothers (South Bend, Indiana). It was arranged by E.R. Schremser, Jr. and dedicated to the 1898 University of Michigan football team. It was in 1898 that Louis Elbel wrote "The Victors" after a U-M football win in Chicago. The following was written by Joanne Nesbit, University of Michigan News Service.

In 1898 the football team won its first conference championship by scoring one more point than the Chicago Maroons, then the heaviest team in college football history. So impressed was Louis Elbel that after celebrating with other U-M fans in Chicago's streets, he realized that the University did not have the "right" celebration song. On the train back to Ann Arbor, Elbel took his original melody jottings and turned them into a march. An arrangement for 23 instruments resulted.

The song premiered in April 1899 and was conducted by no less than the "March King," John Philip Sousa, and his band who were appearing on the Ann Arbor campus. The words were sung for the first time in public at a Minstrels concert two nights later. "The Victors" continues to be played worldwide, consistently ranked among the best and most recognized of college fight songs.³

Program note researched by Marcus L. Neiman
Medina, Ohio

Additional information on either the composer or composition would be welcomed. Please send information to

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³ http://www.ur.umich.edu/9899/Sep30_98/2.htm

Piccolo.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

Louis Elbel.

The musical score is written for a Piccolo instrument in 2/4 time. It consists of two main sections: a 16-measure first section and a 14-measure second section labeled 'TRIO'. The score is arranged in two systems of four staves each. The first system includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, and *fz*, and articulation like accents and slurs. The second system includes markings for *TRIO*, *p*, and *ff*. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

Elbel Bros. South Bend, Ind.

Oboe. "THE VICTORS" MARCH. Louis Elbel.

Elbel Bros. South Bend, Ind.

1st B \flat Clarinet. "THE VICTORS" MARCH.

Louis Elbel.

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is for the 1st B \flat Clarinet, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 2/4 time signature. It features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents. The second staff is for the drum, with a bass clef and a 'drum' label, showing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The third and fourth staves provide harmonic support with various note values and rests.

The second system of the musical score is labeled 'TRIO.' and consists of four staves. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 2/4 time signature. It features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents. The second staff is for the drum, with a bass clef and a 'drum' label, showing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The third and fourth staves provide harmonic support with various note values and rests.

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H. S. Talbot & Co.
Music Print, Chicago.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

2nd B \flat Clarinet.

Louis Elbel.

The first section of the score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B \flat), and a 2/4 time signature. It features a melody with various dynamics including *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). The second staff continues the melody with similar dynamics. The third and fourth staves provide accompaniment, including a drum part indicated by 'drum' and 'dr' markings. The section concludes with a double bar line.

The TRIO section begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B \flat and E \flat), and a 2/4 time signature. It is marked with a first ending bracket and the instruction "1 2nd time." The first staff starts with a *mf* dynamic. The second staff continues the melody with a *mf* dynamic and includes a drum part. The third and fourth staves provide accompaniment, with the third staff starting with a *ff* dynamic. The section concludes with a double bar line.

Bassoon.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH

Louis Elbel.

The first section of the music consists of four staves. The first staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat and a 2/4 time signature. It begins with a series of eighth notes, followed by a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The second staff continues the melody with various dynamics including *f*, *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f*. The third and fourth staves provide a rhythmic accompaniment with repeated eighth-note patterns and rests.

TRIO.

The Trio section consists of five staves. The first staff is in bass clef and begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The second staff continues the melody. The third and fourth staves feature a more complex rhythmic pattern with accents and first endings. The fifth staff concludes the section with a first ending and a second ending marked with a '2'.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

E♭ Cornet.

Louis Elbel.

f *mf* *ff* *mf* *f* *ff*

TRIO. 1st Cor. 1 3 1 2

Elbel Bros. South Bend, Ind.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH.
Solo B \flat Cornet. (Dedicated to the '98 U. of M. Football team.)
Louis Elbel.
Pub. for Piano by Elbel Bros. South Bend, Ind. Arr. by E. R. Schremser.

Musical score for Solo B \flat Cornet and Bass. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the Solo B \flat Cornet, starting with a dynamic marking of *f* and a *mf* section. The bottom staff is for the Bass, starting with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The music is in 2/4 time and features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

Musical score for the TRIO section, labeled "1 1st Cornet." The score consists of four staves. The top staff is for the 1st Cornet, starting with a dynamic marking of *f* and a *mf* section. The bottom three staves are for other instruments, with the bottom-most staff starting with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The music is in 2/4 time and features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

THE VICTORS" MARCH.

1st B♭ Cornet.

Louis Elbel.

f *mf* *mf* *tra. 2nd time.* *mf* *ff*

Elbel Bros. South Bend, Ind.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

2nd & 3rd Cornets.

Louis Elbel,

The musical score is written for 2nd and 3rd Cornets. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the main melody with accents and a dynamic marking of *f*. The second staff is a harmonic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The third and fourth staves continue the accompaniment with various rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings, including *ff* and *fz*. The fifth staff is labeled "TRIO" and starts with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The sixth and seventh staves continue the trio section with dynamic markings of *mf* and *ff*. The eighth and ninth staves conclude the piece with dynamic markings of *ff* and include first and second endings. The score is marked with various dynamics such as *f*, *ff*, *mf*, and *fz*, and includes first and second endings.

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"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

1st & 2nd Altos.

Louis Elbel.

f *mf* *f* *ff*

TRIO.
mf *mf* *ff* *ff*

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3rd & 4th Altos.

THE VICTORS" MARCH.

Louis Elbel.

f *mf* *f* *ff*

TRIO.
mf *mf*

1 1

1 3 2

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"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

1st Trombone.

Louis Elbel.

The first section of the score consists of three staves of music. The top staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat and a 2/4 time signature. It begins with a series of eighth notes, followed by a double bar line and a repeat sign. The middle and bottom staves are in treble clef and contain accompaniment with various dynamics such as *f* and *mf*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents and slurs.

The TRIO section begins with the word "TRIO." written above the first staff. The top staff is in bass clef and contains the main melody, starting with a *mf* dynamic. The middle and bottom staves are in treble clef and provide accompaniment. The music includes various time signatures such as 3/4 and 2/4. There are first and second endings marked with "1" and "2" above the notes. The section concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

2nd Trombone.

Louis Elbel.

The main musical score for the 2nd Trombone part consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents and dynamic markings of *f* and *mf*. The second staff continues the melodic line with similar rhythmic patterns and dynamics. The third staff concludes the main section with a key signature change to two sharps and a final *f* dynamic marking.

TRIO.

The Trio section is written across five staves. It begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The first two staves are marked *mf* and feature a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The third staff introduces a melodic line with first and second endings. The fourth and fifth staves continue the melodic development with first and second endings, ending with a double bar line and repeat sign.

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"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

3rd Trombone.

Louis Elbel.

The first system of the musical score for the 3rd Trombone part consists of three staves. The top staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and contains a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents. The middle and bottom staves are in alto and tenor clefs, respectively, and contain a complex rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and sixteenth notes, also featuring accents and dynamic markings such as *f* and *mf*.

TRIO.

The Trio section of the musical score for the 3rd Trombone part consists of five staves. The top staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two flats and a common time signature, starting with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The middle and bottom staves are in alto and tenor clefs, respectively, and contain a complex rhythmic accompaniment. The section includes first and second endings, marked with '1' and '2' above the notes, and dynamic markings such as *mf* and *ff*.

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"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

Louis Elbel.

Baritone ♩ .

The musical score is written for Baritone in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first four staves contain the main melody, starting with a dynamic of *mf* and featuring various articulations such as accents and slurs. The fifth staff marks the beginning of the 'TRIO' section, starting with a dynamic of *f* and the instruction '1 Do not slur.'. The final three staves continue the music, including a section with a dynamic of *ff* and first/second endings.

"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

Baritone ♭.

Louis Elbel.

The first section of the music consists of four staves. The first staff is the Baritone part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents. The second and third staves are piano accompaniment, with the second staff starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic and the third with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The fourth staff continues the piano accompaniment with triplets and various rhythmic patterns.

The TRIO section begins with the word "TRIO." and a first ending bracket. The first staff is the Baritone part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents. The second and third staves are piano accompaniment, with the second staff starting with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and the third with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fourth staff continues the piano accompaniment with triplets and various rhythmic patterns. The section concludes with a double bar line and a first ending bracket.

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"THE VICTORS" MARCH.

Louis Elbel.

Drums.

The first section of the drum score consists of four staves. The first staff is in bass clef with a 2/4 time signature. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations and dynamics such as *f*, *mf*, and *fz*. The second and third staves continue the rhythmic pattern with similar note values and dynamics. The fourth staff concludes the section with a double bar line and repeat signs.

TRIO.

The Trio section consists of five staves. The first staff is in bass clef with a 2/4 time signature. It begins with a *f* dynamic and features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes. The second and third staves continue the rhythmic pattern. The fourth staff includes the instruction *p Small Drum. cres.* and continues with similar note values. The fifth staff concludes the section with a double bar line and repeat signs.

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