REVISED EDITION

VOCAL EXERCISES

ON TONE PLACING AND ENUNCIATION

J. MICHAEL DIACK

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PREFACE.

"The principal cause of phonetic degeneracy in language is when people shrink from the effort of articulating each consonant and vowel."

Max Müller.

There are three simple points, the attainment of which should be the object of all vocal practice.

To sing naturally.
To sing intelligently.
To enunciate clearly.

The usual custom of exercising the voice with exercises of the Concone type on a few of the vowels, is not sufficient. The consonants, and their effect on the vowels, must also be studied.

To help the pupil to produce a *pure resonant tone* on *clearly enunciated words* is the object of the exercises in this work.

The work is divided into four sections:—

1. Preparatory Exercises on Vowels and Consonants. *Pages* 2 - 7 *and Appendix.*
2. Word-Phrases. . . . . " 8 - 13
3. Intoning Exercises. . . . . " 14 - 25
4. Song-Studies. . . . . " 26 - 36

Section 1 should be studied first; exercises should then be selected from the other three sections.

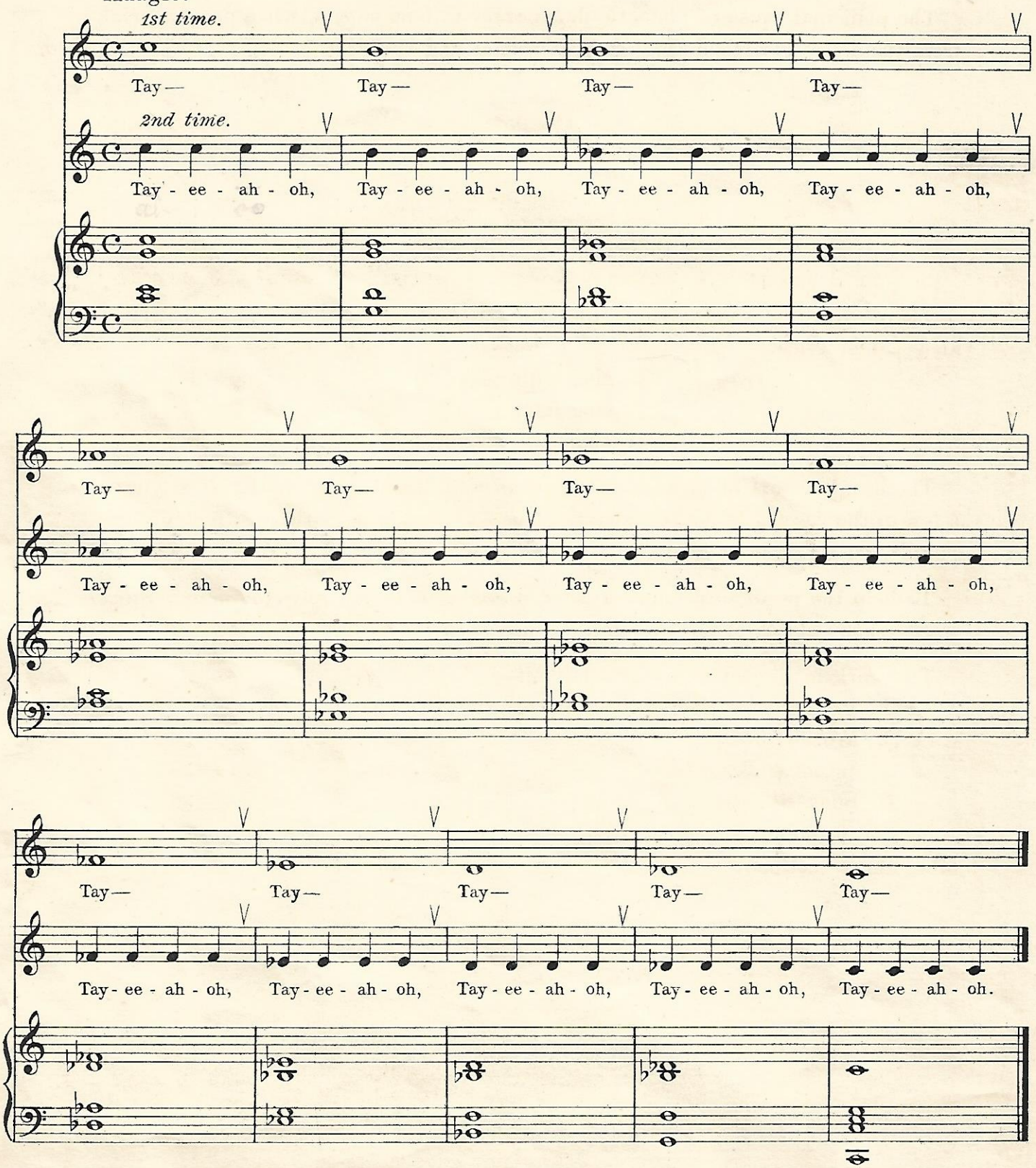
Section 1.

Vowel Exercises.

Preparatory exercises will be found in the Appendix.

1.

Adagio.



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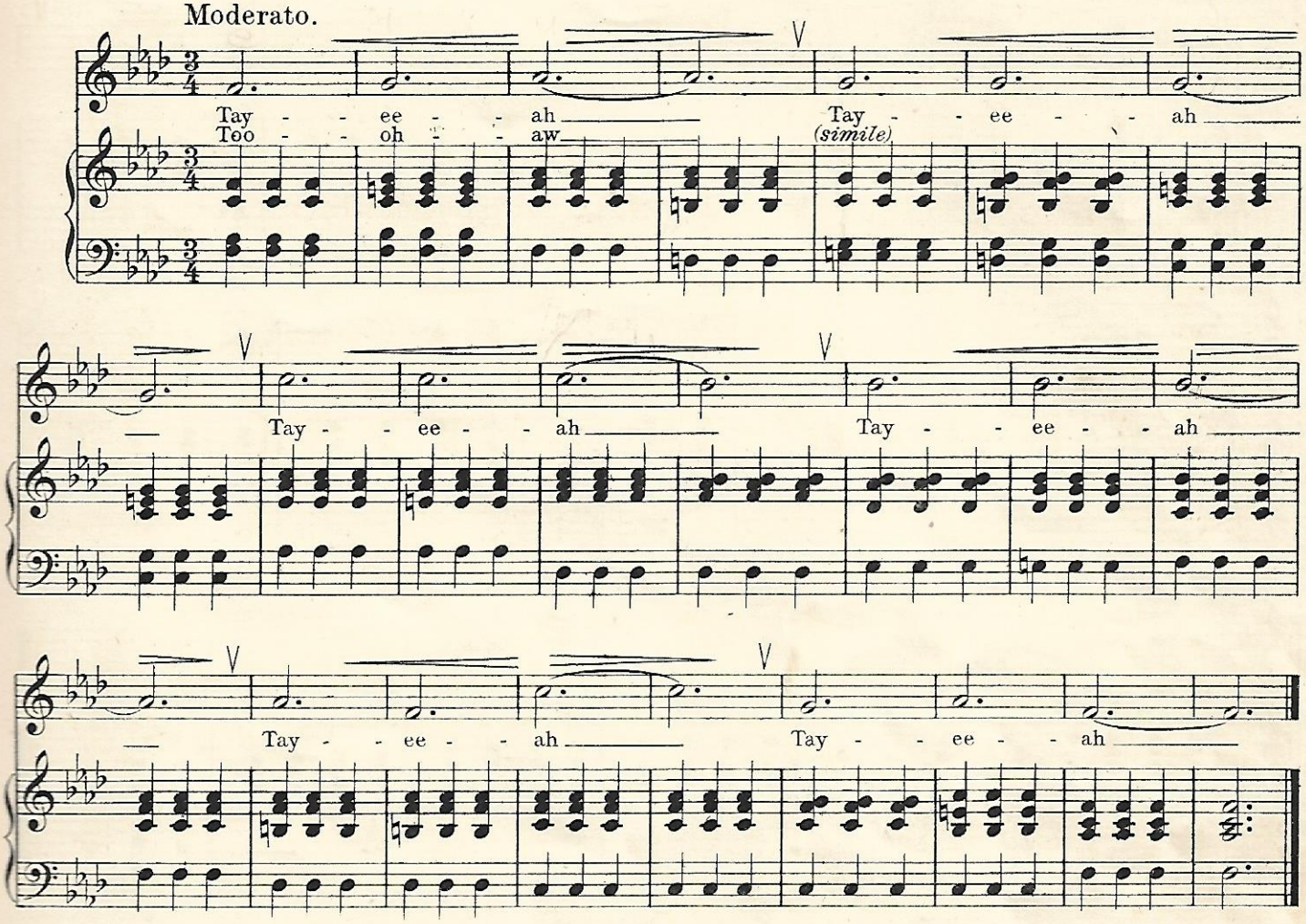

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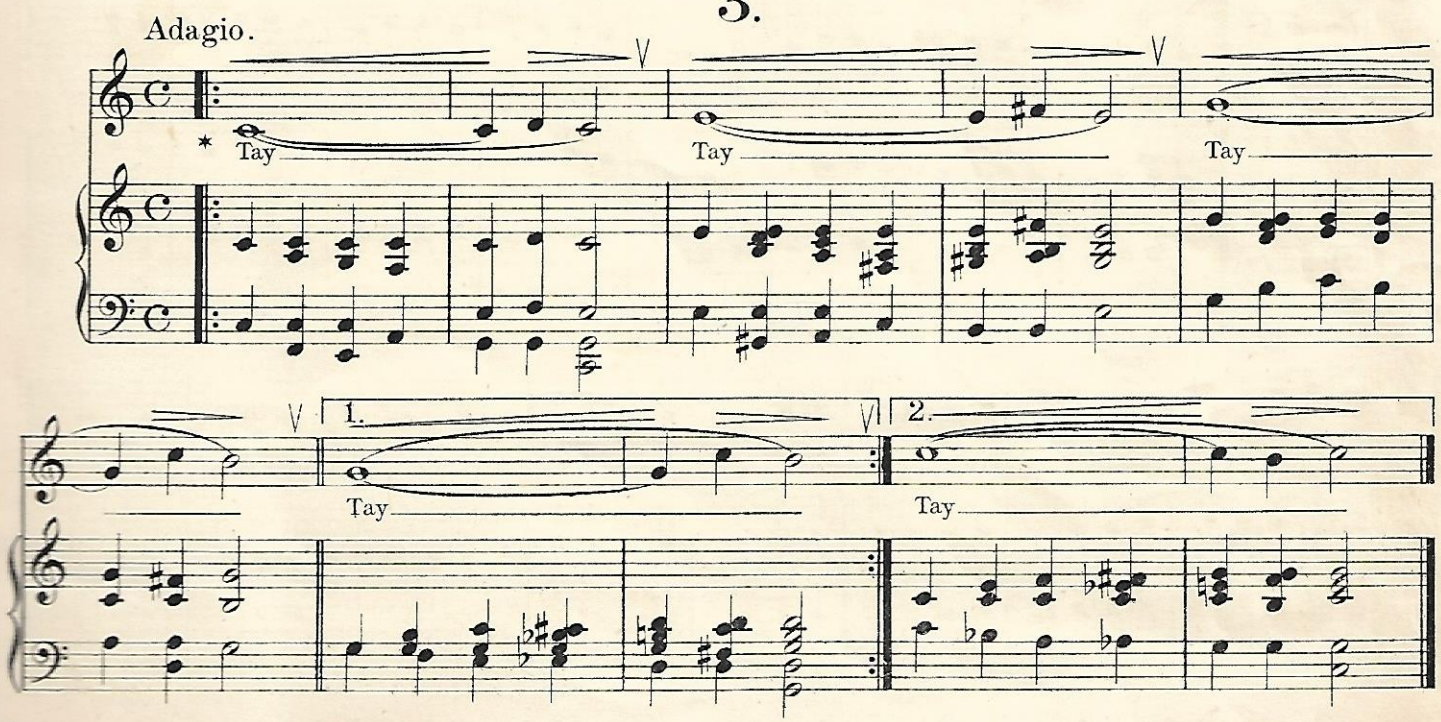
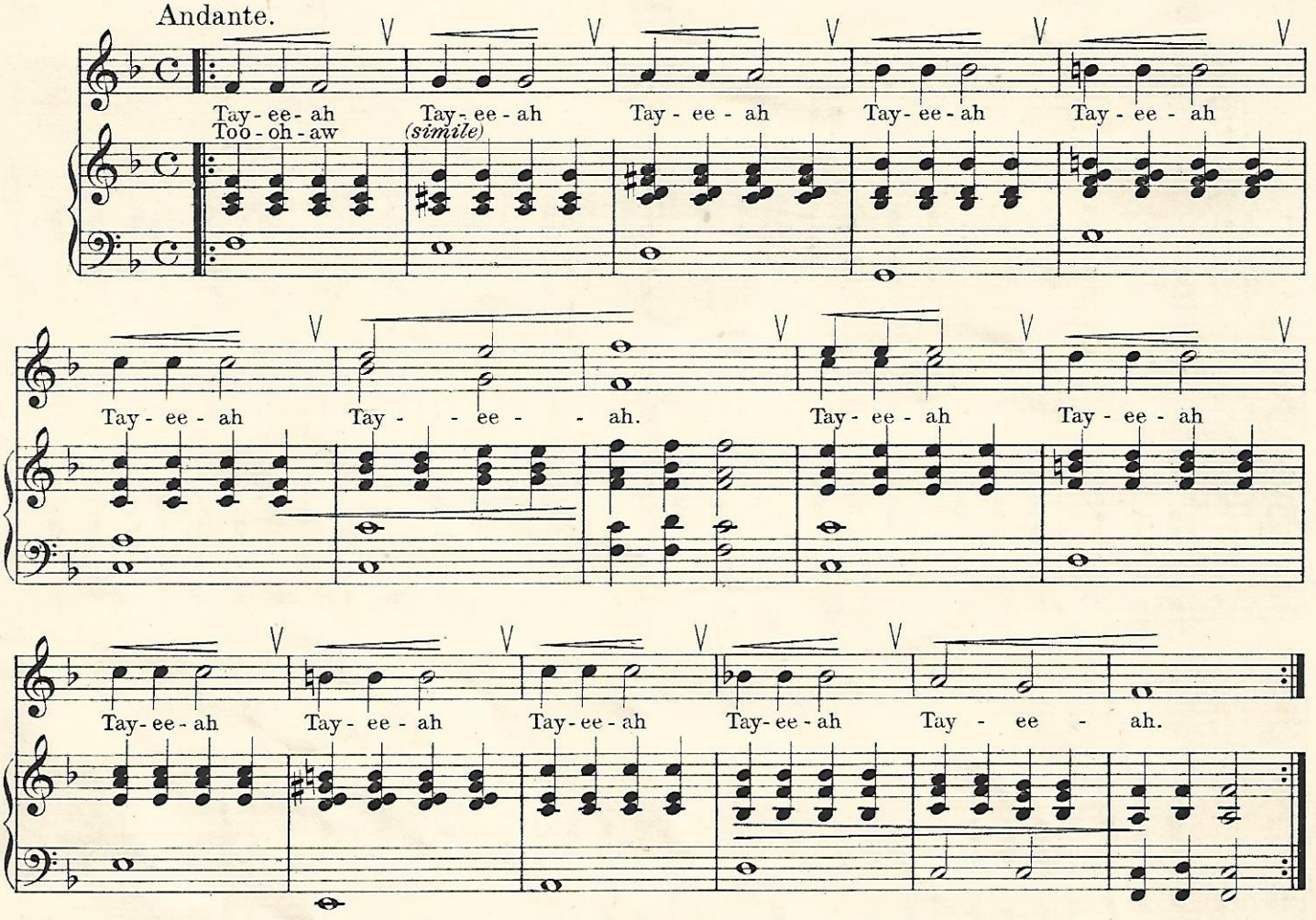


*Other vowels in like manner.

4.



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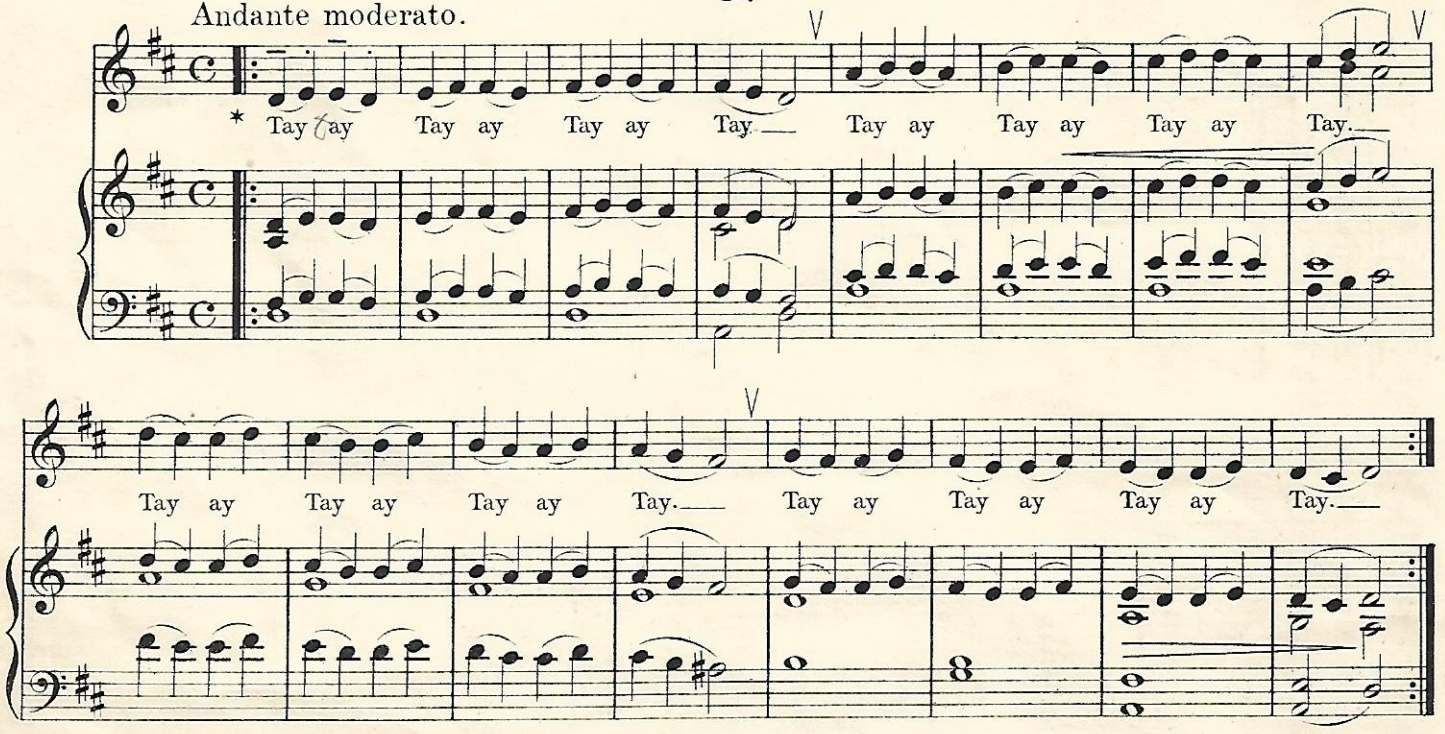


*Other vowels in like manner.

6.

Adagio.

mp

Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah.

mp *cresc.* *Fine.*

f

Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah, oh, Tay, ee, ah, oh,

1. 2. *D. C.*

7.

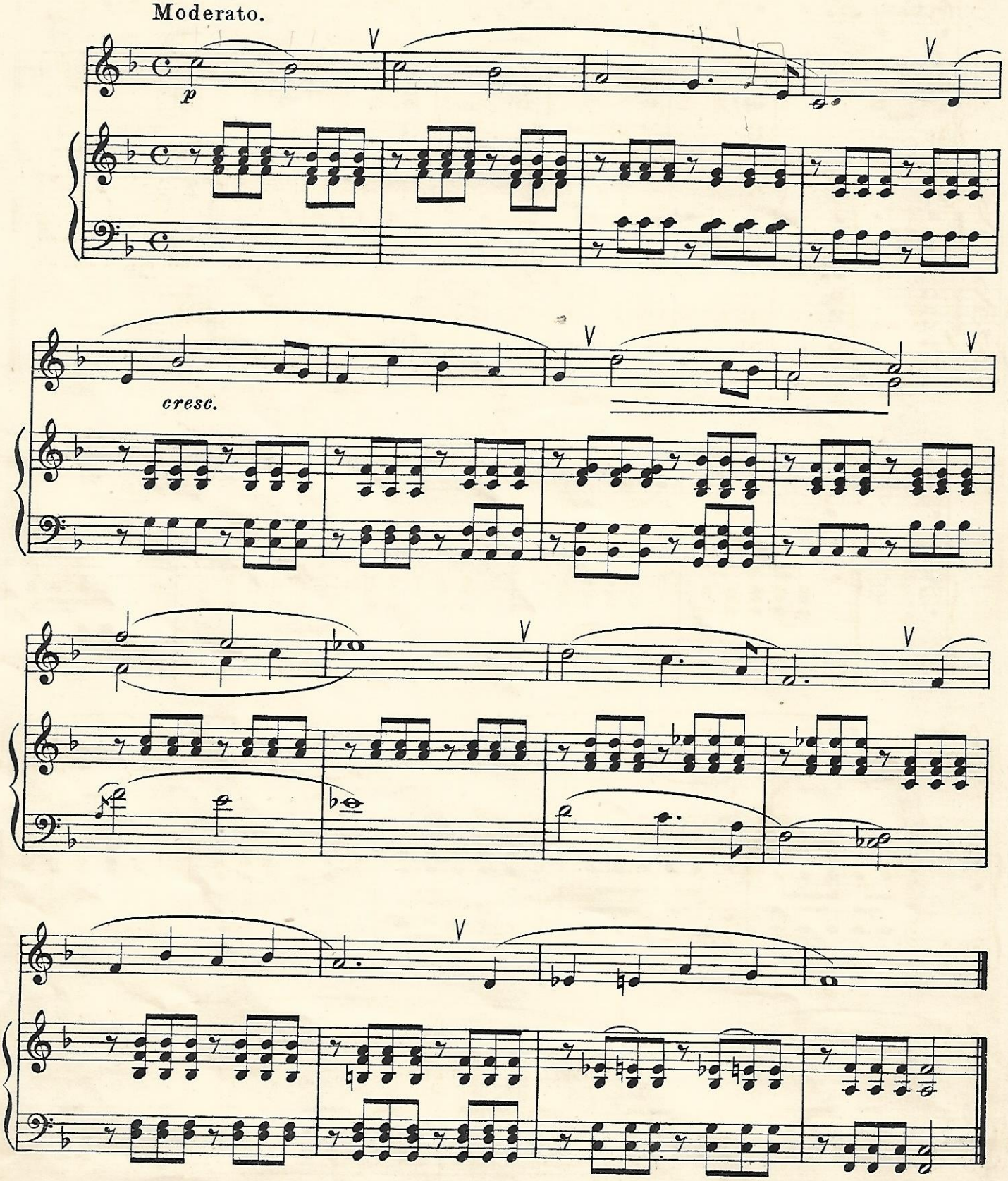
Allegretto.

Tay tay tay tay Tay
Tay - ee, tay - ah, tay - oh, too. Tay - ee,

tay tay tay Tay tay
tay - ah, tay - oh, too. Tay - ee, tay - ah,

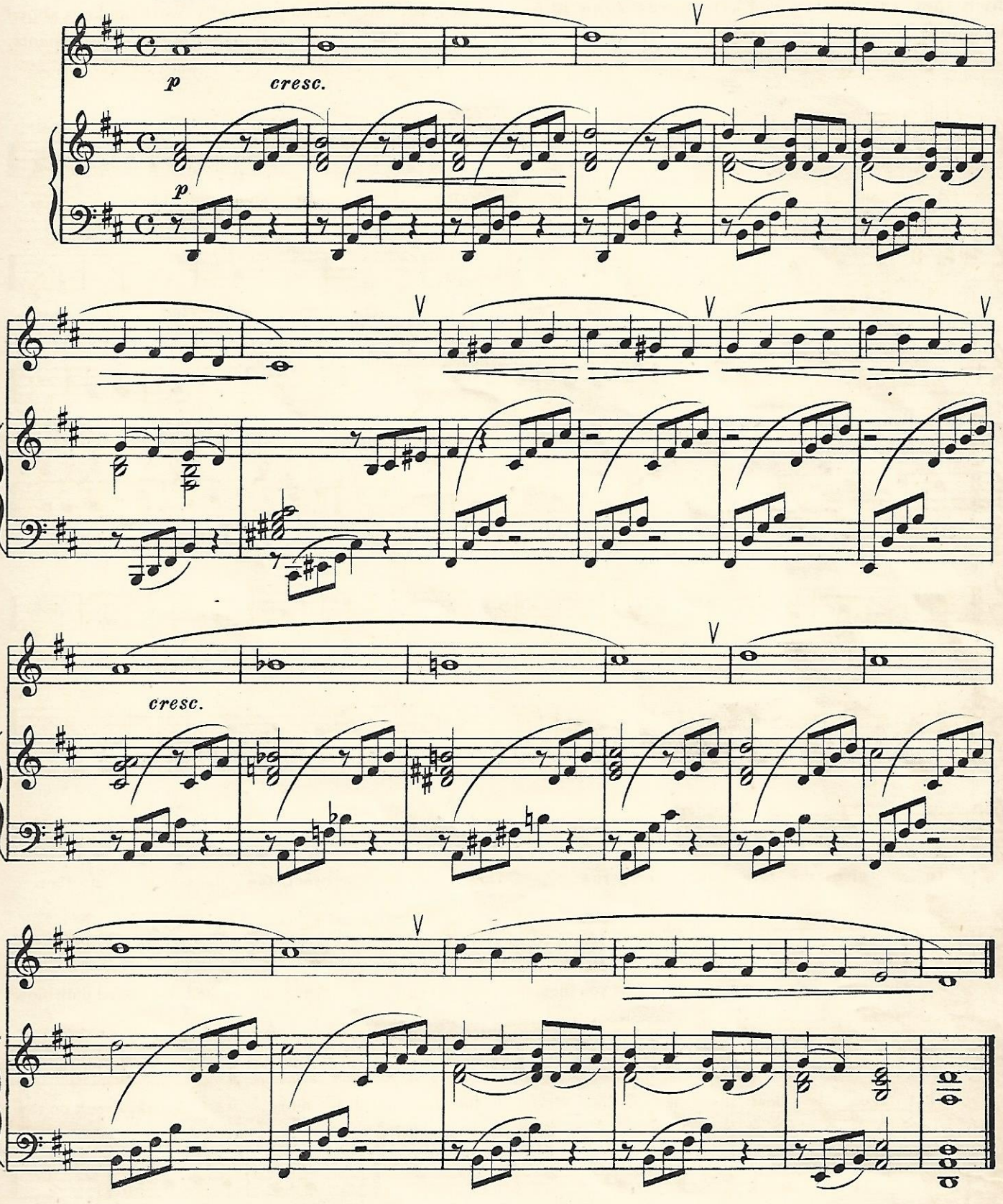
tay tay Tay tay tay
tay - oh, too. Tay - ee, tay - ah, tay - oh, too.

8.



9.

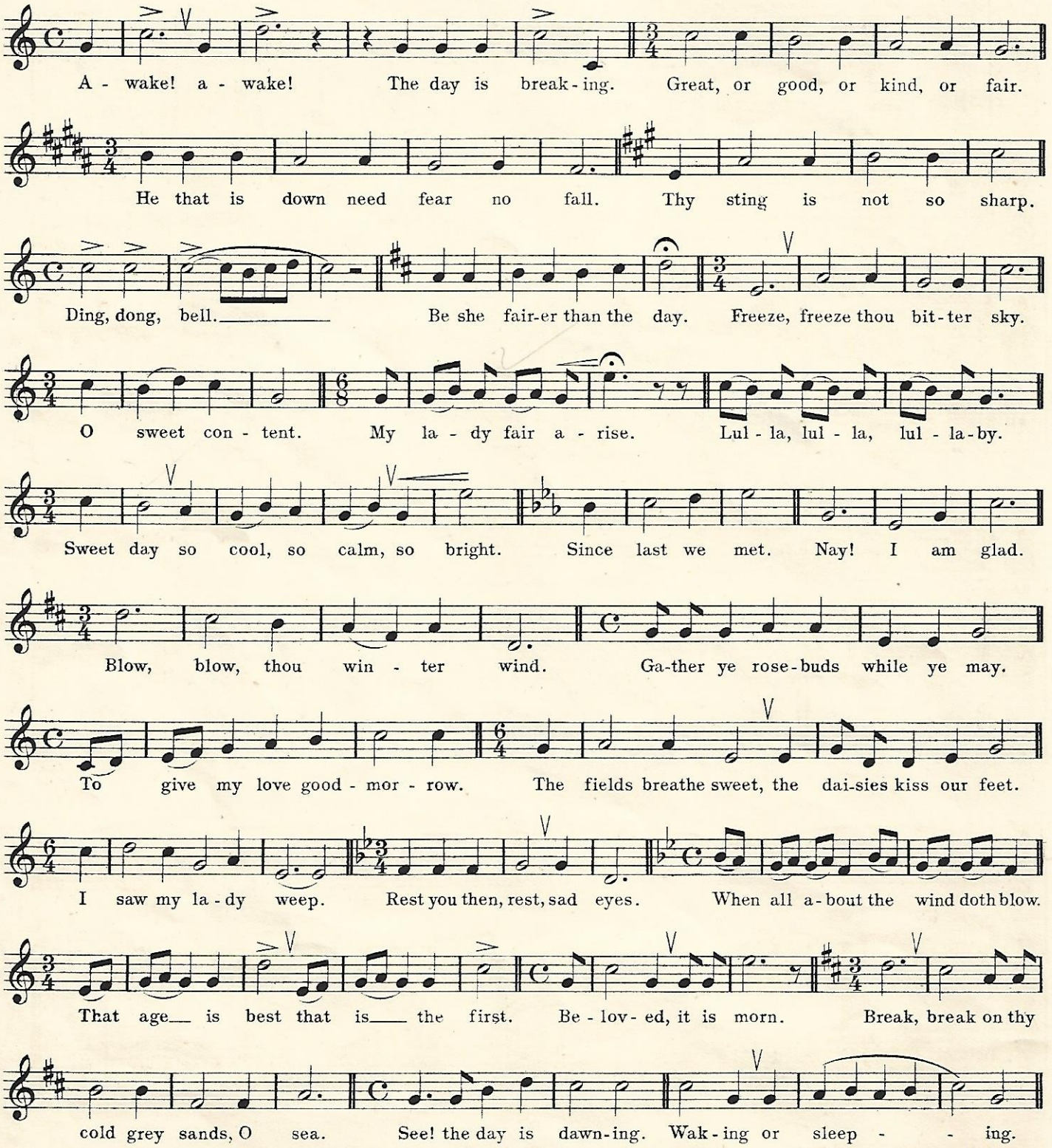
Andante.

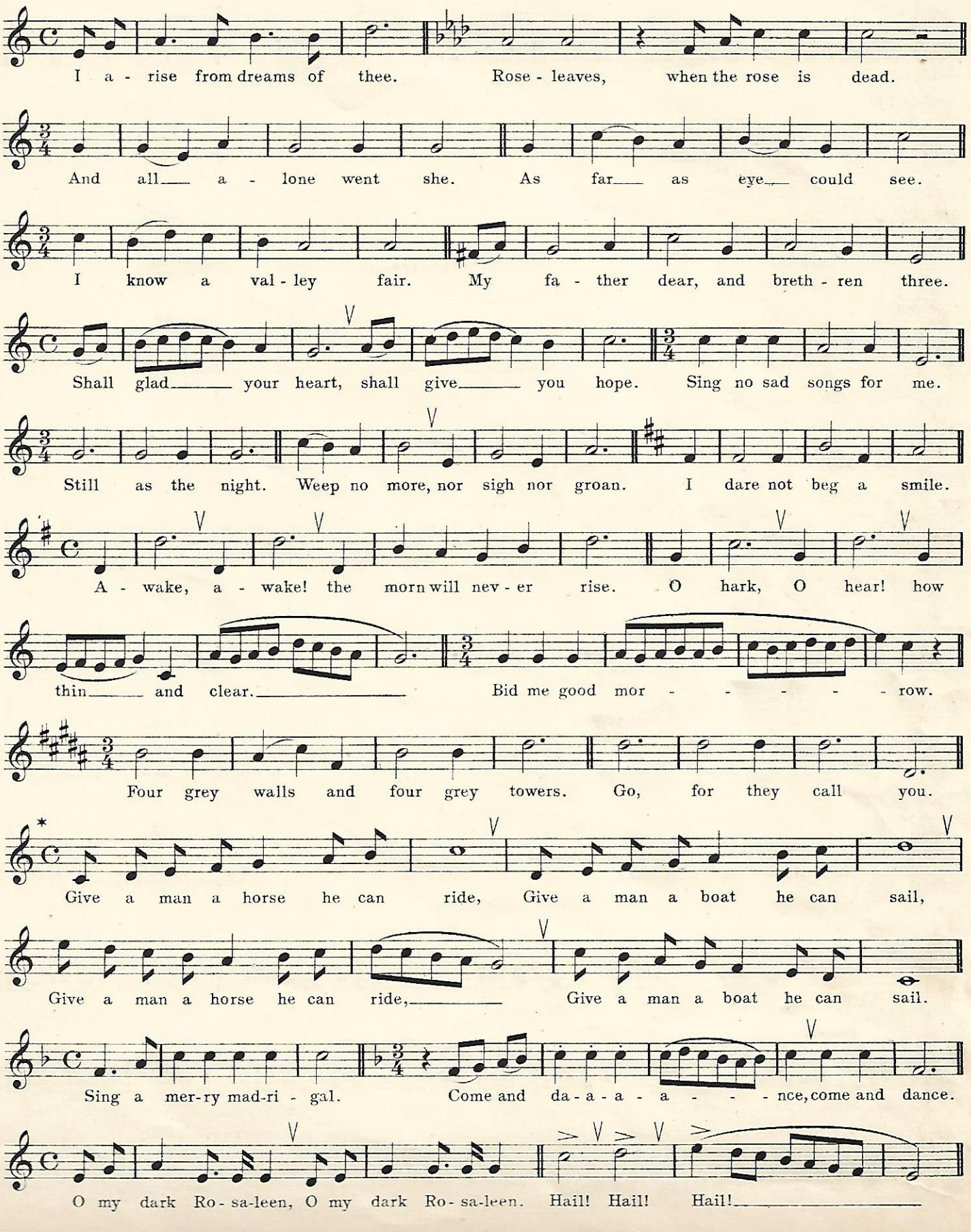


Section 2.

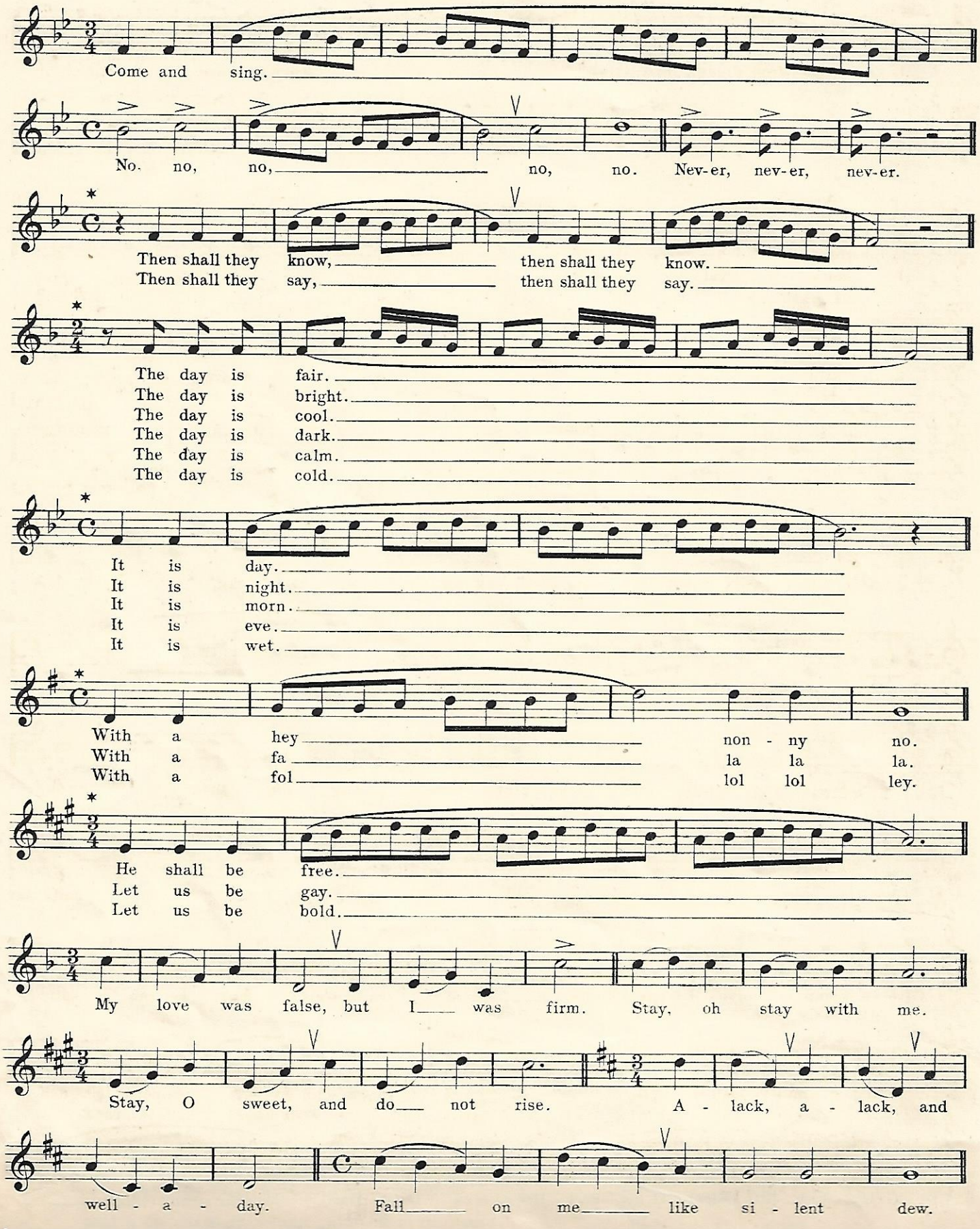
Word Phrases.

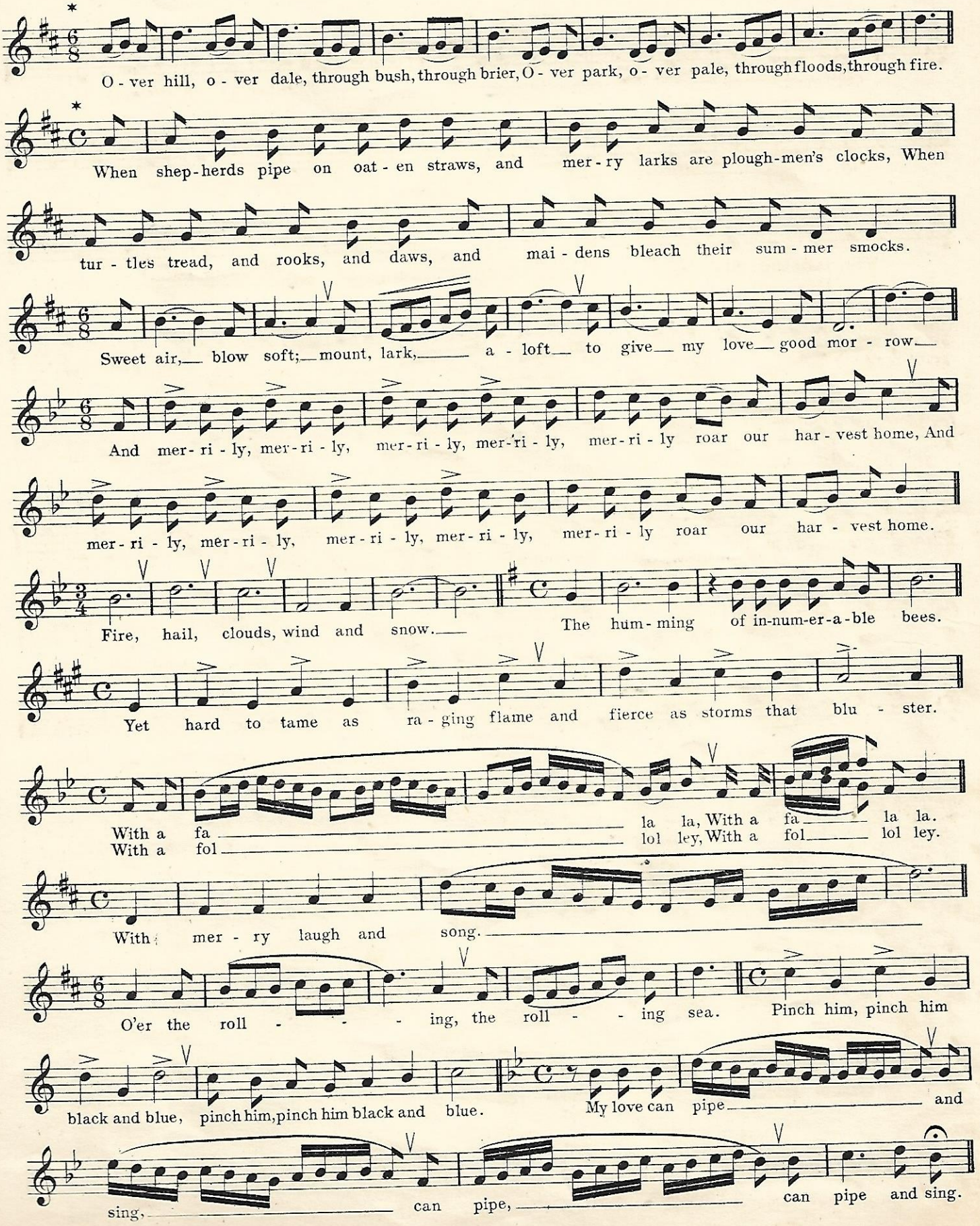
These exercises should be sung without accompaniment. They must first be *learned* in the keys on which they are written and afterwards *sung* in easiest key for the voice, gradually working keys above and below. They are not intended to be sung through, but rather to be selected according to requirements.



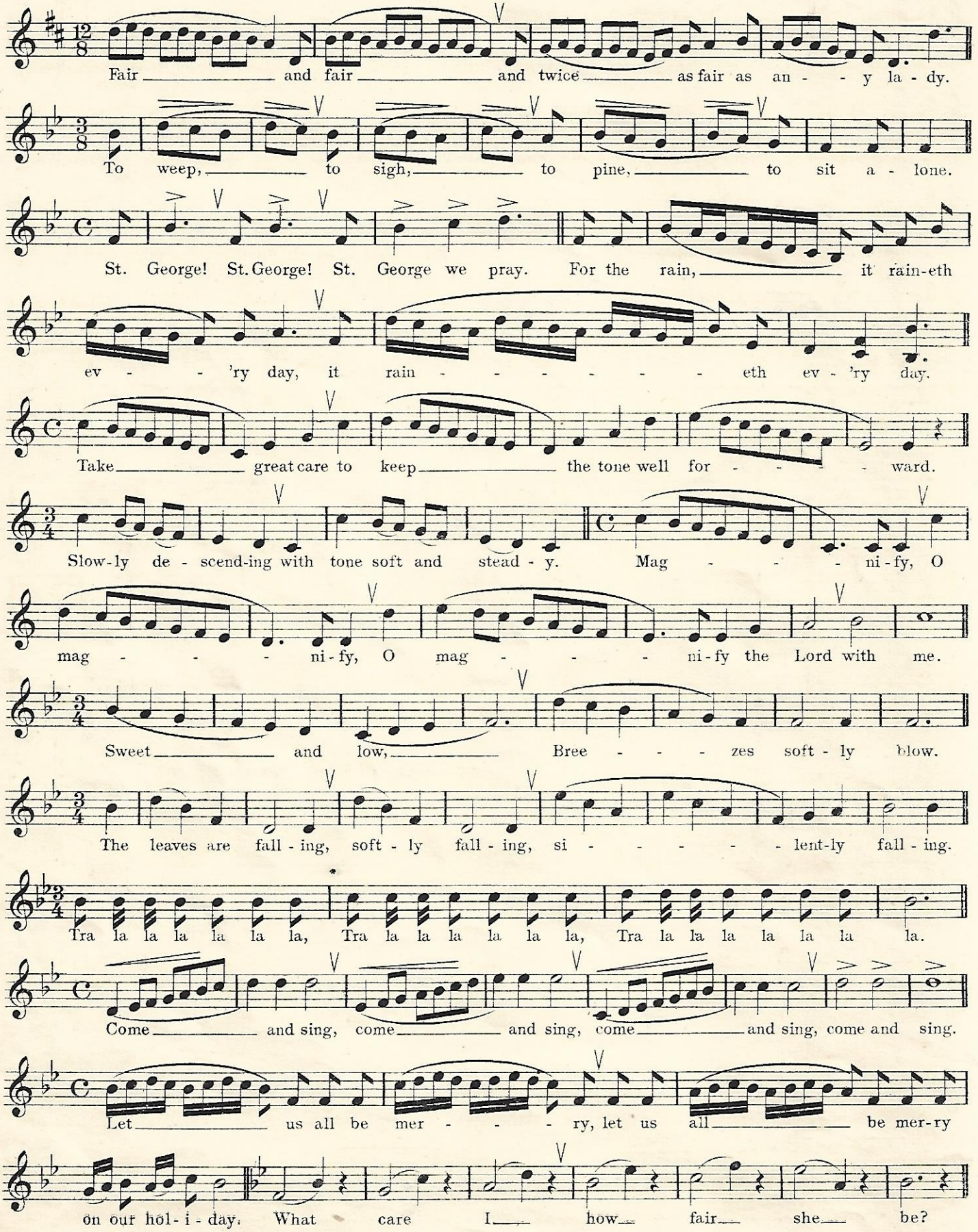


*Practice this exercise 1st, as marked, 2nd, each line with one breath, 3rd, all with one breath.

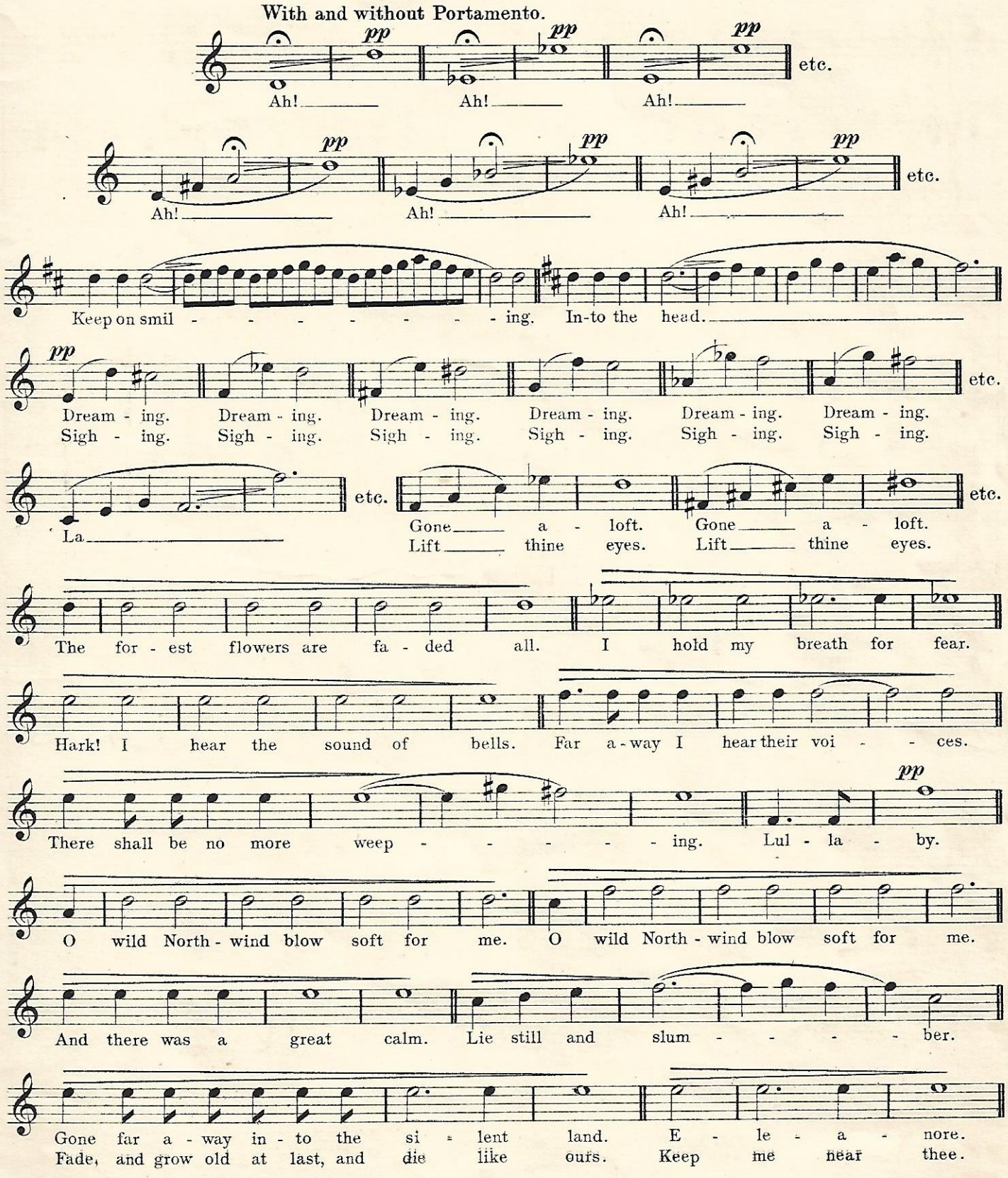

Come and sing.
No. no, no, no, no. Nev-er, nev-er, nev-er.
Then shall they know, then shall they know.
Then shall they say, then shall they say.
The day is fair.
The day is bright.
The day is cool.
The day is dark.
The day is calm.
The day is cold.
It is day.
It is night.
It is morn.
It is eve.
It is wet.
With a hey non - ny no.
With a fa la la la.
With a fol lol lol ley.
He shall be free.
Let us be gay.
Let us be bold.
My love was false, but I was firm. Stay, oh stay with me.
Stay, O sweet, and do not rise. A - lack, a - lack, and
well - a - day. Fall on me like si - lent dew.



Allegro; with one breath.


Fair and fair and twice as fair as an - y la - dy.
To weep, to sigh, to pine, to sit a - lone.
St. George! St. George! St. George we pray. For the rain, it rain-eth
ev - 'ry day, it rain - - - - - - eth ev - 'ry day.
Take great care to keep the tone well for - - - ward.
Slow-ly de - scend-ing with tone soft and stead - y. Mag - - - ni-fy, O
mag - - - ni-fy, O mag - - - ni-fy the Lord with me.
Sweet and low, Bree - - - zes soft - ly blow.
The leaves are fall - ing, soft - ly fall - ing, si - - - - - lent-ly fall - ing.
Tra la la la la la la, Tra la la la la la la, Tra la la la la la la la.
Come and sing, come and sing, come and sing, come and sing.
Let us all be mer - - - ry, let us all be mer-ry
on our hol - i - day. What care I how fair she be?

Head Tones.


With and without Portamento.
pp
Ah!
etc.
Keep on smil - - - - - - - - - ing. In-to the head.
Dream - ing. Dream - ing. Dream - ing. Dream - ing. Dream - ing. Dream - ing.
Sigh - ing. Sigh - ing. Sigh - ing. Sigh - ing. Sigh - ing. Sigh - ing.
La
Gone a - loft. Gone a - loft.
Lift thine eyes. Lift thine eyes.
The for - est flowers are fa - ded all. I hold my breath for fear.
Hark! I hear the sound of bells. Far a - way I hear their voi - - ces.
There shall be no more weep - - - - - - ing. Lul - la - by.
O wild North - wind blow soft for me. O wild North - wind blow soft for me.
And there was a great calm. Lie still and slum - - - - - ber.
Gone far a - way in - to the si - lent land. E - le - a - nore.
Fade, and grow old at last, and die like ours. Keep me near thee.

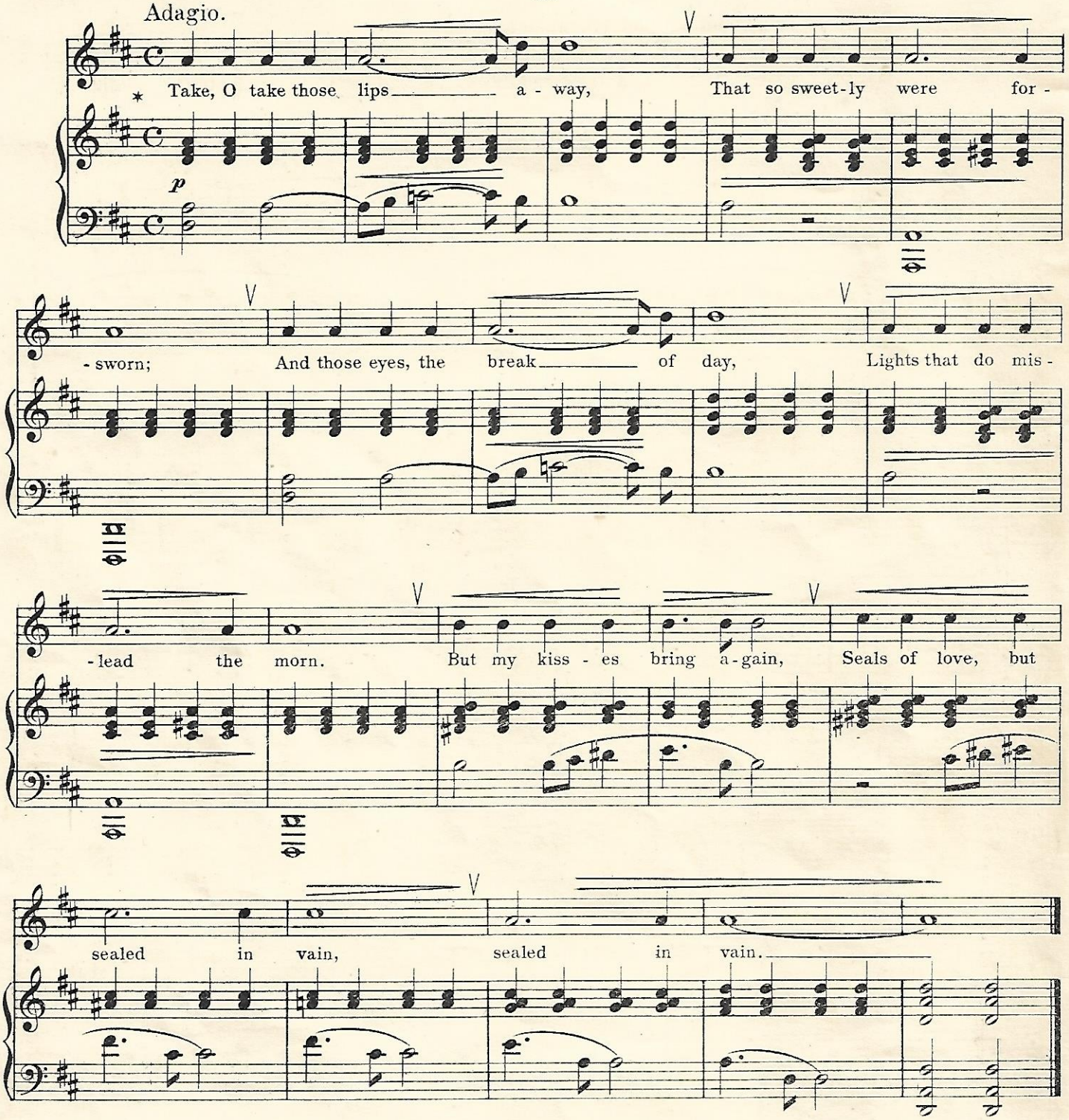
Section 3.

Intoning Exercises.

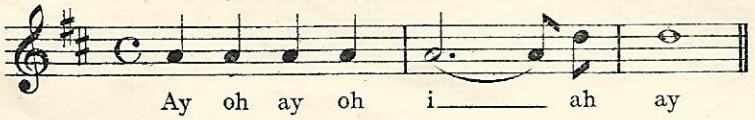
Enunciate slowly and distinctly. No slurring. Keep the pitch *on a straight line*.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

1.



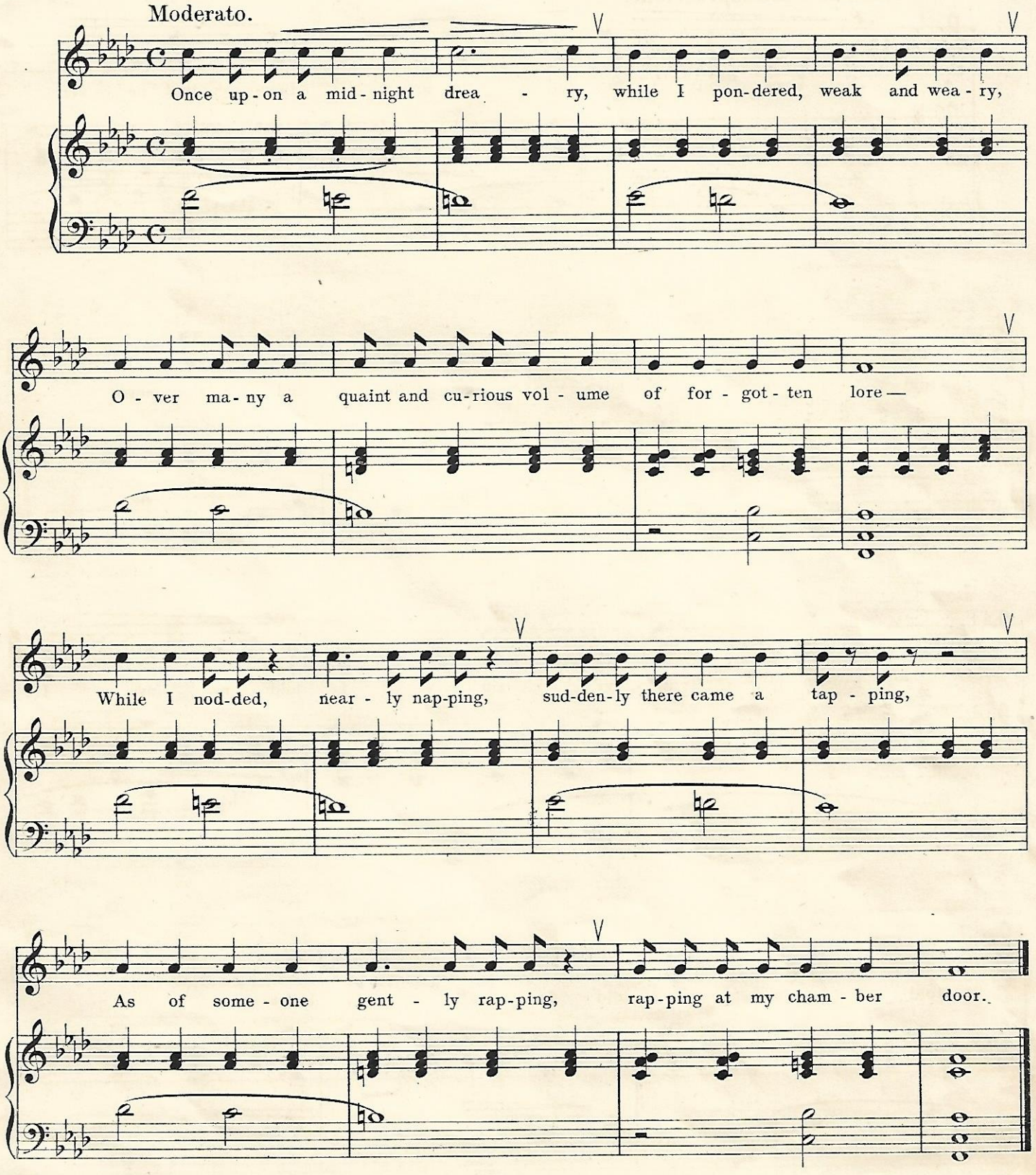
As a preparatory exercise to above, sing it through without the consonants, as follows:—



* Breathe only at the breath marks V.

2.

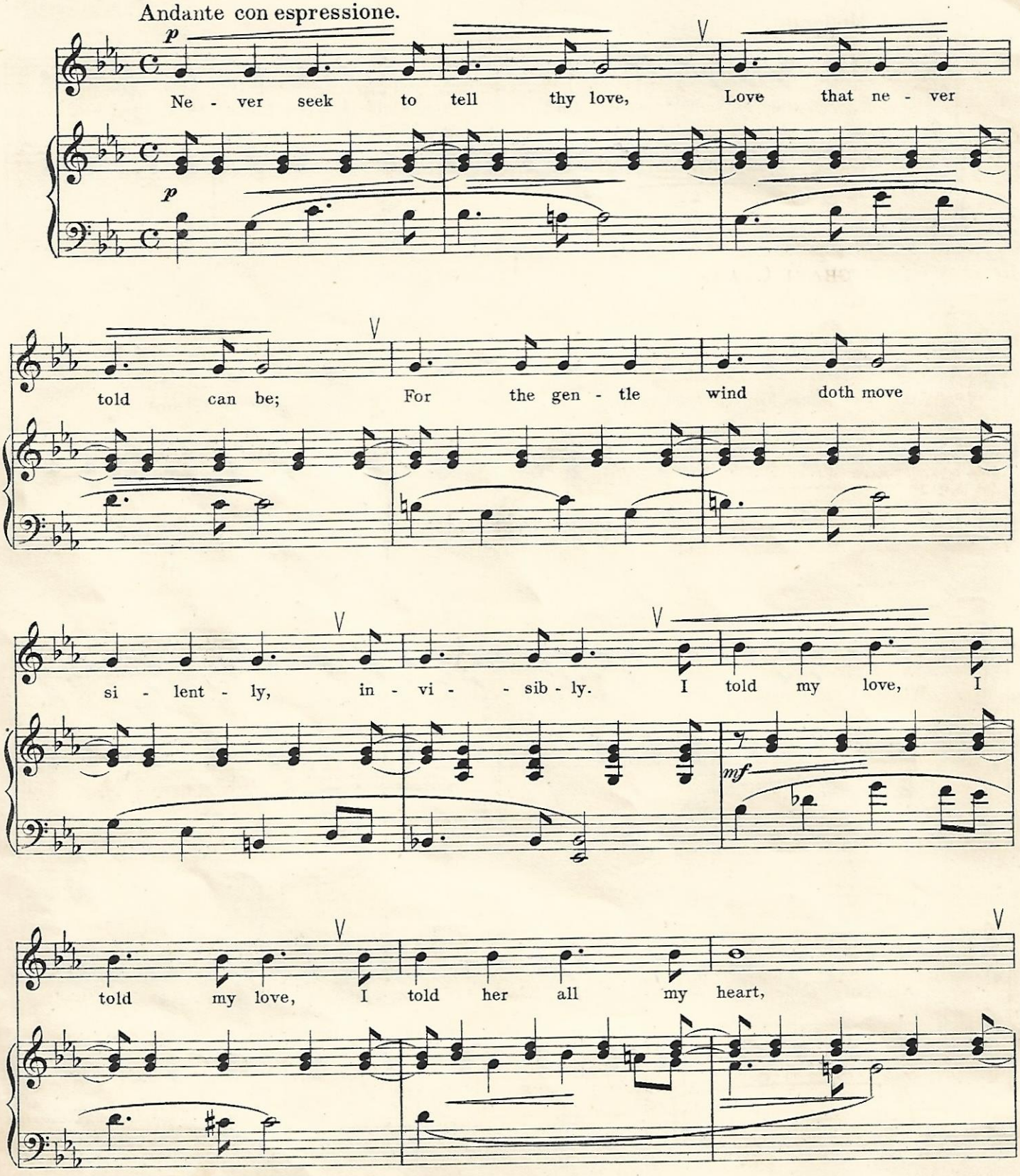
EDGAR ALLAN POE.

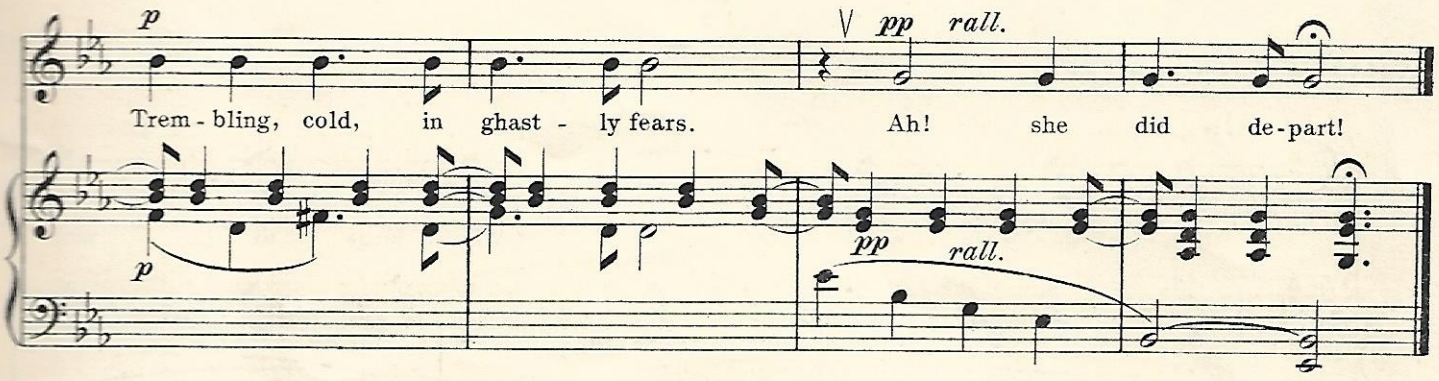


3.

WILLIAM BLAKE.

Andante con espressione.

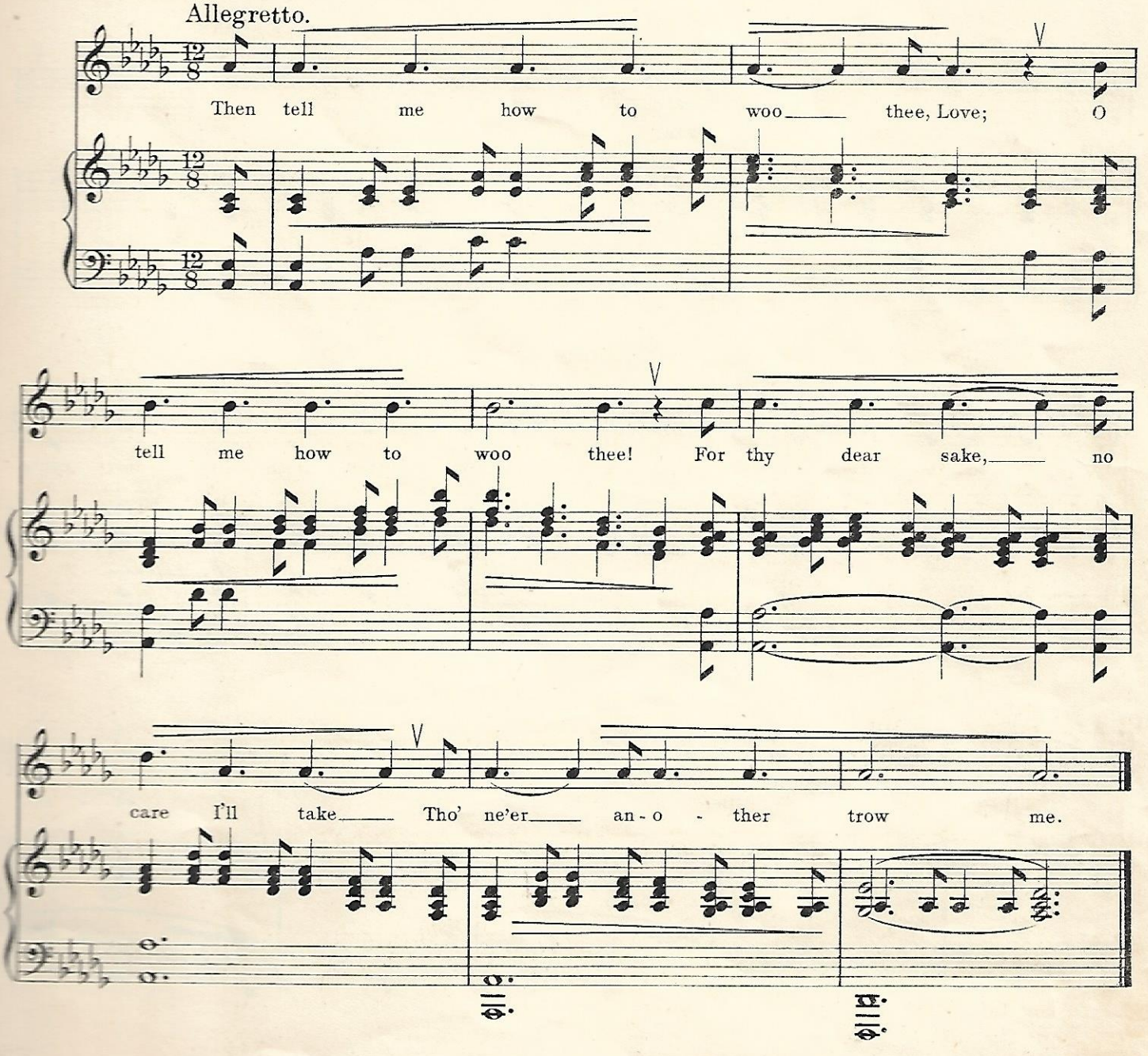




4.

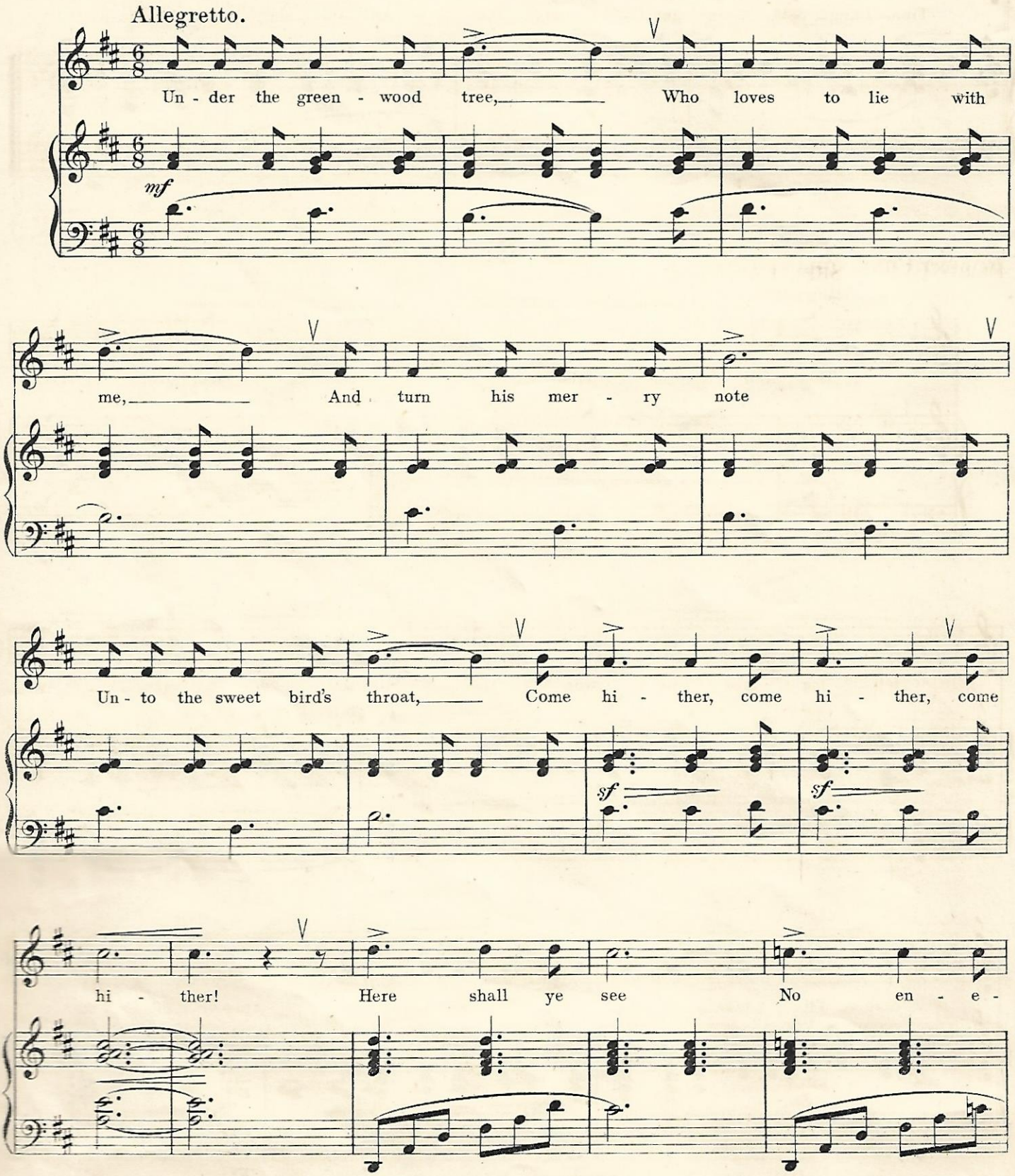
ROBERT CUNNINGHAME-GRAHAM.

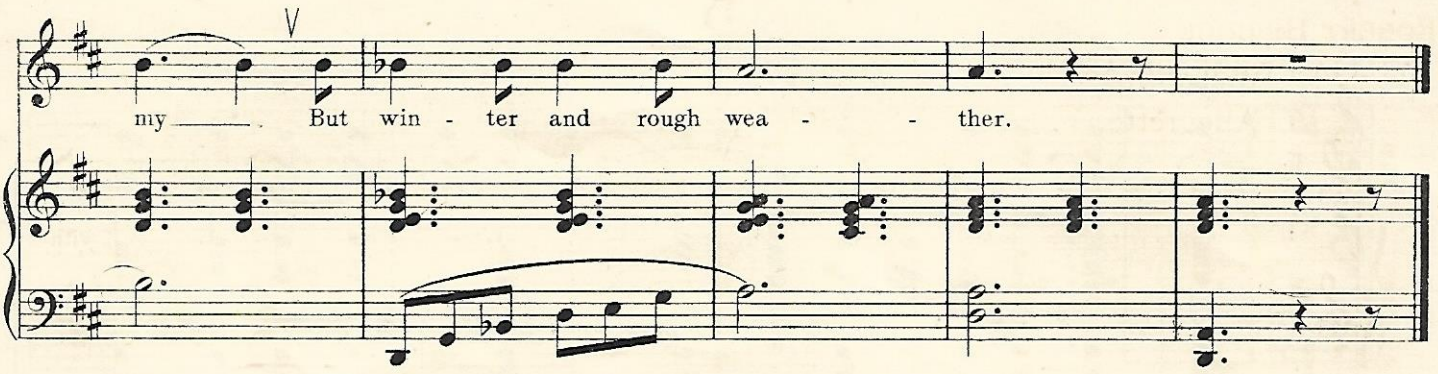
Allegretto.



5.

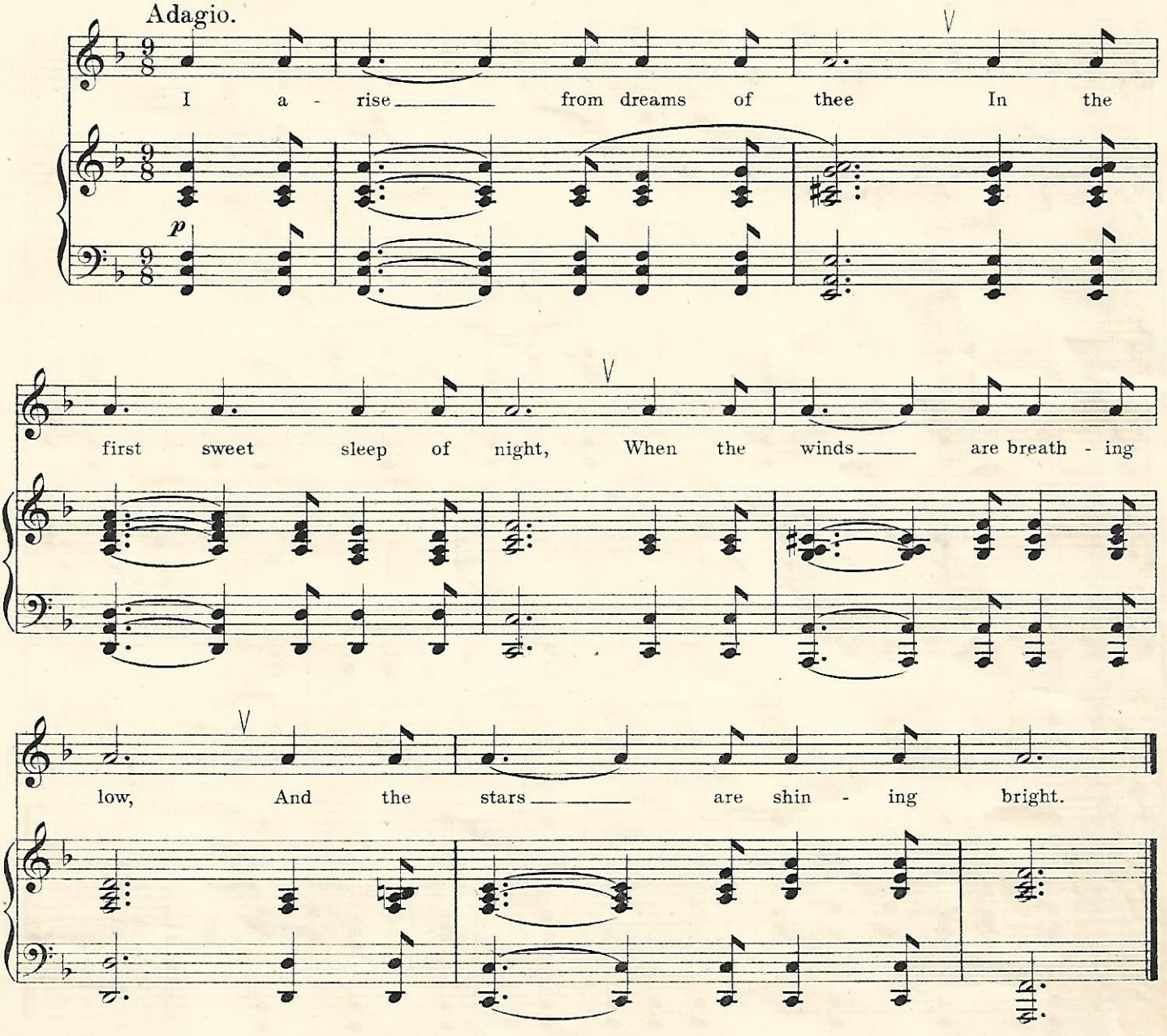
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.





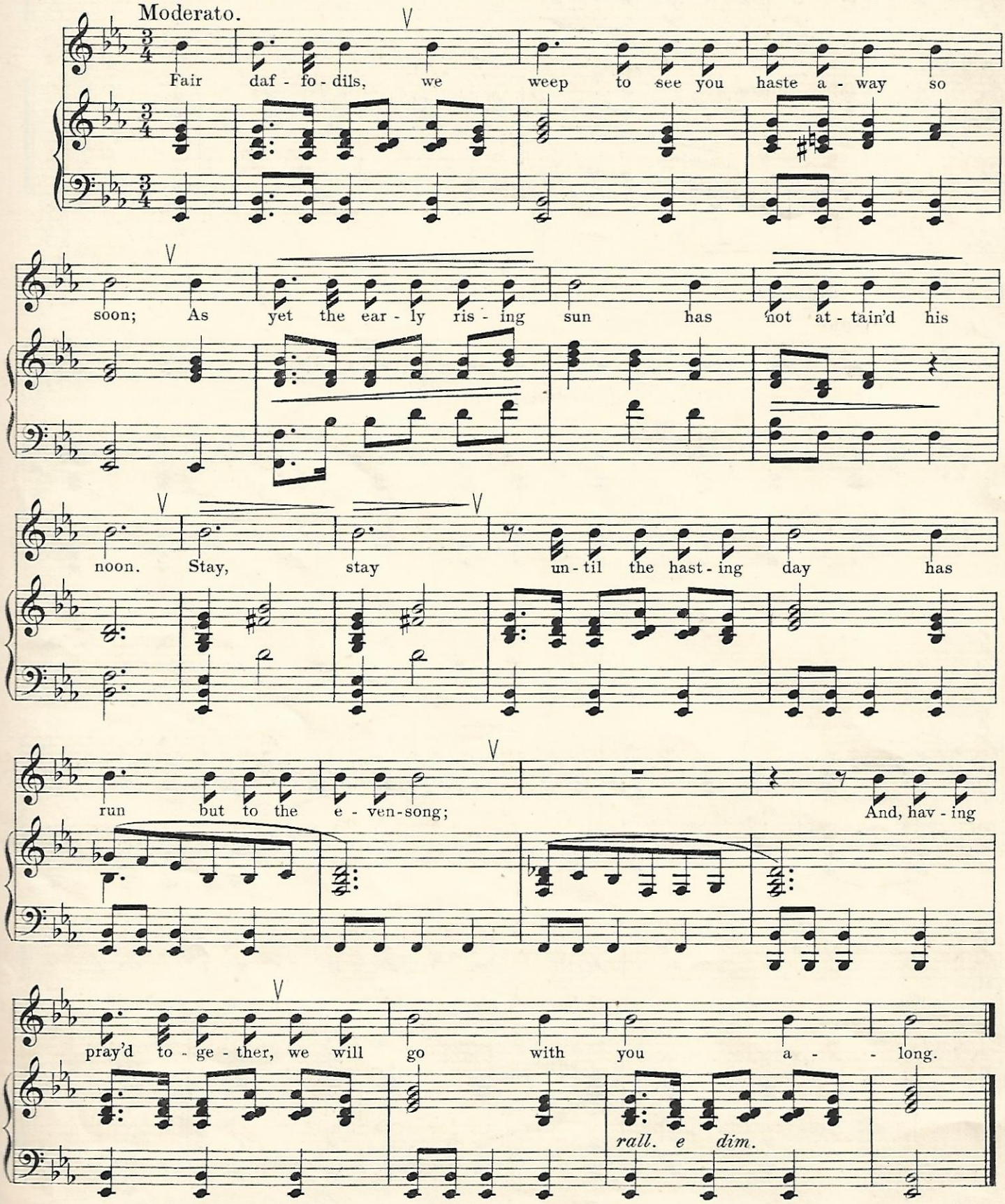
6.

PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY.



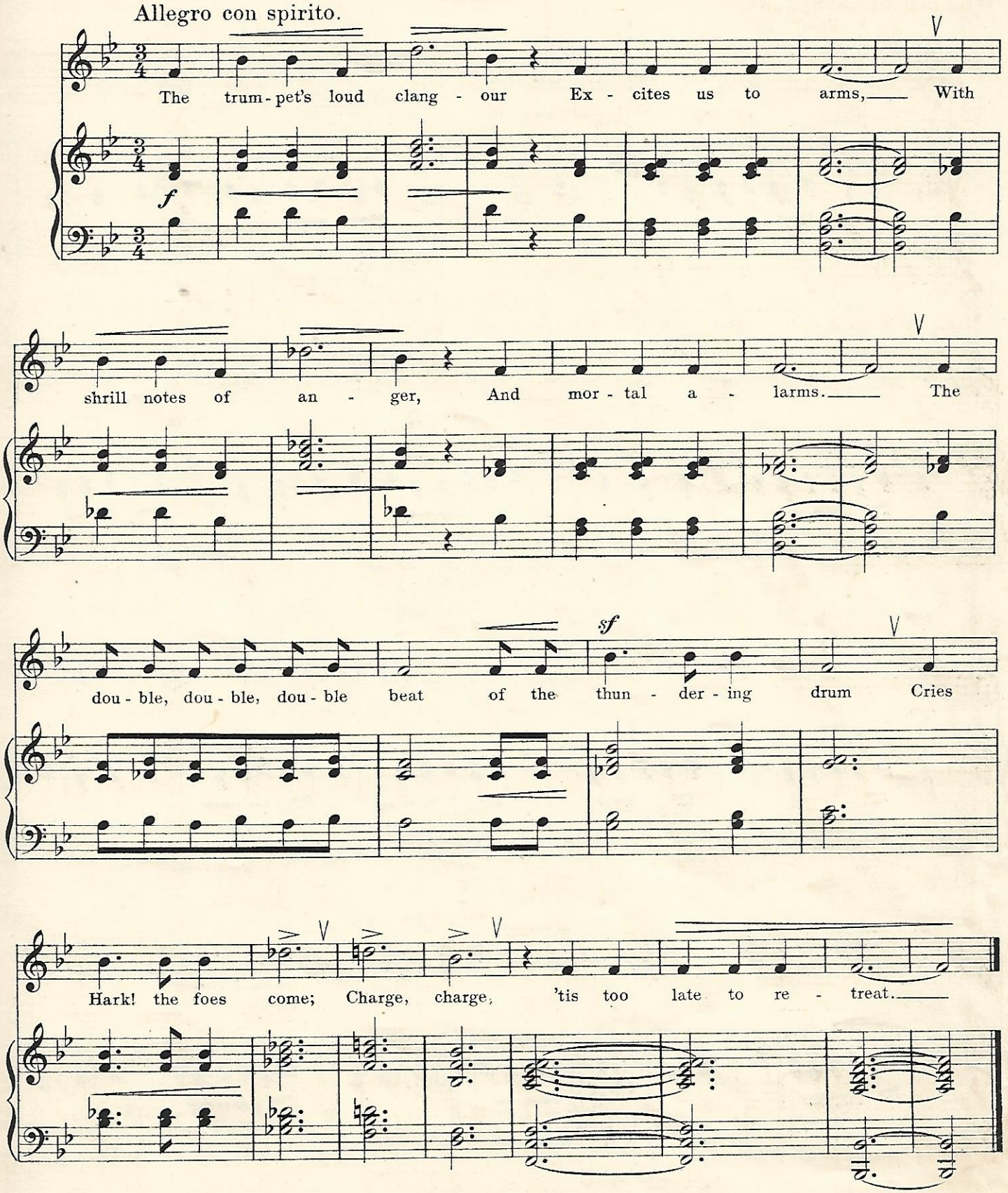
7.

ROBERT HERRICK.



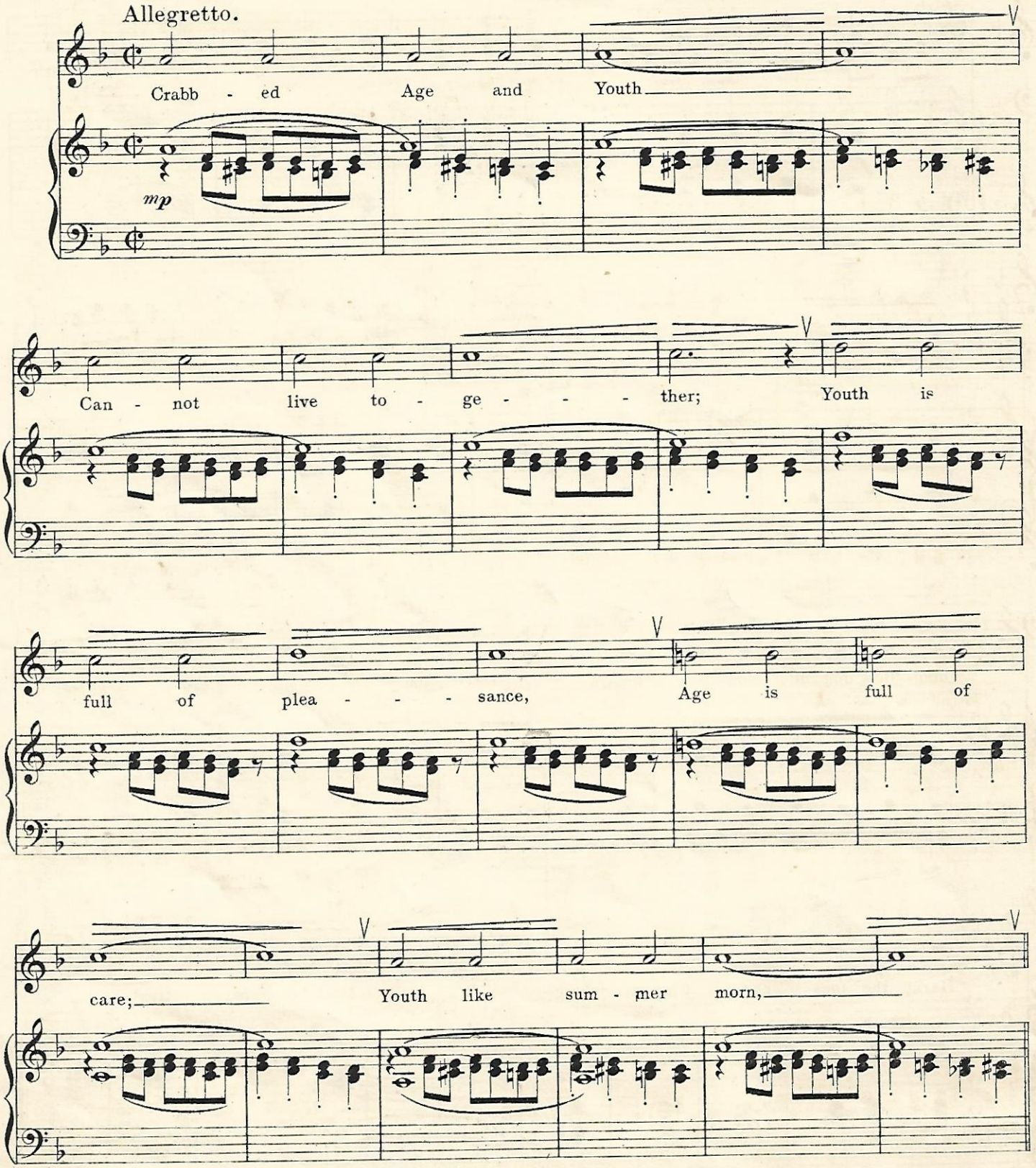
8.

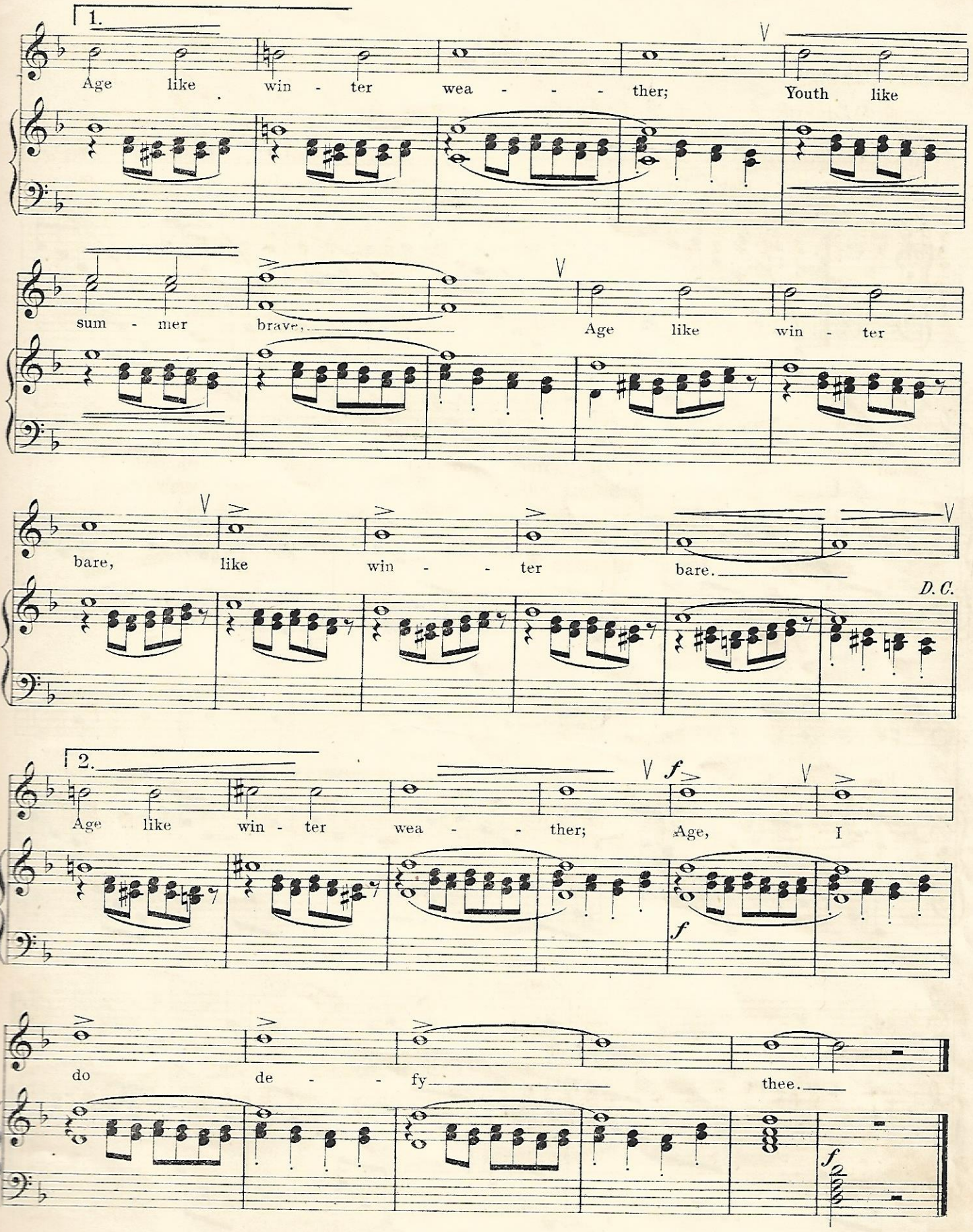
JOHN DRYDEN.



9.

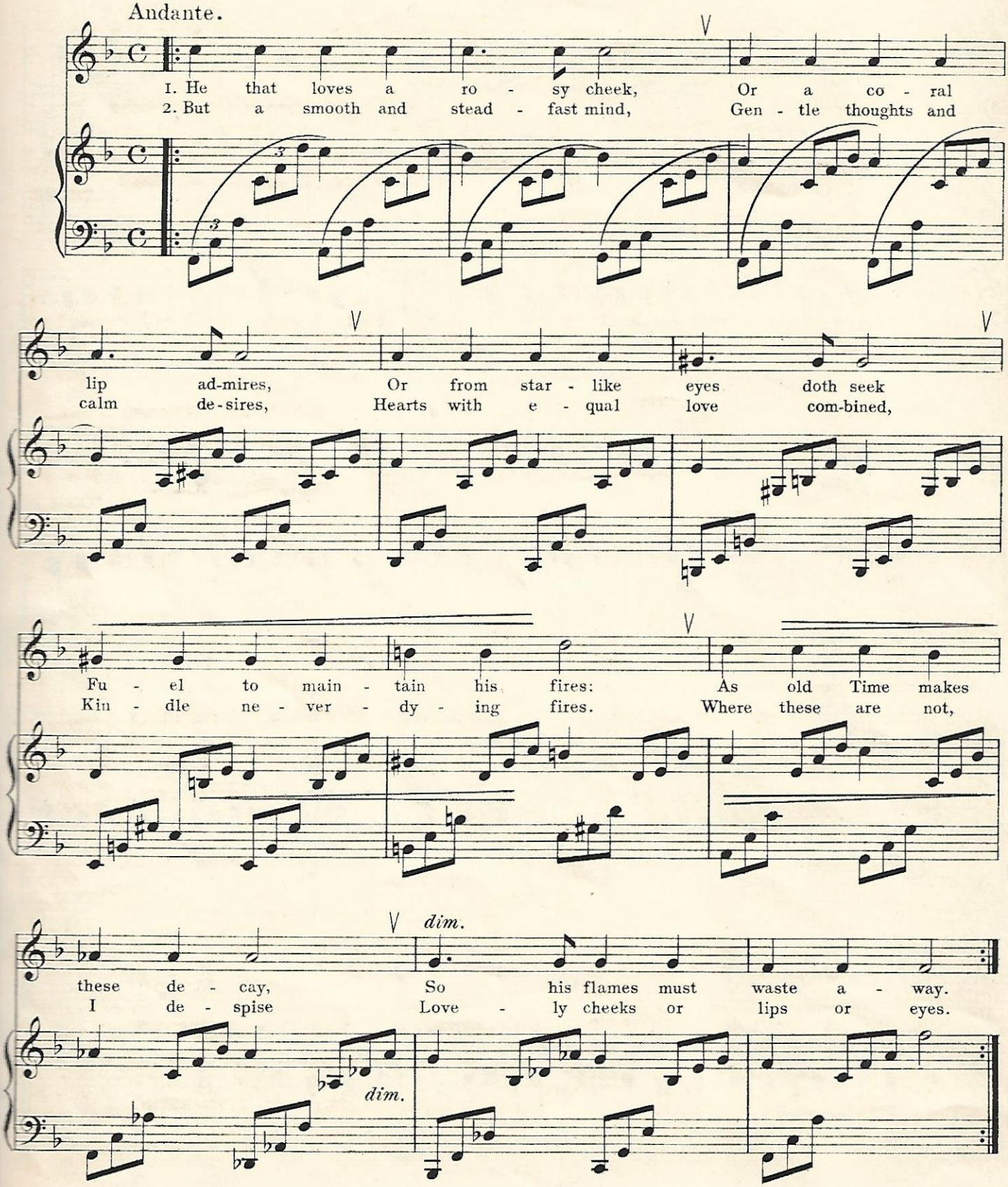
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.




1.
Age like win - ter wea - - - ther; Youth like
sum - mer brave. Age like win - ter
bare, like win - - ter bare.
D.C.
2.
Age like win - ter wea - - ther; Age, I
f
f
do de - - fy thee.
f

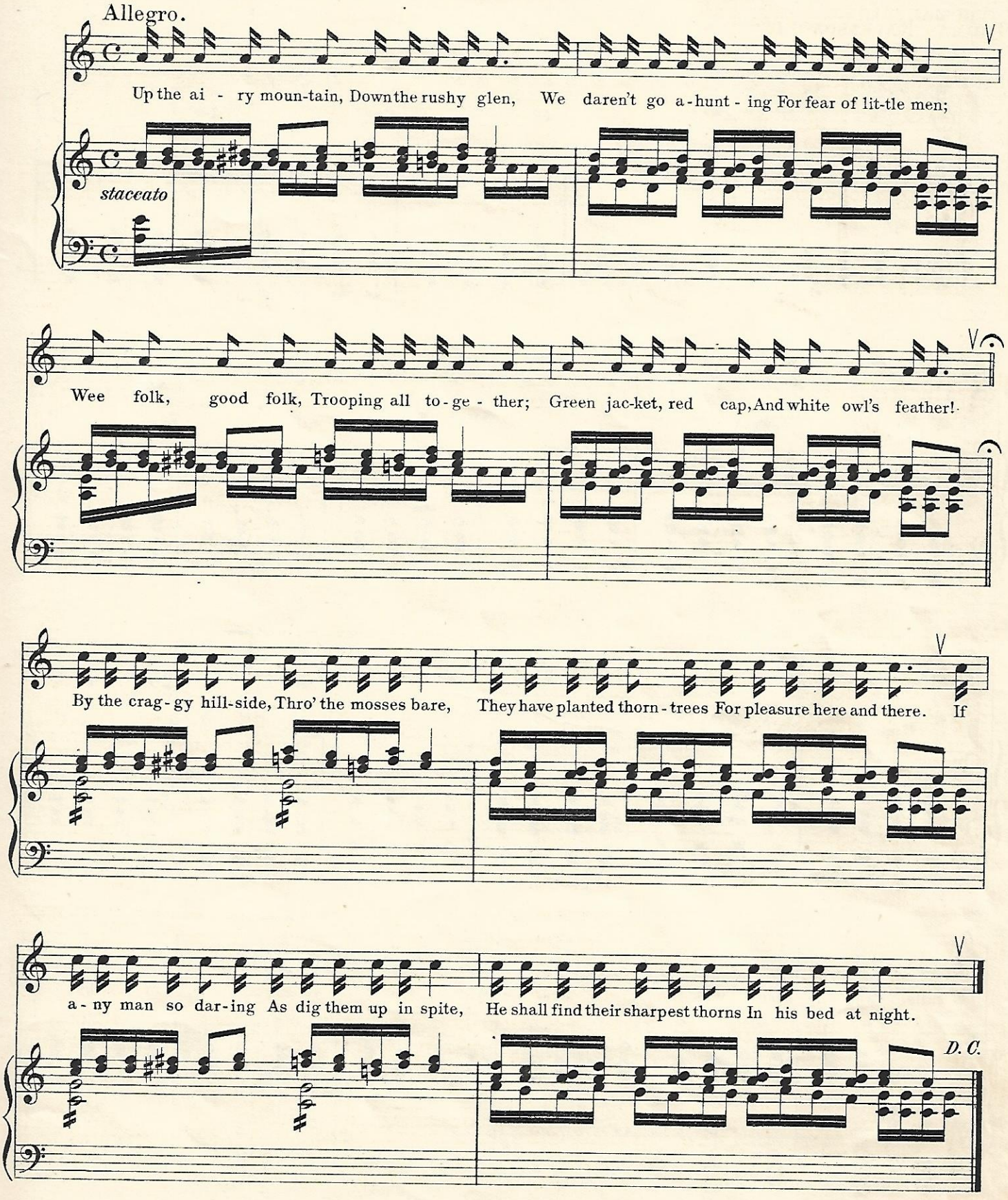
10.

THOMAS CAREW.



11.

WILLIAM ALLINGHAM.



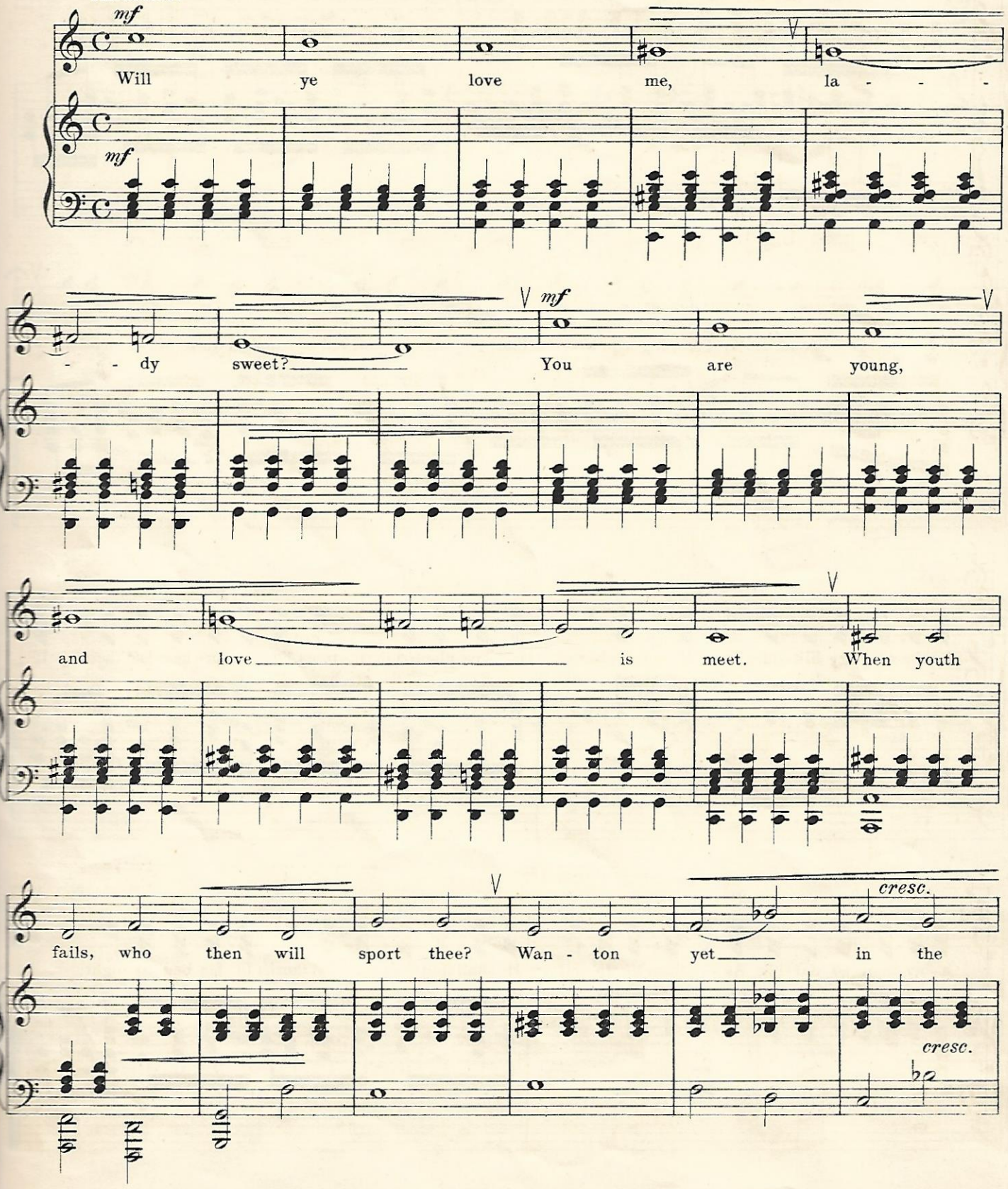
Section 4.

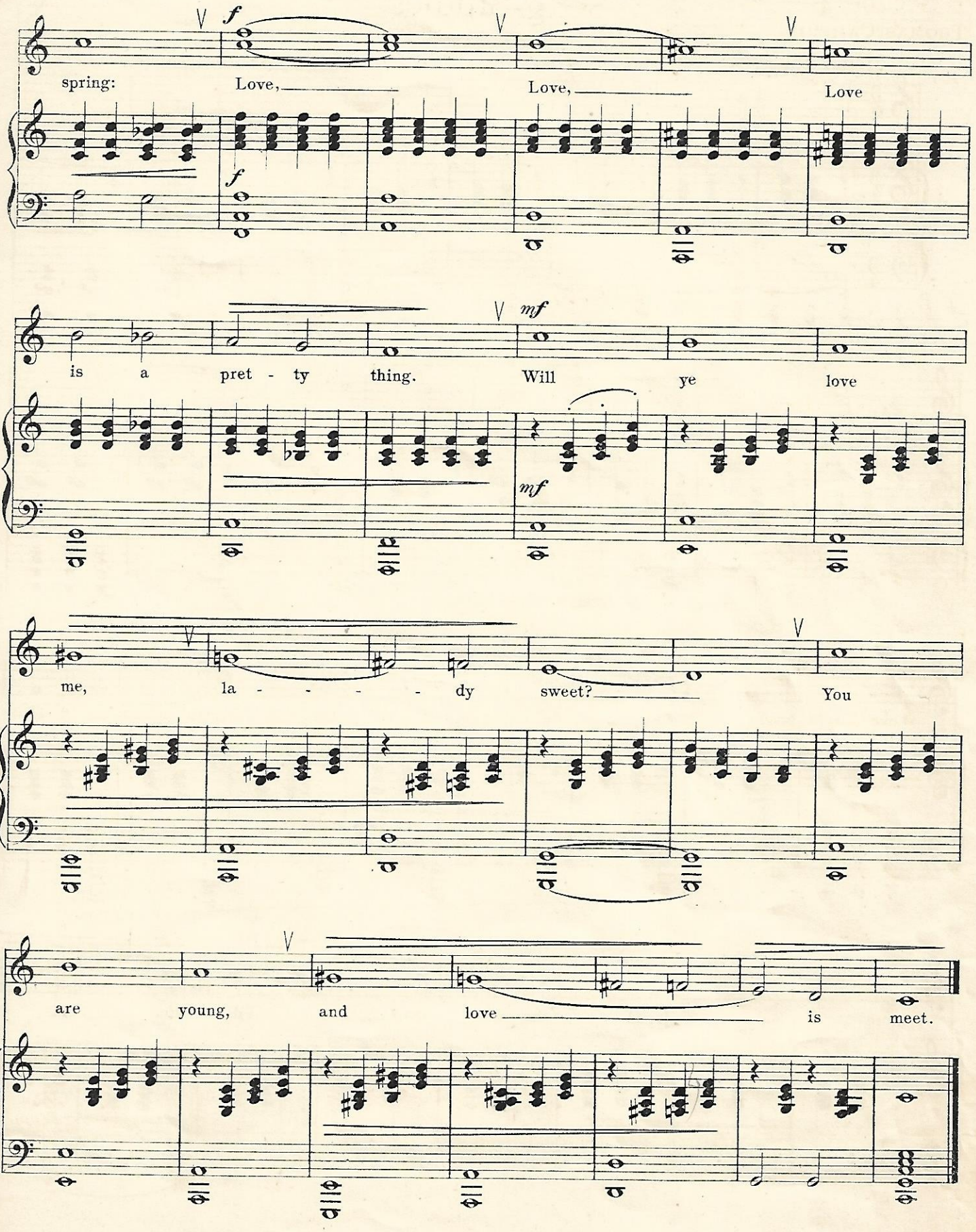
Song-Studies.

THOMAS RAVENSCROFT.

1.

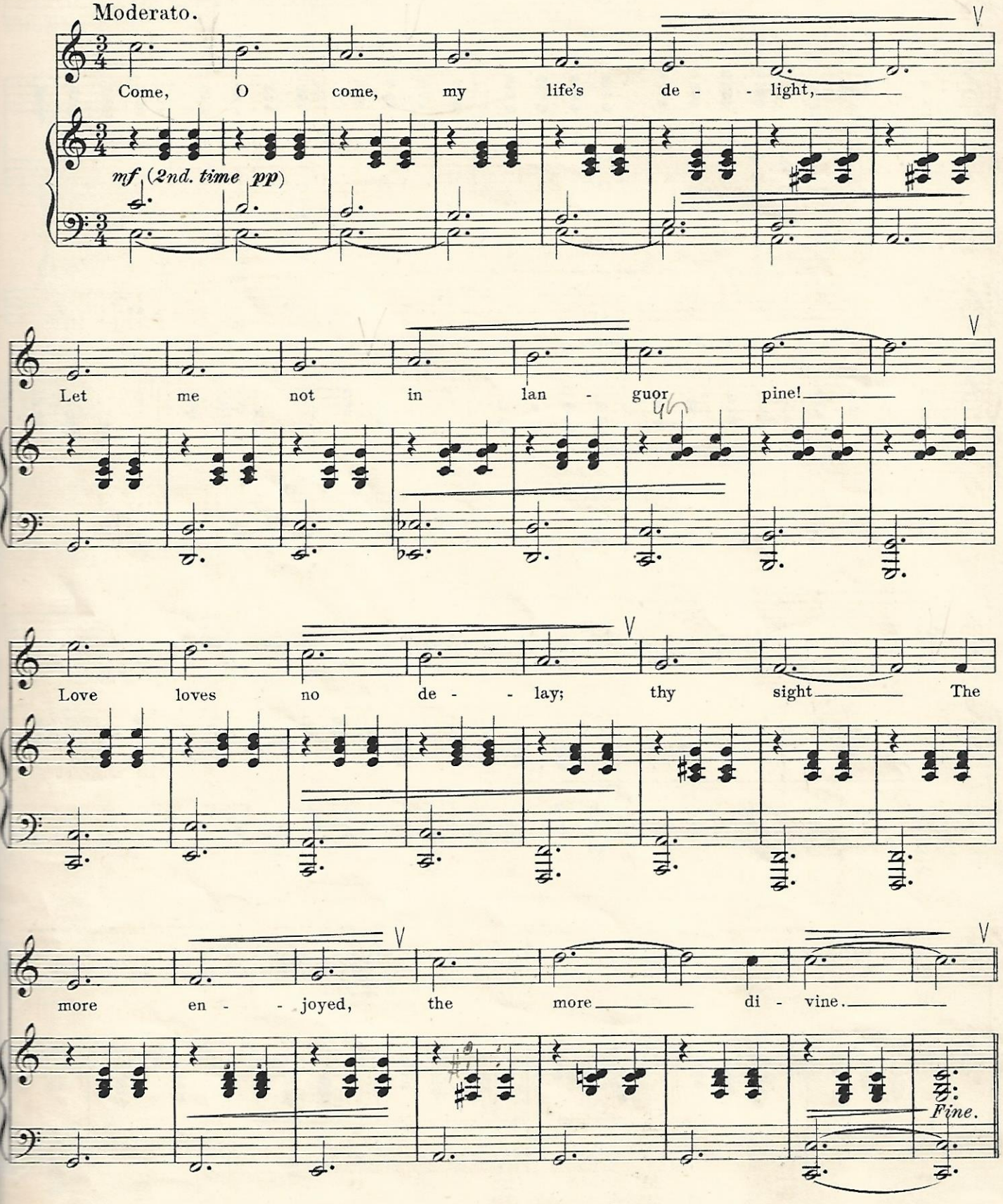
Andante.

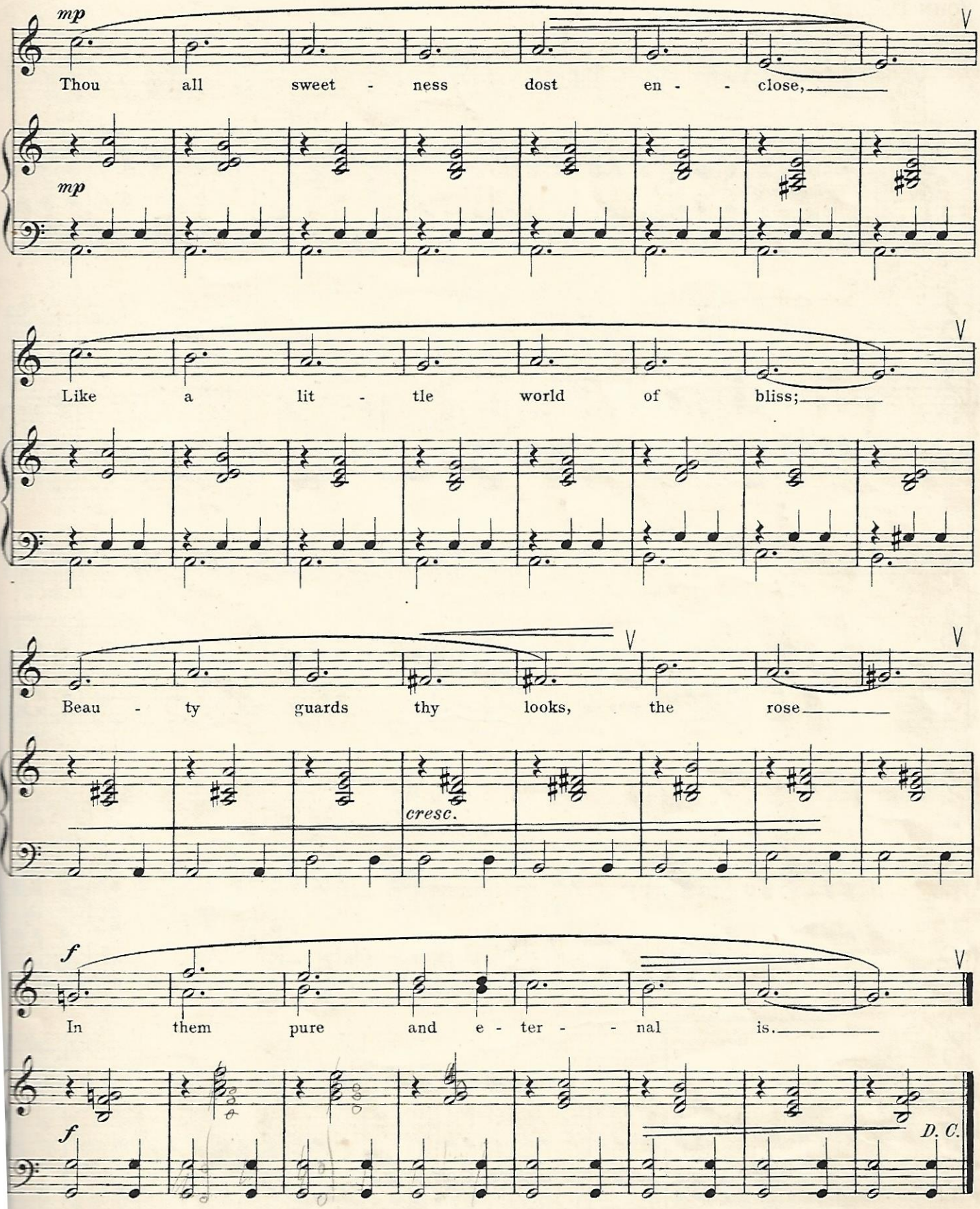



spring:
Love,
Love,
Love
is a pret - ty thing.
Will ye love
me, la - - - - - dy sweet?
You
are young, and love
is meet.

2.

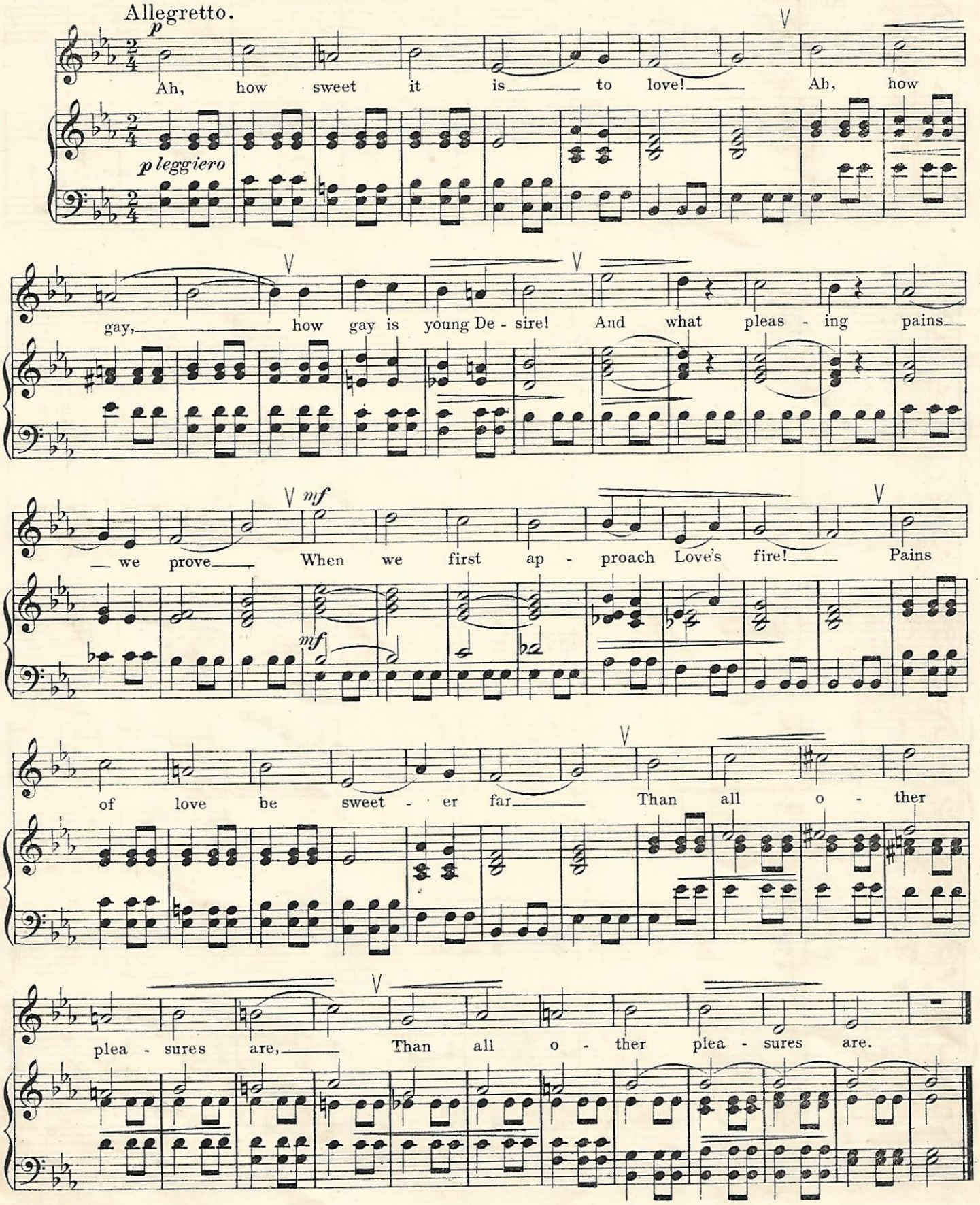
THOMAS CAMPION.




mp
Thou all sweet - ness dost en - - close,
mp
Like a lit - tle world of bliss;
Beau - ty guards thy looks, the rose
cresc.
f
In them pure and e - ter - - nal is.
f
D. C.

3.

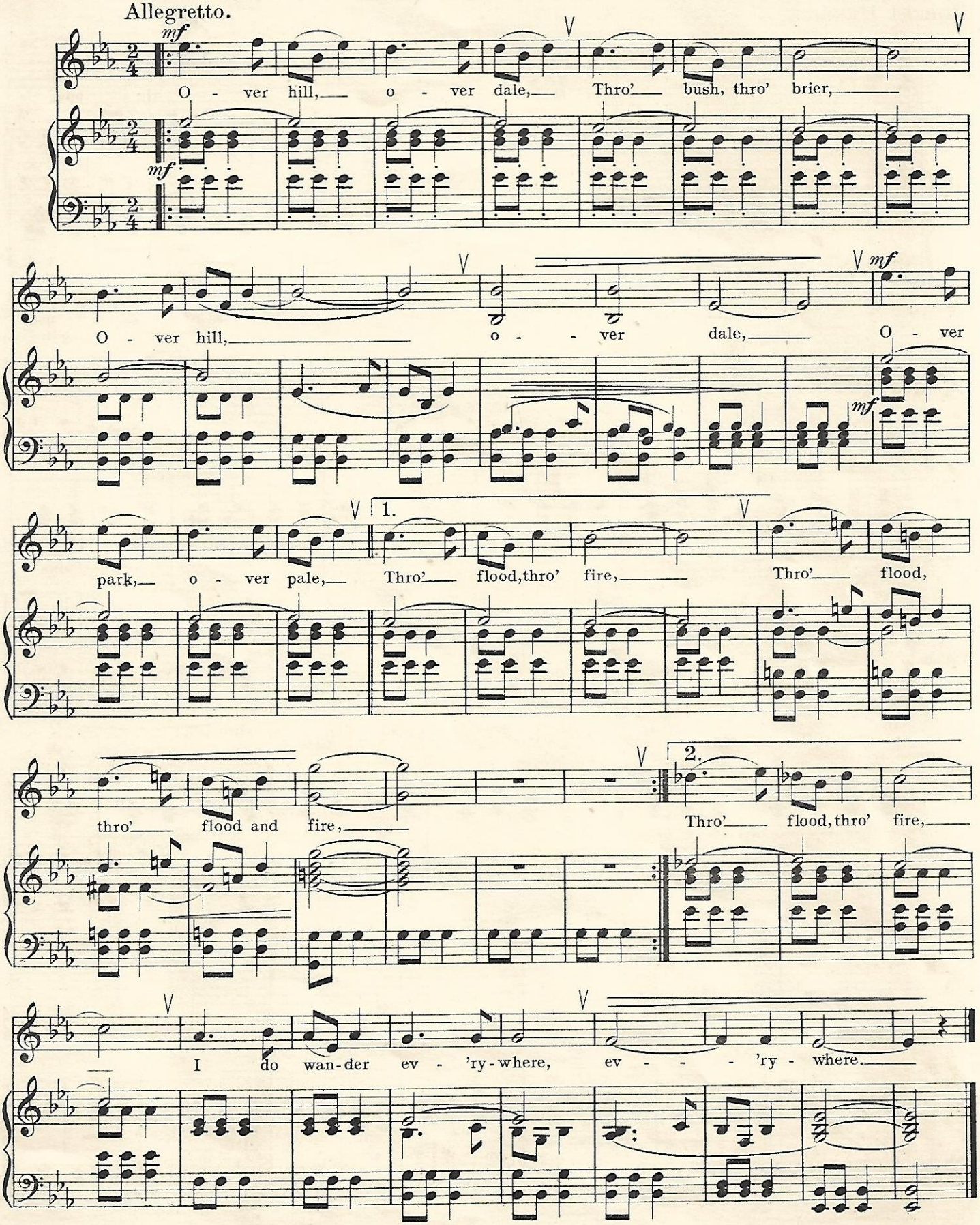
JOHN DRYDEN.



4.

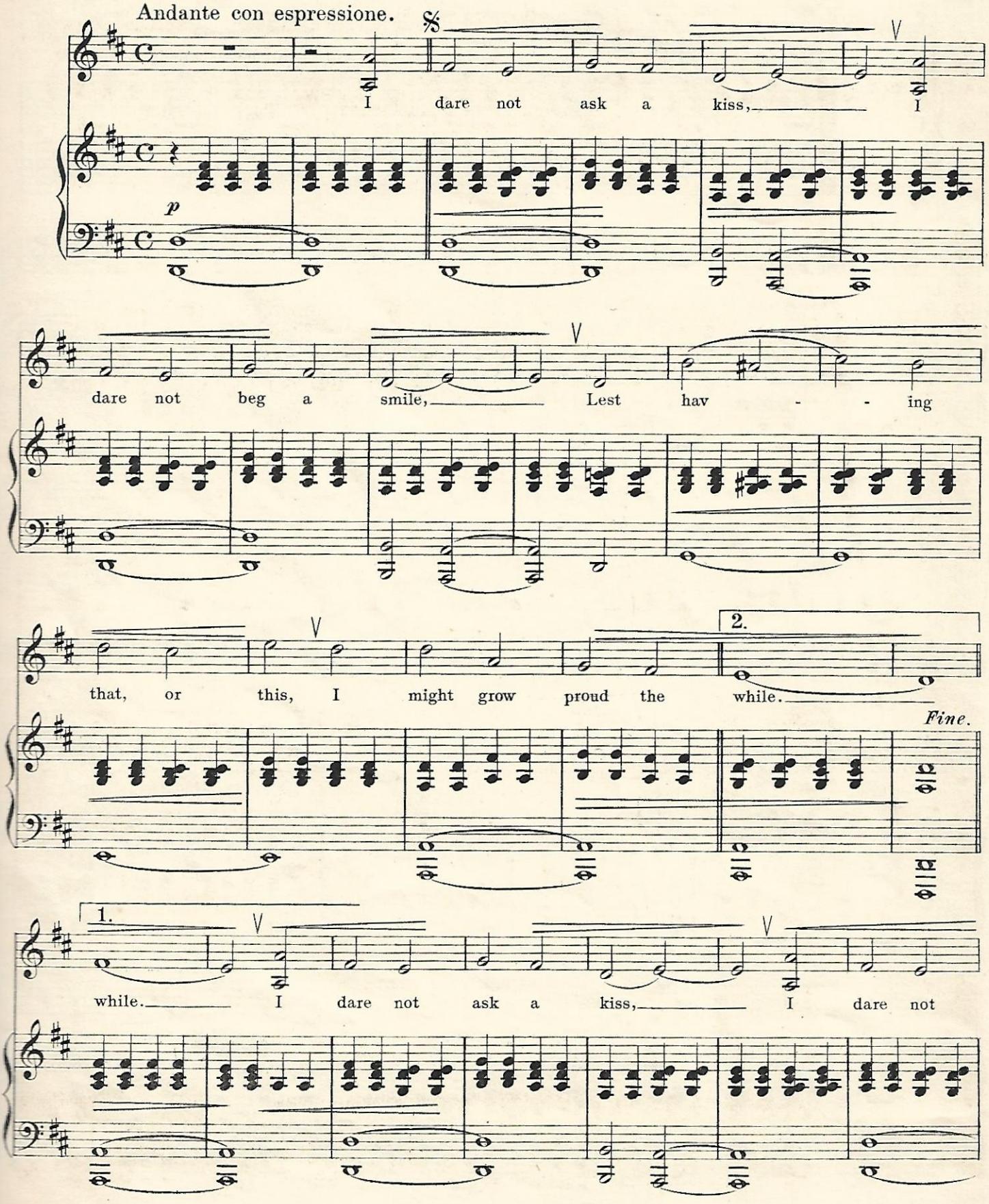
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

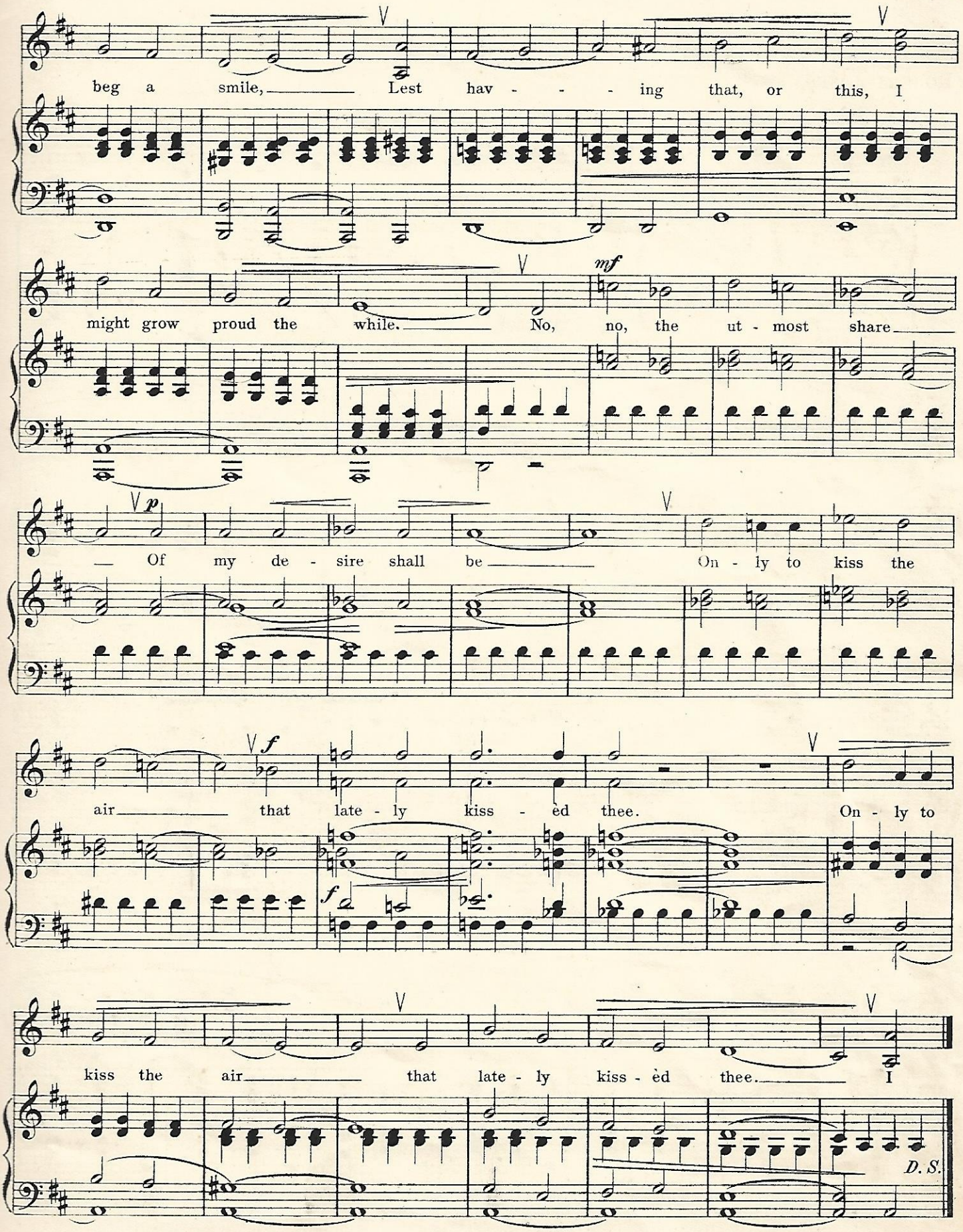
Allegretto.



5.

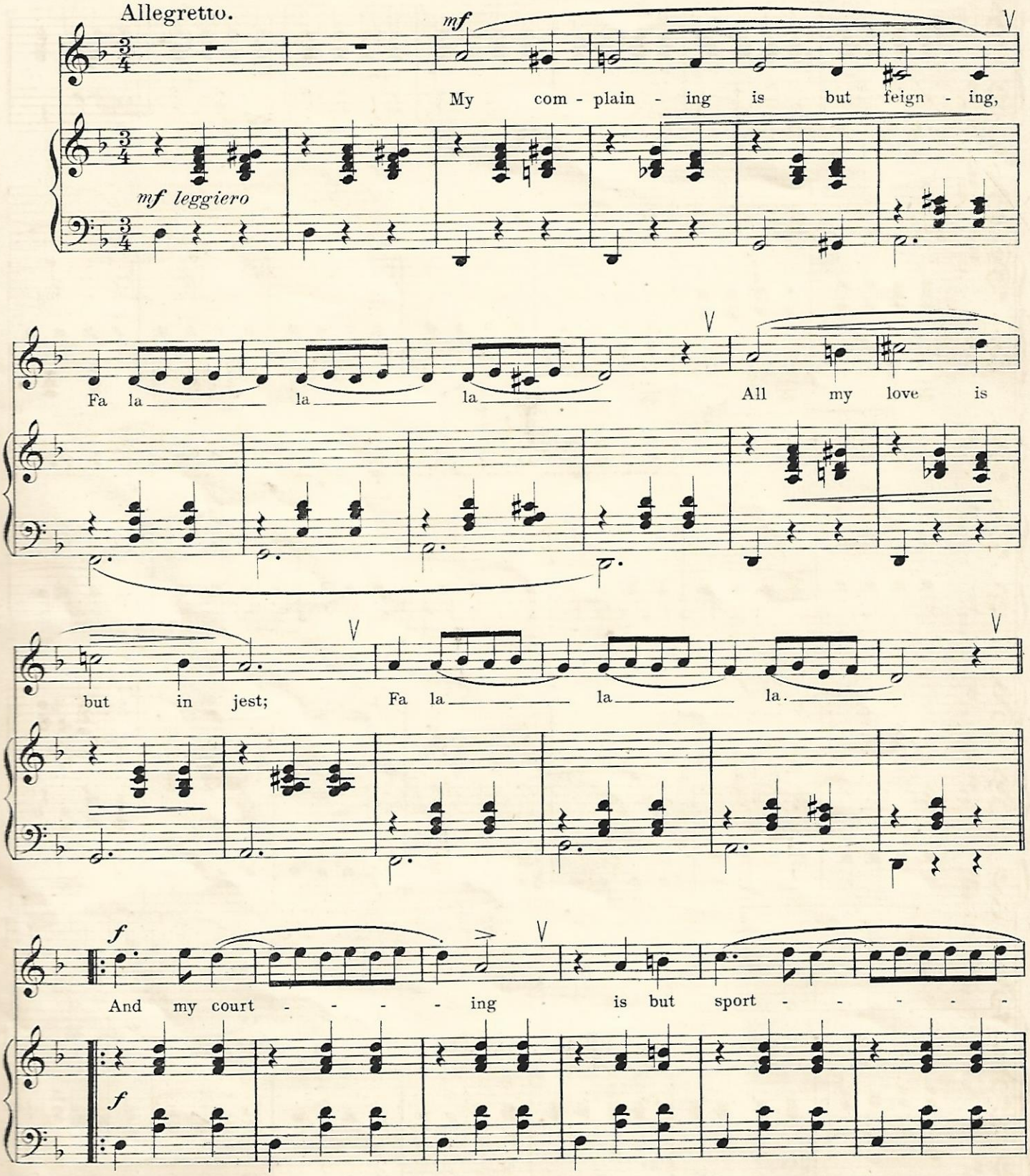
ROBERT HERRICK.

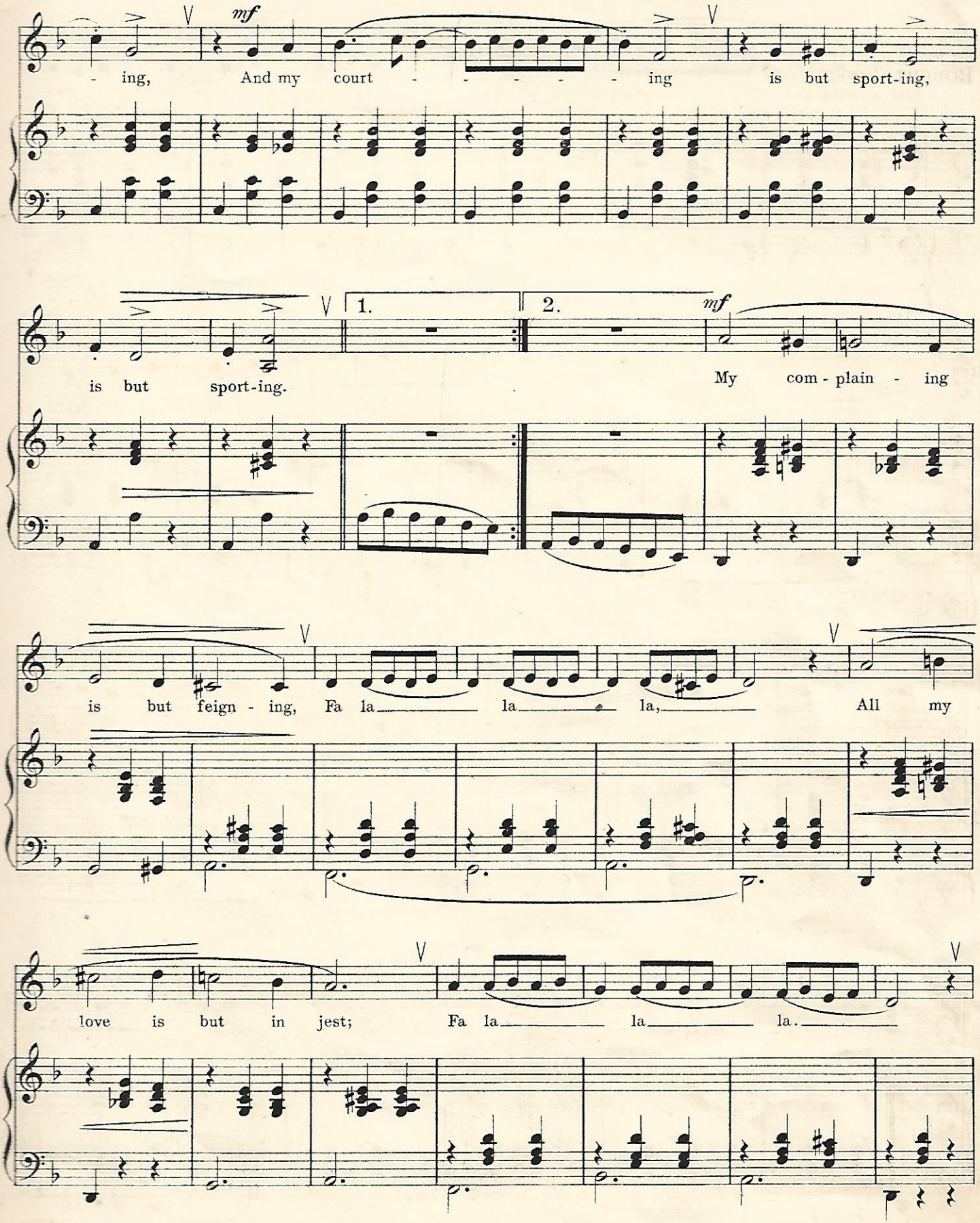


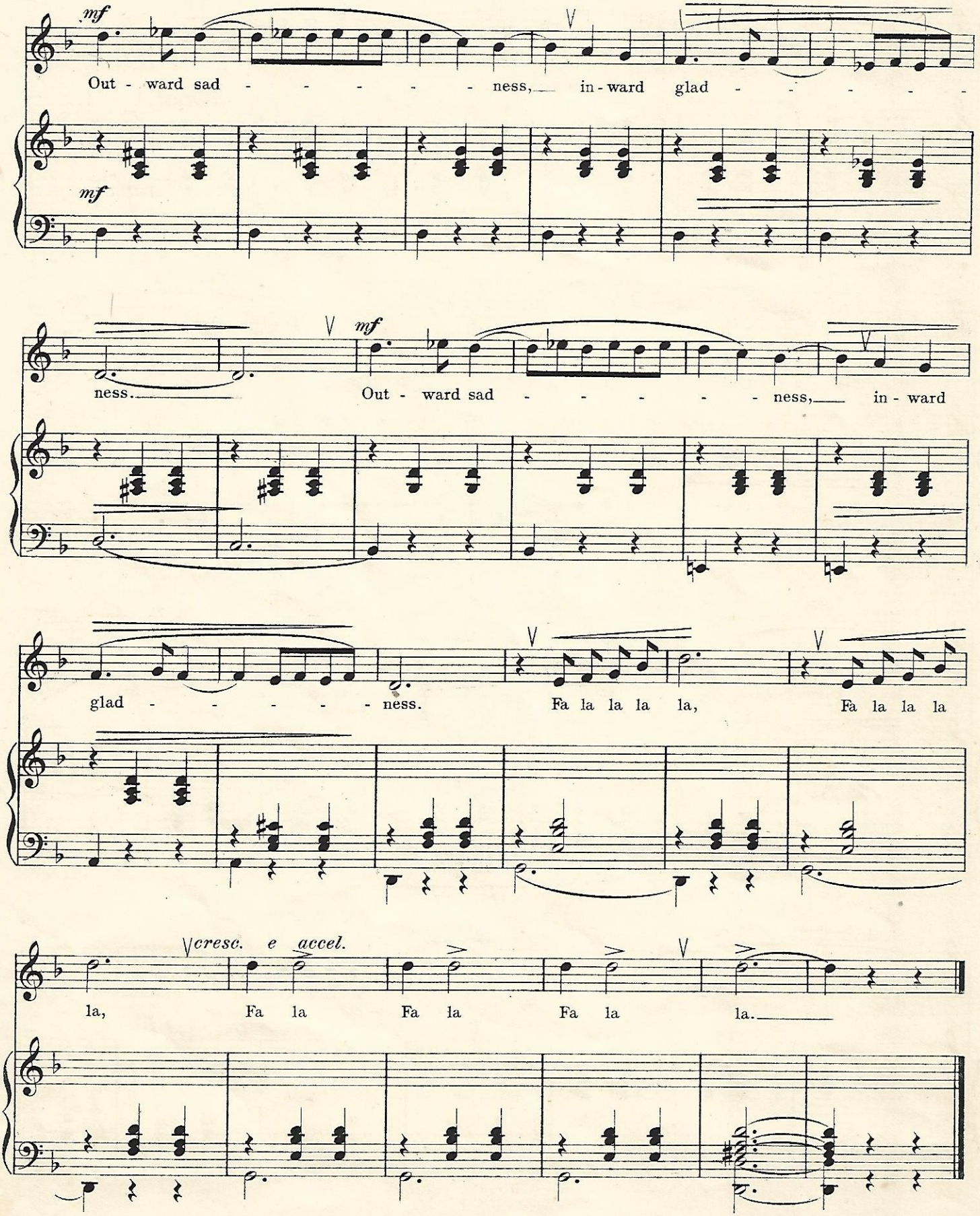

beg a smile, Lest hav - - - ing that, or this, I
might grow proud the while. No, no, the ut - most share
mf
— Of my de - sire shall be On - ly to kiss the
p
air that late - ly kiss - èd thee. On - ly to
f
f
kiss the air that late - ly kiss - èd thee. I
D. S.

6.

ROBERT JONES.



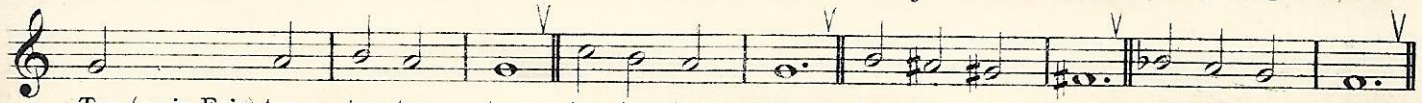

- ing, And my court - - - - - ing is but sport-ing,
is but sport-ing.
1.
2.
My com - plain - ing
is but feign - ing, Fa la la la, All my
love is but in jest; Fa la la la.


mf
Out - ward sad - - - - - - ness, in - ward glad - - - - -
mf
ness.
mf
Out - ward sad - - - - - - ness, in - ward
glad - - - - - - ness.
Fa la la la la, Fa la la la
cresc. e accel.
la, Fa la Fa la Fa la la.

Appendix.

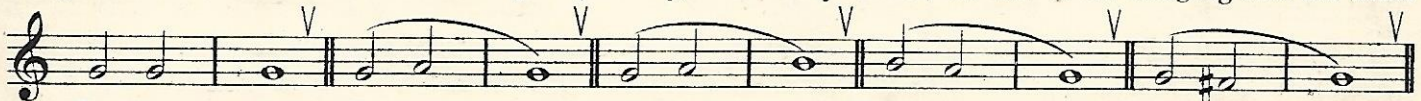
Preparatory Exercises on Long Vowels.

Cultivate purity of vowel on the notes in the middle of the voice *first*. If vowel is "oh," sing "oh," etc.

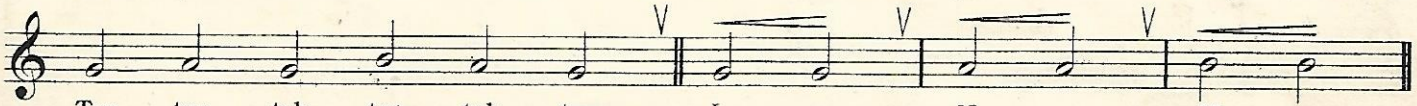


Tay, (as in Fair)	tay,	tay, tay,	tay.	tay, tay, tay,	tay.	tay, tay, tay,	tay.	tay, tay, tay,	tay.
Tee, (as in Me)	tee,	tee, tee,	tee.	tee, tee, tee,	tee.	tee, tee, tee,	tee.	tee, tee, tee,	tee.
Yah, (as in Far)	yah,	yah, yah,	yah.	yah, yah, yah,	yah.	yah, yah, yah,	yah.	yah, yah, yah,	yah.
Yoo, (as in Too)	yoo,	yoo, yoo,	yoo.	yoo, yoo, yoo,	yoo.	yoo, yoo, yoo,	yoo.	yoo, yoo, yoo,	yoo.
Yoh, (as in So)	yoh,	yoh, yoh,	yoh.	yoh, yoh, yoh,	yoh.	yoh, yoh, yoh,	yoh.	yoh, yoh, yoh,	yoh.
Yaw, (as in Saw)	yaw,	yaw, yaw,	yaw.	yaw, yaw, yaw,	yaw.	yaw, yaw, yaw,	yaw.	yaw, yaw, yaw,	yaw.

Long Vowels in Combination. To be sung very slowly, with steady breath, the one vowel merging into the next.

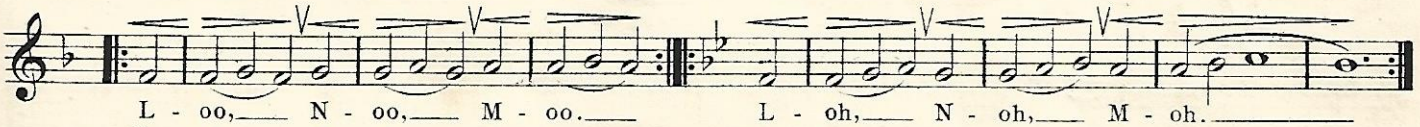


Yee - ay - ah.	Yee - ay - ah.	Yee - ay - ah.	Yee - ay - ah.	Yee - ay - ah.
Yoo - oh - aw.	Yoo - oh - aw.	Yoo - oh - aw.	Yoo - oh - aw.	Yoo - oh - aw.
Yay - ee - oo.	Yay - ee - oo.	Yay - ee - oo.	Yay - ee - oo.	Yay - ee - oo.
Tah - ay - ee.	Tah - ay - ee.	Tah - ay - ee.	Tah - ay - ee.	Tah - ay - ee.
Taw - oh - oo.	Taw - oh - oo.	Taw - oh - oo.	Taw - oh - oo.	Taw - oh - oo.
Tay - oh - ah.	Tay - oh - ah.	Tay - oh - ah.	Tay - oh - ah.	Tay - oh - ah.



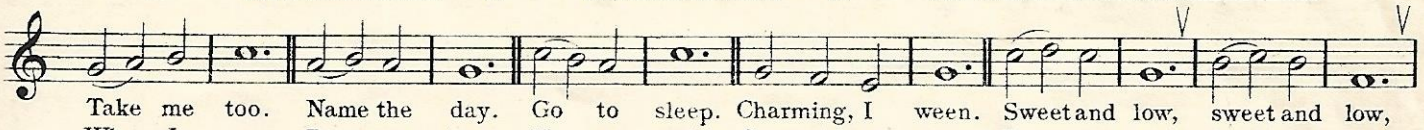
Tay,	tee,	tah,	too,	toh,	taw.	L - ay,	N - ay,	M - ay.
Kay,	kee,	kah,	koo,	koh,	kaw.	L - ee,	N - ee,	M - ee.
Pay,	pee,	pah,	poo,	poh,	paw.	L - ah,	N - ah,	M - ah.
Fay,	fee,	fah,	foo,	foh,	faw.	L - oo,	N - oo,	M - oo.
Hay,	hee,	hah,	hoo,	hoh,	haw.	L - oh,	N - oh,	M - oh.
Day,	dee,	dah,	doo,	doh,	daw.	L - aw,	N - aw,	M - aw.

L - ay, N - ay, M - ay.	L - ah, N - ah, M - ah.	
L - ee, N - ee, M - ee.	L - aw, N - aw, M - aw.	

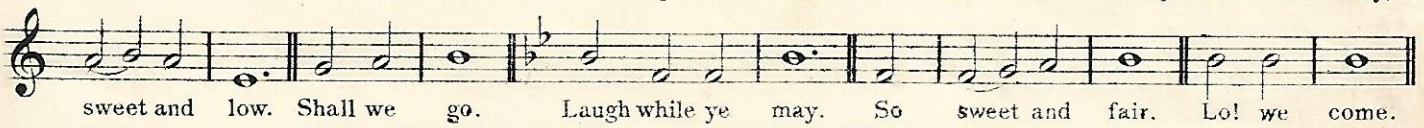


L - oo, N - oo, M - oo.	L - oh, N - oh, M - oh.	
L - oh, N - oh, M - oh.	L - ay, N - ay, M - ay.	

L - aw, N - aw, M - aw.		
L - ah, N - ah, M - ah.		



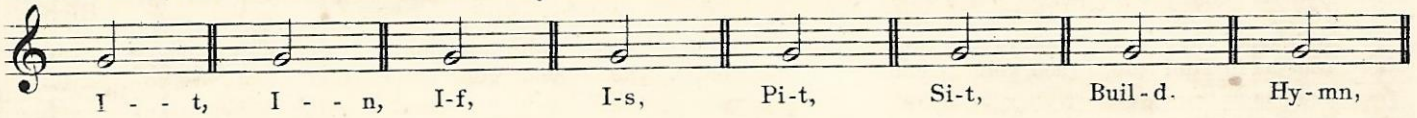
Take	me	too.	Name	the	day.	Go	to	sleep.	Charming,	I	ween.	Sweet	and	low,	sweet and low,
Where	I	am.	Be	ye	true.	No	more	pain.	Soon,	ah!	so	soon.	Far	a -	way, far a - way,

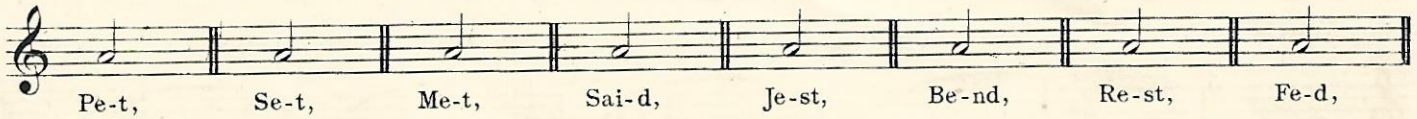


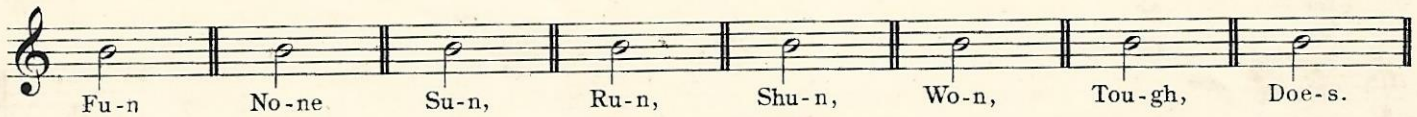
sweet	and	low.	Shall	we	go.	Laugh	while	ye	may.	So	sweet	and	fair.	Lo!	we come.
far	a -	way.	Fair	and	bright.	Go	and	o -	bey.	Wher -	e'er	ye	be.	Safe	at last.

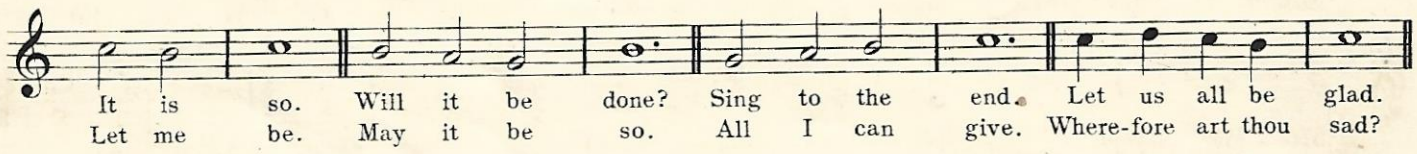
Preparatory Exercises on Short Vowels.

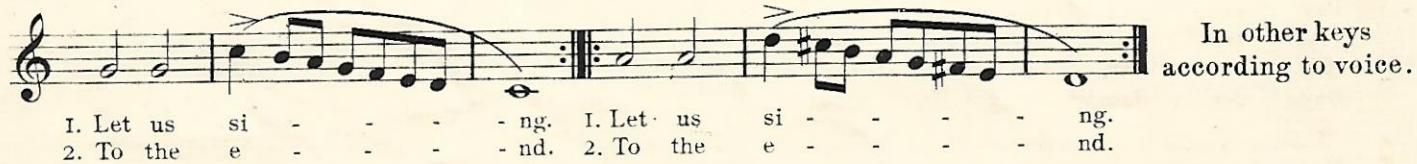
Be careful that each vowel is sung in same forward position of the mouth.
Initial and final consonants to be clearly articulated, the vowel at same time being given full value.

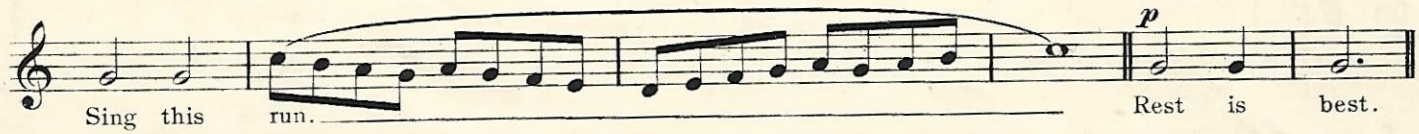


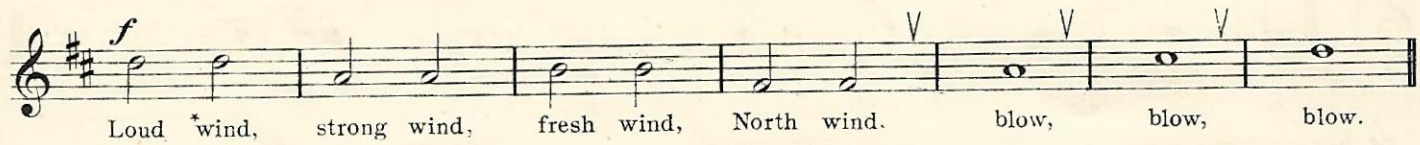






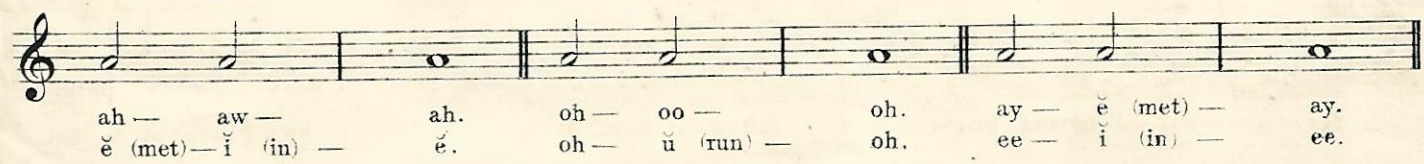




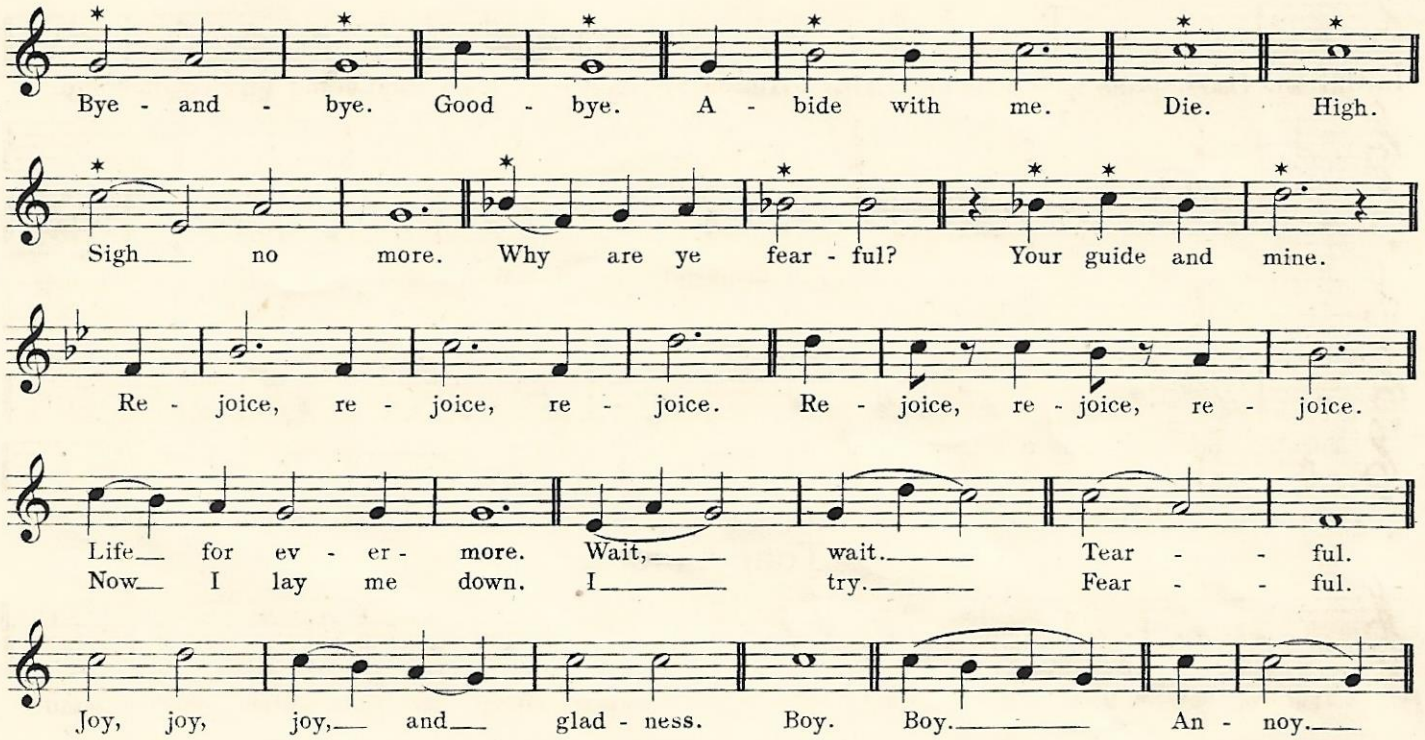


* wind to rhyme with sinned.

Notice carefully the difference between the vowels in the following groups.

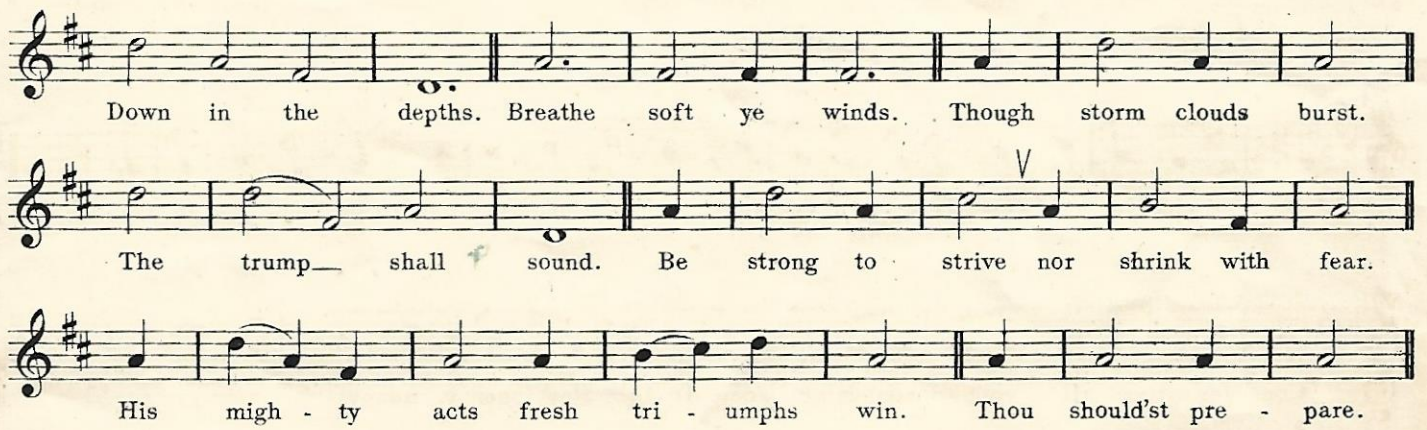


Exercises on Diphthongs.



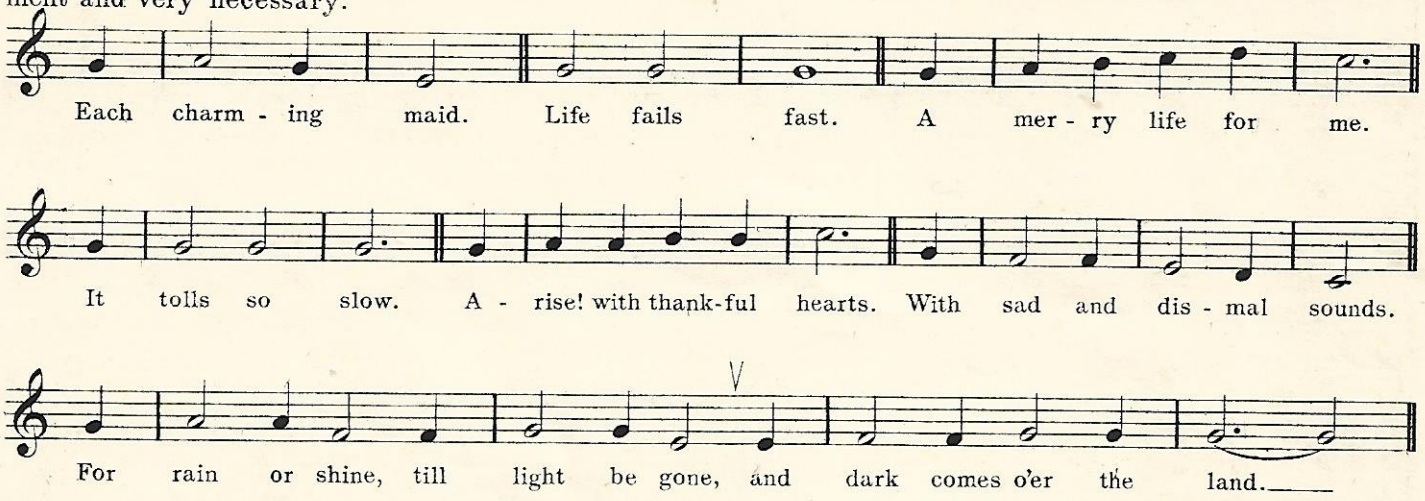
* In singing Diphthongs the primary vowel should receive practically the whole time value, the secondary vowel being heard and no more. Special care is needed when a Diphthong is to be sung to two or more notes.

Consonant Clusters.

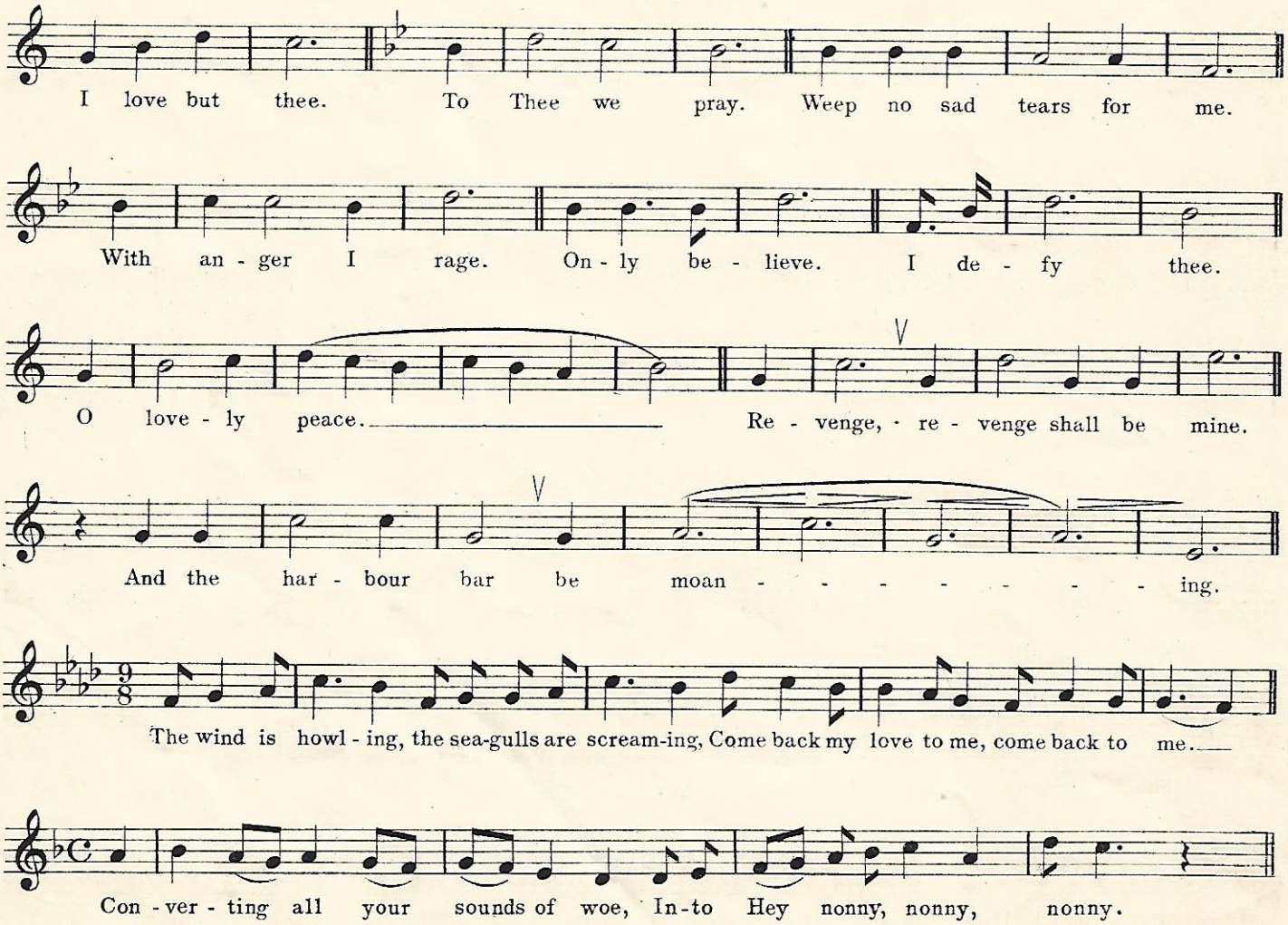


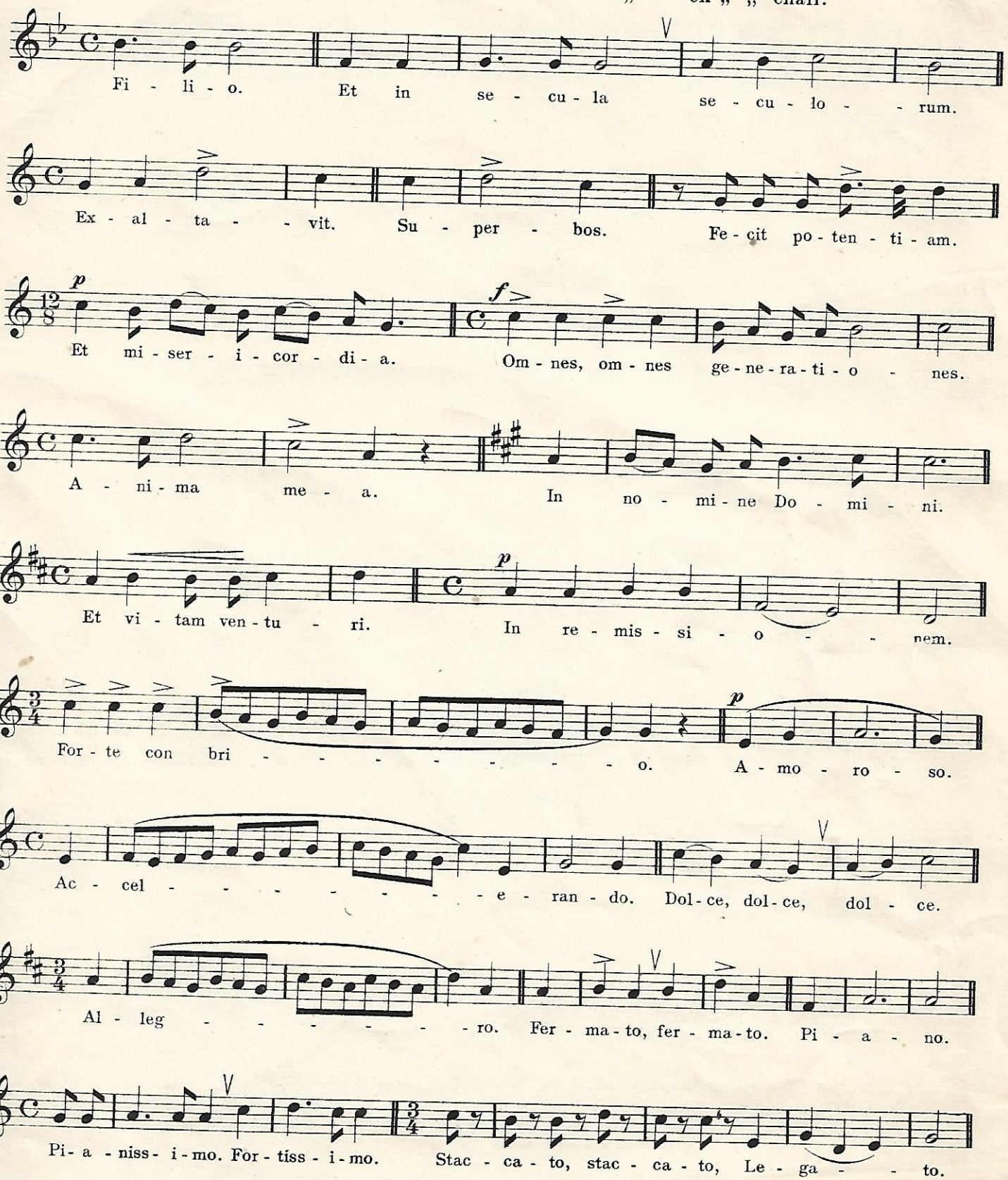
Word beginning with same Consonant that ends previous Word.

Practice slowly and enunciate carefully *every* consonant. This exercise is difficult, but possible of achievement and very necessary.



Tone Colour.



Latin and Italian Words.

E pronounced ay as in say. U pronounced oo as in soup.
I „ ee „ „ see. Ce „ ch „ „ chair.