Midnight Fire Alarm

by: Harry J. Lincoln
arr. by: E.T. Paull

Original Copyright: 1900
By: E.T. Paull

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Lincoln, Harry J.

DOB: 1878 (Shamokin, Pennsylvania)
DOD: April 9, 1937 (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

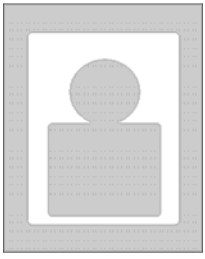
In all of band music history, there is no more confusing situation than that surrounding the life and works of the American composer, Harry J. Lincoln, and the relationships he had with other musicians from the Williamsport, Pennsylvania, area: Charles C. Sweeley and the Vandersloots. Many composers have used pseudonyms, but the pseudonyms were usually fictitious.

Lincoln published music under his own name, as well as such pseudonyms as Abe Losch. He also used the real names of several members of the Vandersloot family on music he composed. Not all of the compositions for which he used pseudonyms were published for band. The confusion is compounded because he also sold some of his original compositions to others who put their own names on the printed music.

Harry J. Lincoln was born in Shamokin, Pennsylvania, in 1878. In addition to being a composer and arranger, he was organist and choirmaster of the First Church of Christ and pianist and manager of the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra. His early works were published by Vandersloot, a company which was owned and operated by Frederick William Vandersloot. Lincoln formed his own publishing company, the Harry J. Lincoln Music Company, ca. 1900. He sold the catalog ca. 1903 but reinstated the company ca. 1918. In 1917, he purchased another company, the United States Music Company (of Williamsport), and moved it to Philadelphia. He also acquired the Vandersloot Music Publishing Company in 1929 and moved it to Philadelphia, retaining the same company name. He died in Philadelphia on April 9, 1937.

Lincoln composed most of his band music under his own name. Judging by the titles, he could have been a fire buff, because he used titles such as False Alarm, Fire Worshiper, Blaze of Honor, Midnight Fire Alarm, and Still Alarm.

Several sources state incorrectly that Charles C. Sweeley was a pseudonym of Harry J. Lincoln. Sweeley was a real person to whom Lincoln apparently sold one or more pieces of music so that Sweeley could affix his name as composer. (This is in contrast to the situation where Henry Fillmore made use of the name Will Huff, not realizing there really was a composer by that name. Fillmore never sold any music to Huff.).[1]



Paull, Edward Thomas

DOB: February 16, 1858 (Gerardstown, Virginia)
DOD: November 26, 1924 (Brooklyn, New York)

Edward Thomas Paull was born on February 16, 1858, in Gerardstown,

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

Berkley County, Virginia (now part of West Virginia). Many of his works are descriptive, as witnessed by such titles as Charge of the Light Brigade, Ben Hur Chariot Race, and The Burning of Rome. The piano editions of his music have some of the most dramatic and colorful covers to be found on any published music. Paull had his own publishing business in New York City and was secretary of the Publisher's Association for a number of years. His firm published the works of over 70 composers and arrangers.

One of the most famous of all descriptive marches was The Midnight Fire Alarm. Early band editions of this march, published by Paull in 1900, show Paull as the composer. On a later edition, however, Harry J. Lincoln's name was added as the composer, and Paull was listed as arranger. The original copyright entry card for this march records that it was registered on April 5, 1900, by the E.T. Paull Music Company of New York City, with Harry J. Lincoln as composer and Paull as arranger. Thus this march was erroneously issued with Paull listed as the composer in the original edition.

Midnight Fire Alarm (descriptive march galop) was published in1900 by the E.T. Paull Music Company (New York City, NY). One of the most celebrated descriptive marches ever written is the Midnight Fire Alarm. Early band editions of this march, published by E.T. Paull in 1900, do not show the actual composer; only that E.T. Paull was the arranger. On a later edition, Lincoln's name was added as composer with Paull noted as the arranger. However, the original copyright entry card for this march states that it was registered on April 5, 1900, by the E.T. Paull Music Company of New York City, with Lincoln as composer and Paull the arranger.[2]

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

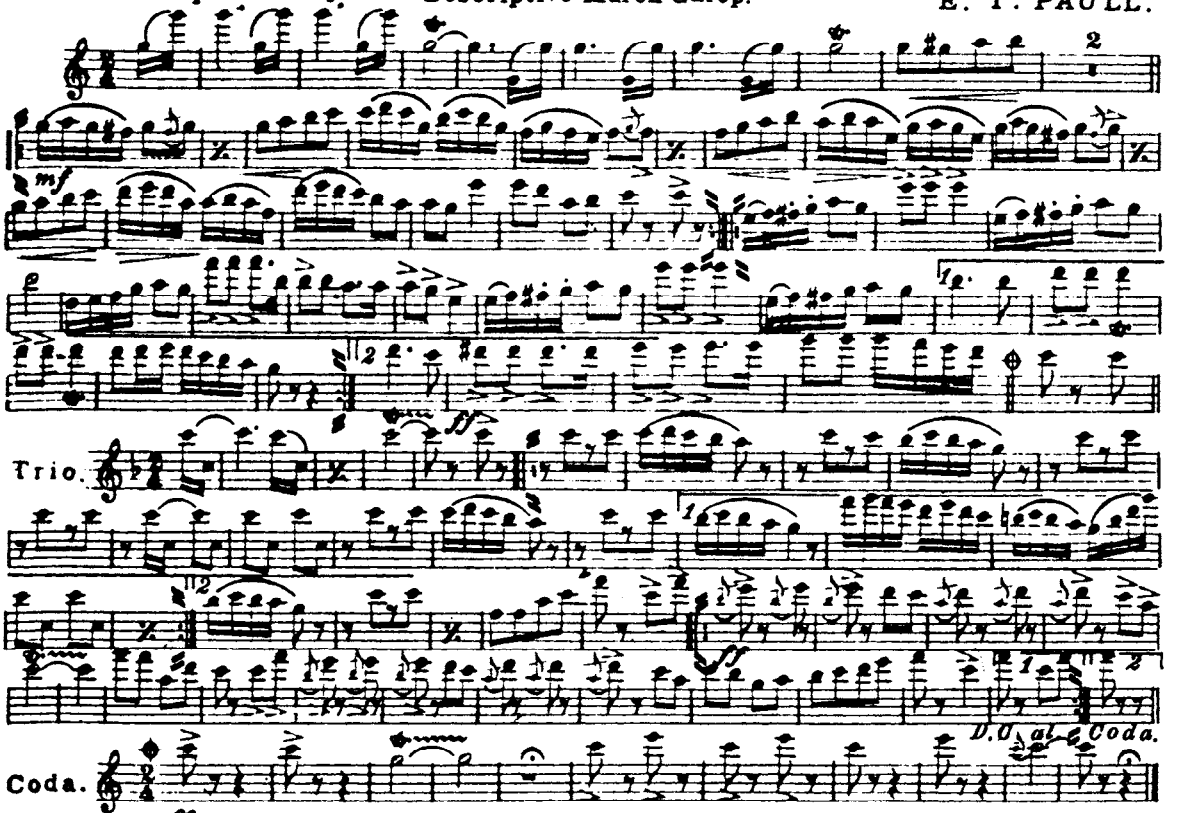
[2] Ibid.

Piccolo in D♭

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Tempo di Galop. Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.

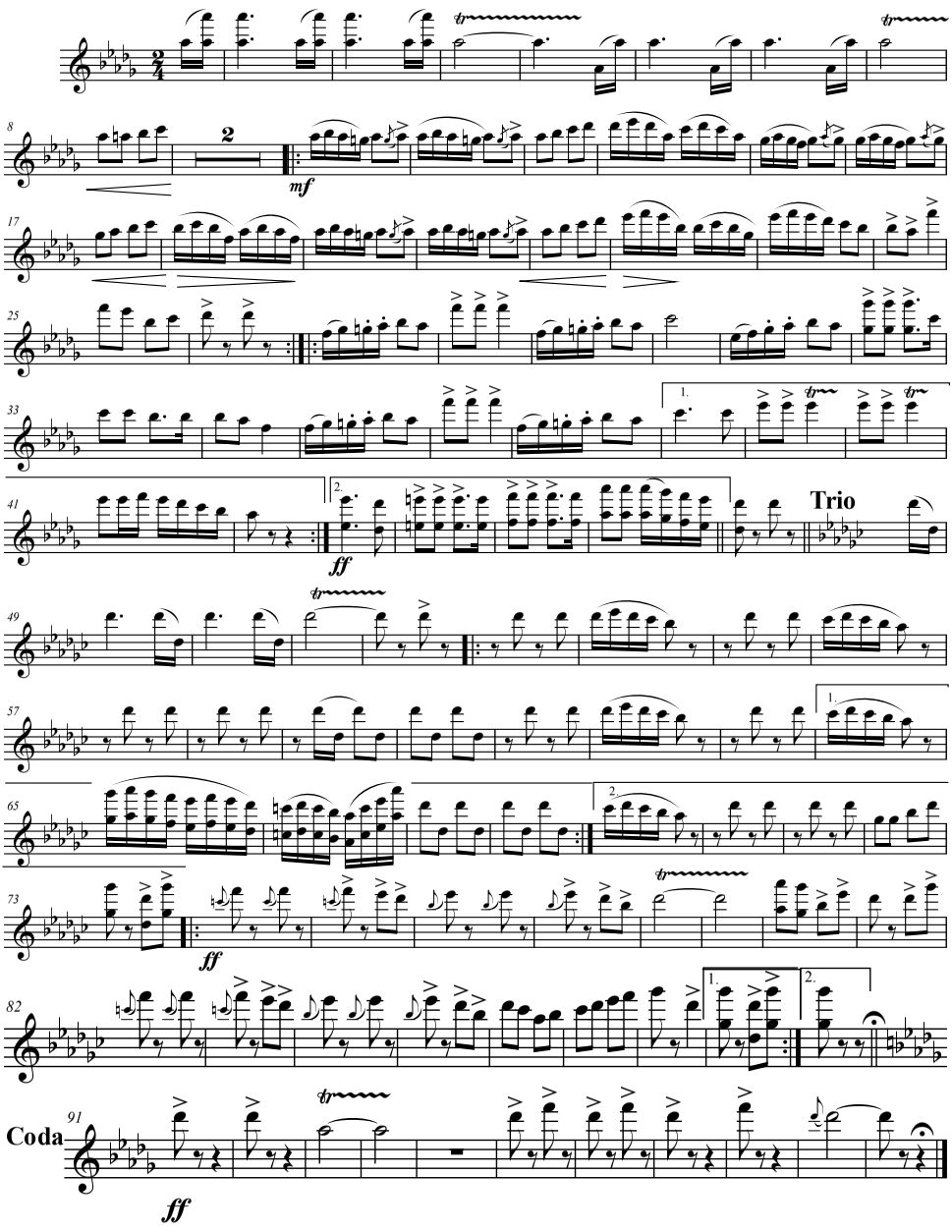


Published by E. T. Paull Music Co. 44 W. 29th St. N.Y.

Midnight Fire Alarm

Flute

E. T. Paull



Transposition Prepared by Dan Steadman

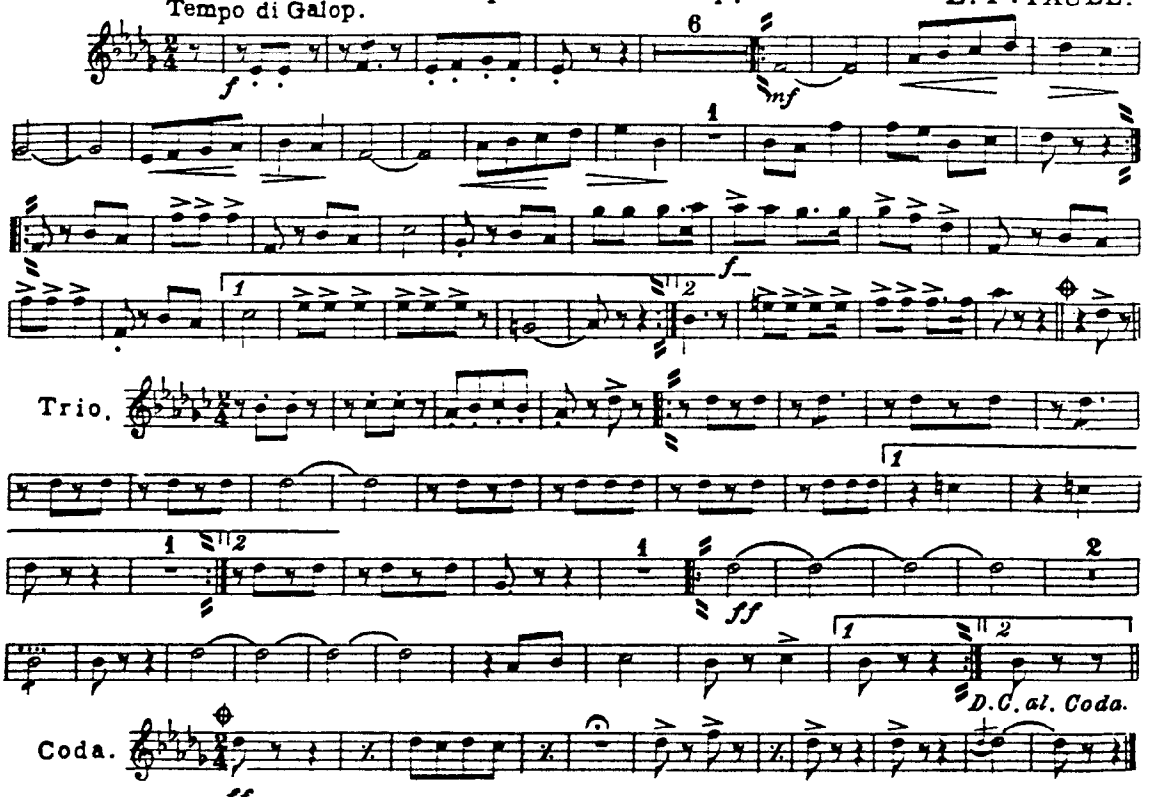
Published by E. T. Paull Music Co. 44 W. 20th ST. NY

Oboe.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.



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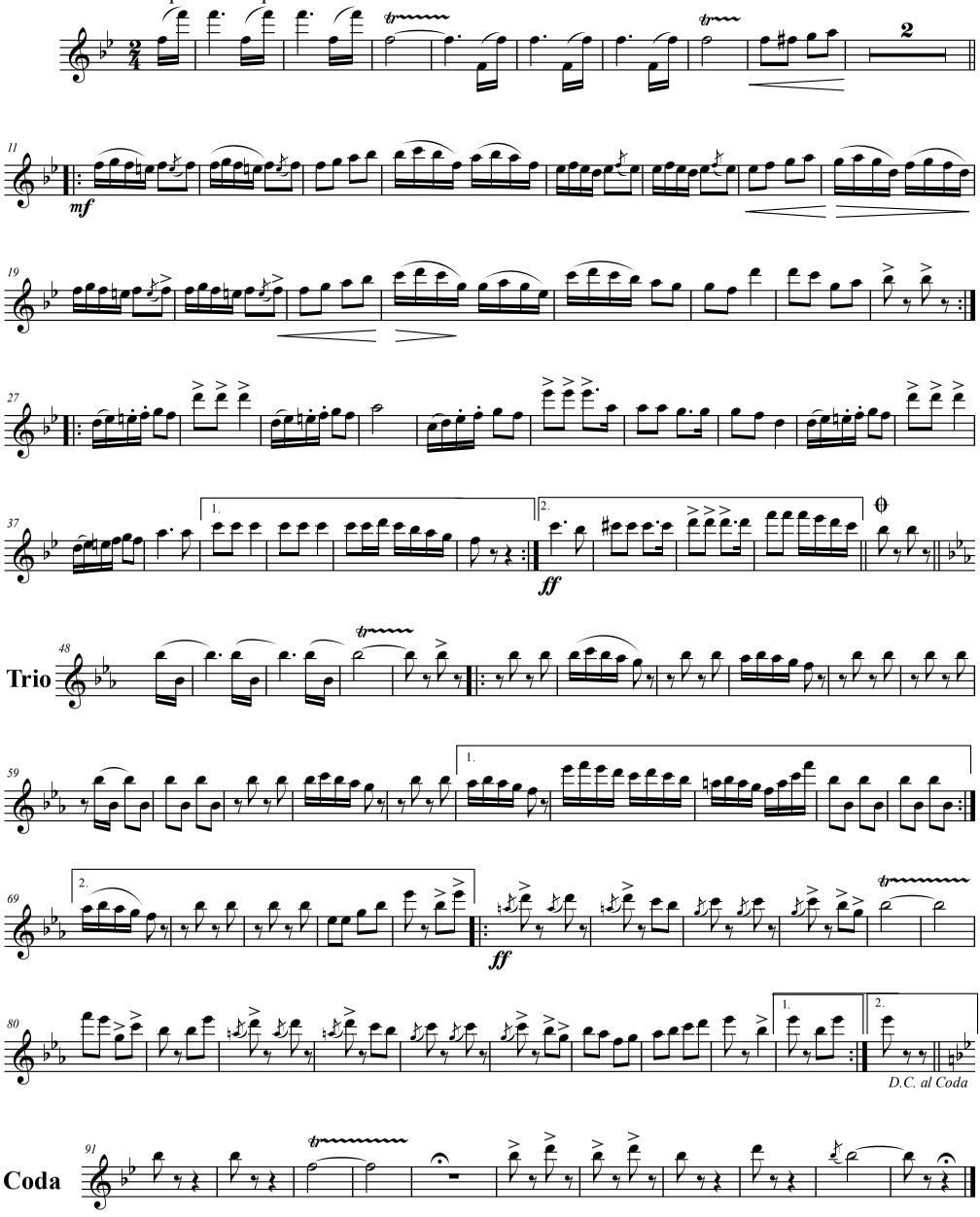
Midnight Fire Alarm

Descriptive March Galop

E♭ Clarinet

E. T. Paull

Tempo di Galop



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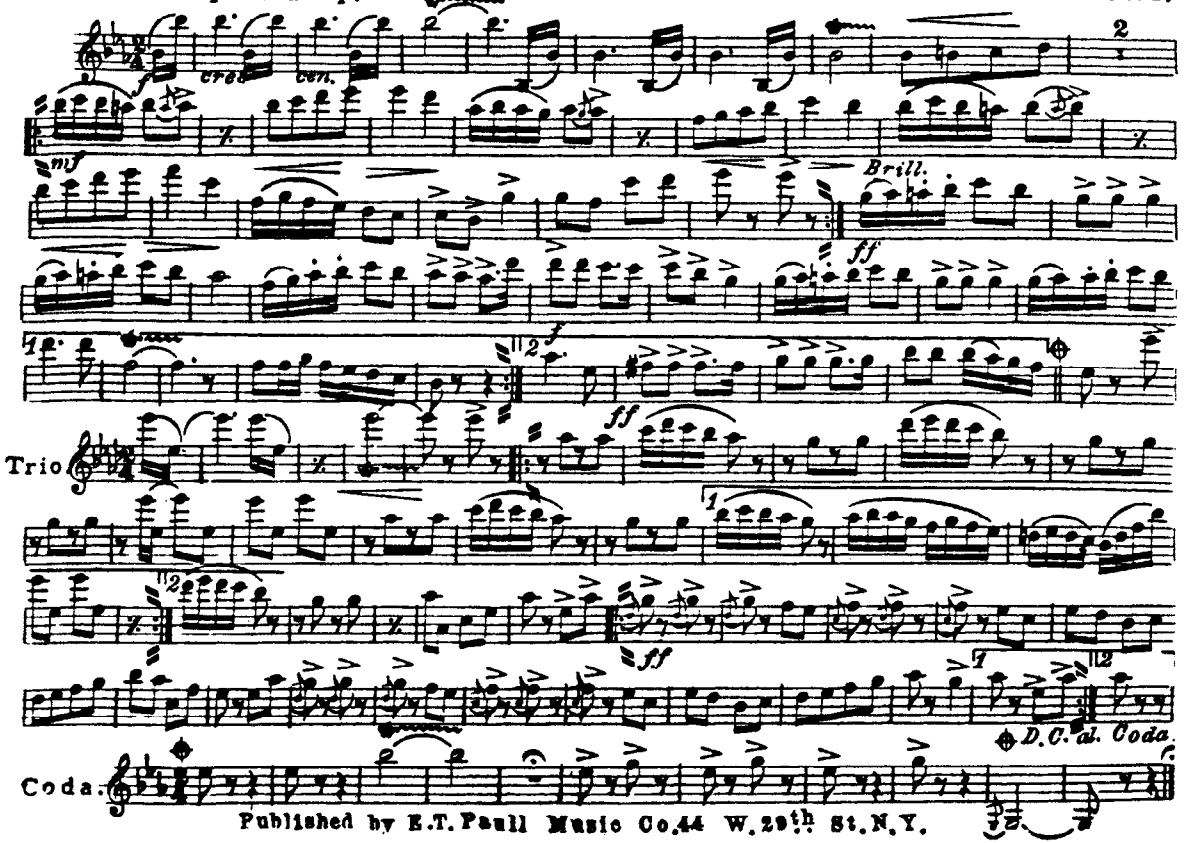
Solo B♭Clarinet.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Tempo di Galop.

Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.



Published by E.T. Paull Music Co. 44 W. 29th St. N.Y.

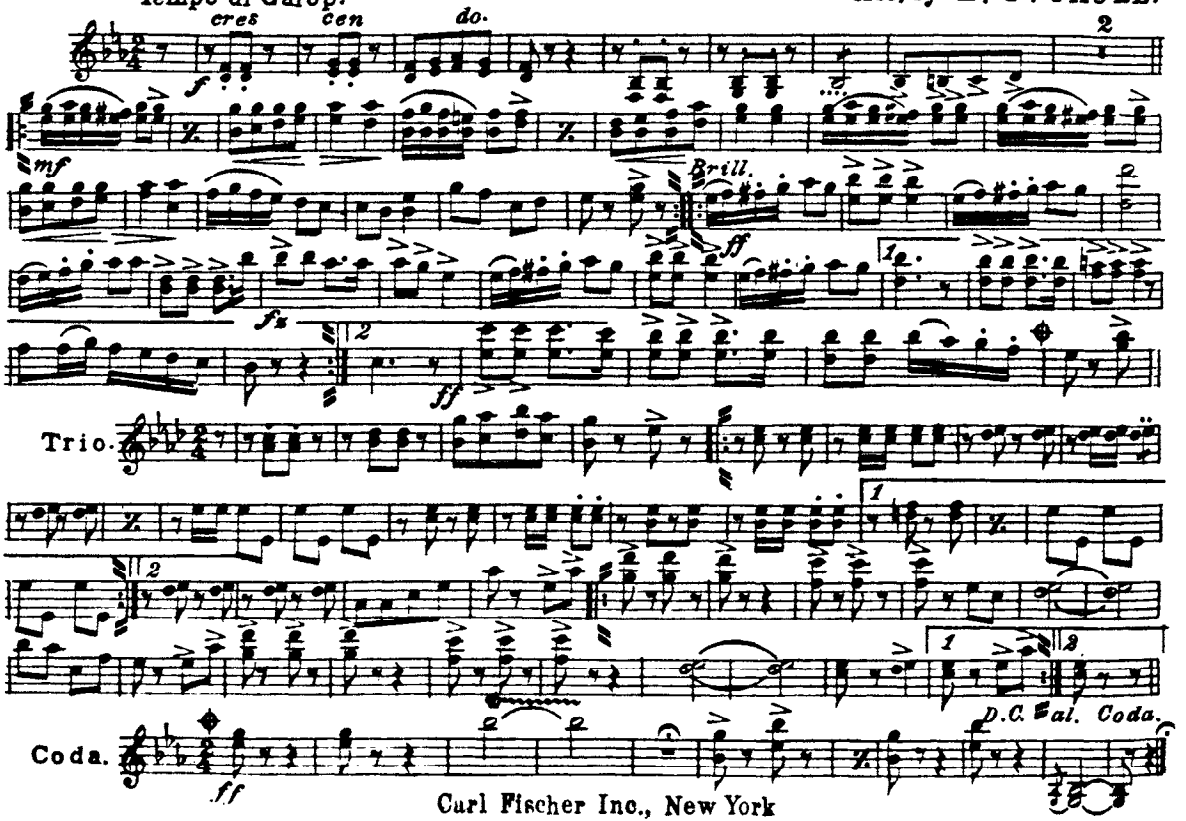
1st & 2nd B♭ Clarinets.

Midnight Fire Alarm

Descriptive March Galop.

H. J. LINCOLN
Arr. by E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



Carl Fischer Inc., New York

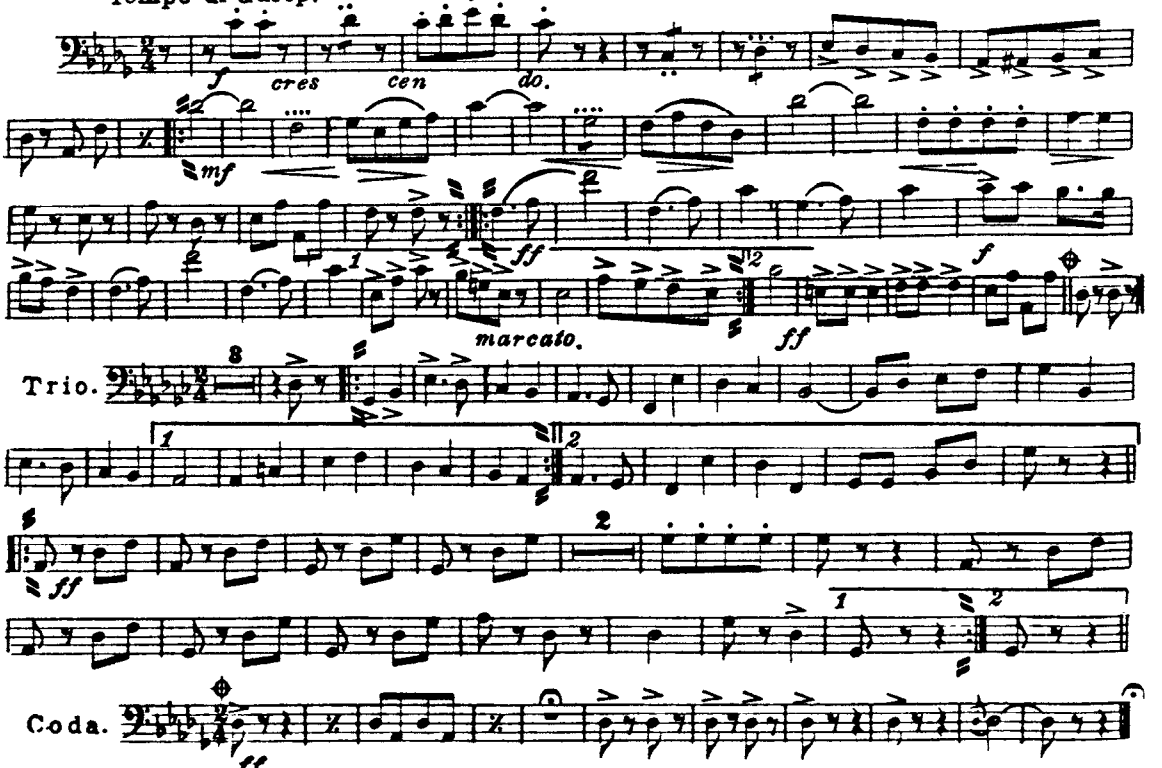
Midnight Fire Arlam.

Bassoon.

Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



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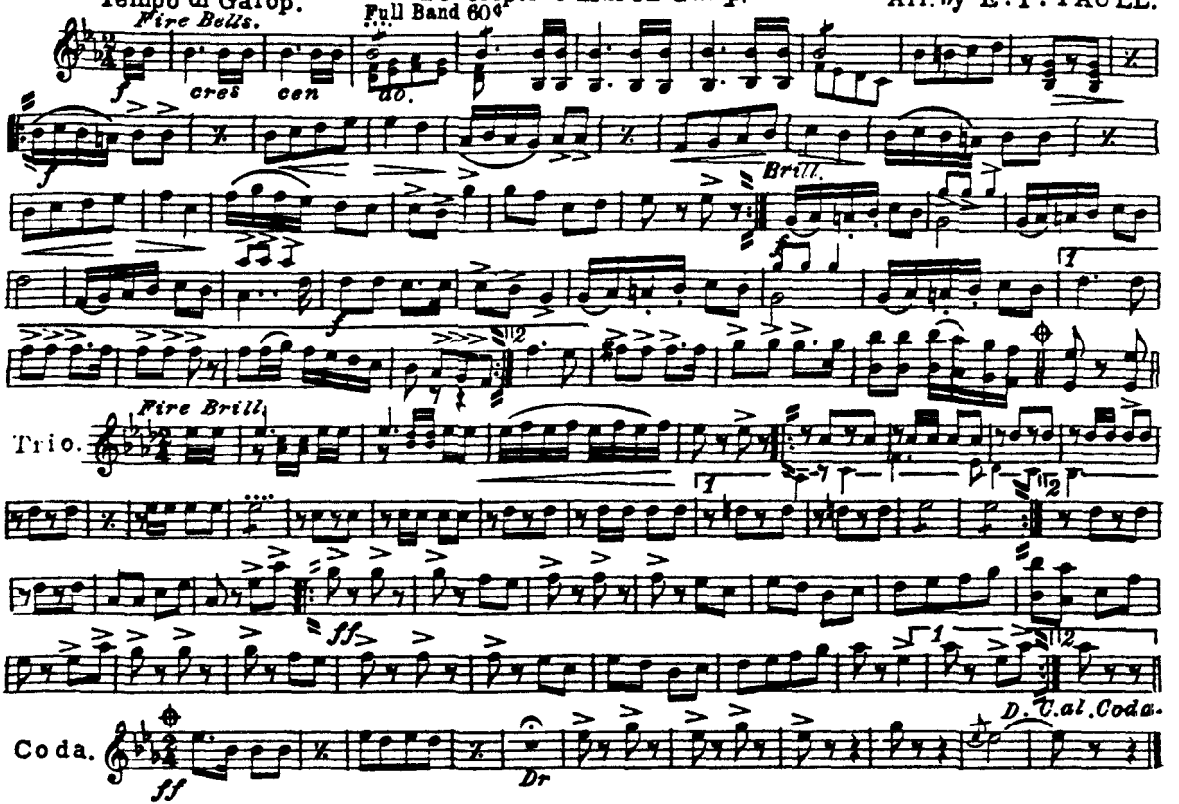
Solo B♭ Cornet

Midnight Fire Alarm

Descriptive March Galop.

H. J. LINCOLN
Arr. by E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



E.T.P.B. 84-5 Copyright 1900 by E. T. Paull Music Co. New York Printed in U.S.A.

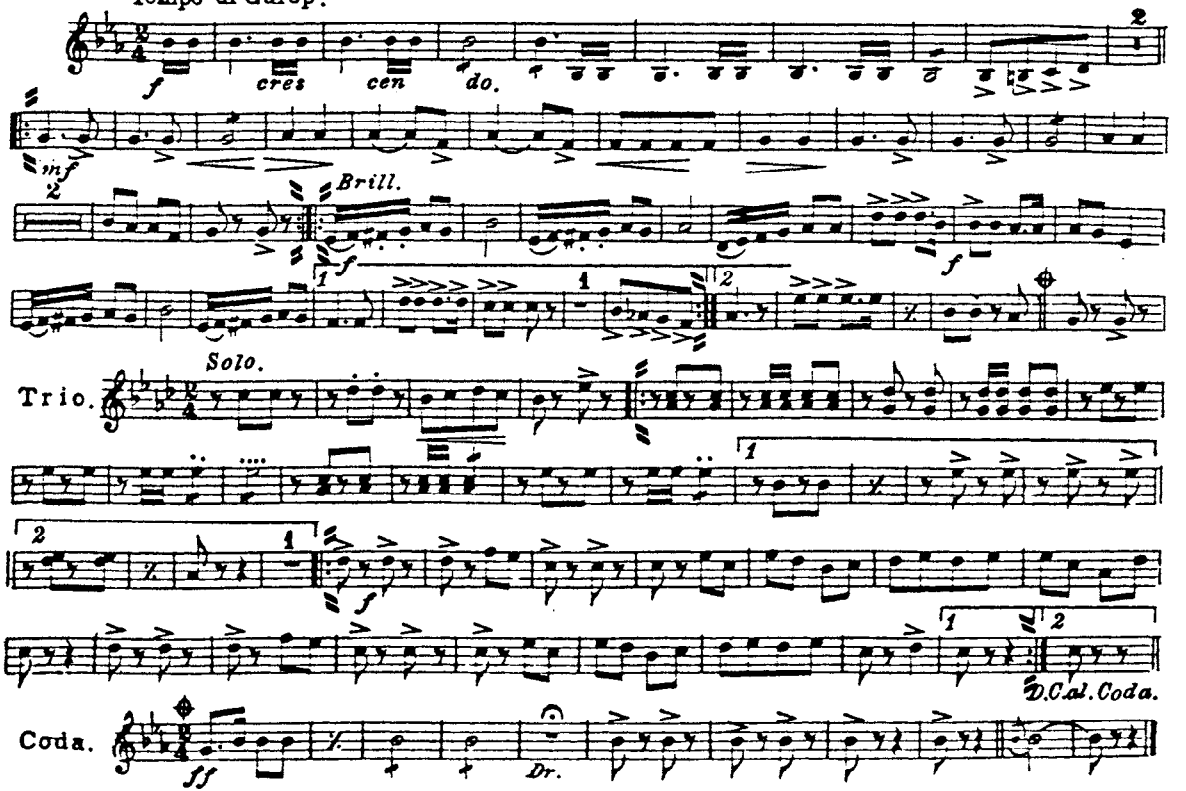
1st B♭ Cornet.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

E.T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



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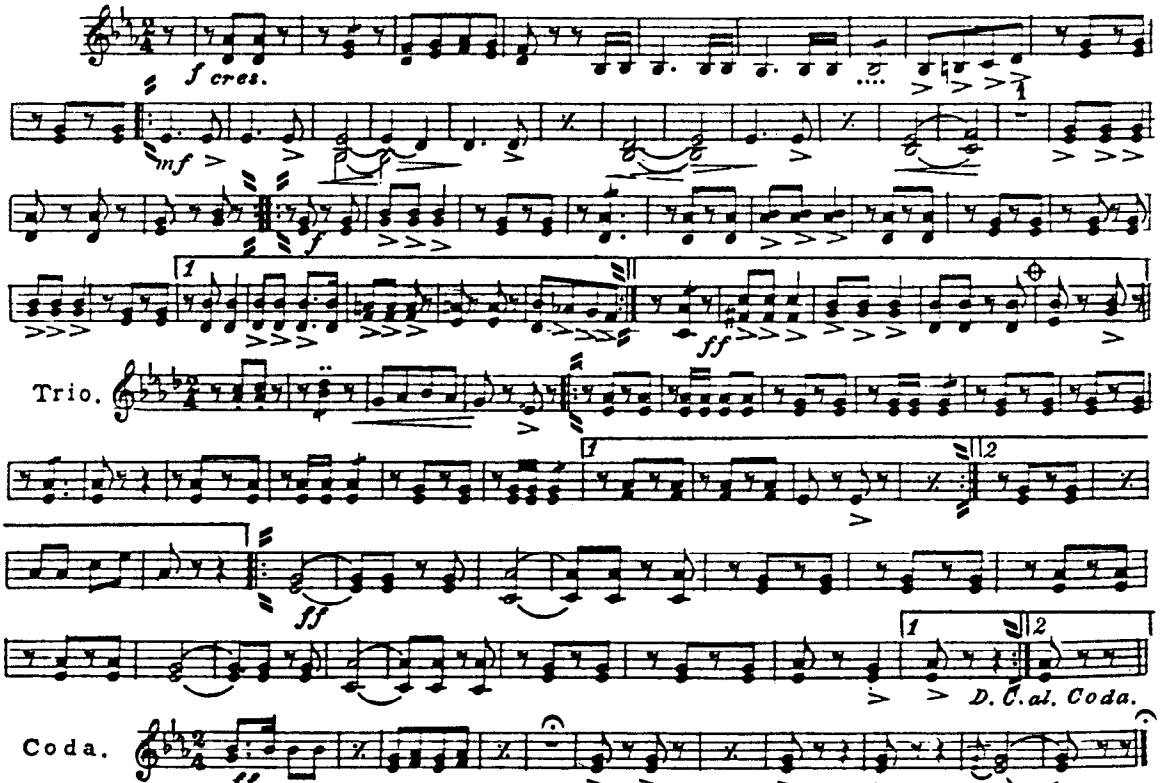
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cornets.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



Published by E. T. Paull Music Co. 54 W. 28th St. N.Y.

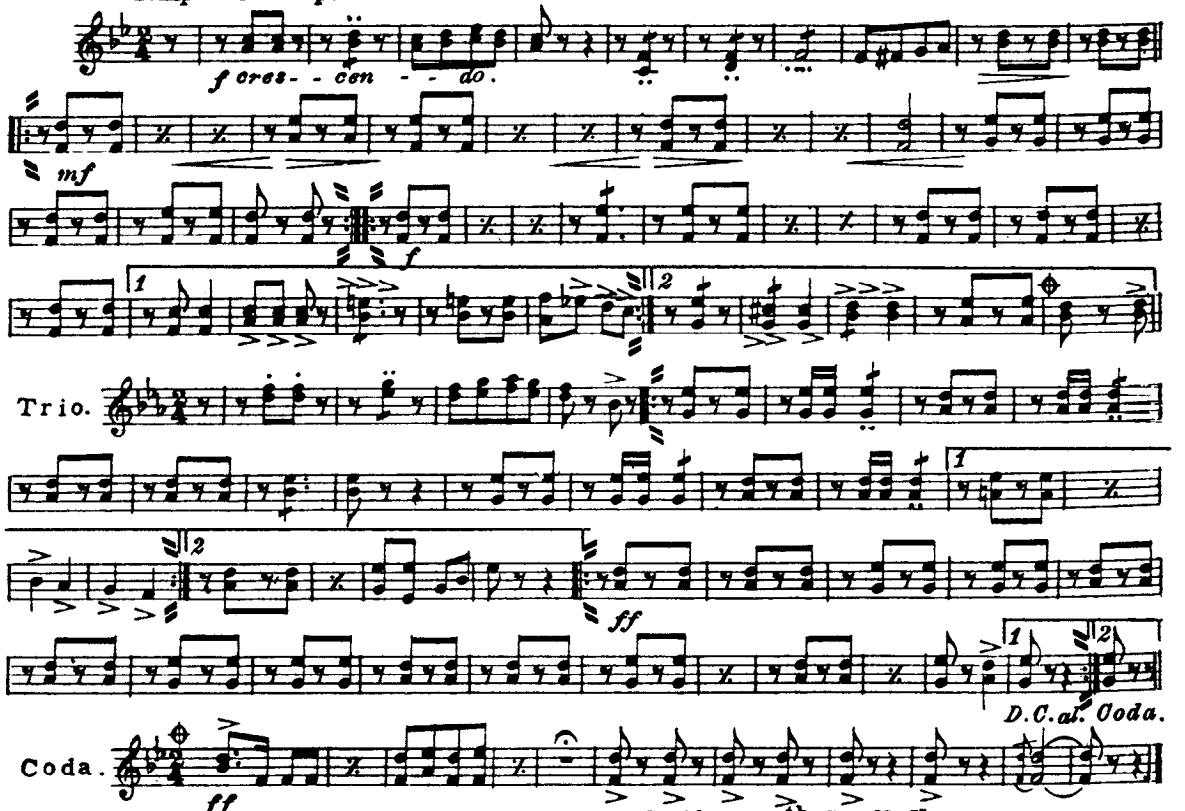
1st & 2nd E♭ Altos.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



Published by E. T. Paull, Music Co. 44 W. 28th St. N. Y.

3rd & 4th E♭ Altos.

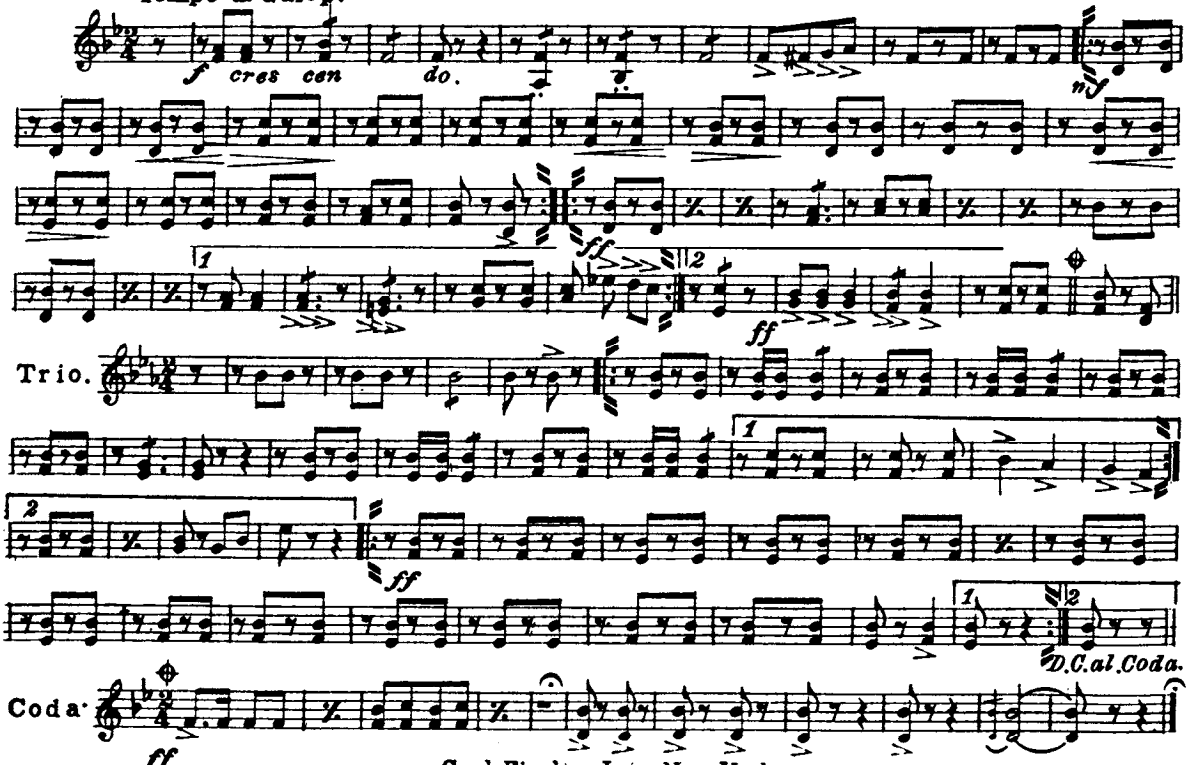
Midnight Fire Alarm

Descriptive March Galop.

H. J. LINCOLN

Arr. by E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



Carl Fischer Inc., New York

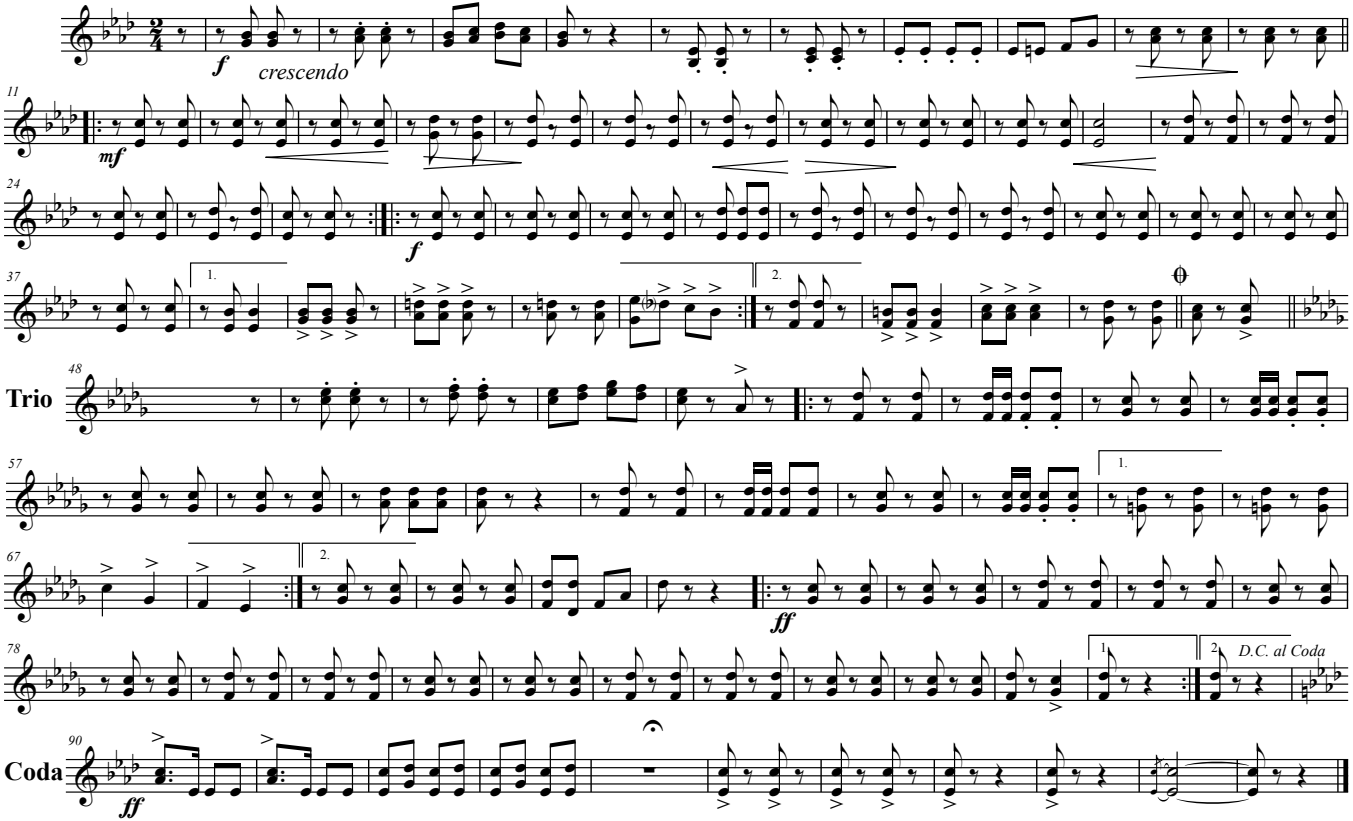
Midnight Fire Alarm

Descriptive March Gallop

1st & 2nd F Horn

E. T. Paull

Tempo di Galop



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Transposition prepared by Dan Steadman

Midnight Fire Alarm

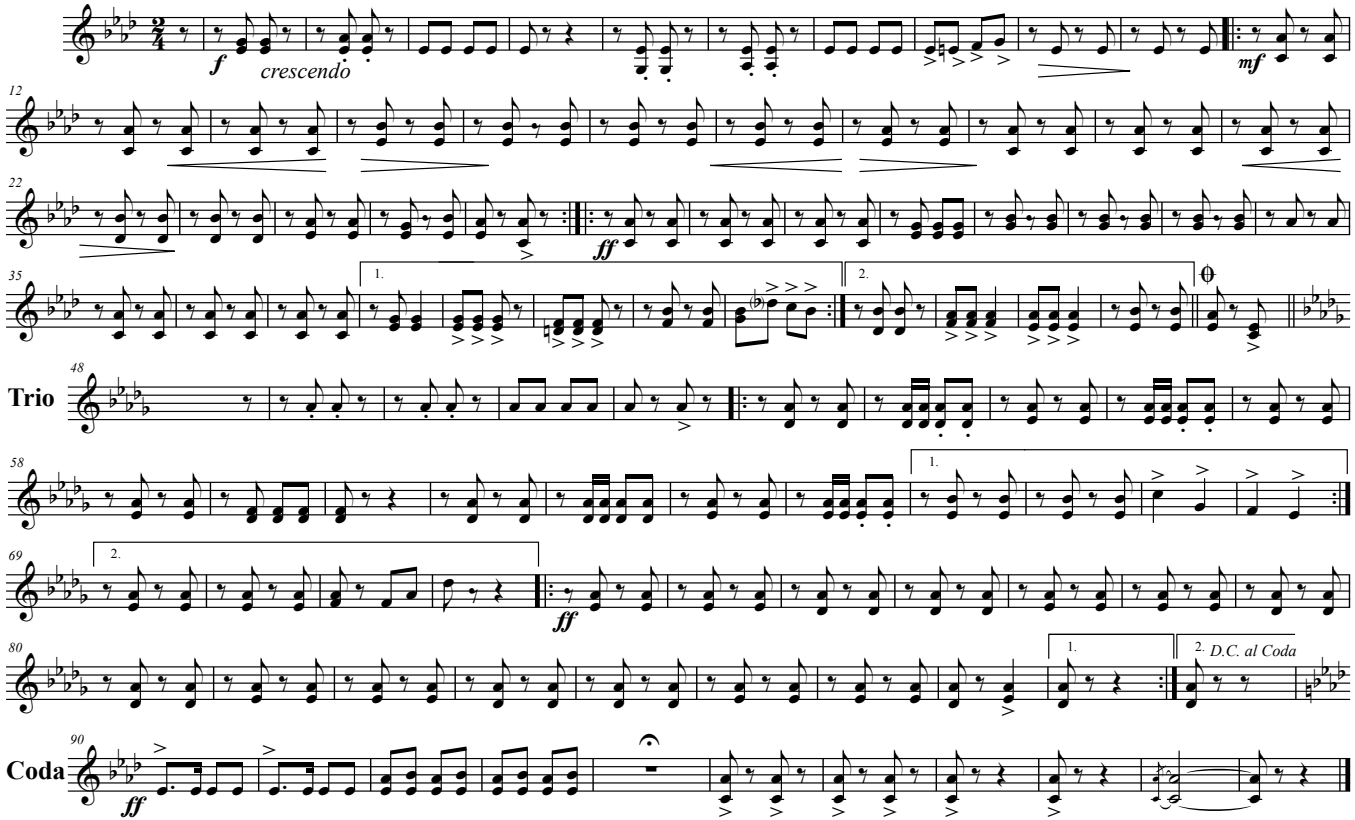
Descriptive March Gallop

3rd & 4th F Horn

H. J. Lincoln

Tempo di Galop

Arr. by E. T. Paull



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1st & 2nd Tenors.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

Tempo di Galop.

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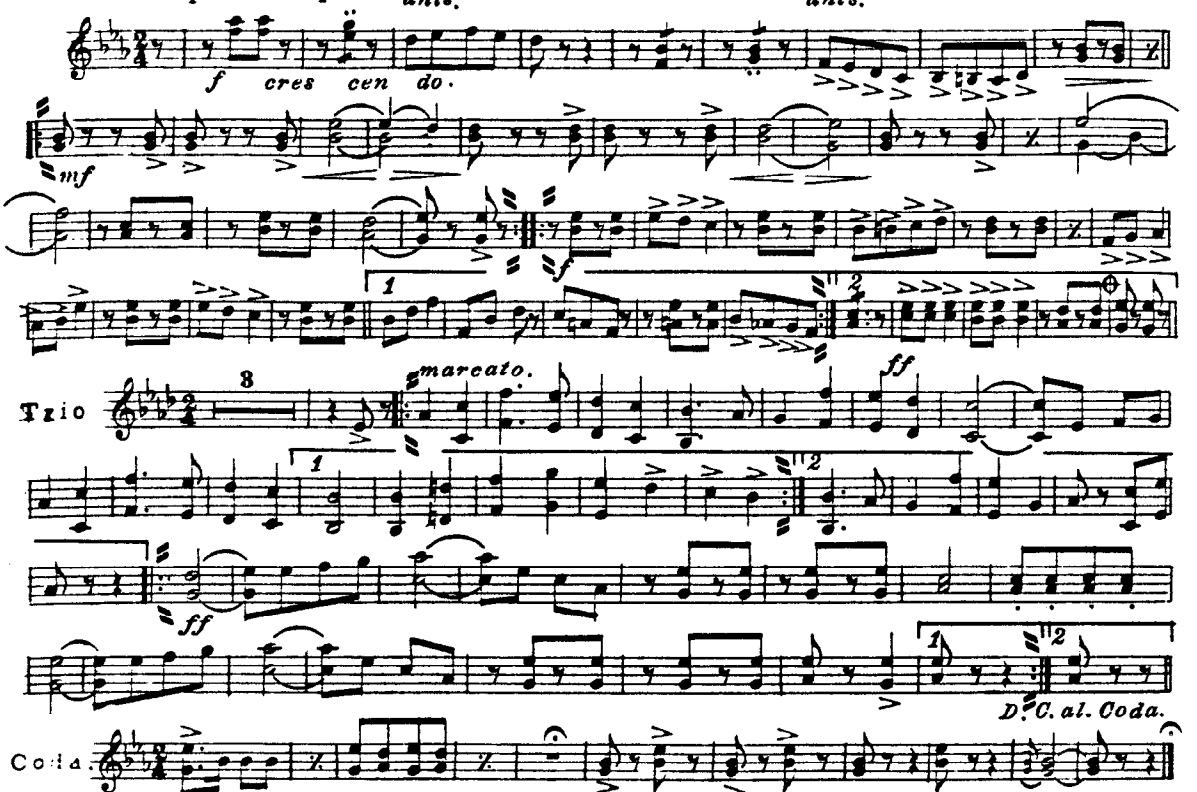

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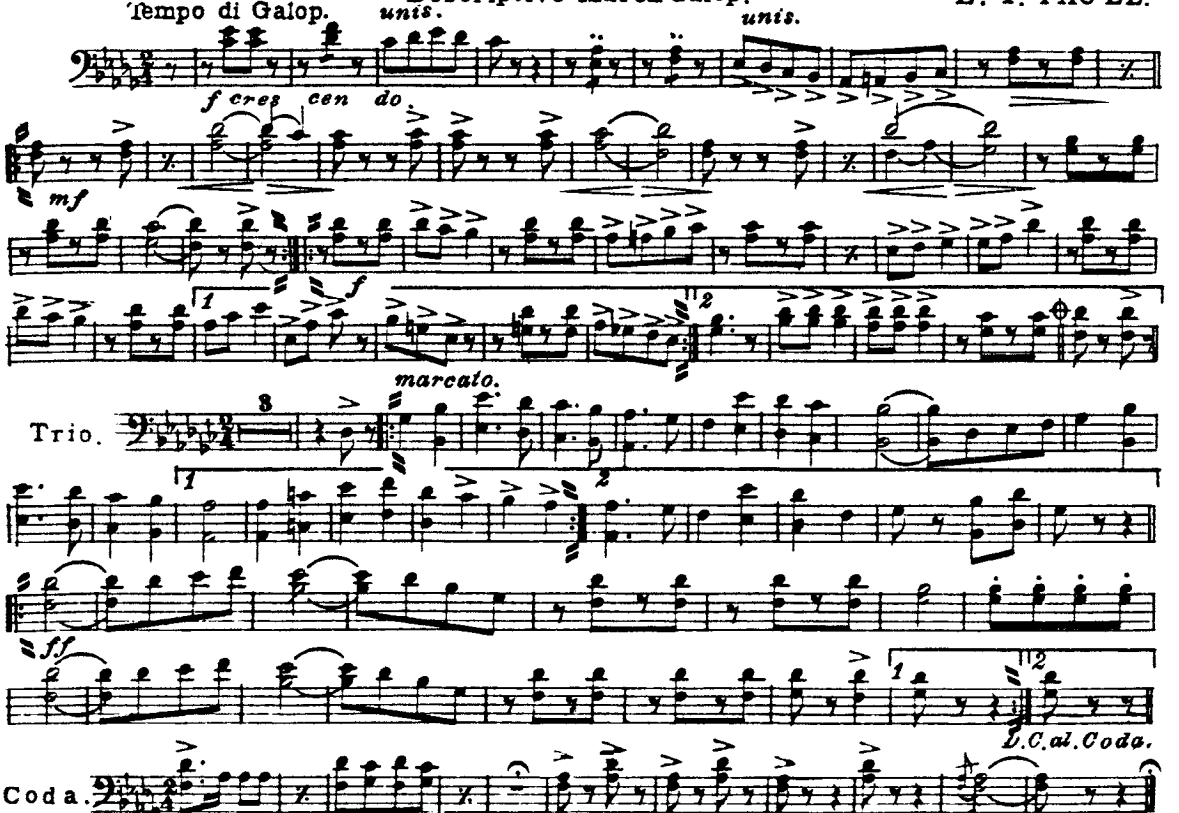
1st & 2nd Trombones.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.

Tempo di Galop.



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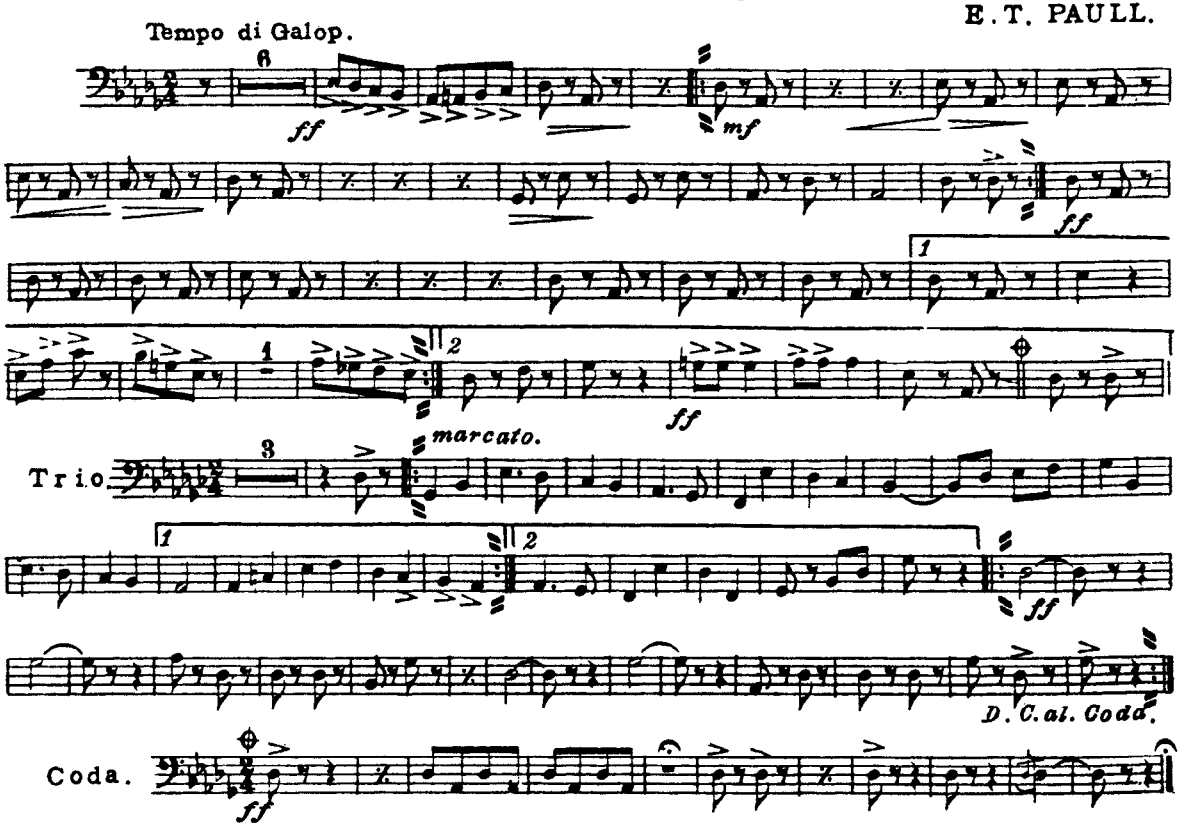
Midnight Fire Arlam.

3rd Trombone or B♭ Bass. Descriptive March Galop.

E. T. PAULL.

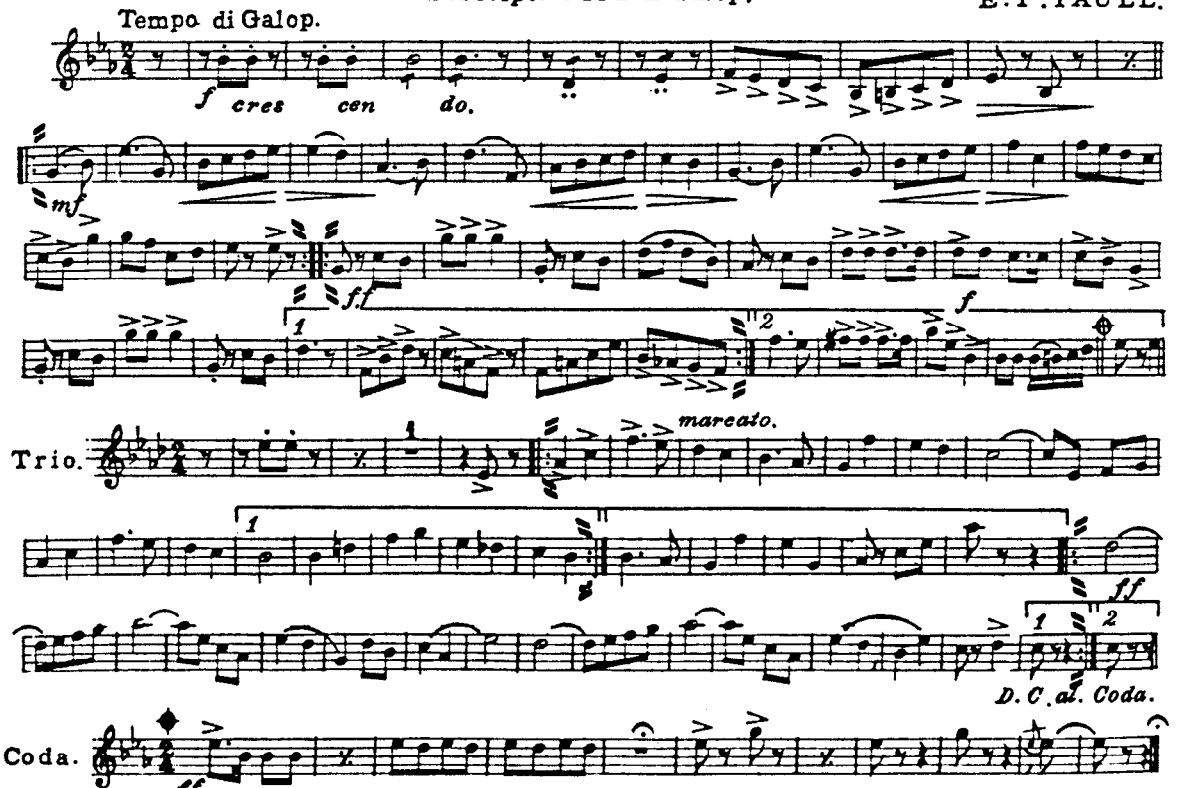


Baritone.

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

E.T. PAULL.



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Midnight Fire Arlam.

Baritone.

Descriptive March Galop.

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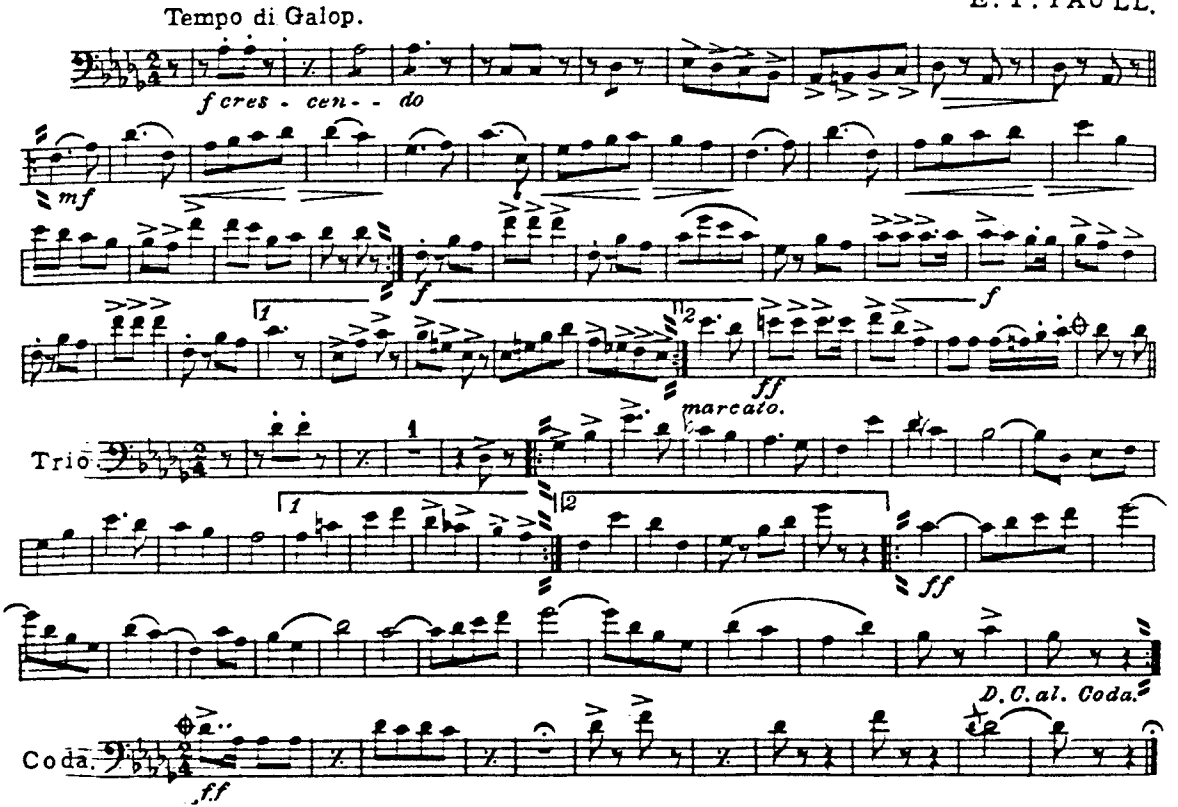

Midnight Fire Arlam.

Basses.

Descriptive March Galop.

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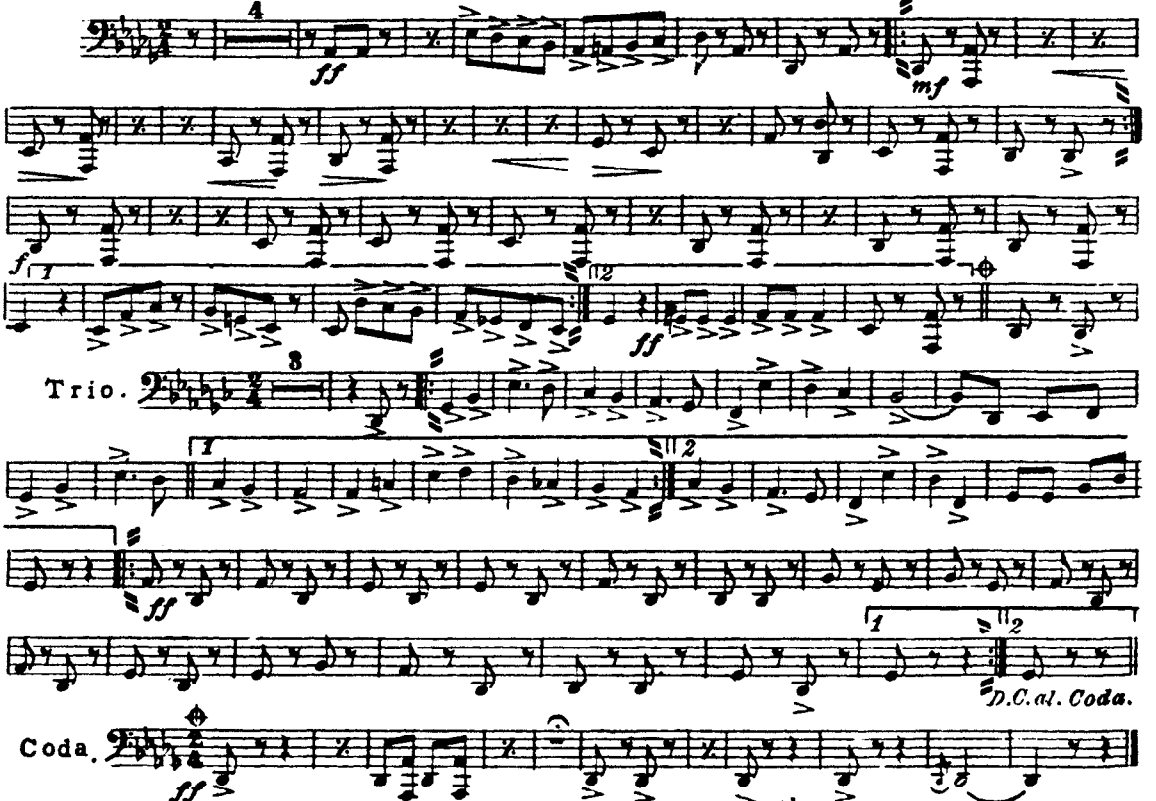
Tempo di Galop.



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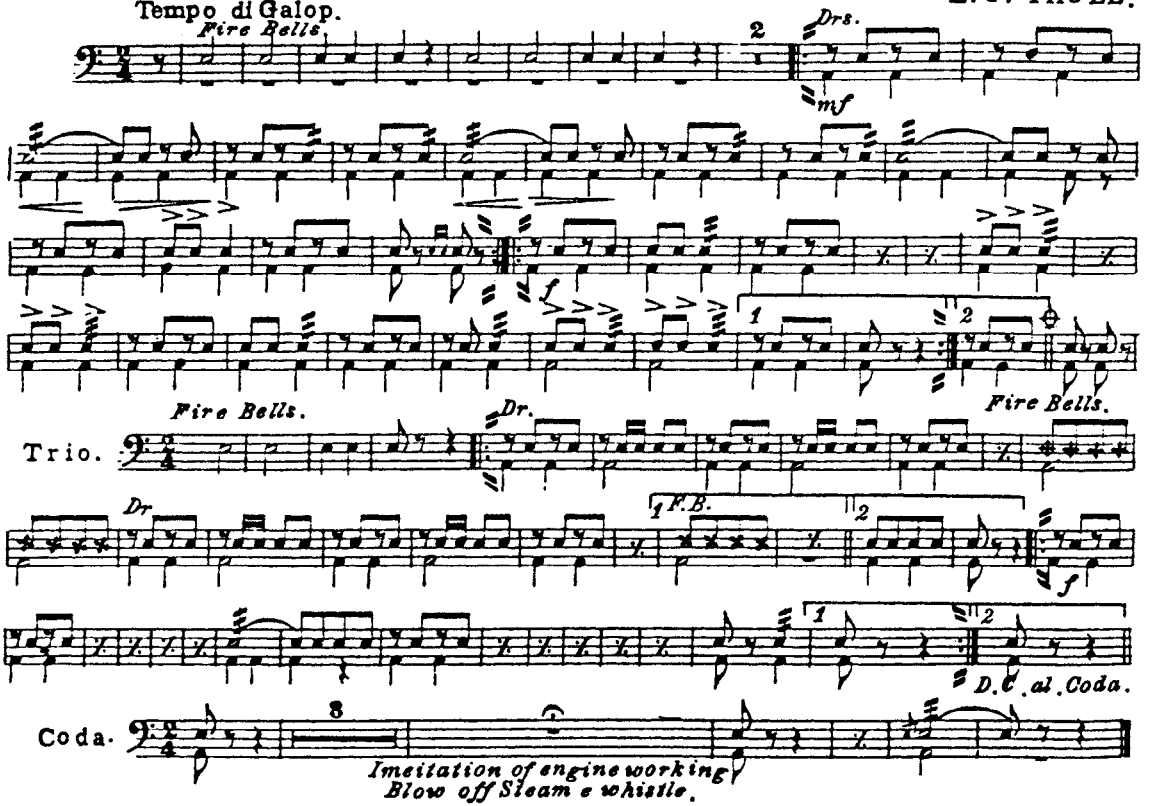
Midnight Fire Arlam.

Descriptive March Galop.

Drums etc.

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