

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

— OF —

# Musical Instruments

MANUFACTURED BY

ISAAC FISKE,

WORCESTER, MASS.



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WORCESTER.

1851.

## TO THE PUBLIC.

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THE following Illustrated Catalogue, is particularly commended to all who use, buy or sell, BRASS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, and who have not had an opportunity to thoroughly test and compare Instruments of my manufacture, with the best of ANY or ALL other makers, American or Foreign. Those who have so tested and compared, need nothing more to enable them to decide that my Instruments are SUPERIOR to all others.

I have been established in this business in the city of Worcester, for Eighteen years; and have devoted my whole time and attention to perfecting Musical Instruments; not only by the use of fine tools and the employment of good workmen, to produce superior workmanship, but also, in my forms and models, to produce a pure tone of the quality, and power best adapted to the purposes required; viz, Brass Bands and Orchestras.

Owing to the rapid advance of civilization, and consequently of musical taste and science, much better Instruments are now demanded than formerly. My AIM has been to keep in ADVANCE of the demand of the times.

I have patterns for three different sizes of calibre for all the Instruments I make; that is, three sizes for Eb Cornet; three sizes for Bb Cornet, &c. The large and medium sizes are intended expressly for Brass Bands, the small size for Orchestra.

A Cornet of small calibre, it is well known, will not give a tone of sufficient volume to be heard at a great distance in a Brass Band, and to remedy this the performer will often force his Instrument until it spoils the tone and produces a harsh disagreeable noise. A Cornet with large calibre gives a large rich volume of tone, which is heard at a great distance, without any unusual effort on the part of the performer to be heard. It is musical in the distance, and not disagreeable in the immediate vicinity.

But a Cornet of large calibre is *not* effective in Orchestra; as the quality and volume of tone is such that it will not blend with String Instruments, but overpowers them and stands out alone.

In the classification of my Instruments, I assure that the Eb Cornet is *Soprano*, consequently the Instrument an octave below it must be *Tenor*, (Eb) and the one intermediate in pitch must be *Alto*, (Bb)

The Bb Tenor, and Bb Baritone, are the same pitch; but the Baritone being larger calibre, is used in the middle and lower part of the scale; the Bb Tenor almost entirely in the upper part of the scale.

I make this statement relative to classification, to enable my customers to order understandingly, as all Foreign Instruments are classed entirely different.

Another thing worthy of notice by Brass Bands, and which has not yet received proper attention, is that the Instruments comprising the Band should be proportionate one with another, and not have one Instrument of a certain pitch with large calibre, and another of the same pitch with small calibre; this applies to Bands numbering not more than eighteen wind Instruments, but in a Band of thirty or more such an arrangement is very effective; as it gives the full harmony by either the large or small calibre Instruments, and both combined gives an immense volume of tone.

This matter I have given special attention to, and when I furnish a complete set of Instruments to a Band, each one is of the right size to blend harmoniously with all the others.

It is necessary that the mouth pieces made for the Instruments should be used without alteration, as the mouth piece is a very important part of the instrument.

By the following cuts it will be seen that the Instruments are nearly all represented with the bell to go

over the shoulder; this style is now adopted by nearly all the best Bands in this country. They are better as regards tone, tune, and ease of blowing, and the large Instruments are easier to carry.

The cuts are engraved on a scale of one inch to the foot, so that any person can determine the size of any particular Instrument, by measuring the cut.

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~~Q~~ Please be particular when ordering, to give the number of the cut in this Catalogue; if it is wanted different from any of them, state wherein the difference is, by reference to some other cut.

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**TERMS:** Invariably Cash on delivery. On a bill amounting to \$300 and upwards, a discount of 10 per cent. for German Silver, and 5 per cent. for Brass will be made.



No. 1.

**Eb CORNET, 3 Valves, bell forward, side action** (that is, the levers which operate the valves, are placed on the side of the Instrument,) small calibre, suitable for Orchestra, or small Brass Band, crooks to D and C, if desired. This size and form of Instrument also made with the action on top, to hold like the Bugle.

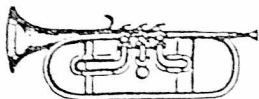
Price with side action, Brass,	- . . . .	\$45 0
“ “ top “ “	- . . . .	40 0
Price with side action, German Silver,	- . . . .	55 0
“ “ top “ “ “	- . . . .	50 0



No. 2.

**Bb CORNET, 4 Valves, side action, crooks to C** The 4th valve is a semi-tone extension valve, and is used to change the key of the Instrument from Bb to C, also, for the attachment of an Echo. This is the celebrated Schreiber pattern, and has been pronounced by all who have used them, to be the most perfect valve Instrument the World has yet produced.

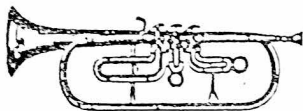
Price for Brass,	- . . . .	\$55 0
“ “ German Silver,	- . . . .	65 0
Price of Echo,	\$20.00 extra.	



No. 3.

C CORNET, 3 Valves, bell forward, top action. (that is, the levers are put on the top, and the Instrument holds like the Bugle,) crooks to Bb, A, Ab, and G. Small calibre, suitable for Orchestra.

Price for Brass, . . . . .	\$45 00
“ “ German Silver, . . . . .	55 00



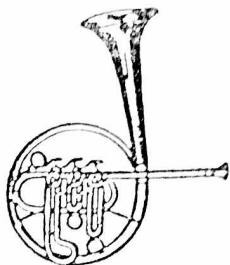
No. 4.

Bb CORNET, 3 Valves, bell forward, top action, crooks to A, Ab, and G; small calibre, suitable for Orchestra. The 4th valve may be added, either as a cut off or an extension, and finger with right or left hand as may be desired.

Price for Brass, 3 valves, . . . . .	\$45 00
“ “ “ 4 “ . . . . .	55 00
Price for German Silver, 3 valves, . . . . .	55 00
“ “ “ “ 4 “ . . . . .	65 00



No. 5.



No. 6.

No. 5. Eb CORNET, 3 Valves, circular form, medium size calibre; intended expressly for Brass Bands, with bells upright. This Instrument may also be made with 4 valves. The 4th a cut-off valve, and finger with the right or left hand, as may be desired.

Price with 3 valves, Brass,	. . . . .	\$45 00
" " 4 " "	. . . . .	55 00
Price with 3 valves, German Silver,	. . . . .	55 00
" " 4 " "	" " . . . . .	65 00

No. 6. Bb CORNET, 3 Valves, in circle, small calibre, crooks to A, Ab, and G. This Instrument may be made of a medium size and answer for both Brass Band and Orchestra, but is not recommended.

Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$45 00
" " German Silver,	. . . . .	55 00





No. 7.

Eb CORNET, 3 Valves, bell over the shoulder. medium size, intended expressly for Brass Bands. I have also a larger size which produces a larger volume of tone, but requires a stronger embouchure to get the upper notes; it is not recommended except for third Eb in a large Band. The small size, (No. 1.) may also be made in this form, and is very fine for a small Band of eight or ten pieces.

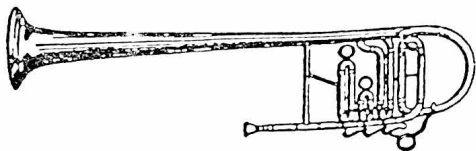
Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$45 00
“ “ German Silver,	. . . . .	55 00



No. 8.

Eb CORNET, 4 Valves, bell over the shoulder, medium size. The 4th valve is a cut-off; fingers with the left hand, and enables the performer to avoid awkward fingering in many passages, it is also useful for trilling any note in the scale.

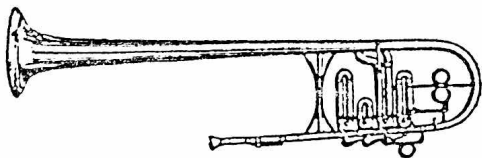
Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$55 00
“ “ German Silver,	. . . . .	65 00



No. 9.

Bb CORNET, (Alto,) 3 Valves, bell over the shoulder, large calibre; may be made in this form with small calibre if desired, but the large size is best, as it gives a full, rich quality of tone without forcing.

Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$45 00
“ “ German Silver,	. . . . .	55 00



No. 10.

Bb CORNET, (Alto,) 4 Valves, bell over the shoulder, large size. The 4th valve is a cut-off; it is useful as means by which to avoid difficult fingering, and also for trilling any note in the scale; can be made with small calibre if desired.

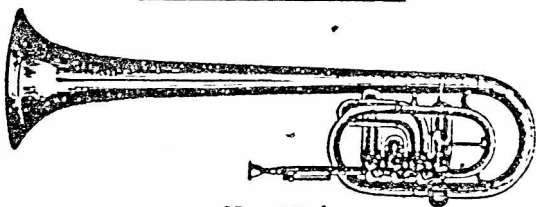
Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$55 00
“ “ German Silver,	. . . . .	65 00



No. 11.

Eb TENOR, 3 Valves, bell over the shoulder, medium size. I have a larger, and also a smaller size, but the medium is best for ordinary Brass Band playing; can be made to play with the bell up or over the shoulder at pleasure, for \$3.00 extra, (and the same is true with regard to all my Eb and Bb Tenors, Bb Baritone, and Bb Bass. The Eb Bases and Cornets, are not convenient when made to play both ways.)

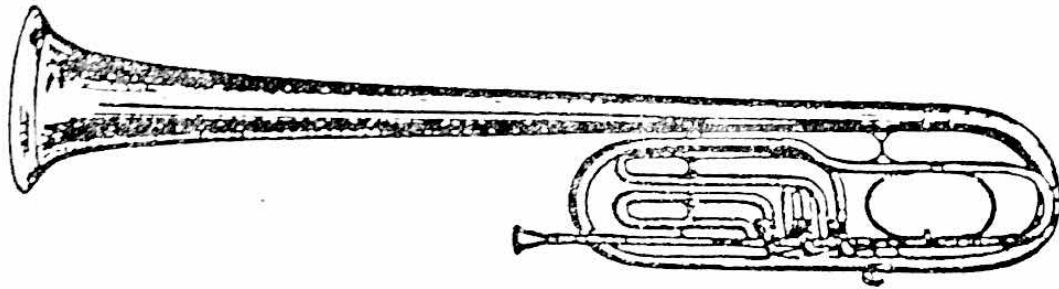
Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$55 00
" " German Silver,	. . . . .	70 00



No. 12.

Eb TENOR, 4 Valves, bell over the shoulder, medium size. The 4th valve is a cut-off, and fingers with the left hand; may be made an extension valve, and finger with right hand if desired.

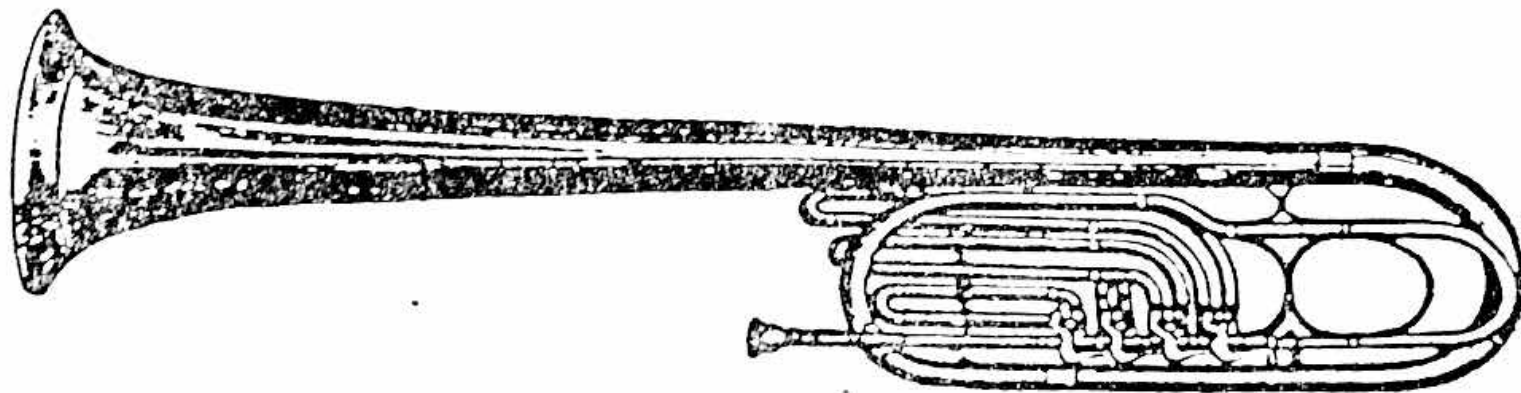
Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$65 00
" " German Silver,	. . . . .	80 00



No. 13.

Bb TENOR, 3 Valves, bell over the shoulder, large size, suitable for Brass Bands. I have a smaller size, very effective in Orchestra or small Brass Band.

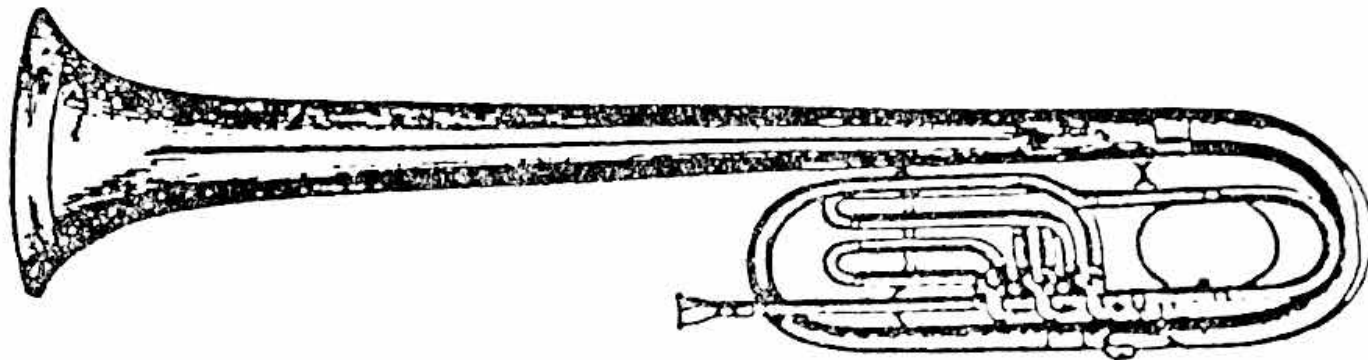
Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$60 00
" " German Silver,	. . . . .	75 00



No. 14.

Bb TENOR, 4 Valves, bell over the shoulder, large size calibre. The 4th valve is an extension valve, fingers with right hand; may be made to finger with the left if desired, like No. 16.

Price for Brass,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$70 00
“ “ German Silver,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	85 00

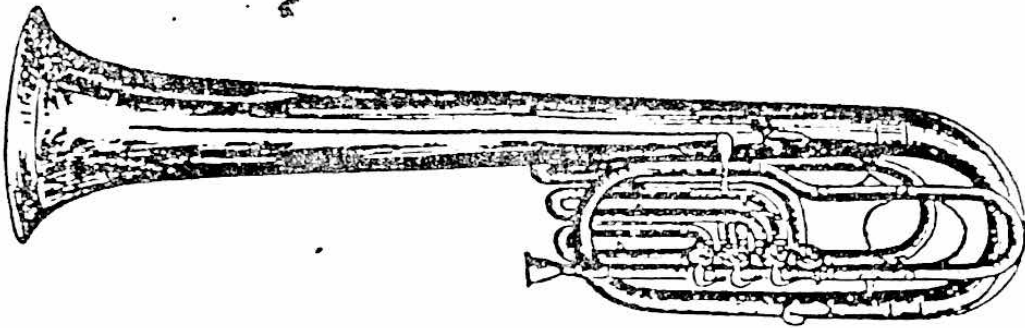


No. 15.

Bb BARITONE, 3 Valves, the only difference between this and No. 13 is, that this has a larger calibre, and consequently a larger volume of tone; it is suitable for a 3d Tenor, or a high Bass part.

Price for Brass,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$65 00
“ “ German Silver,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	80 00

OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



No. 16.

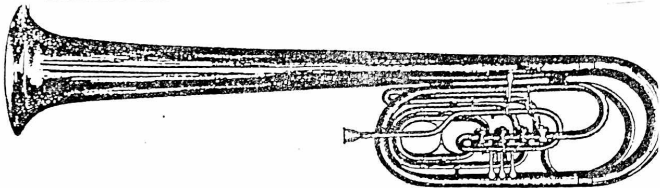
Bb Bass, 4 Valves, bell over the shoulder, calibre somewhat larger than No. 15, suitable for the upper Bass.

Price for Brass,	. . . . .	\$85 00
“ “ 3 valves, Brass,	. . . . .	75 00
Price for German Silver,	. . . . .	110 00
“ “ 3 valves, German Silver,	. . . . .	100 00









No. 19.

E♭ CONTRA BASS, 4 Valves, bell over the shoulder, extra large calibre, and gives a large volume of tone of good quality; this Instrument is not recommended, except for a Band of 16 pieces or more.

Price for Brass,	- - - - -	\$140 00
“ “ German Silver,	- - - - -	180 00

THE BEST CLASSIFICATION OF INSTRUMENTS FOR  
BRASS BANDS:

BAND OF 8 PIECES.	BAND OF 10 PIECES.	BAND OF 12 PIECES.
1.....Eb Cornet,	2.....Eb Cornets,	2.....Eb Cornets.
2.....Bb Cornet,	2.....Bb.....do.....	2.....Bb.....do.....
1.....Eb Tenor,	2.....Eb Tenors.	2.....Eb Tenors.
1.....Bb.....do.....	1.....Bb.....do.....	2.....Bb.....do.....
1.....Bb Baritone,	1.....Bb Baritone,	1.....Bb Baritone.
1.....Bb Bass,	1.....Bb Bass,	1.....Bb Bass.
1 Eb Contra Bass,	1 Eb Contra Bass,	2 Eb Contra Bass.
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THE BEST CLASSIFICATION OF INSTRUMENTS FOR  
BRASS BANDS:

BAND OF 14 PIECES.	BAND OF 16 PIECES.	BAND OF 18 PIECES.
3.....Eb Cornets,	3.....Eb Cornets,	4.....Eb Cornets,
2.....Bb.....do.....	2.....Bb.....do.....	2.....Bb.....do.....
3.....Eb Tenors,	3.....Eb Tenors,	1.....Ab Alto,
2.....Bb.....do.....	2.....Bb.....do.....	3.....Eb Tenors.
1.....Bb Baritone,	1.....Bb Baritone,	2.....Bb.....do.....
1.....Bb Bass,	1.....Bb Bass.	1.....Bb Baritone.
2 Eb Contra Bass.	1.....Ab Bass.	1.....Bb Bass.
.....	2 Eb Contra Bass.	1.....Ab.....do.....
.....	1 Eb.....do.....large.	2.....E Contra Bass.
.....	.....	1.....E.....do.....large.

THE FOLLOWING ARE A FEW OF THE NUMEROUS TESTIMONIALS WHICH I HAVE RECEIVED FROM PROFESSORS OF MUSIC, WHO ARE ENTIRELY DISINTERESTED IN THE MANUFACTURE, AND COULD NOT BE INDUCED TO USE ANY INSTRUMENT BUT THE BEST.

NEW YORK, March 1st. 1859.

MR. FISKE, Worcester,—*Dear Sir:* Having used your Instruments for the last two years, it is a real pleasure for me to recommend them to the musical public, as the best I have ever used. For the purity of sound, finish of mechanism, and so superior for the particular care given to all possible improvements, they cannot be excelled. I would feel happy if this opinion, (which I believe agrees with that of all our best performers in this country,) could fall with its weight for the benefit of the musical public, in favor of your excellent brass Instruments. Believe me, dear sir,

Yours, most respectfully,

LOUIS SCHREIBER.

NEW YORK, July 2d, 1859.

ISAAC FISKE, Esq.,—*Dear Sir:* It is now more than a year since I commenced using one of your Eb Tenors; and I can assure you it gives me great pleasure to say that it satisfies me better than any other, of different manufacturers, that I have yet used.

Respectfully yours,  
D. L. DOWNING,  
Solo Tenor of Dodworth's Band, and Composer  
of Music for Military Bands.

ISAAC FISKE, Esq.,—*Dear Sir and Friend:* It gives me pleasure to say that, in my opinion, your Instruments stand

higher than any other, whether made in this country or any other. The principal performers in my Band use your Instruments, and their opinion is the same as my own, as far as I have heard it expressed. In regard to the Ab you made for me, there is but one opinion; that is, it is the best Instrument ever made.

Respectfully yours,

C. S. GRAFFULA.

366 Broome Street, New York City.

PHILADELPHIA, May, 1859.

MR. FISKE:—I received the Cornet you made for me, and am much pleased with it. I cannot find terms in English to express my delight at being the possessor of so fine an instrument. You are entitled to great credit and unlimited praise for your perseverance and success in perfecting your Instruments.

Truly yours,

GEORGE BASTERT.

WORCESTER, July 11th, 1859.

ISAAC FISKE, Esq.,—*Dear Sir:* For the last six years I have used your Instruments, and for purity of tone, finish and correctness of tune, they are more perfect than any Instruments made in this or any other country. I have used nearly all the different Instruments manufactured in Europe and this country, and have never succeeded in obtaining one to satisfy me until I used yours. I can, with much pleasure, recommend them to all musicians.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

MATHEW ARBUCKLE,

Leader and Director of Fiske's Cornet Band.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 1st, 1859.

MR. FISKE,—*Dear Sir:* The Great Western Band in this city have now used the Instruments you made them nearly

three years, and are very happy to be able to pronounce them far superior to all others we have ever seen. As regards purity of tone, even temperament, fine workmanship, and durability in hard service they cannot be equalled. You have cause to feel proud of the position you occupy as a manufacturer of musical Instruments.

Respectfully yours,

WM. BUCKHART,  
Leader of Great Western Band.

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NEW YORK CITY, 1860.

There is no two ways about it—I tell you the same I have told every one—the Instrument you made me, is worth all the rest I ever had.

J. S. JACOBS.

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BOSTON, August 23d, 1860.

ISAAC FISCHE, Esq.,—*My Dear Sir:* Since I received the Bb Cornet from you eight days ago, I have devoted much time in endeavoring to discover a fault in the Instrument if possible. I am most happy to say to you, that my search has been entirely fruitless; never before have I had in my possession so beautiful and perfect an Instrument. The tone and tune is all to my ear that I could desire; and the eye is charmed by the splendid finish, in fact, you have placed in my hands a piece of workmanship, which (in my experience so far,) makes you the model musical Instrument manufacturer of the times, and although it has cost me a handsome sum to become owner of it, I could not be induced to part with it on any terms, did I not know that you can make as many as you please of the same sort. Wishing you every success,

I remain your much favored and obliged,

P. S. GILMORE.

BUFFALO, Dec. 20th, 1860.

MR. ISAAC FISKE,—Dear Sir: The Union Cornet Band of this City, who procured their instruments from you last spring, are happy to be able to say that they are delighted with the same, both for purity of tone, good workmanship, and brilliant appearance. They have been thoroughly tested and pronounced to be second to none. Wishing you great success, believe me dear sir,

Yours, most respectfully,

P. CRAMER, JR.,

Leader of the Union Cornet Band.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 28th, 1860.

MR. ISAAC FISKE,—Dear Sir: The Cornet which you recently manufactured for me has been received; notwithstanding I have used some of the best European and American Cornets for 27 years past, this I think far surpasses in quality of tone and perfectness of tune, any I have ever used; in fact, in every respect it is the most perfect Instrument I have ever seen. May you receive from the musical public, the patronage to which the superiority of your Instruments entitles you.

Truly yours,

J. C. GREENE,

Leader and Director of American Brass Band.