59295

Minuets &c.

Composed by

The Right Honourable

Thomas Earl of Kelly

Erskine (Thomas A.)
K

EDINBURGH

MDCCCXXXVI.

THOMAS EARL OF KELLY.

TO

MRS. SHARPE OF HODDAM,

THIS MEMORIAL

OF HER

FRIENDS, RELATIONS, AND ACQUAINTANCES,

IS DEDICATED,

BY HER AFFECTIONATE SON,

CHARLES KIRKPATRICK SHARPE.

EDINBURGH, JUNE 1836.

BRITISH MUSEUM
30 JAN 72

Manuscript Collection of Music, evidently made by some orchestra performer, which I lately discovered, contains, among many other Scottish, and a few English compositions, the minuets, with one exception, the songs, and the air, now printed: they were deemed worthy of preservation, as the productions of Thomas Alexander, sixth Earl of Kelly, whose musical genius was once so celebrated by his cotemporaries, and ought still to be esteemed as an honour to Scotland.

In the Caledonian Mercury, 12th October 1731, the marriage of his parents is thus recorded:—"We learn, that on Tuesday last, the Right Honourable the Earl of Kelly was married to Miss Janet Pitcairn, daughter of the late learned and celebrated physician and ornament to Scotland, Dr. Archibald Pitcairn." Their eldest son, Thomas Alexander, Viscount Fenton, was born on the 1st of September 1732, and succeeded his father in 1756.

Dr Burney, whose learning and discernment, as displayed in his "General History of Music," render his testimony unquestionable, tells us, that "the late Earl of Kelly, who was possessed of more musical science than any dilettanti with whom I was ever acquainted, and who, according to Pinto, before he travelled into Germany, could scarcely tune his fiddle, shut himself up at Manheim with the elder Stamitz, and studied composition, and practised the violin with such serious application, that, at his return to England, there was no part of theoretical or practical music, in which he was not equally versed with the greatest professors of his time. Indeed, he had a strength of hand on the violin, and a genius for composition, with which few professors are gifted."

Mr. Robertson, author of the Inquiry into the Fine Arts, thus mentions Lord Kelly :—" It has only to be added, that, to that same period at which the other great men of Scotland have appeared, it has been reserved to produce the greatest secular musician in his line, in the British Islands, the late Earl of Kelly. In his works the *fervidum ingenium* of his country bursts forth; and elegance is mingled with fire. From the singular ardour and impetuosity of his temperament, joined to his German education under the celebrated *Stamitz*, and at a time when the German overture or symphony, consisting of a grand chorus of violins and wind-instruments, was in its highest vogue, this great composer has employed himself chiefly upon *symphonies*, but in a style peculiar to himself. While others please and amuse, it is his province to rouse, and almost overset his hearer. Loudness, rapidity, enthusiasm, announce the Earl of Kelly. His harmonies are acknowledged to be accurate and ingenious; admirably calculated for the effect in view, and discovering a thorough knowledge in music. From some specimens which he has given, it appears that his talents were not limited to a single style; and which has made his admirers regret that he did not apply himself to a greater variety of subjects. He is said to have composed only one song; but that an excellent one. What appears to have been singularly peculiar to

this musician, is what may be called the *velocity* of his talents; by which he composed whole pieces of the most excellent music, in one night's time. Part of his works is still unpublished; and not a little probably lost. Being always remarkably fond of a concert of wind instruments, whenever he met with a good band of them, he was seized with a fit of composition, and wrote pieces in the moment, which he gave away to the performers, and never saw again; and these, in his own judgment, were the best he ever composed."

Of Lord Kelly's printed compositions, I am enabled to give but a limited list. I have seen "Six overtures in eight parts, and a thorough bass for the harpsichord, composed by the Right Honourable the Earl of Kelly. Opera Prima.—N.B. A minum or crotchet once cut signifies quavers, and twice cut semiquavers. Edinburgh, printed for Robert Bremner, at the Harp and Hautboy." The Royal licence is dated 17th July 1761.*

* GEORGE R.

GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting; Whereas Robert Bremner, of our city of Edinburgh, musician and music-seller, has, by his Petition, humbly represented to us, that our right trusty and right well-beloved cousin Thomas Earl of Kelly, hath, out of his great goodness, permitted him to print and publish his (the said Earl's) compositions of music, and advised him to apply for our royal licence, for the sole printing and publishing thereof; and the petitioner having therefore most humbly besought us, to grant him our royal privilege and licence for the sole printing and publishing of the said compositions of music for the term of fourteen years; we, being willing to give all due encouragement to his said undertaking, are graciously pleased to condescend to that his request; and we do accordingly, by these presents, (so far as may be agreeable to the Statutes in that behalf made and provided) for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto him, the said Robert Bremner, his executors, administrators, and assigns, our royal licence, for the sole printing and publishing of the said Earl of Kelly's compositions of music, for and during the term of fourteen years, to be computed from the date hereof; strictly forbidding all our subjects, within our kingdoms and dominions, to reprint the same, either in the like or any other manner or form whatever; or to import, buy, vend, utter, or distribute, any copies thereof reprinted beyond the seas, during the aforesaid term of fourteen years, without the consent or approbation of the said Robert Bremner, his heirs, executors, and assigns, under his or their hands and seals, first had and obtained, as they will answer the contrary

" Six symphonies in 4 parts, proper for small or great concerts, composed by J. Stamitz, his pupil the Earl of Kelly, and others. London, printed by R. Bremner, at the Harp and Hautboy, opposite Somerset House in the Strand."

Two overtures, numbers 13 and 17, in a monthly publication printed by Bremner, entitled Periodical Overtures: These, and the symphonies, appeared in or before the year 1761.

The overture to the Maid of the Mill, an opera performed for the first time, 31st January 1765, at Covent Garden Theatre.

Several of his minuets were printed in a collection of those dances published at Edinburgh, without date, and now extremely rare; and the song of " Ye Little Loves," or " The Lover's Message," appeared in the Vocal Magazine, published at Edinburgh 1797, but is very inferior to the set in my manuscript.

" 15*th October* 1781. Died at Brussels, The R. H. Alexander Erskine Earl of Kellie in Scotland, Viscount Fenton, &c.: His Lordship was one of the finest musical composers of the age, and esteemed by the cognoscenti as the first man of taste in the musical line of any British subject, and ranked all over Europe in the first musical form: He is succeeded in title and estate by his brother, the Honourable Major Archibald Erskine of the 11th Regiment of Foot.'

Gentleman's Magazine.

Lord Kelly inherited somewhat of his grandfather, Dr. Pitcairn's genius for versification, and composed several lively poems, chiefly for the amusement of his friends,—of these, I possess a few copies, containing facts now of little importance, and allusions to others long ago forgotten.

at their peril: Whereof the commissioners, and other officers of our customs, the master, warden, and company of stationers of our city of London, are to take notice, that due obedience be rendered to our pleasure herein declared.

Given at our Court of St. James's, the seventeenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-one, in the first year of our reign.

By His Majesty's command.

BUTE.

His temper was as harmonious as his talents; in society, he was universally beloved for his convivial frankness, his good nature, and his good breeding, which, indeed, is but a part of the other.

He, for several years, directed the concert in St. Cecilia's Hall, then the weekly resort of all that was gay, fair, and noble in the metropolis of Scotland; strange to say, considering its situation, this building still remains nearly in its original form; but alas, it is now "a habitation of dragons, and a court for owls. The wild beasts of the desert meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr cries to his fellow."

It remains to give some account of the minuets and songs in this volume, arranged according to their numbers.

Number 1. The Capillaire Minuet was composed by Lord Kelly, in honour of a Club called The Capillaire Club, of his own institution. It was a convivial meeting, the members of which were understood to drink nothing but Capillaire. This word was put upon the small liqueur glasses used by the Society, from one of which, in my possession, the device at the end of this account has been engraved.

2. The Duchess of Gordon's Minuet.—Jane, second daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Monrieth, Bart., by Magdalene, daughter of William Blair of Blair. The title in the MS. is Miss Jeanie Maxwell's Minuet.

3. The Duchess of Buccleuch's Minuet.—Lady Elizabeth Montague, daughter of George Duke of Montague, by Mary, daughter of John Duke of Marlborough.

4. The Countess of Errol's Minuet.—Isabella, daughter of Sir William Carr of Etal.

5. Lady Anne Barnard's Minuet.—Daughter of James Earl of Balcarres, and married to Andrew Barnard, Secretary to the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, son of Thomas Barnard, Bishop of Limerick. She was the authoress of "Auld Robin Gray."

6. Lady Margaret Fordyce's Minuet.—Sister to Lady Anne, married

to Alexander Fordyce of Roehampton, banker in London. The maiden names of these ladies appear in the MS.

7. Lady Murray's Minuet.—Susan, daughter of John Renton of Lamerton, Esquire, by Lady Susan Montgomerie, daughter of the Earl of Eglintoune, married to Robert, afterwards Sir Robert Murray of Clermont, Bart. In the MS. she is termed Mrs. Murray.

8. Lady Maxwell's Minuet.—Catherine, daughter of William Blair of Adamton, Esquire, married to Sir William Maxwell of Monrieth, Bart. The Minuet was presented to her before her marriage.

9. Lady Cunynghame's Minuet.—Frances, daughter of Sir Robert Myrton of Gogar, Bart., married to Sir William Augustus Cunynghame of Livingstone and Milncraig, Bart. This Minuet was composed before her marriage.

10. Lady Wallace's Minuet.—Eglinton, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Monrieth, Bart., married to Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie, Bart.

11. Mrs. Fordyce's Minuet.—Catharine, elder sister of the above, and married to John Fordyce of Ayton, Esquire, Receiver-General of the Land-Tax in Scotland.

12. Mrs. Campbell of Shawfield's Minuet.—Mary, daughter of William Nisbet of Dirleton, by Mary, daughter of Alexander Hamilton of Dechmont, married first to William Hay, presumptive heir to George Marquis of Tweedale. Secondly, to Walter Campbell of Shawfield, Esquire. This minuet was presented to her before her marriage.

13. Mrs. Houston of Johnston's Minuet.—Mary, eldest daughter of William M'Dowall of Garthland, by Miss Graham of Airth, married to George Houston of Johnstone, Esquire. In the MS. this is named Miss Mally M'Dowall's Minuet.

14. Mrs. Hamilton of Bangour's Minuet.—Margaret, daughter of David Bruce of Kinnaird, Esquire, and sister of the celebrated traveller, married to James Hamilton of Bangour, Esquire, son of the poet.

15. Mrs. General Morris's Minuet.—Jane, daughter of John Urquhart of Craigston and Cromarty, by Jane, daughter of William Urquhart of Meldrum, married to General Staats Long Morris, whose first wife was Catherine Duchess of Gordon. The title in the MS. is Miss Jeanie Urchart's Minuet.

16. Mrs. Cumming's Minuet.—Jessy, daughter of Mr. Chalmers, married to Thomas Cumming, Esquire, Queen Street, Edinburgh. The Minuet was presented to her before her marriage.

17. Mrs. Nicolson's Minuet.—Margaret, daughter of Boyd Porterfield of Porterfield, Esquire, married to Houston Stewart Nicolson, second son of Sir Michael Stewart of Blackhall, Bart.

20. From the six symphonies mentioned above. As Lord Kelly's minuets were much esteemed by his musical admirers, and presuming this to be of his composition, it has been reprinted to complete the series.

"The Lover's Message" appears in the first volume of the Musical Miscellany, London, 1729, set to music by Mr. Galliard; and again in Ritson's Select Collection of English Songs, to a different air, but without the composer's name.

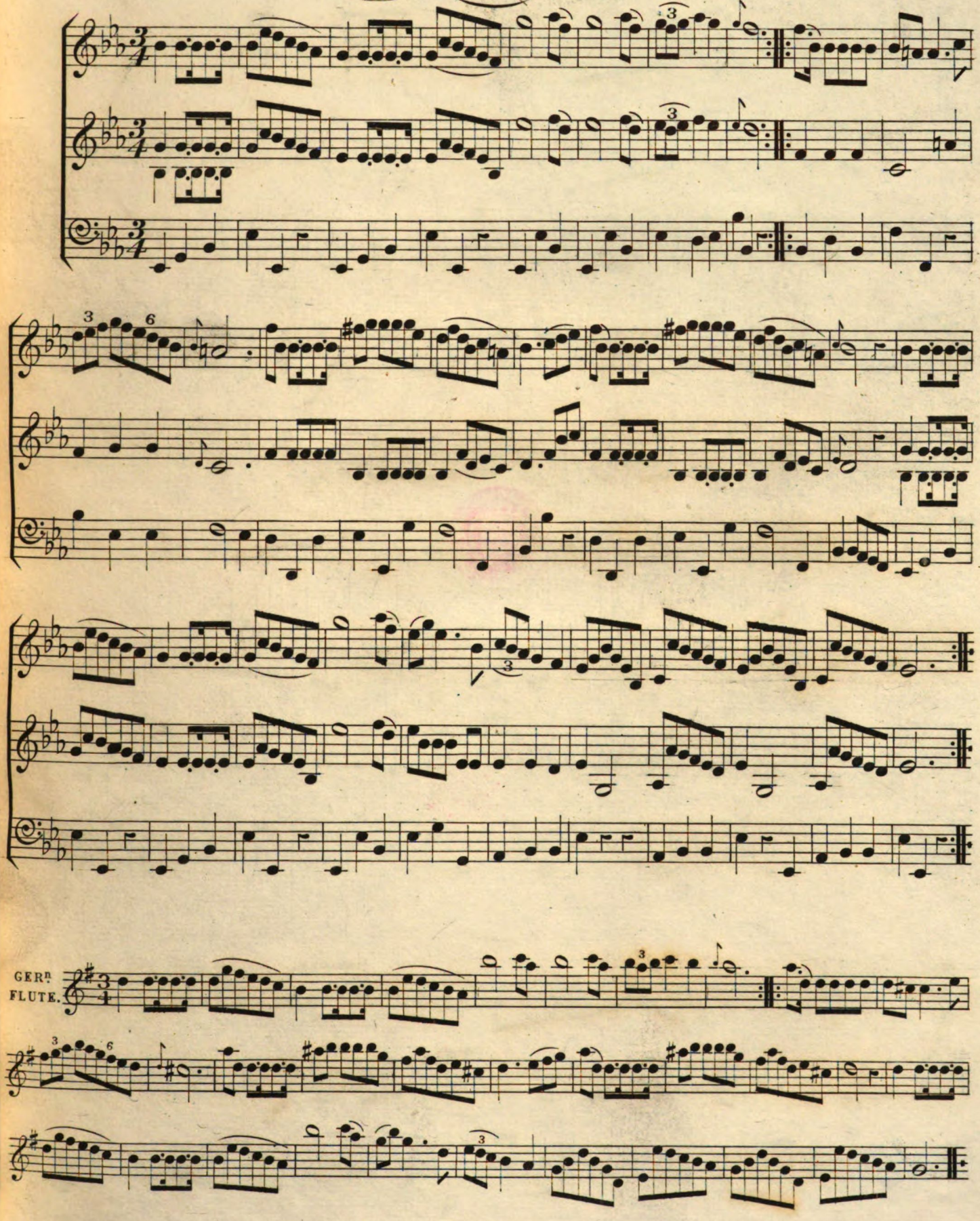
"Death is now my only Treasure" was published in "A Collection of Favourite Airs in Score, sung at Haberdashers Hall by Signor Tenducci, and dedicated by him to the gentlemen of the Castle Society," printed by Welcker in London. The song was probably presented by Lord Kelly to Tenducci when in Edinburgh; and as the work which contains it is now very scarce, it is deemed worthy of republication.

The portrait prefixed to this volume is copied from a print engraved by Blyth, (1782), from a picture belonging to Mr. Whiteford, long well known in the literary circles of the last century. Boswell tells us that Dr. Johnson "thought Mr. Caleb Whiteford singularly happy in hitting on the signature of *Papyrius Cursor*, to his ingenious and diverting cross-readings of the newspapers; it being a real name of an ancient Roman, and clearly expressive of the thing done

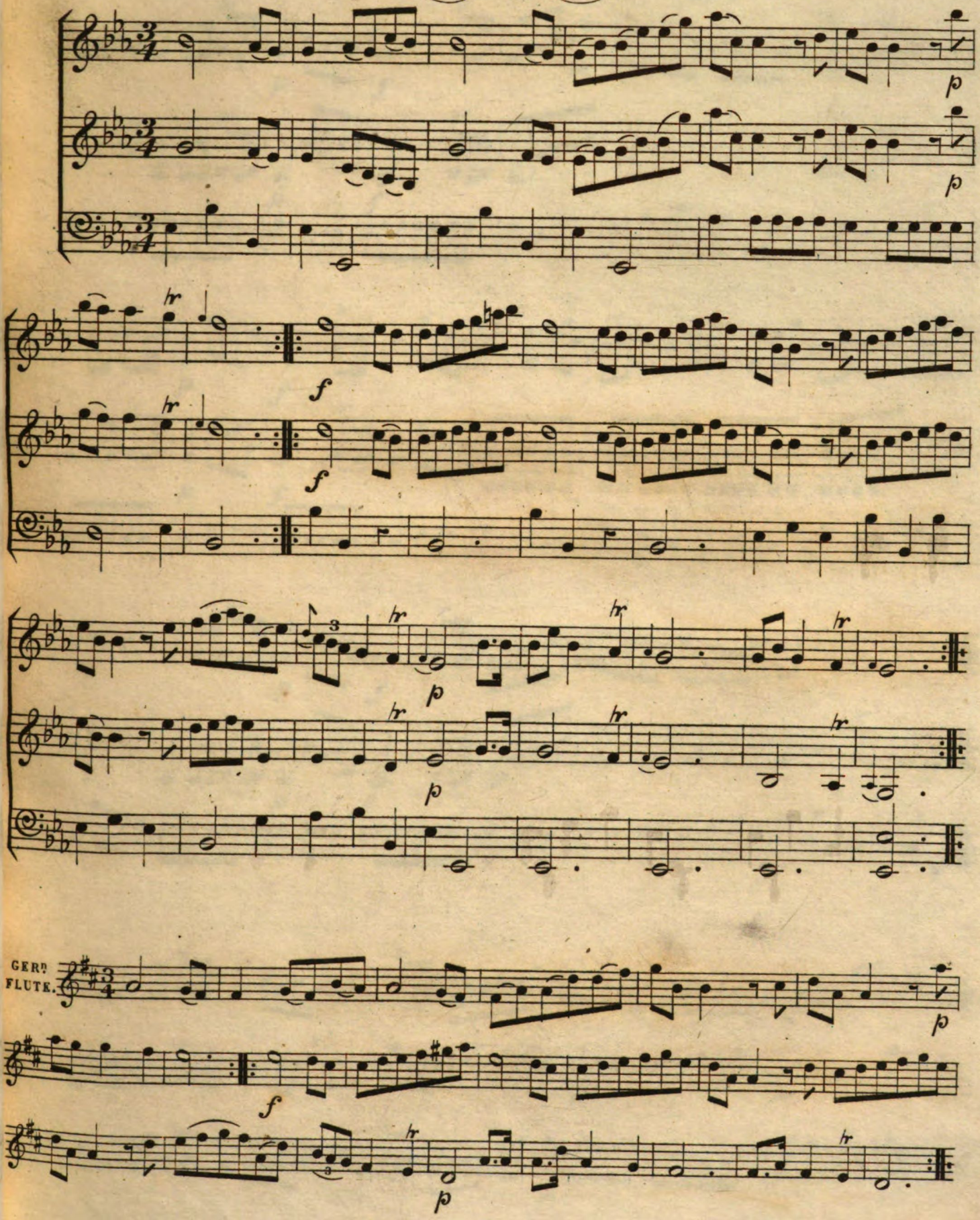
in this lively conceit." In the Edinburgh Magazine for July 1800, were published "Verses to Michael O'Byrne, Esquire, with a portrait of the late Thomas Alexander Earl of Kelly, by Caleb Whiteford, Esquire." This poem probably accompanied an impression of Blyth's print, which is coarsely executed, from a picture that must have been painted when Lord Kelly was advanced in years, and naturally careless of personal decoration.

Capillaire

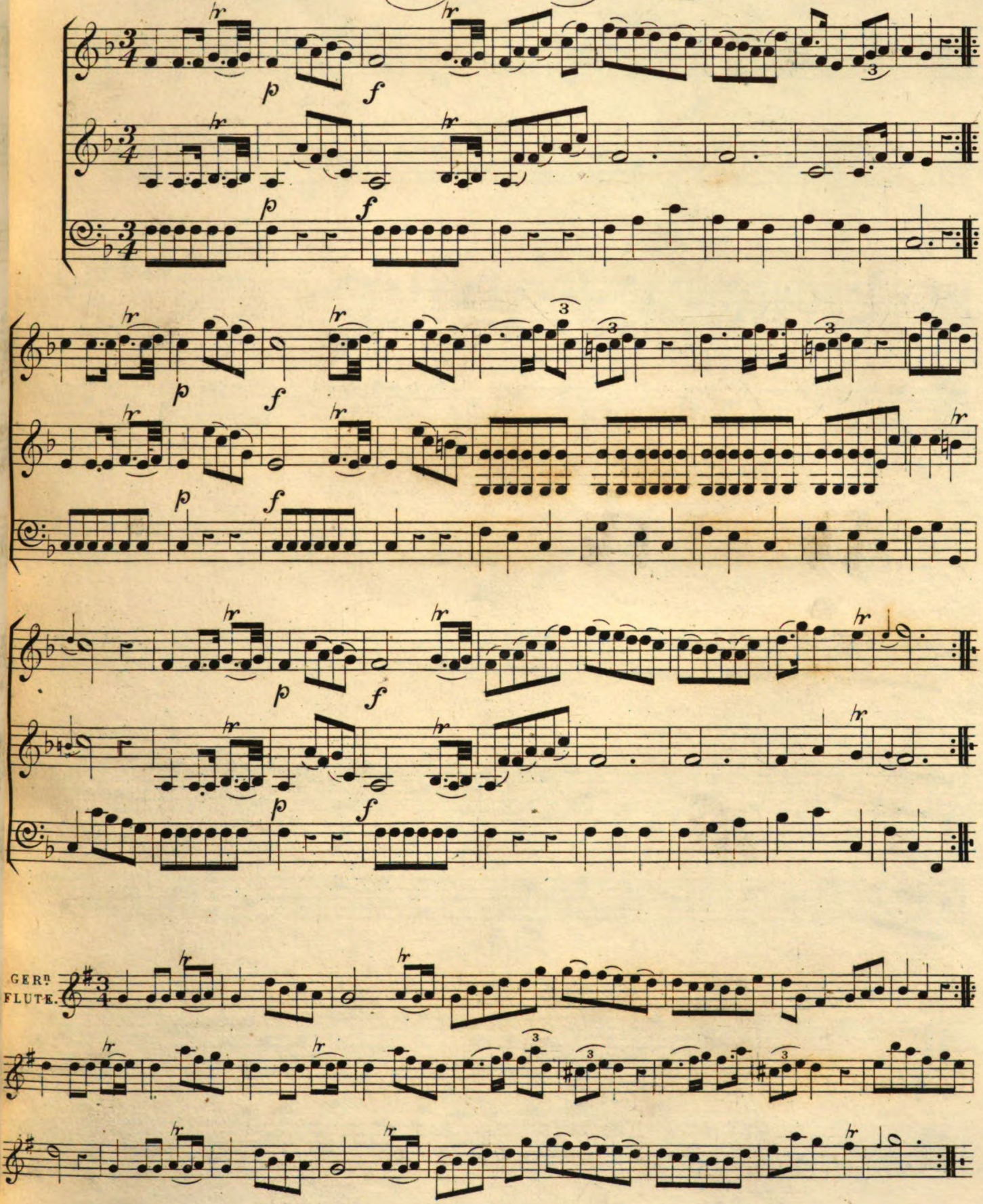
Capillaire Minuet.



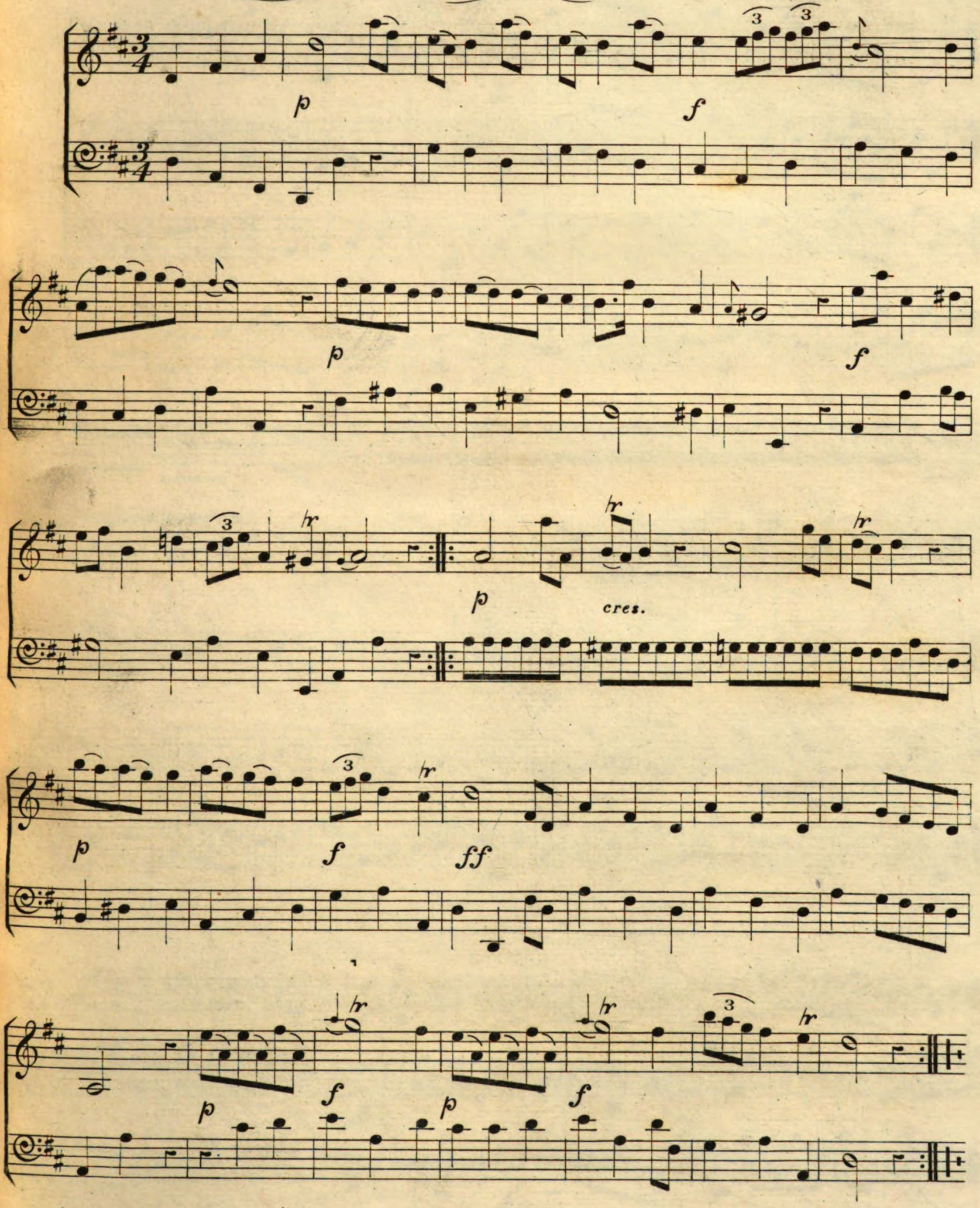
The Duchess of Gordon's Minuet



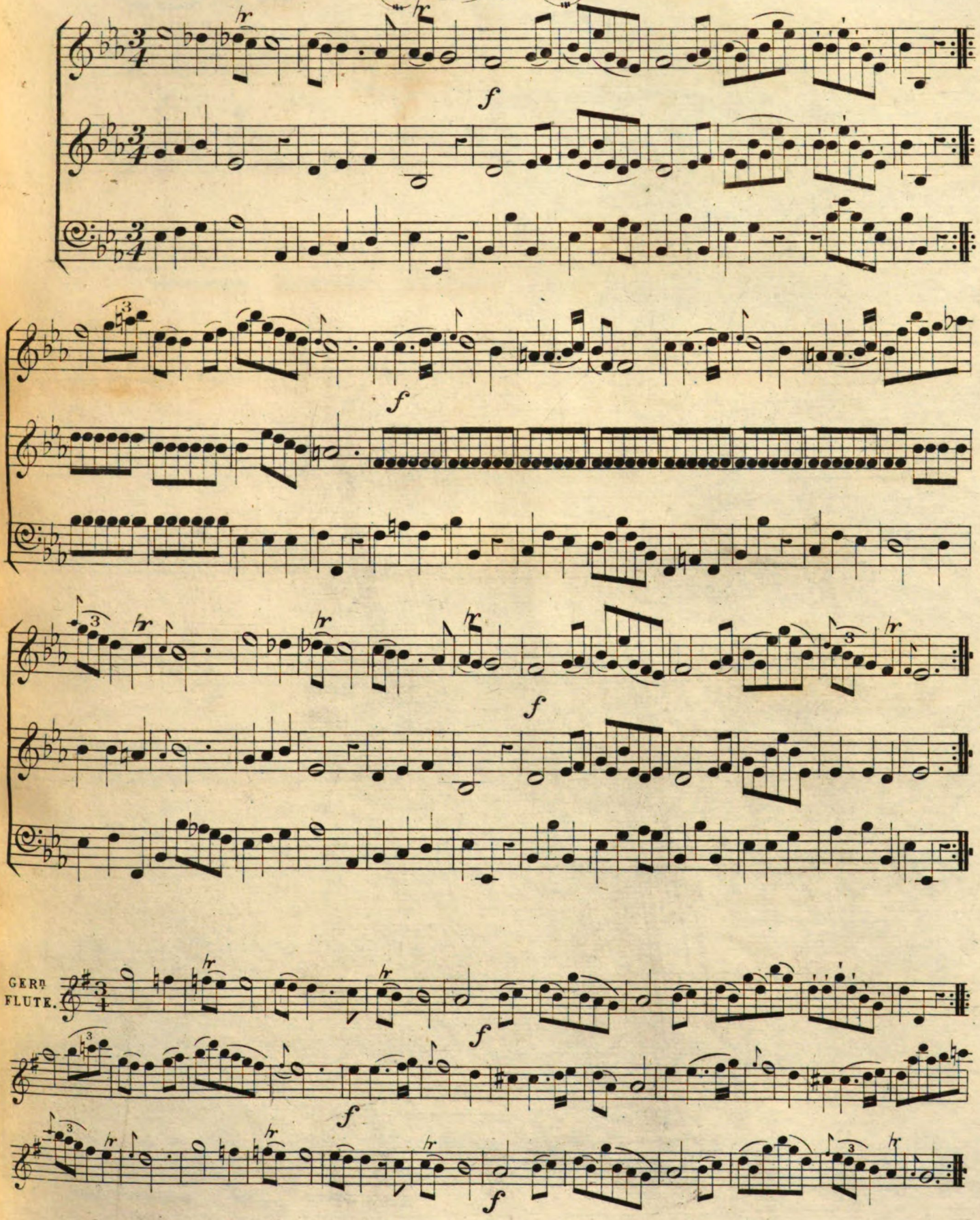
The Duchess of Bucclench's Minuet



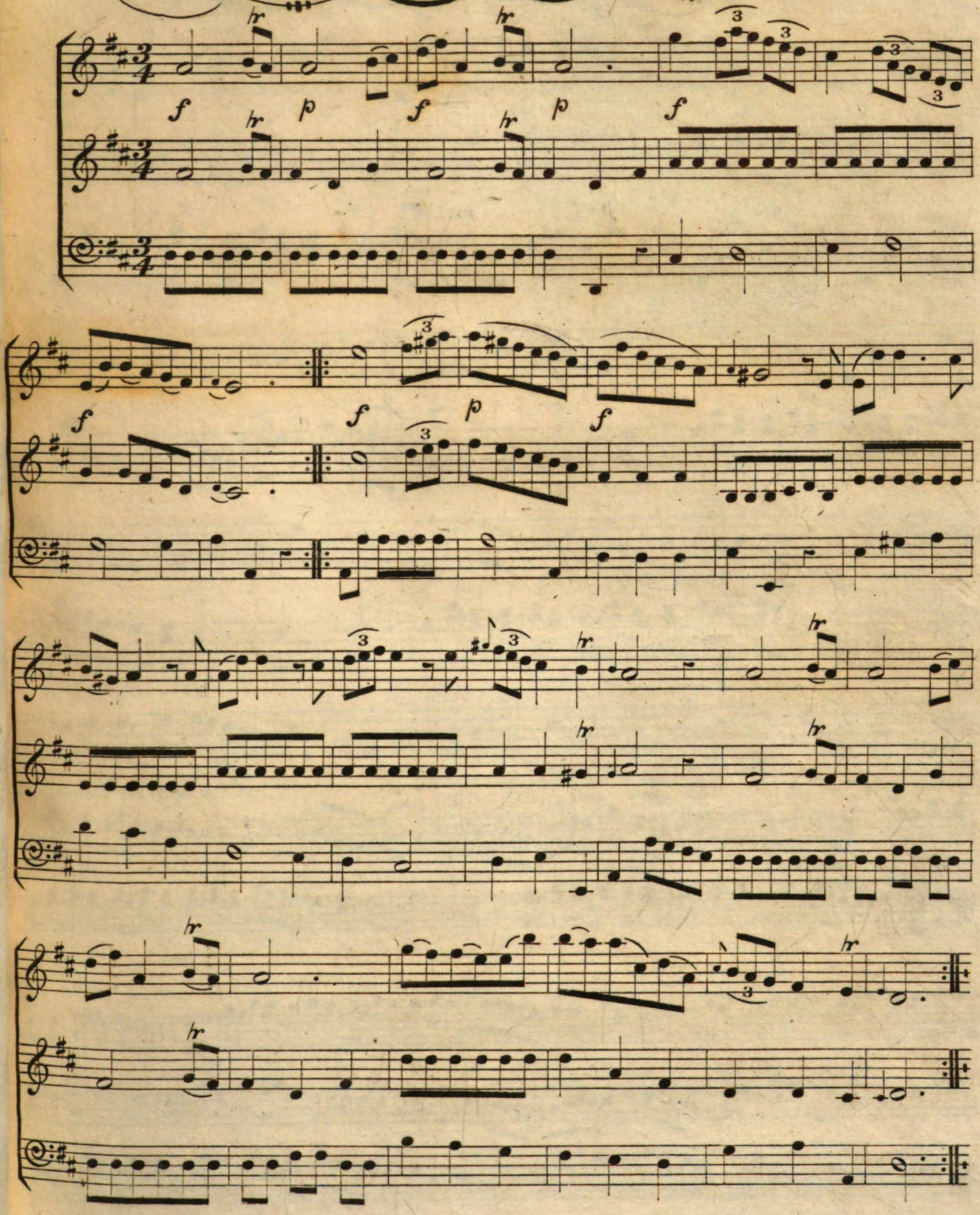
The Countels of Errol's Minuet



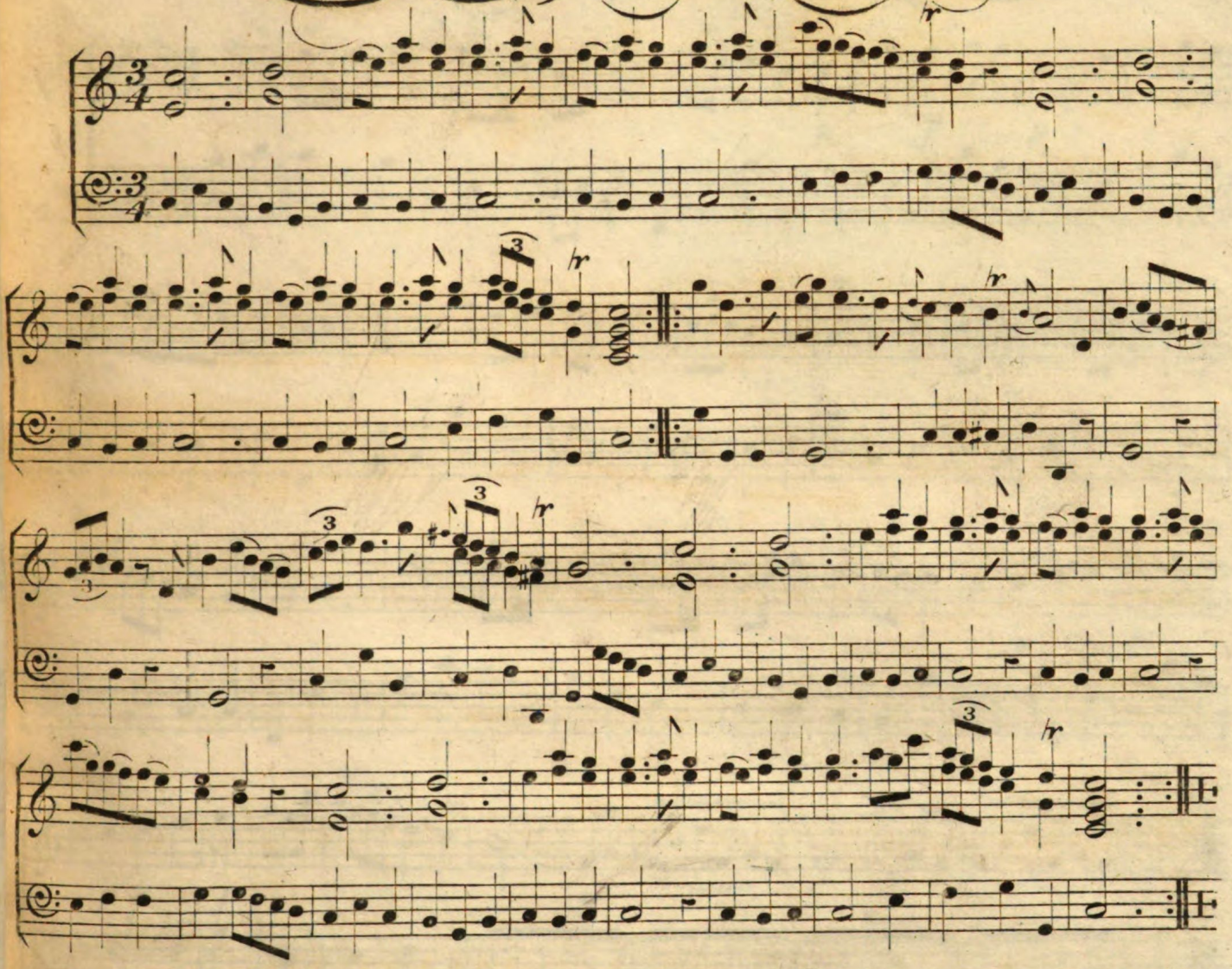
Lady Anne Barnards Minuet



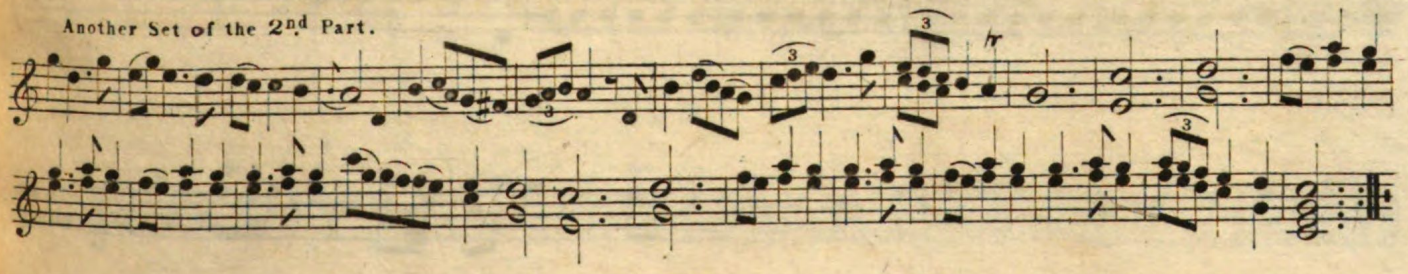
Lady Margaret Fordyce's Minuet.

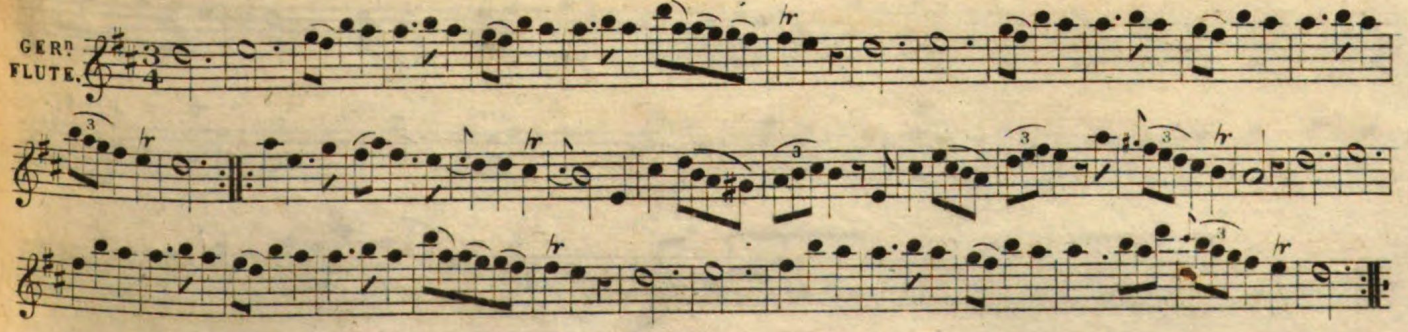


Lady Murray of Clermonts Minuet

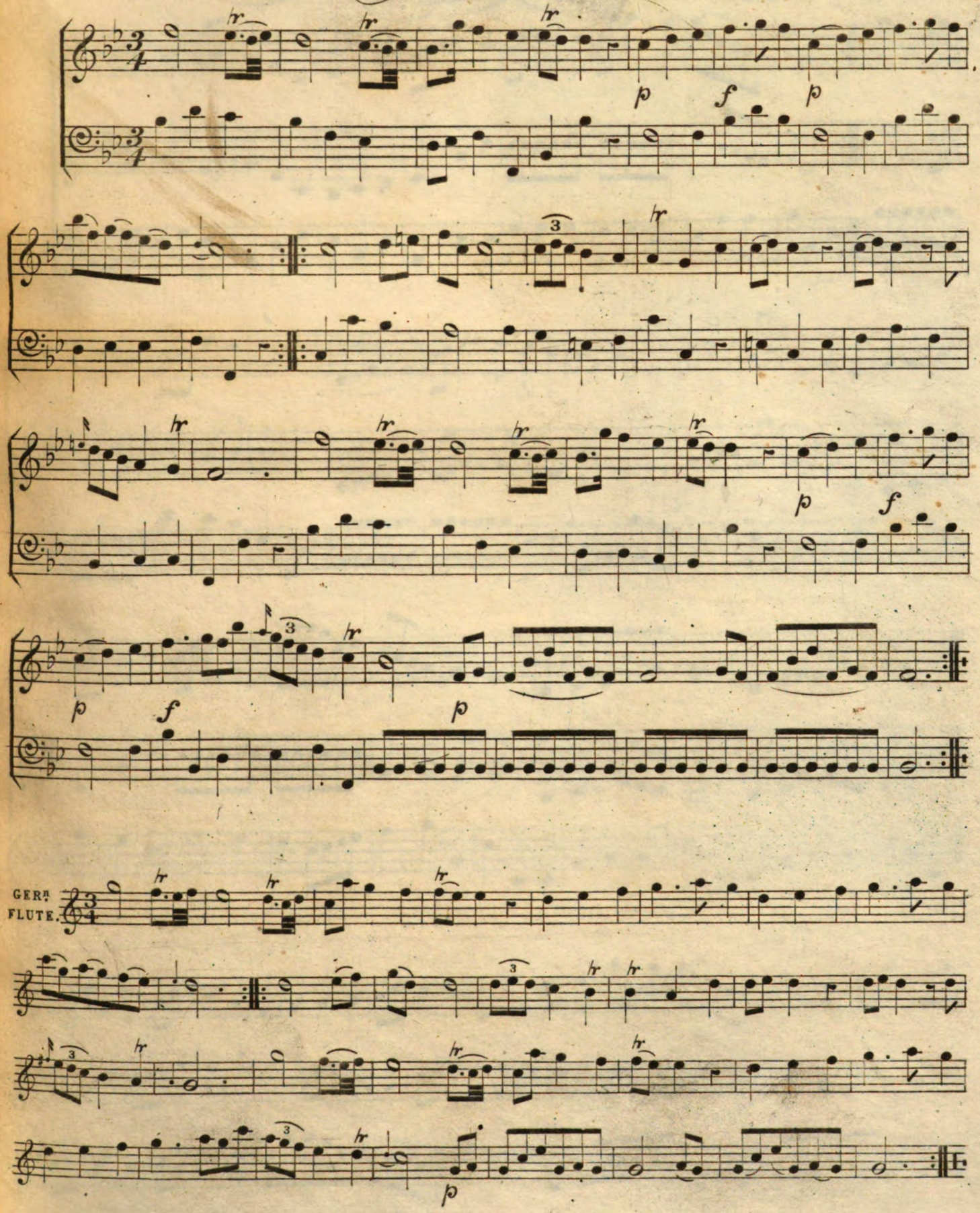


Another Set of the 2nd Part.

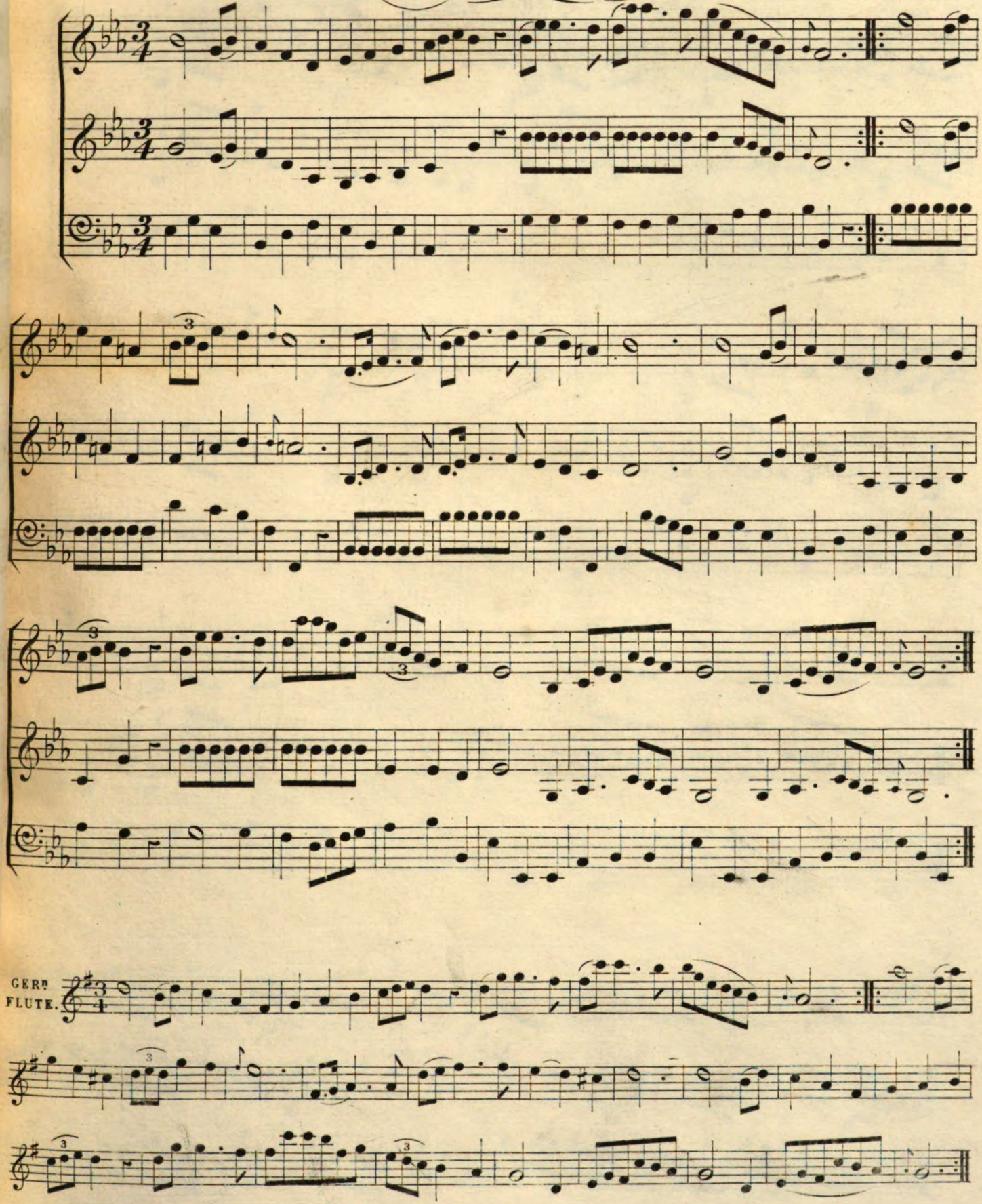




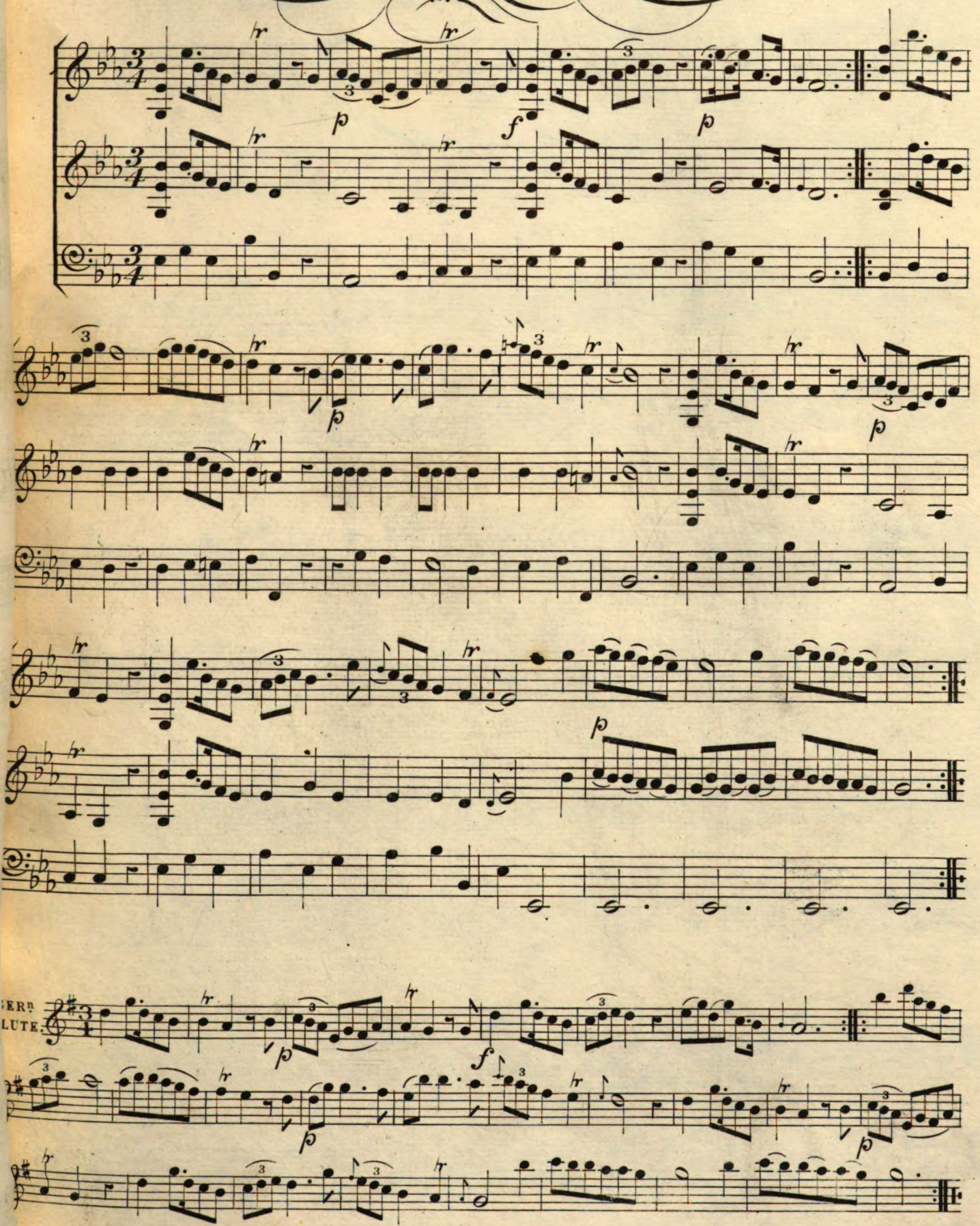
Lady Maxwell of Monreith's Minuet



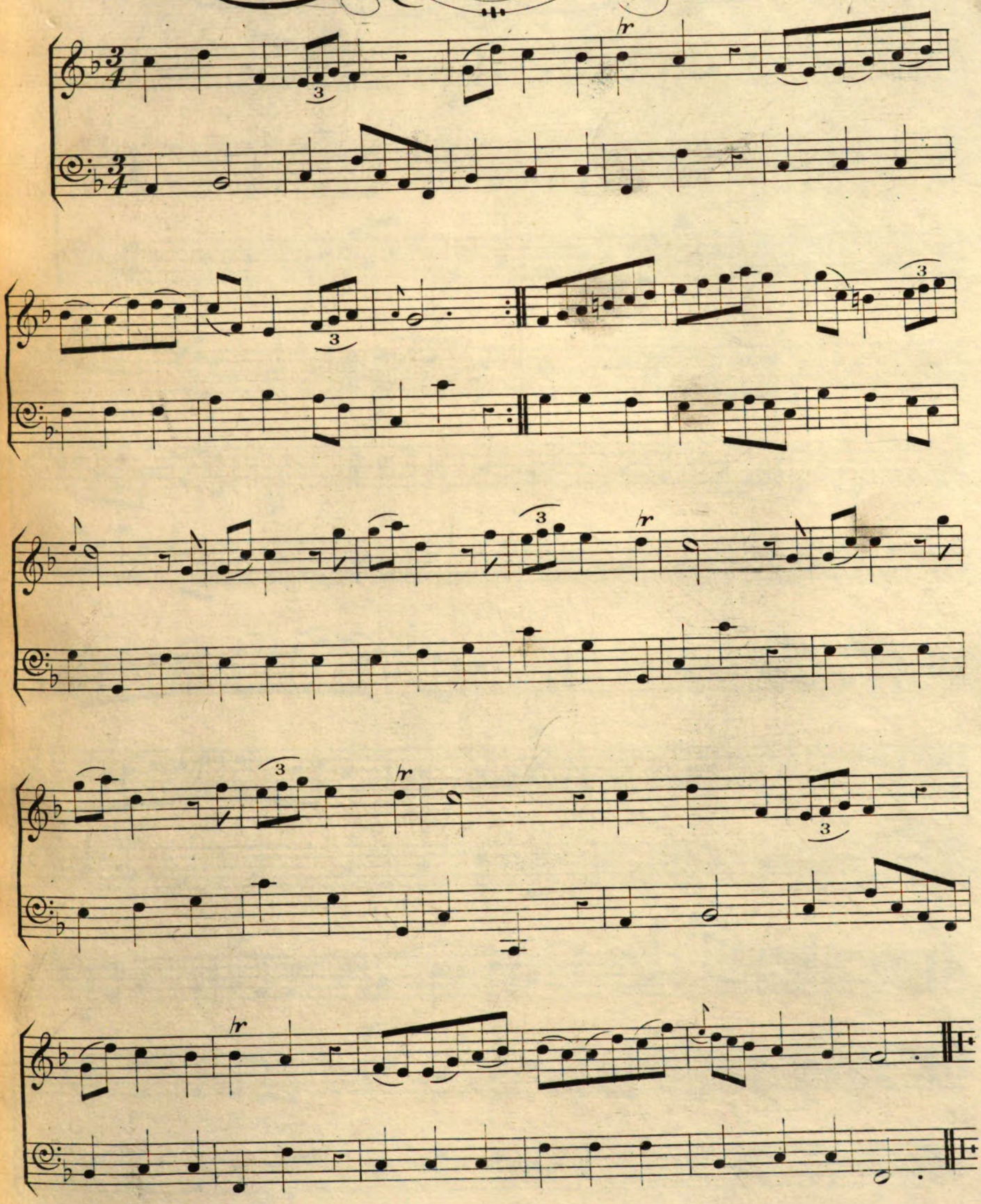
Lady Cunynghame of Livingstone's Minuet.



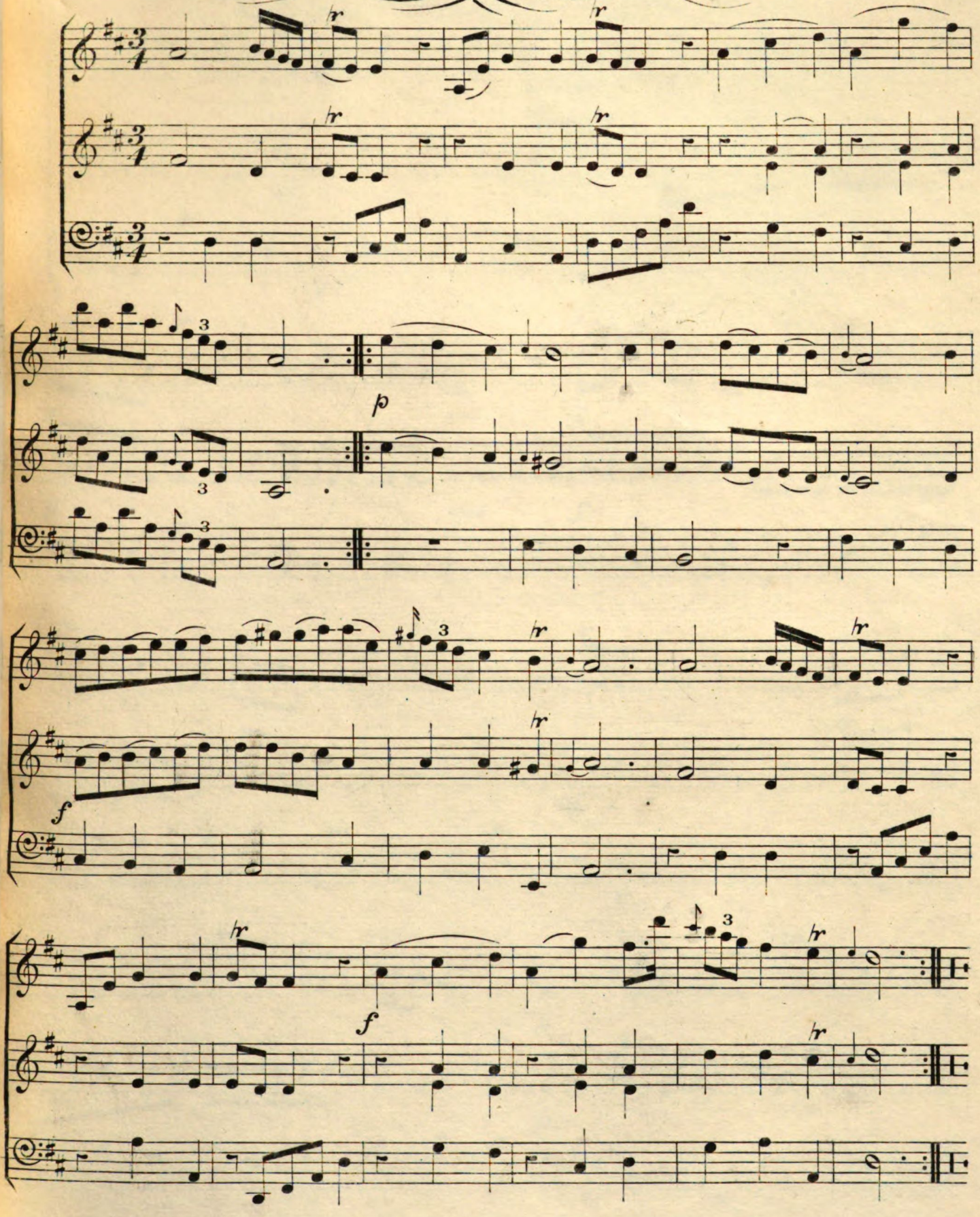
Lady Wallace of Craigies Minuet



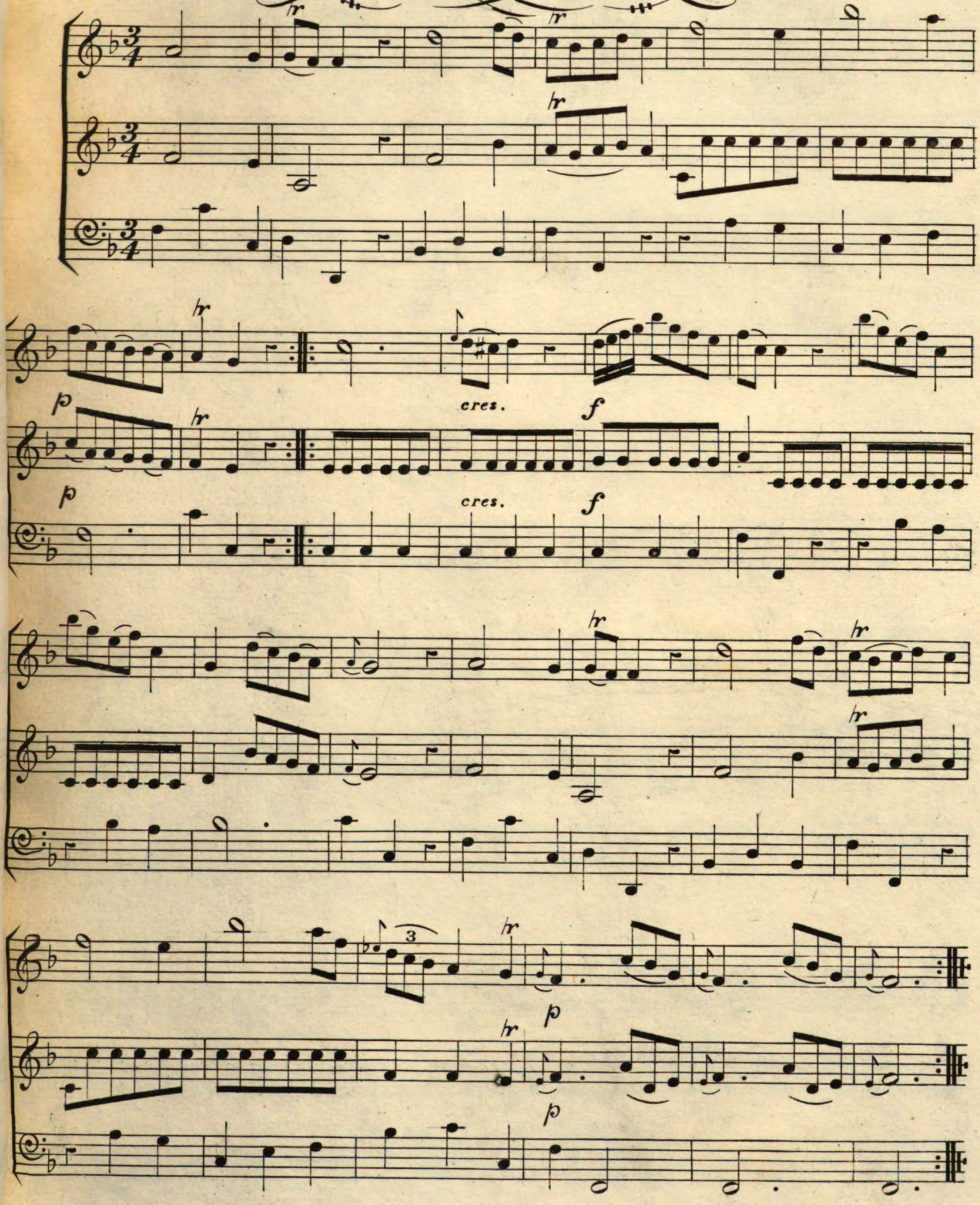
Mrs. Fordyce of Ayton's Minuet



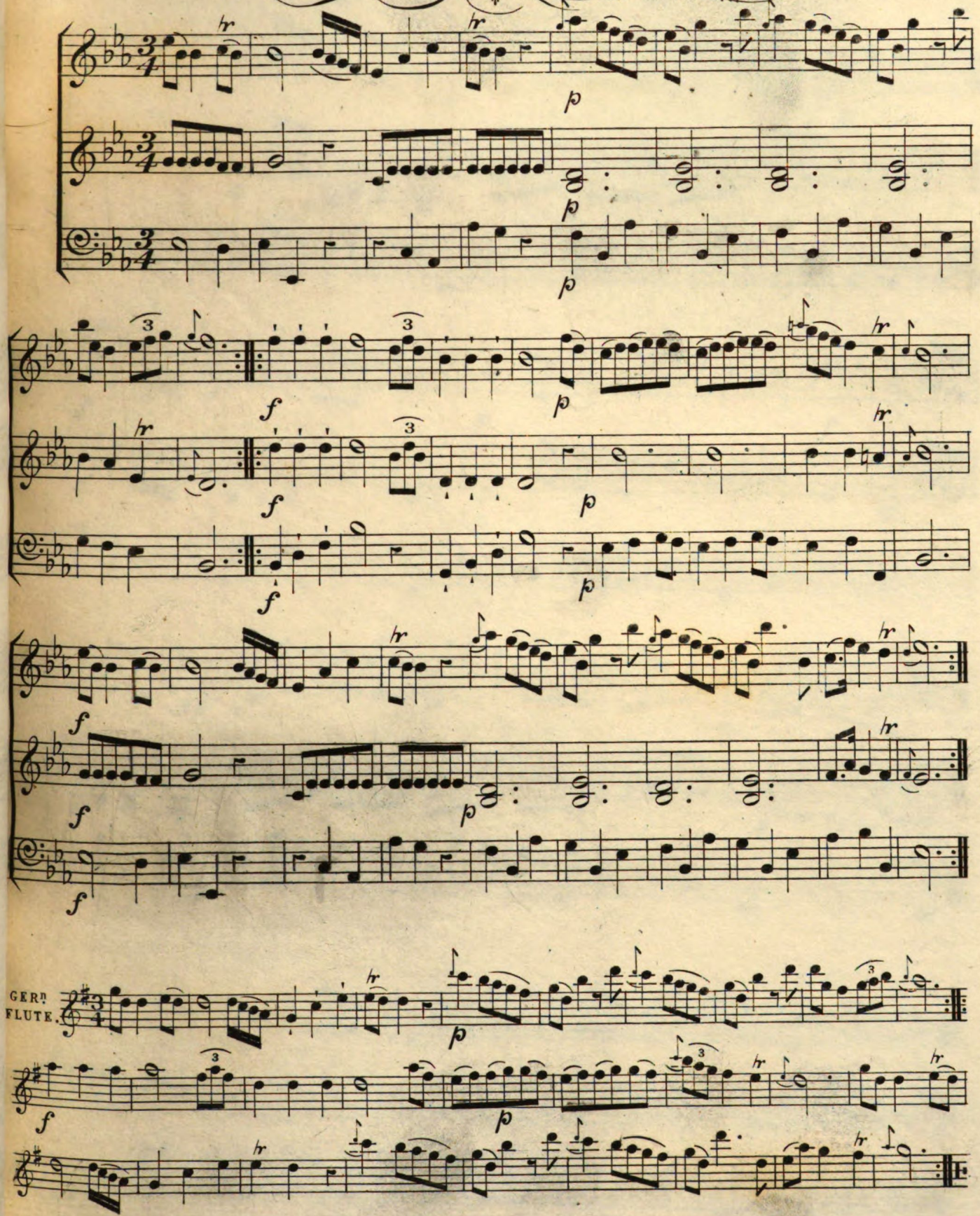
Mrs. Campbell of Shawfields Minuet



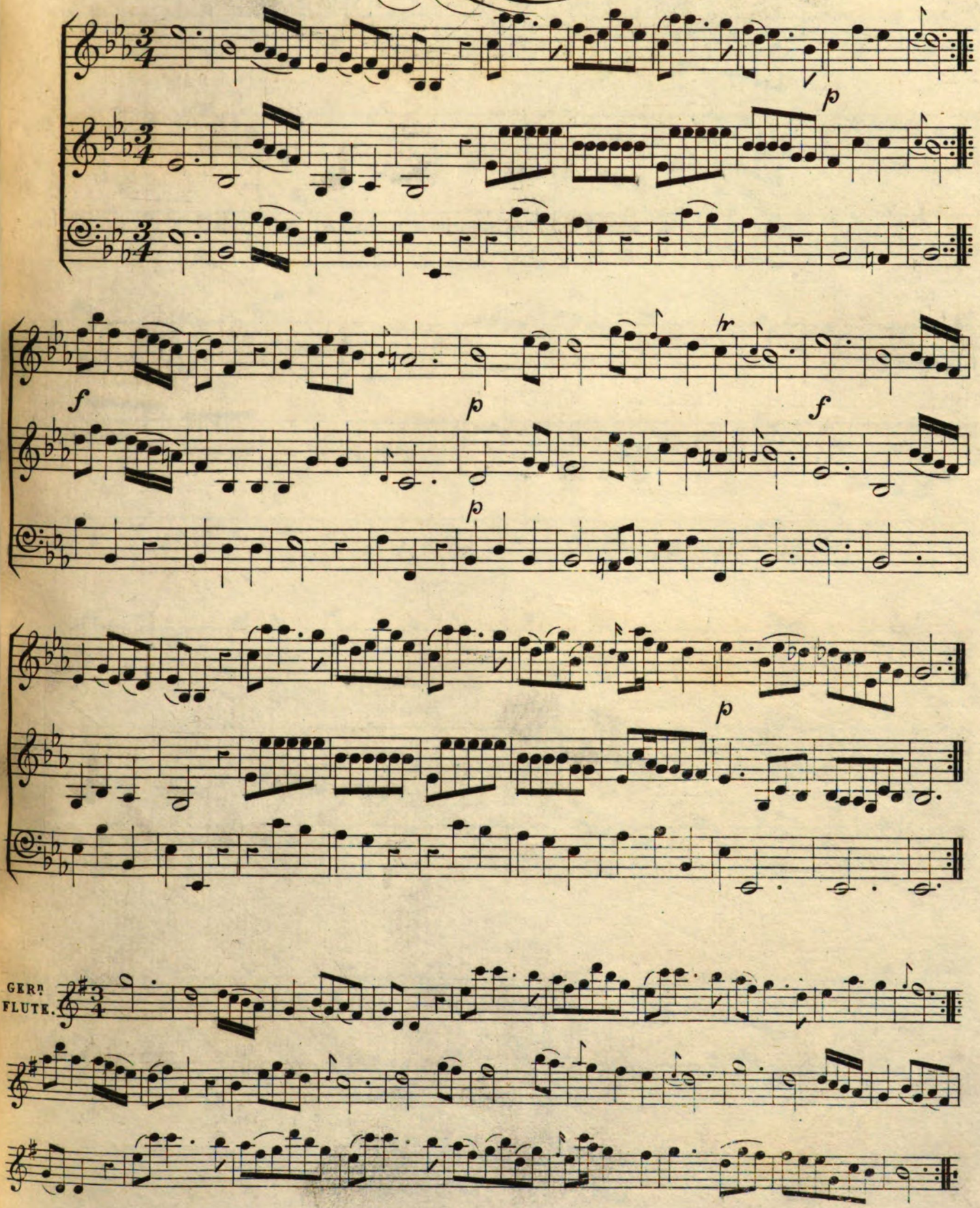
Mrs Houston of Johnstone's Minuet



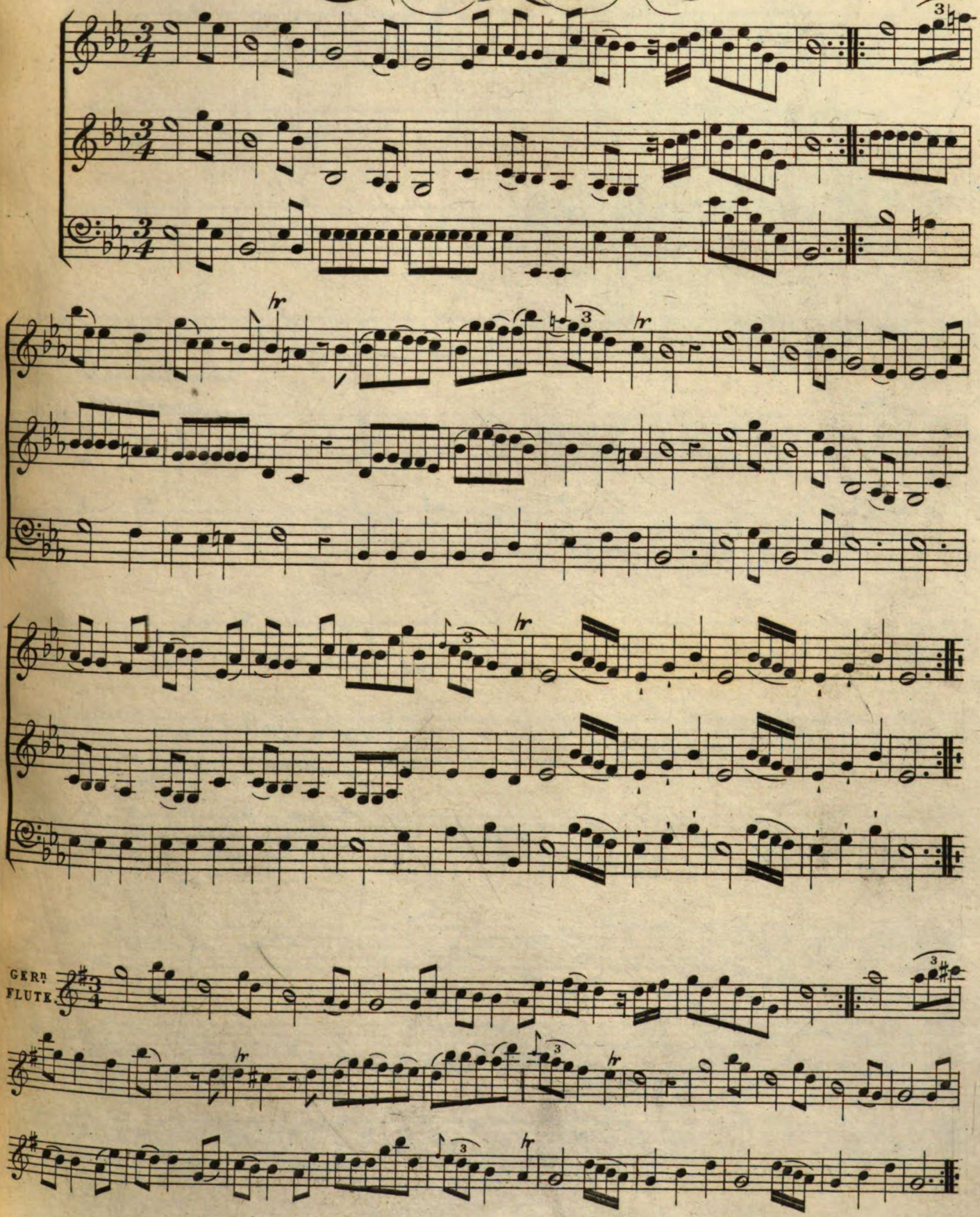
Mrs. Hamilton of Bangour's Minuet



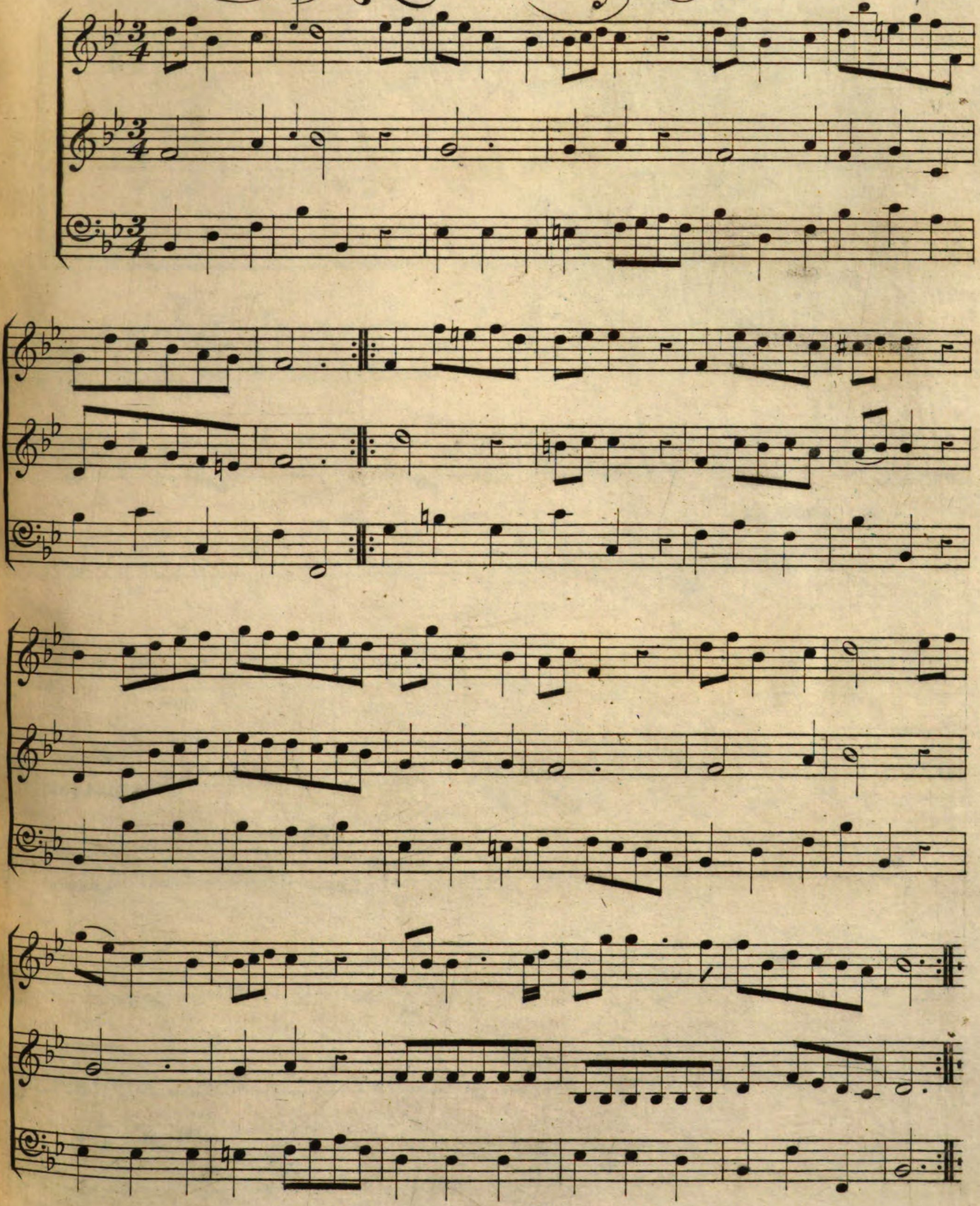
Mrs General Morris's Minuet.



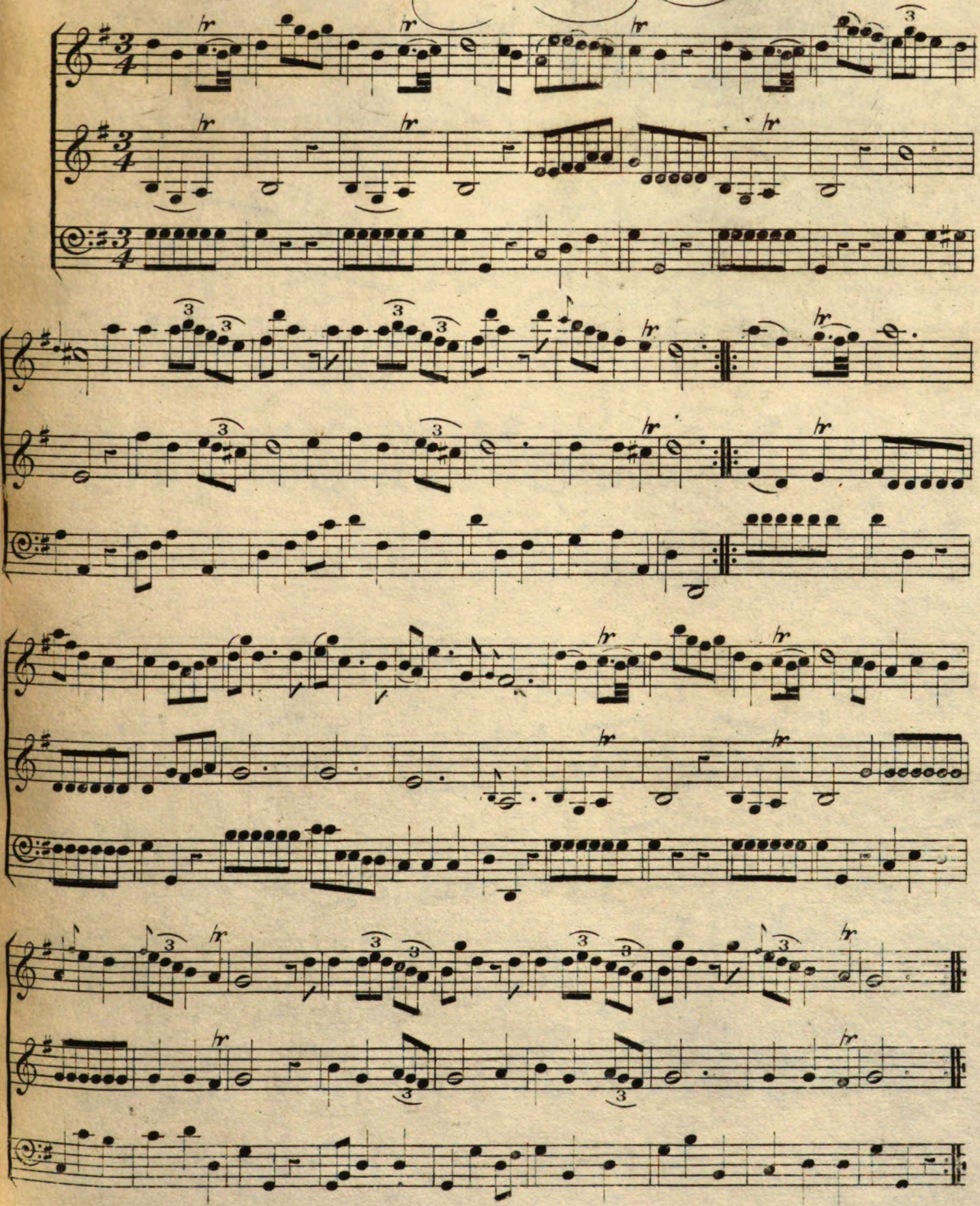
Mrs. Cummings Minuet



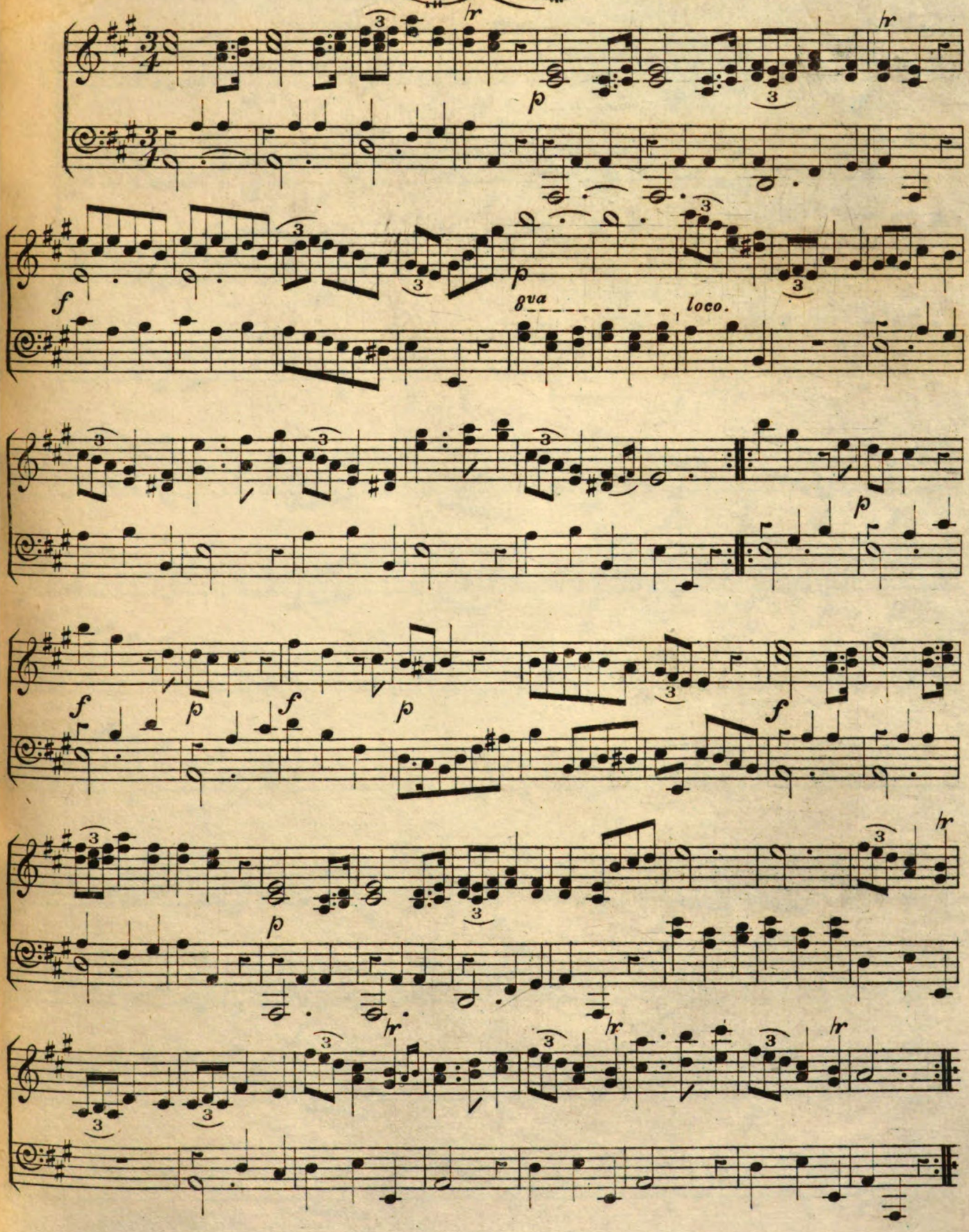
Mrs. Nicolsons Minuet



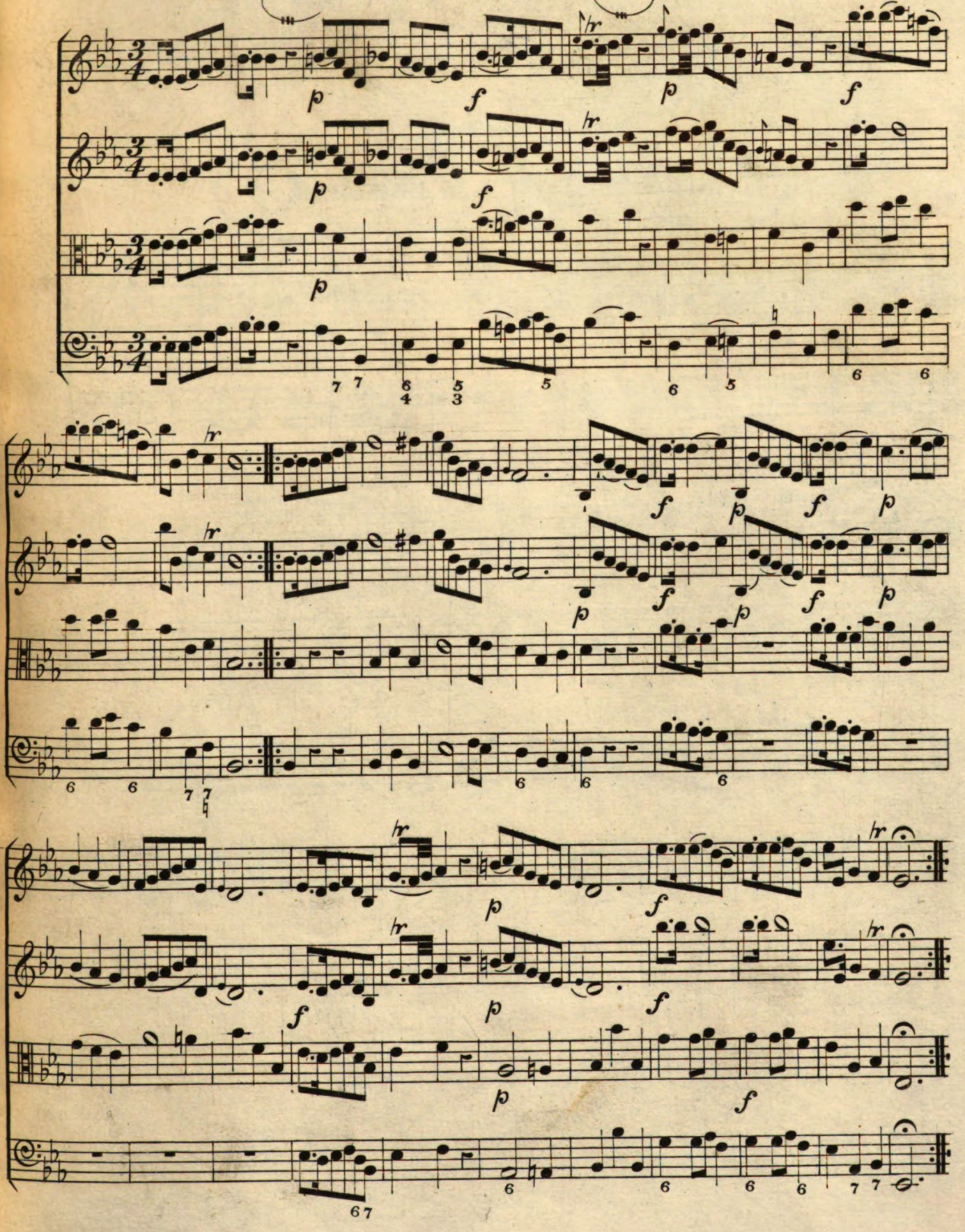
Minuet



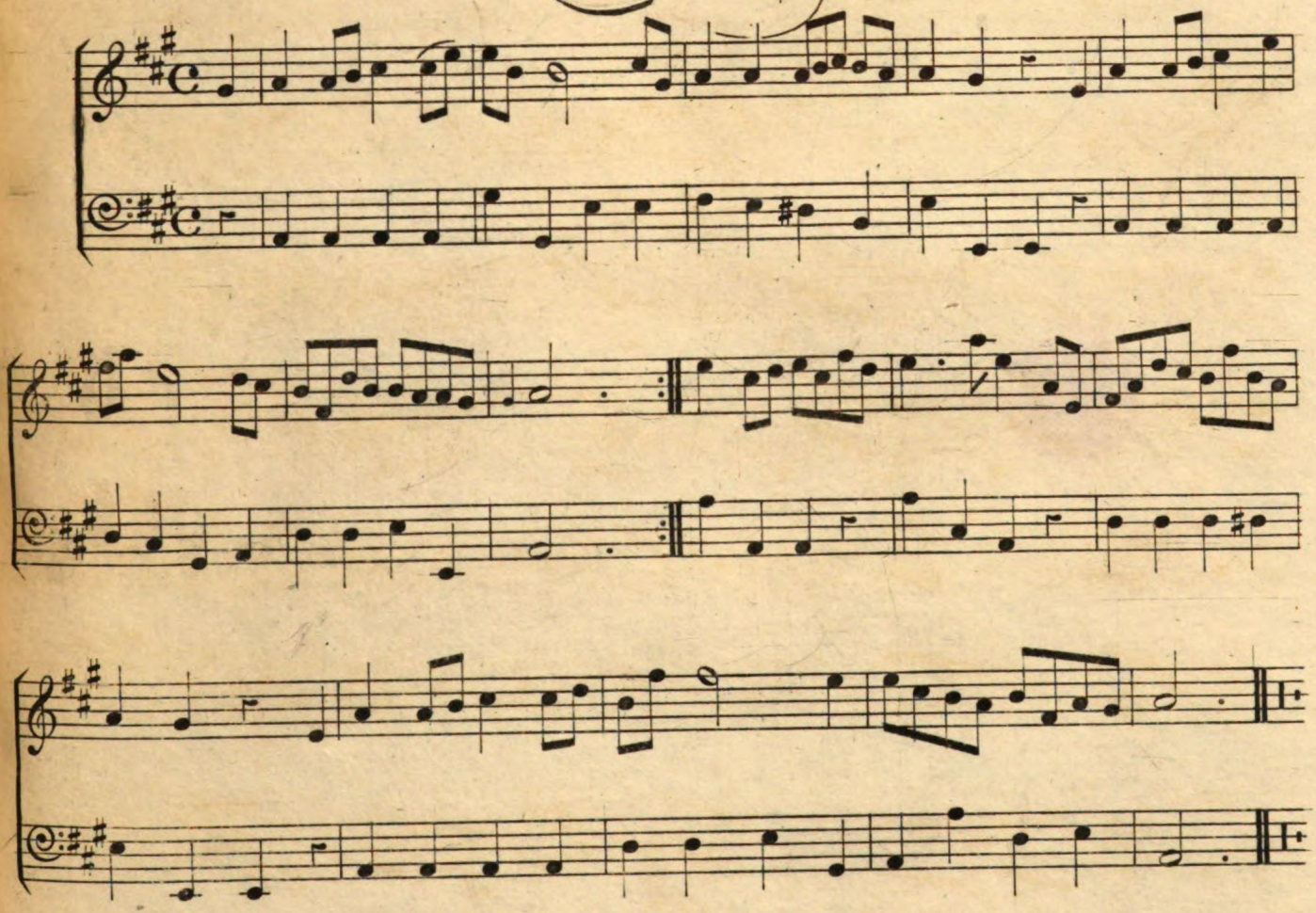
Minuet



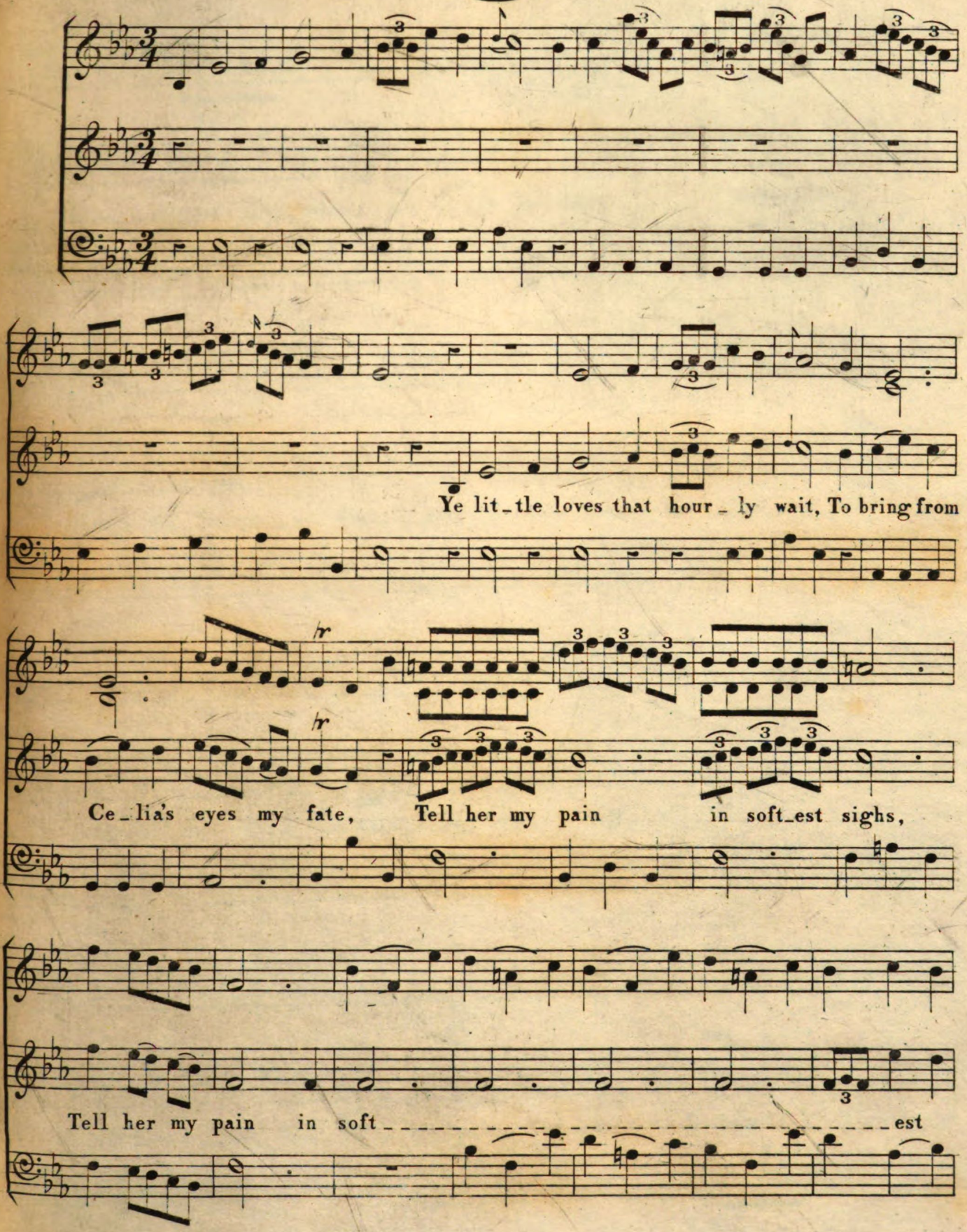
Minuet from Stamitz's Quartets

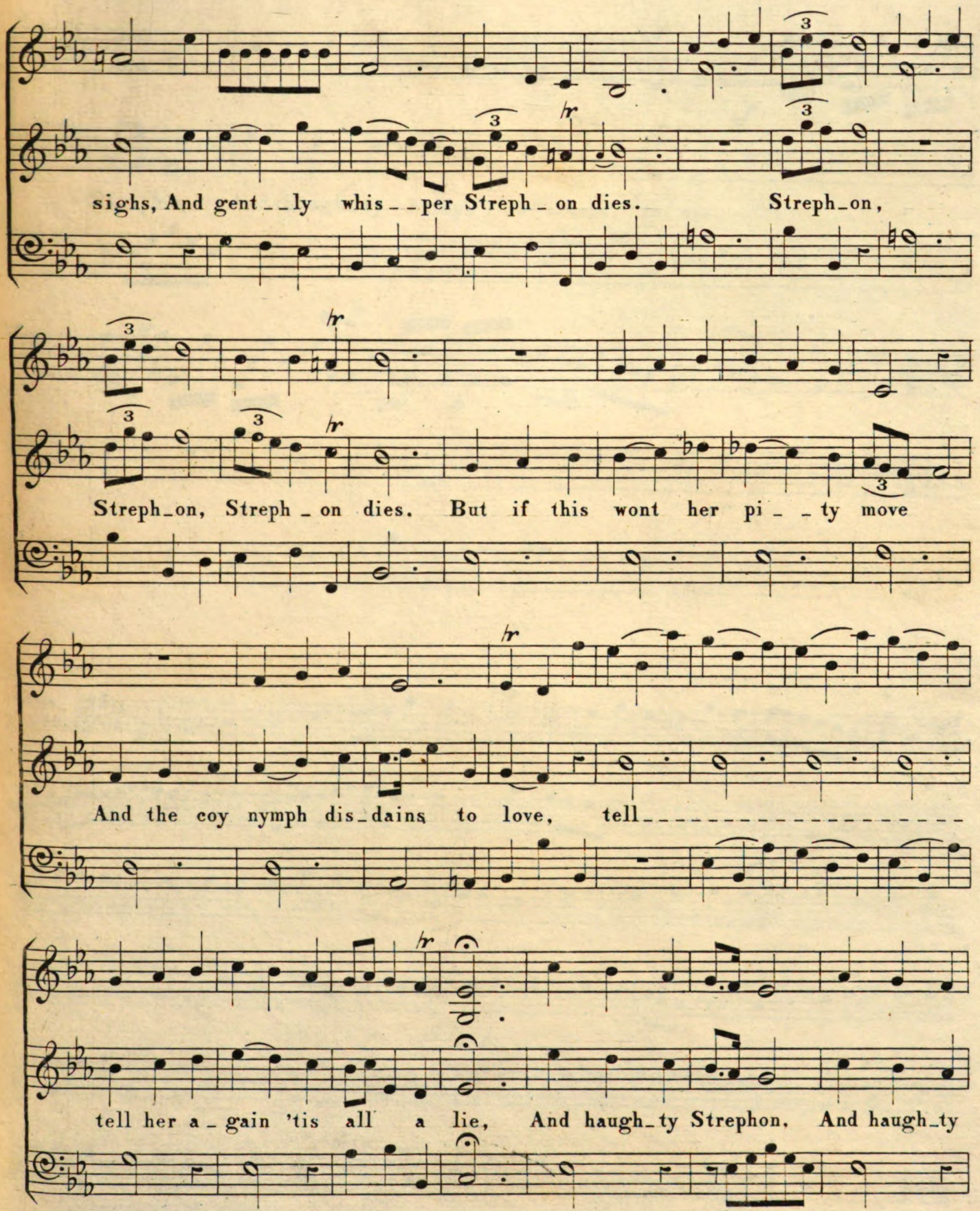


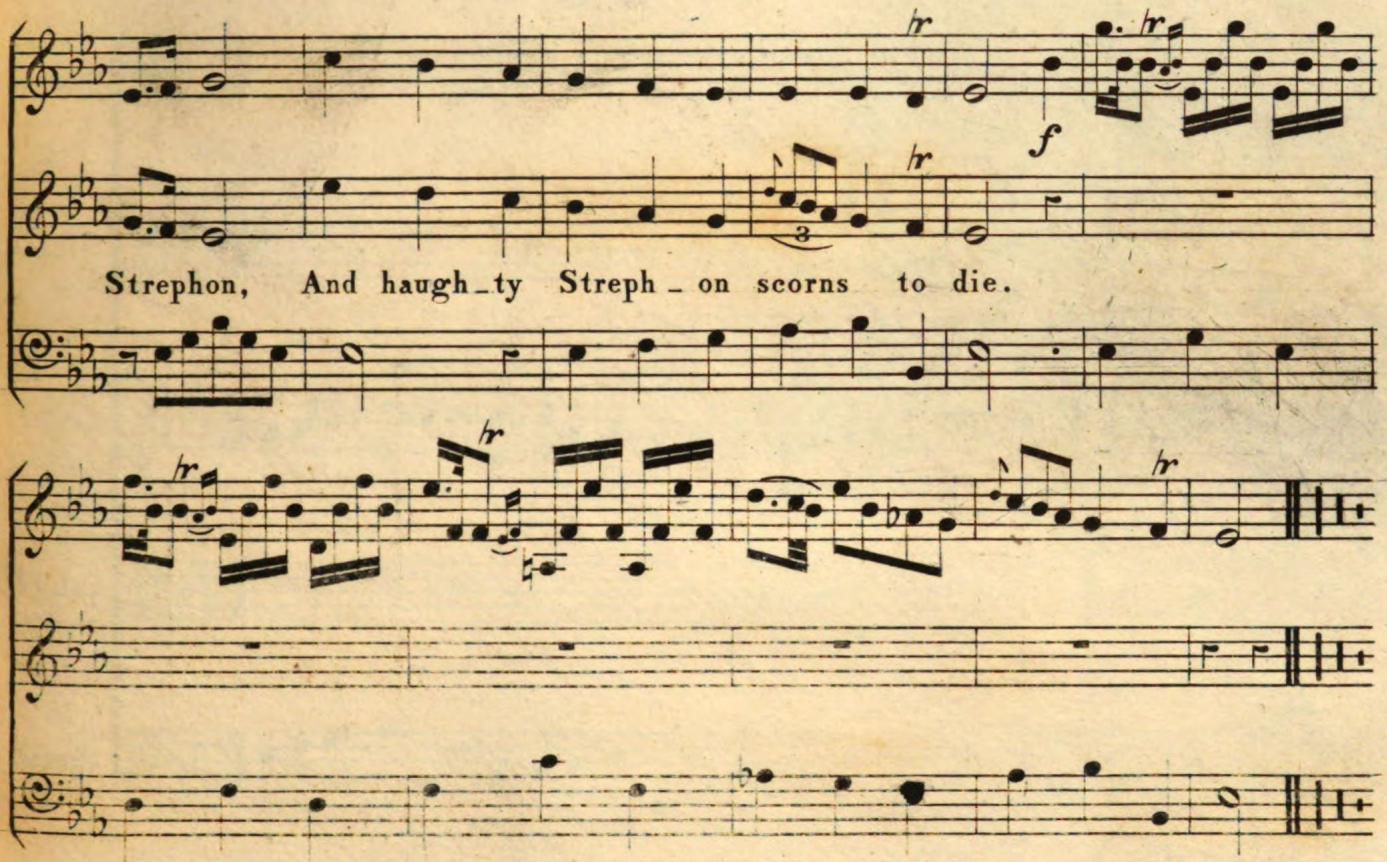
Imitation of a Scottish Tune

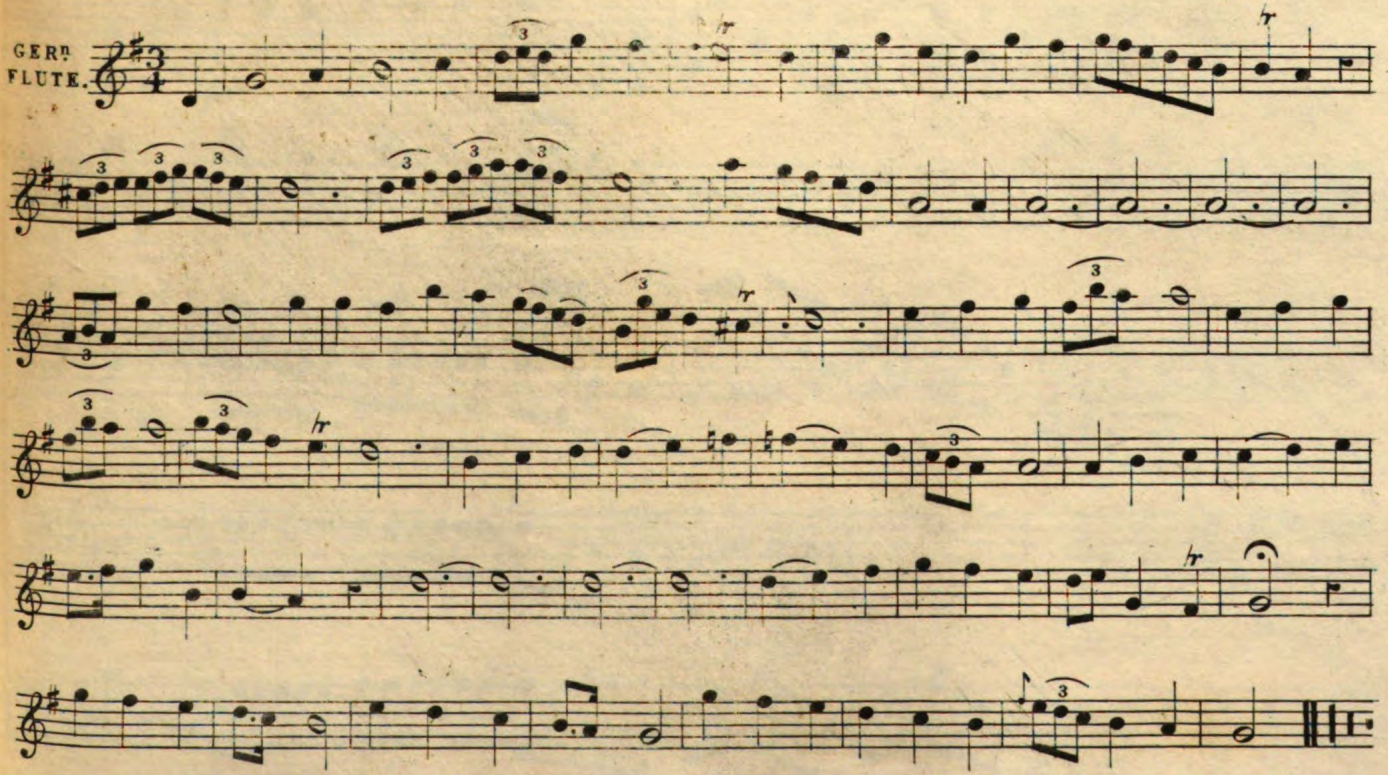


The Lovers Melsage

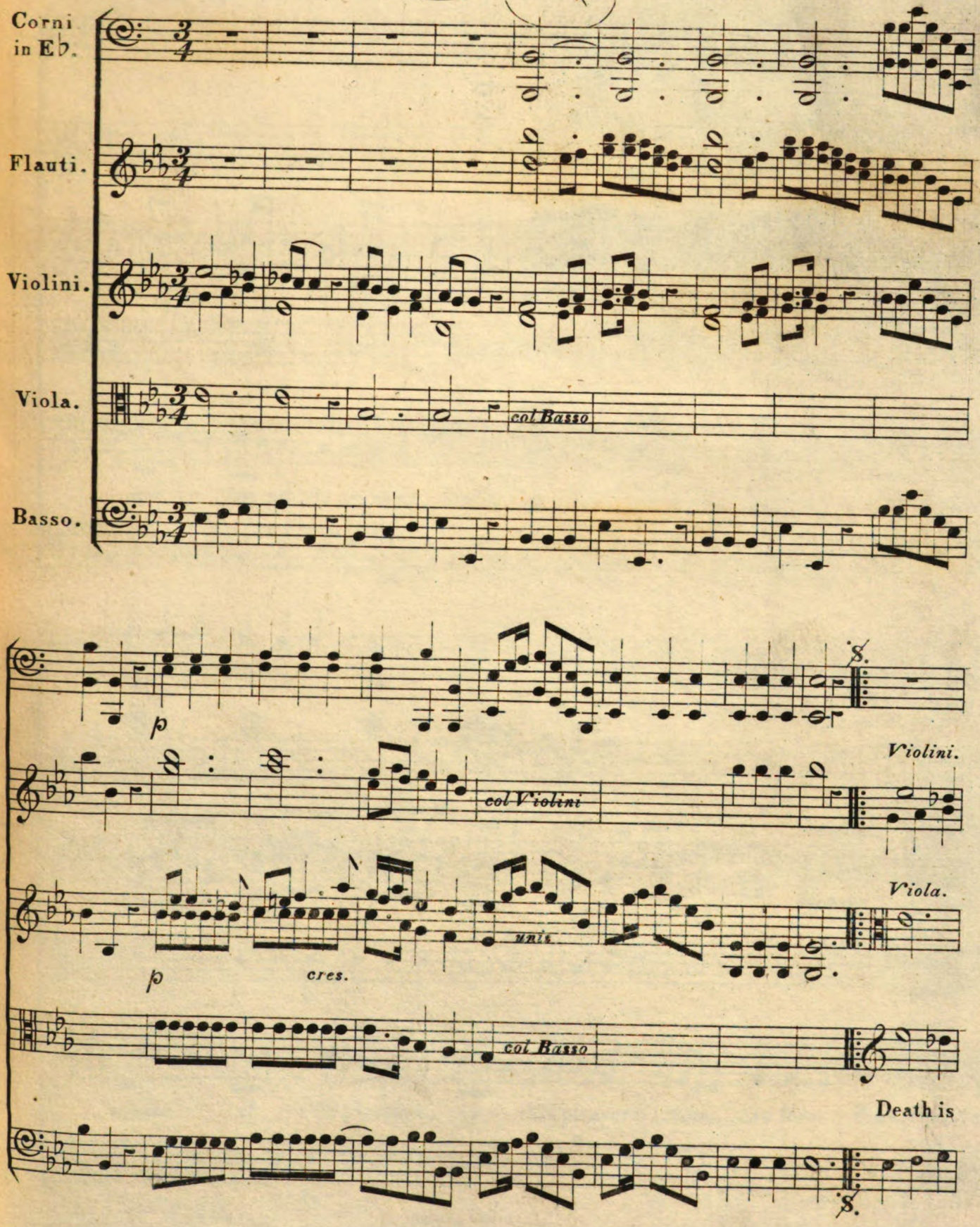


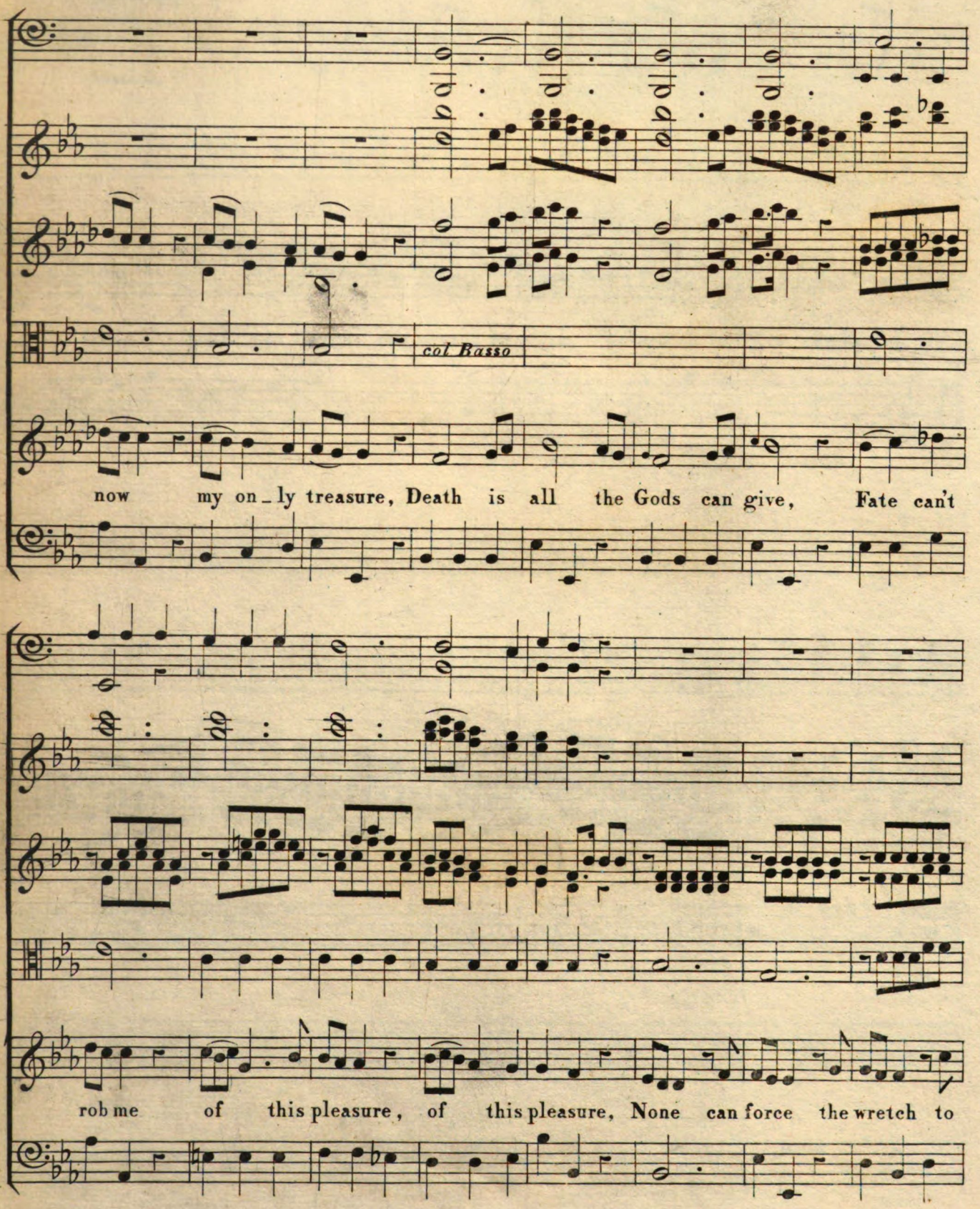

sighs, And gent__ly whis__per Streph_on dies. Streph_on,
Streph_on, Streph_on dies. But if this wont her pi__ty move
And the coy nymph dis_dains to love, tell
tell her a_gain 'tis all a lie, And haugh_ty Strephon, And haugh_ty

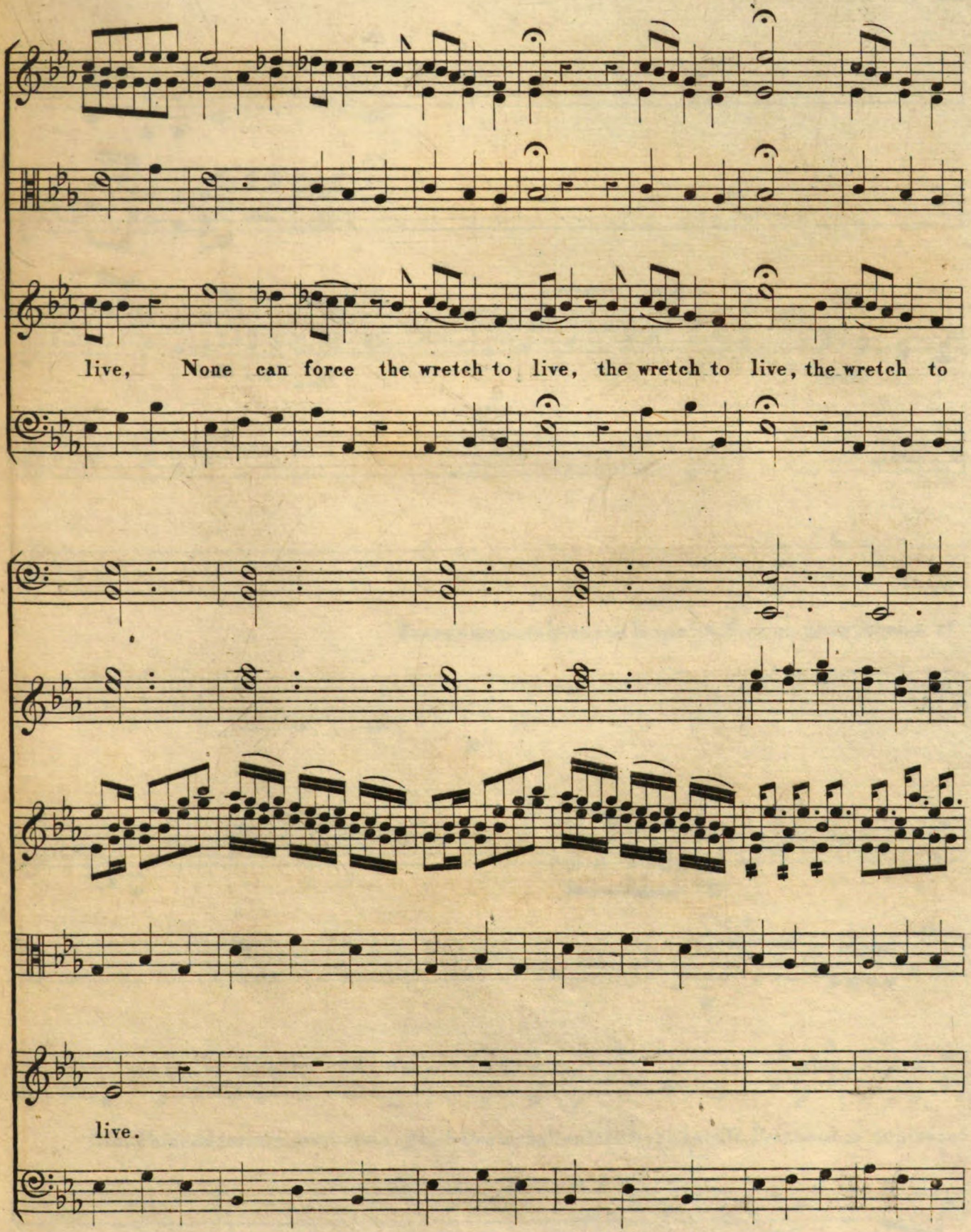

f
Strephon, And haugh_ty Streph_on scorns to die.

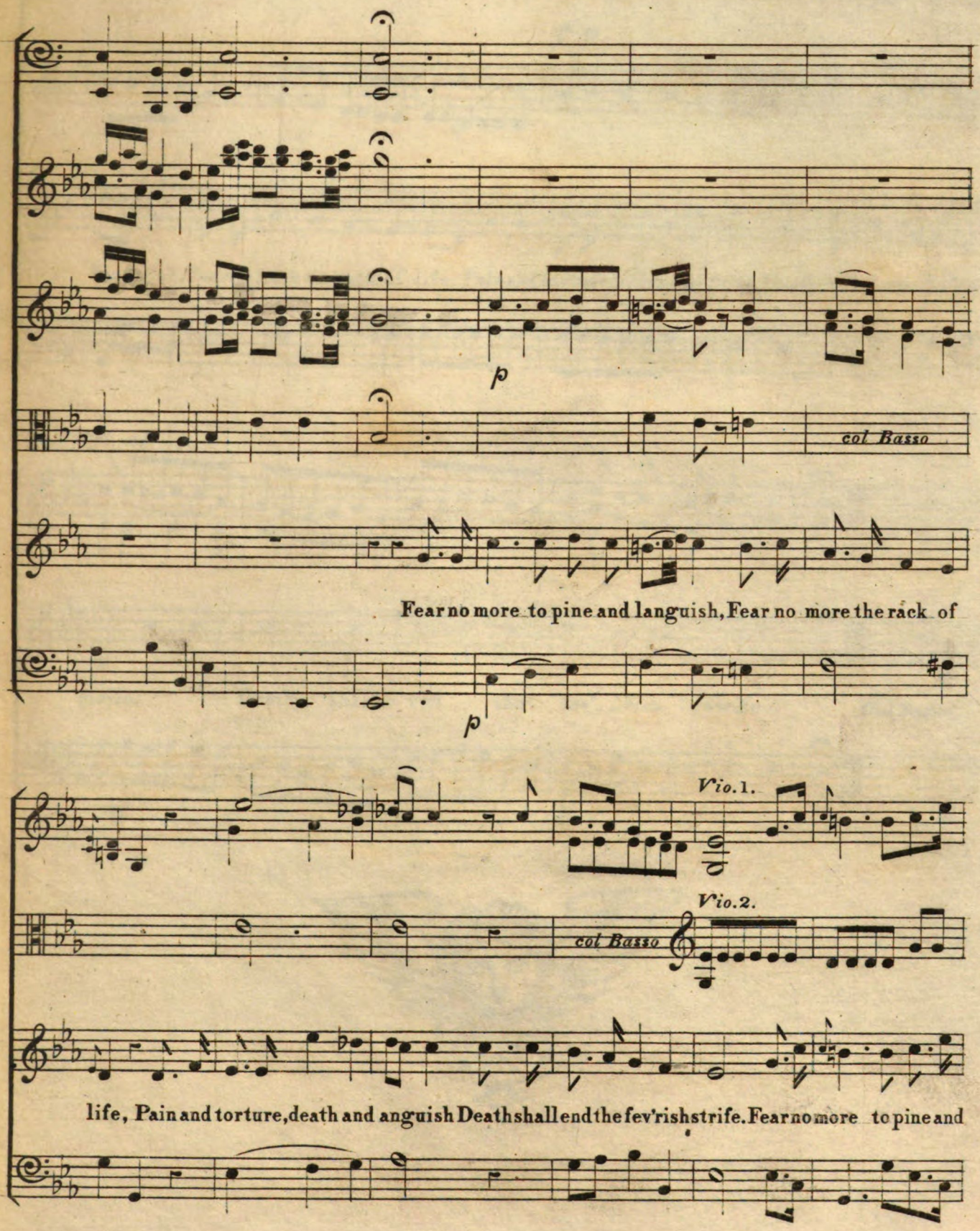

GERM
FLUTE.

Death is now my only Treasure




col Basso
now my on_ly treasure, Death is all the Gods can give, Fate can't
rob me of this pleasure, of this pleasure, None can force the wretch to


live, None can force the wretch to live, the wretch to live, the wretch to
live.


p
col Basso
Fear no more to pine and languish, Fear no more the rack of
p
Vio. 1.
Vio. 2.
col Basso
life, Pain and torture, death and anguish Death shall end the fev'rish strife. Fear no more to pine and

f *p*

languish, Fear no more the rack of life, Pain and torture, toil and anguish, Death shall end the fev'rish

vv *mf*

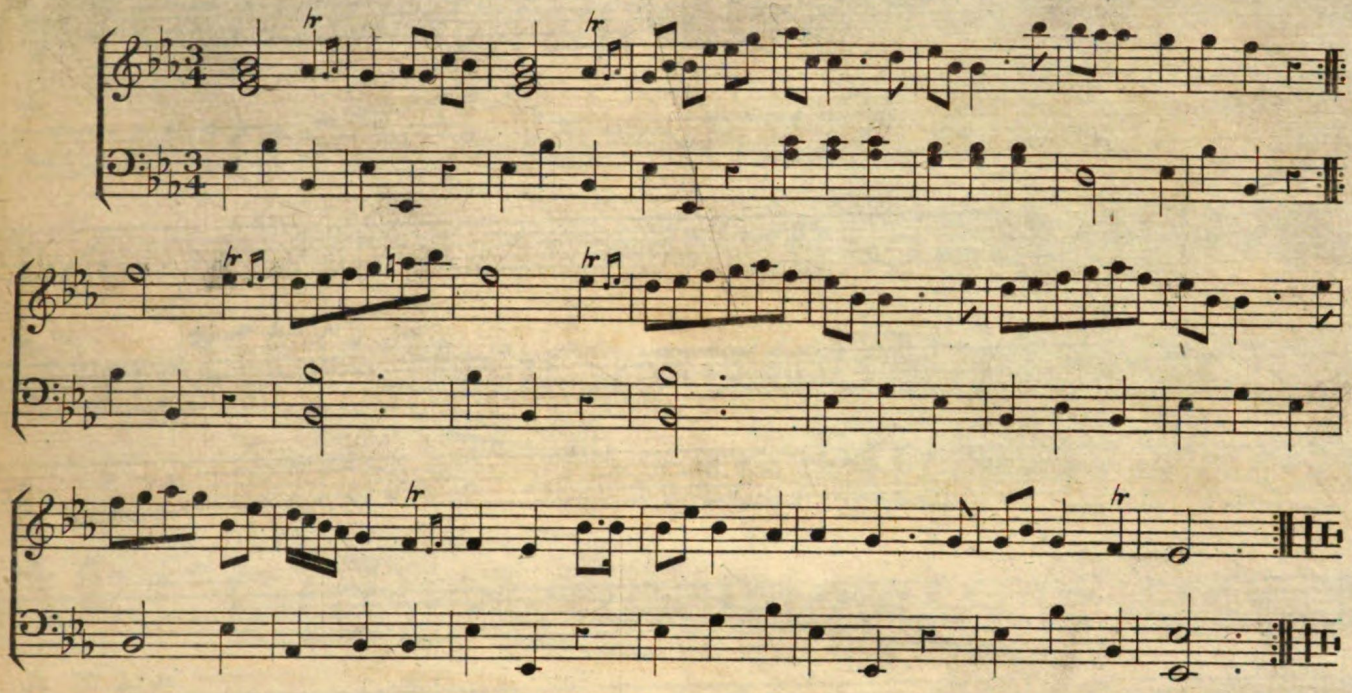
p

strife. Death shall end the fev'_ _rish strife. *Dal Segno.*

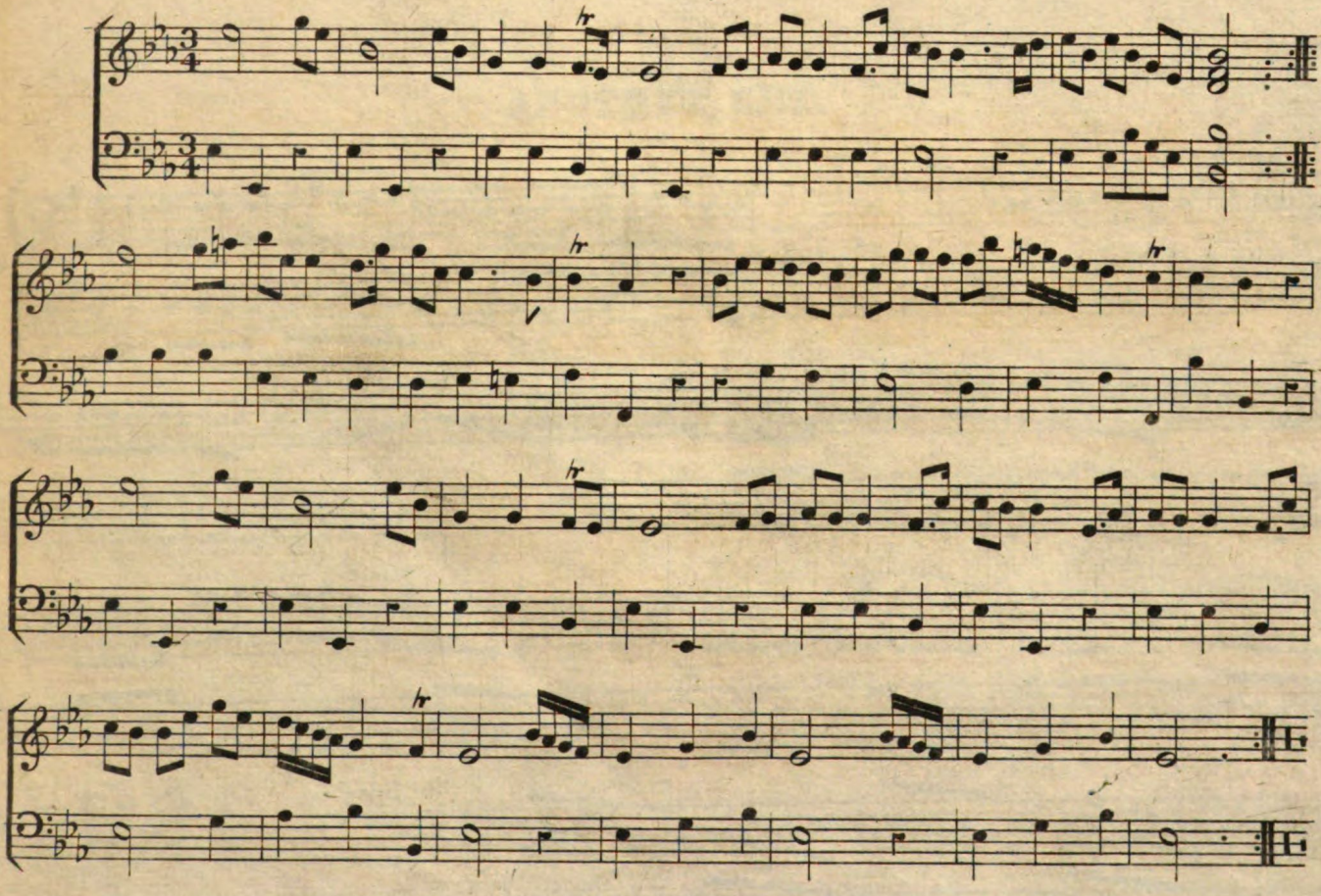
mf *p*

THE DUCHESS OF GORDON'S MINUET

The following Sets vary a little from numbers 1 and 16.

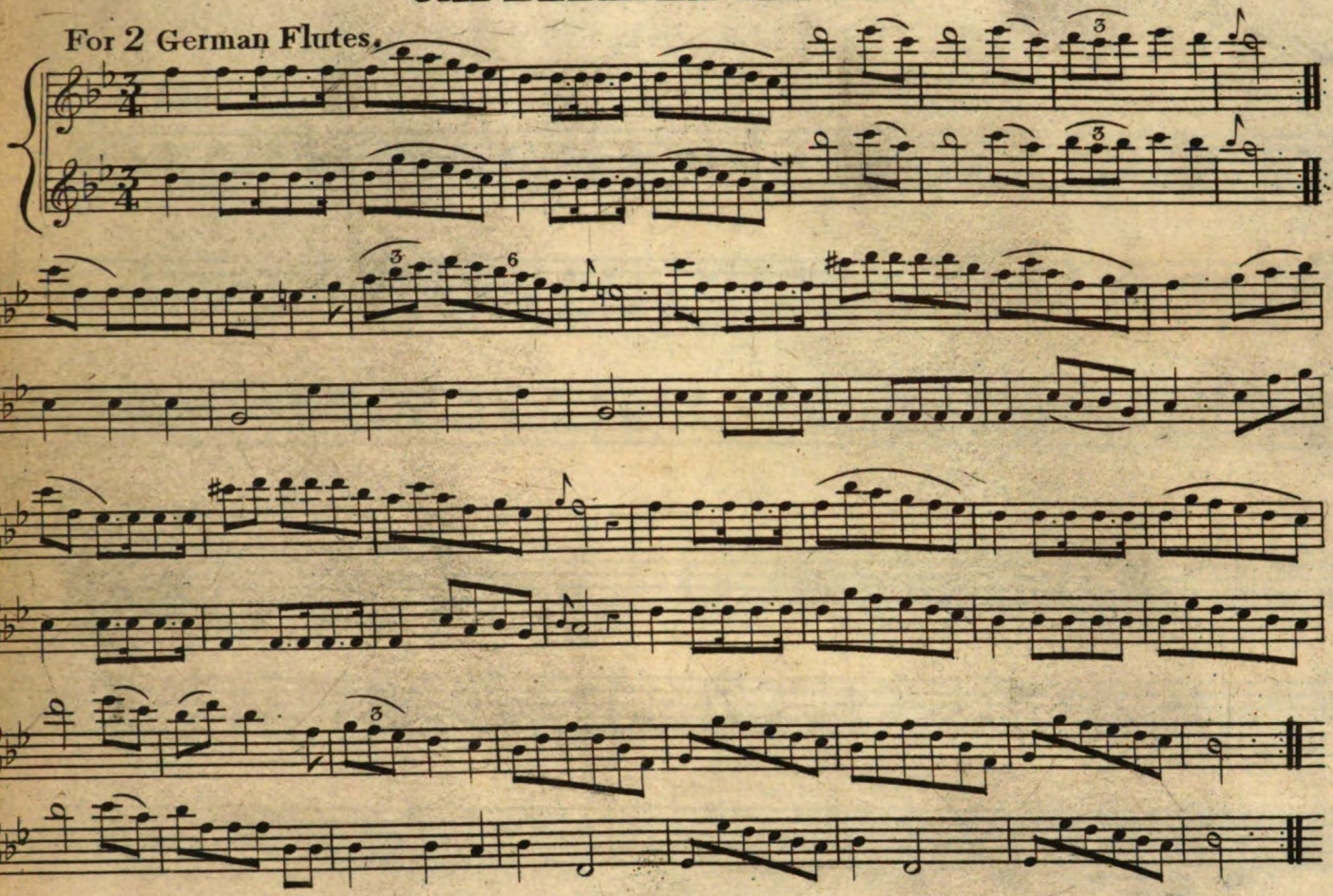


Mrs. CUMMING'S MINUET

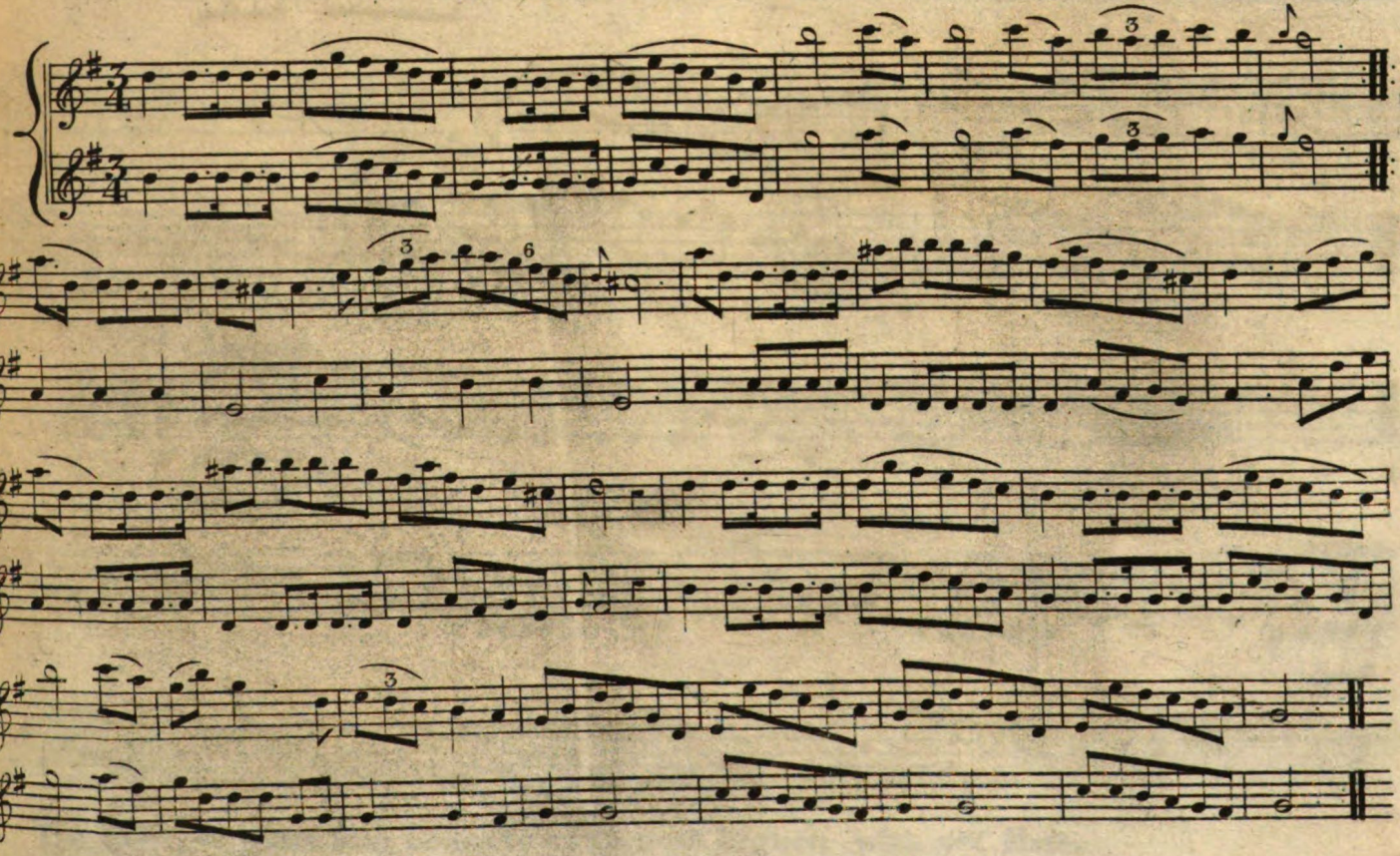


CAPELLAIRE MINUET.

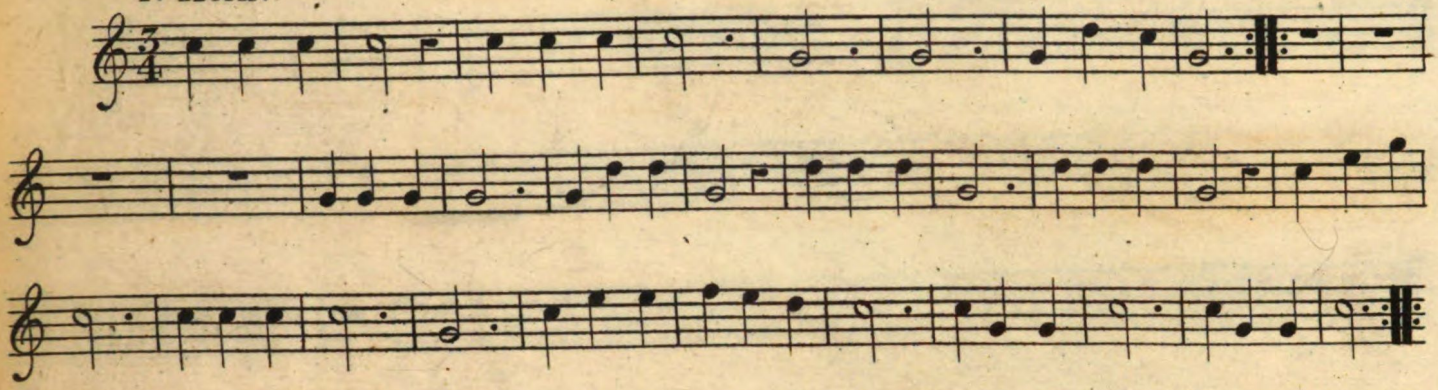
For 2 German Flutes.



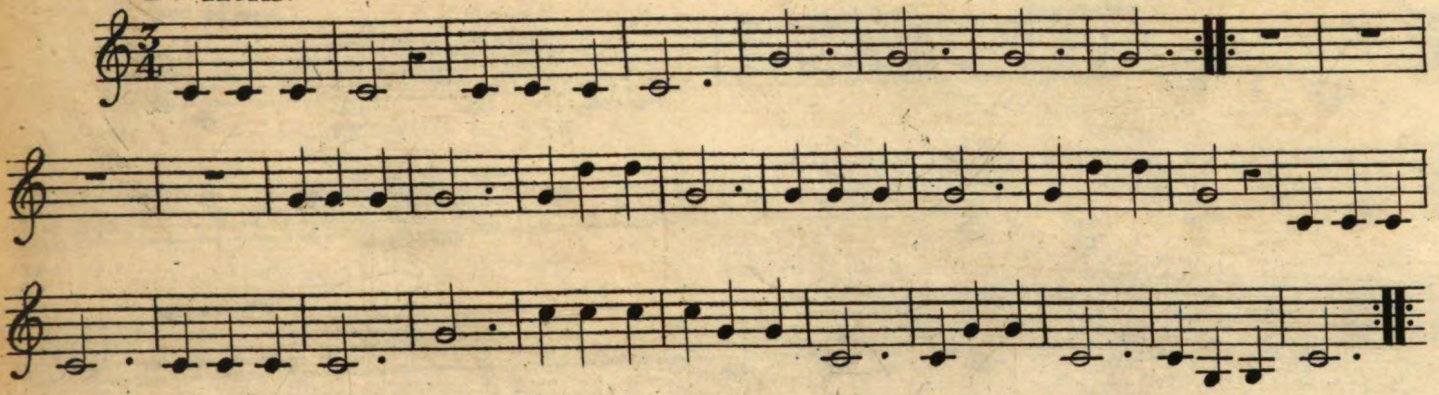
ANOTHER SET.



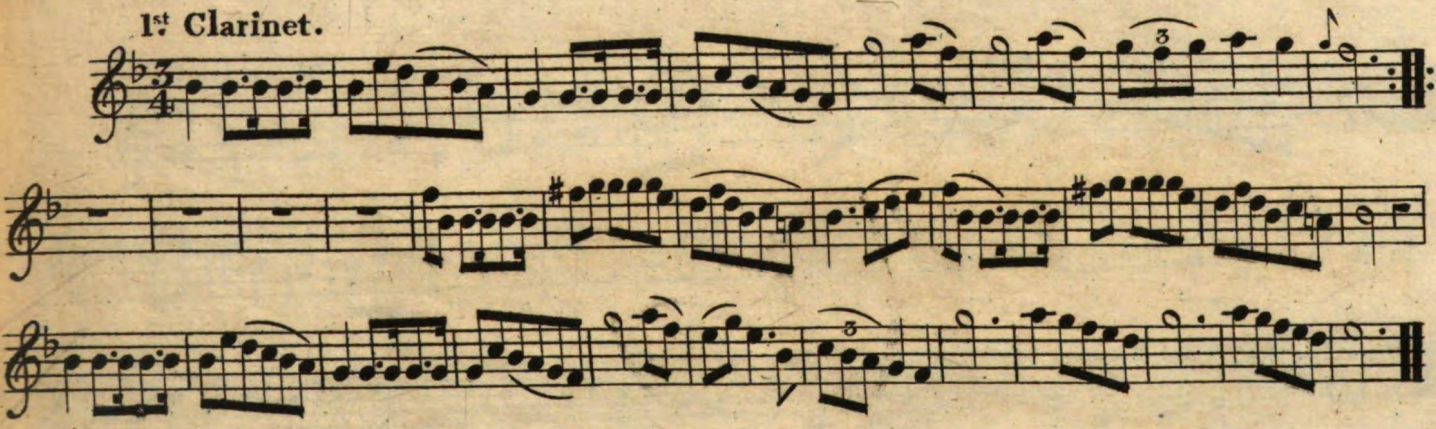
1st Horn.



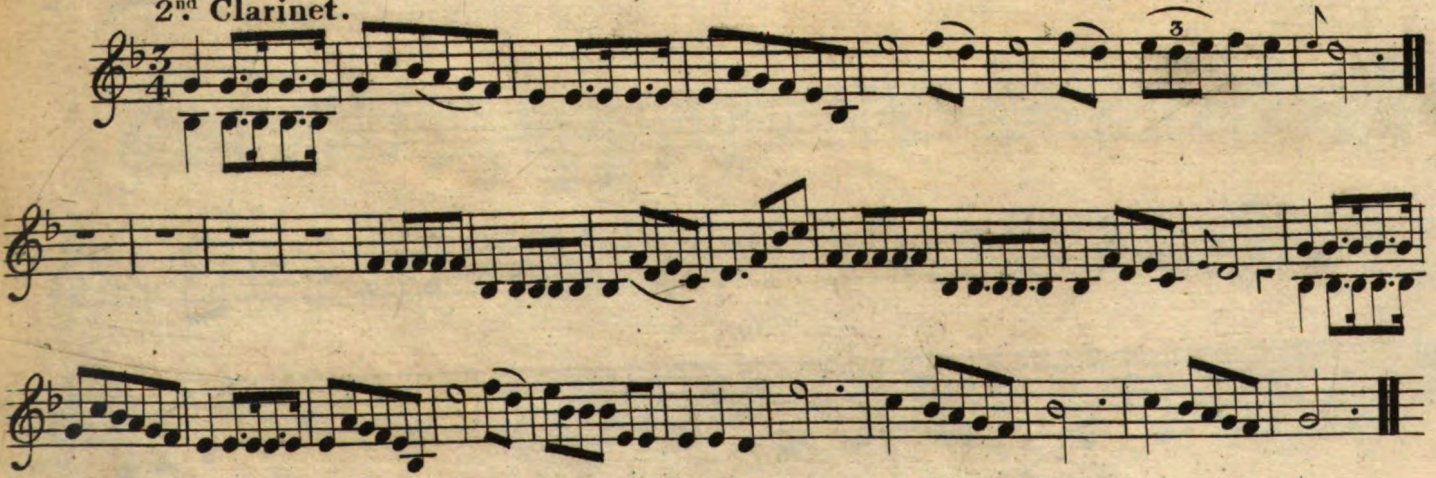
2nd Horn.



1st Clarinet.



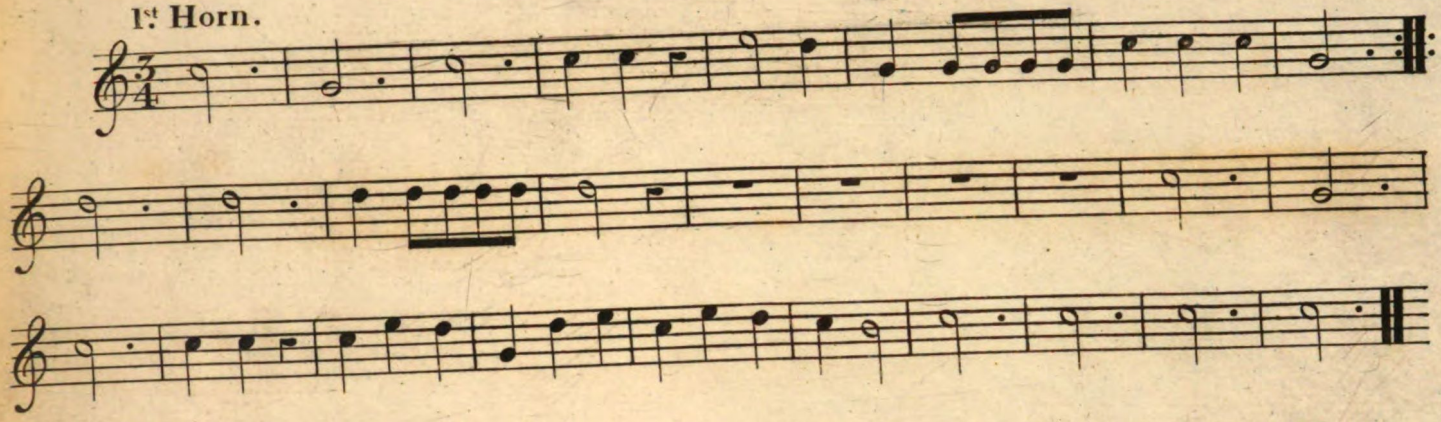
2nd Clarinet.



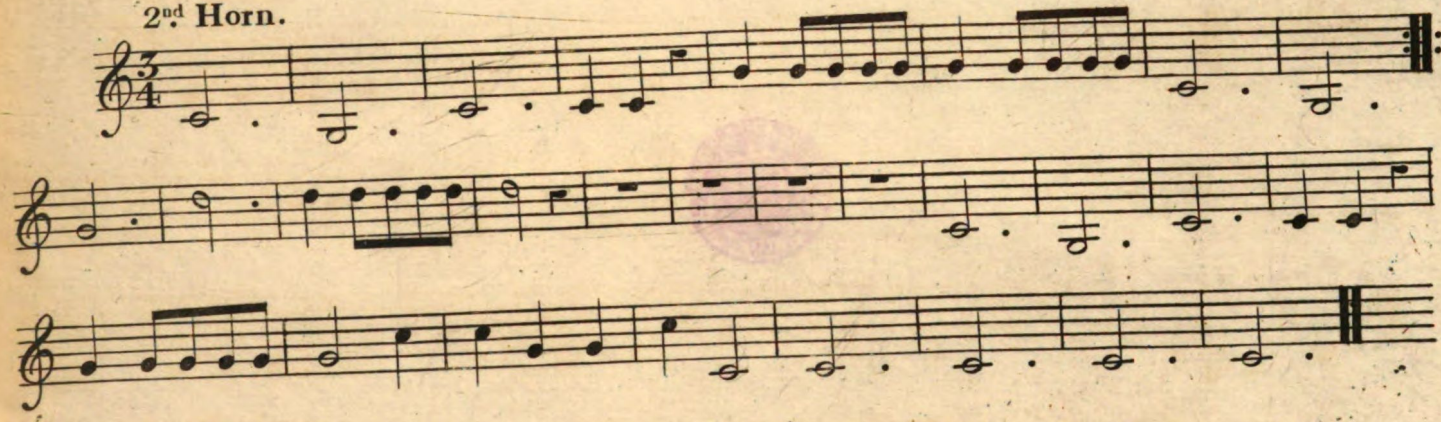
The Clarinet parts may be wrote out a note higher, with six flats.

LADY CUNYNGHAM'S MINUET.

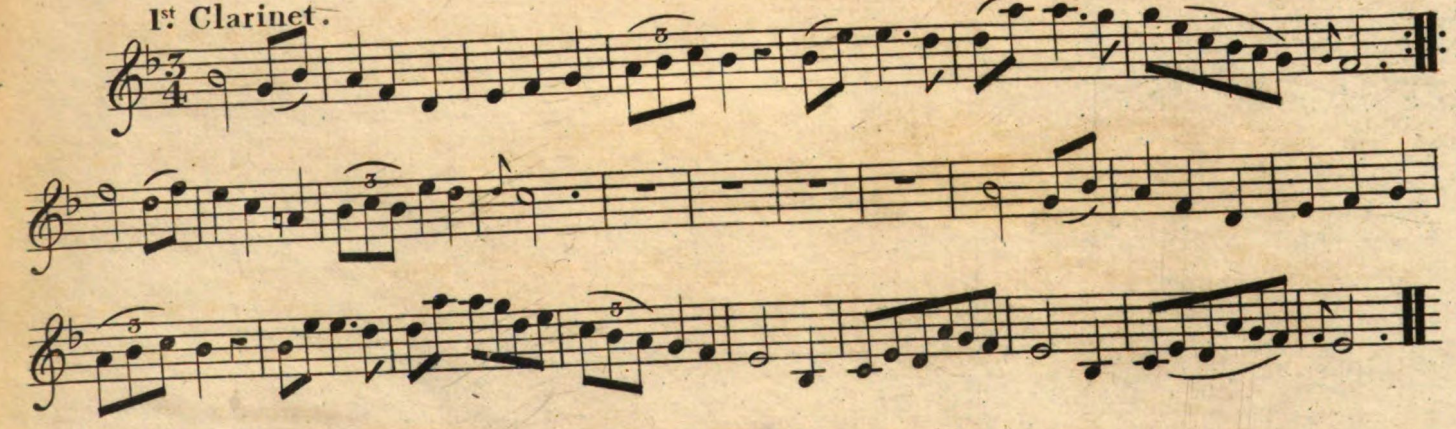
1st Horn.



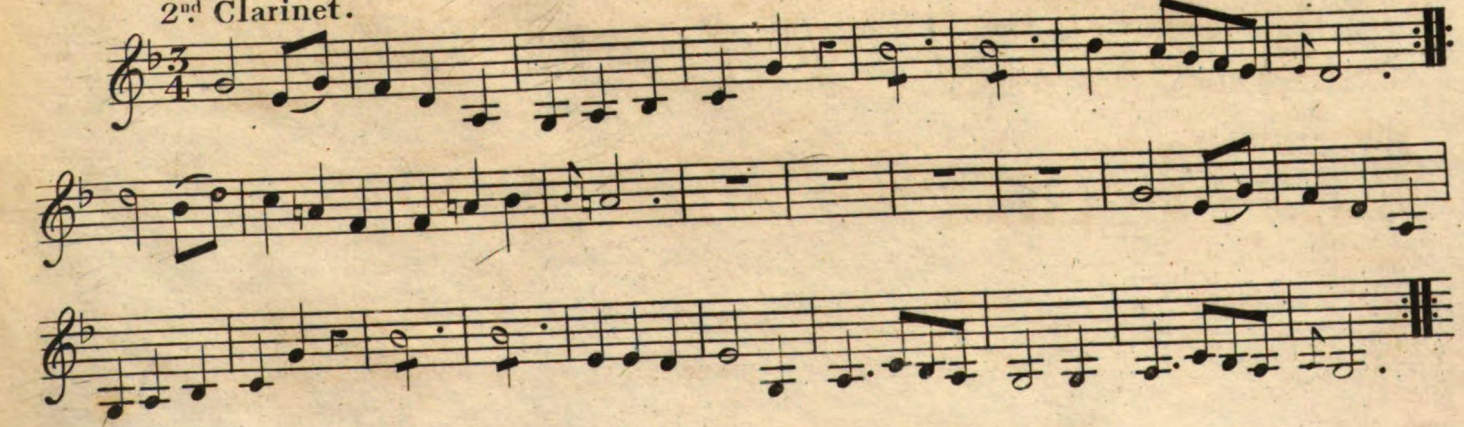
2nd Horn.



1st Clarinet.



2nd Clarinet.



BRITISH MUSEUM
30
72
JAN

f. 73. a.

RULES

OF

The Abbotsford Club,

JULY IX., M.DCCC.XXXVI.

I. The Club shall be called "THE ABBOTSFORD CLUB," in honour of the late Sir Walter Scott, Baronet, and shall be limited to FIFTY MEMBERS.

II. The object of the Club shall be the printing of Miscellaneous Pieces, illustrative of History, Literature, and Antiquities.

III. The affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Council, consisting of a President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Six Ordinary Members, to be chosen at the Annual General Meeting.

IV. An Annual General Meeting shall be held on the first Monday of February, for the election of the Office-bearers and other matters; and the President or Council may call Extraordinary General Meetings, upon due notice to the resident Members.

V. The Council shall meet on the first Monday of November, December, January, February, March, June, and July.

VI. The election of Members shall take place at Extraordinary General Meetings, called expressly for that purpose by the Secretary; and fourteen days previous to the day of election, he shall transmit to each Member a List of the Candidates, with the names of the Members by whom they have been respectively proposed.

VII. The election shall be made by sealed Lists, each bearing on the envelope the signature of the Member by whom it is sent; and two-thirds of the whole number of votes so given shall be requisite for the admission of a Candidate.

VIII. The Works to be printed at the expense of the Club shall be determined on by the Council. Seventy Copies of every Work shall be thrown off; and each Member shall receive one copy.

IX. It shall be understood that each Member is to print, at his own expense, a Work for the Club; and he shall deliver to the Secretary a copy for each Member, with six additional copies—one to be retained in the Club Library, and the others to be at the disposal of the Council.

X. A particular Paper shall be made and used for the Works printed by and for the Club, and shall be furnished to Members for printing their Contributions.

XI. Every Work printed by and for the Club shall be in Quarto.

XII. The annual payment of each Member shall be Three Guineas, and shall be made to the Treasurer on the first Monday of February; and the Books printed by or for the Club shall not be issued by the Secretary to any Member until his Subscription be paid.

XIII. Each Member shall, within ten days after his election, make payment to the Treasurer of the sum of Five Guineas, over and above the current year's Subscription.

XIV. Any Member whose Subscription shall have remained unpaid for twelve months, shall be struck off the List of Members at the Annual General Meeting in February.