TWO R. B. HALL MARCHES

"March G. M. B." "March Dunlap Commandery" Created for the 2023 MMEA District 3 Festival Band January 27,2024

Robert Brown Hall 1858-1907

Score Realization Jim Chesebrough







The members of the MMEA District 3 Festival Band and the musicians of Maine should be very proud of their musical heritage. Performers in this ensemble have been recognized for their efforts as successful mid-coast musicians. In addition, one of the world's greatest composer of marches and other band music comes from this part of Maine. Robert Browne Hall (1858-1907), usually known as R. B. Hall, was a leading composer of marches and other music for wind bands. He was born in Abagadasset Point in Bowdoinham, Maine. While he seldom left his home state during his lifetime, his music has traveled around the world. Hall began his career at age 19, as the director of the Richmond Cornet Band. After a 4-year stint with J. T. Baldwin's First Corps of Cadets Band in Boston, he returned to Maine to direct the Bangor Band. Hall was associated with many other bands including the Cherryfield Band, Chandler's Band, Waterville Military Band, Olympia Band of Augusta, and the Colby College Band. In 1901 Hall conducted Waterville's Centennial Celebration. He wrote many wonderful works while in Waterville, but he also wrote many marches for bands in, what is now, MMEA District 3. Fort Popham, Randolph, The Richmond Bee, Kennebec, and The New Colonial are all titles related to familiar locales in District 3. The G. M. B. March was written in 1890 for the Gardiner Military Band, and Dunlap Commandery was written and performed in 1894 when Hall's Waterville Band accompanied the Bath chapter of the Dunlap Commandery Knights of Templar on an excursion to Portsmouth. NH. To honor the 2024 District 3 Festival Band and the importance of R. B. Hall to the band world, these two marches, have been reconstructed for this performance.