Edward Elgar

Sea Pictures

A Cycle of Five Songs

op. 37

1. Sea Slumber Song	*Words by* The Hon. Roden Noel
2. In Haven (Capri)	*Words by* C. A. Elgar
3. Sabbath Morning at Sea	*From a Poem by* Mrs. Browning
4. Where Corals Lie	*Words by* Richard Garnett
5. The Swimmer	*From a Poem by* Adam Lindsay Gordon

Contralto and Piano

Boosey & Hawkes
Music Publishers Limited
London · Paris · Bonn · Johannesburg · Sydney · Toronto · New York

SEA SLUMBER SONG

SEA BIRDS are asleep,
The world forgets to weep,
Sea murmurs her soft slumber-song
On the shadowy sand
Of this elfin land;
"I, the Mother mild,
Hush thee, O my child,
Forget the voices wild!
Isles in elfin light
Dream, the rocks and caves,
Lulled by whispering waves,
Veil their marbles bright,
Foam glimmers faintly white
Upon the shelly sand
Of this elfin land;
Sea-sound, like violins,
To slumber woos and wins,
I murmur my soft slumber-song,
Leave woes, and wails, and sins,
Ocean's shadowy might
Breathes good-night,
Good-night!"

HON. RODEN NOEL.

(By permission of Mr. Elkin Mathews.)

SABBATH MORNING AT SEA.

The ship went on with solemn face:
To meet the darkness on the deep,
The solemn ship went onward.
I bowed down weary in the place;
For parting tears and present sleep
Had weighed mine eyelids downward.

The new sight, the new wondrous sight!
The waters around me, turbulent,
The skies, impassive o'er me,
Calm in a moonless, sunless light,
As glorified by even the intent
Of holding the day glory!

Love me, sweet friends, this sabbath day,
The sea sings round me while ye roll
Afar the hymn, unaltered,
And kneel, where once I knelt to pray,
And bless me deeper in your soul
Because your voice has faltered.

And though this sabbath comes to me
Without the stoled minister,
And chanting congregation,
God's Spirit shall give comfort. He
Who brooded soft on waters drear,
Creator on creation.

He shall assist me to look higher,
Where keep the saints, with harp and song,
An endless sabbath morning,
And, on that sea commixed with fire,
Oft drop their eyelids raised too long
To the full Godhead's burning.

From a poem by MRS BROWNING.

IN HAVEN.

(CAPRI.)

CLOSELY let me hold thy hand,
Storms are sweeping sea and land;
Love alone will stand.

Closely cling, for waves beat fast,
Foam-flakes cloud the hurrying blast;
Love alone will last.

Kiss my lips, and softly say:
"Joy, sea-swept, may fade to-day;
Love alone will stay."

C. A. ELGAR.

WHERE CORALS LIE.

THE deeps have music soft and low
When winds awake the airy spry,
It lures me, lures me on to go
And see the land where corals lie.

By mount and mead, by lawn and rill,
When night is deep, and moon is high,
That music seeks and finds me still.
And tells me where the corals lie.

Yes, press my eyelids close, 'tis well;
But far the rapid fancies fly
To rolling worlds of wave and shell,
And all the lands where corals lie.

Thy lips are like a sunset glow,
Thy smile is like a morning sky,
Yet leave me, leave me, let me go
And see the land where corals lie.

RICHARD GARNETT.

(With the Author's kind permission.)

THE SWIMMER.

WITH short, sharp, violent lights made vivid,
To southward far as the sight can roam,
Only the swirl of the surges livid,
The seas that climb and the surfs that comb.
Only the crag and the cliff to nor'ward,
And the rocks receding, and reefs flung forward,
Waifs wreck'd seaward and wasted shoreward,
On shallows sheeted with flaming foam.

A grim, grey coast and a seaboard ghastly,
And shores trod seldom by feet of men—
Where the batter'd hull and the broken mast lie,
They have lain embedded these long years ten.
Love! when we wandered here together,
Hand in hand through the sparkling weather,
From the heights and hollows of fern and heather,
God surely loved us a little then.

The skies were fairer and shores were firmer—
The blue sea over the bright sand roll'd;
Babble and prattle, and ripple and murmur,
Sheen of silver and glamour of gold.

* * * * *

So, girt with tempest and wing'd with thunder
And clad with lightning and shod with sleet,
And strong winds treading the swift waves under
The flying rollers with frothy feet.
One gleam like a bloodshot sword-blade swims on
The sky line, staining the green gulf crimson,
A death-stroke fiercely dealt by a dim sun
That strikes through his stormy winding sheet.

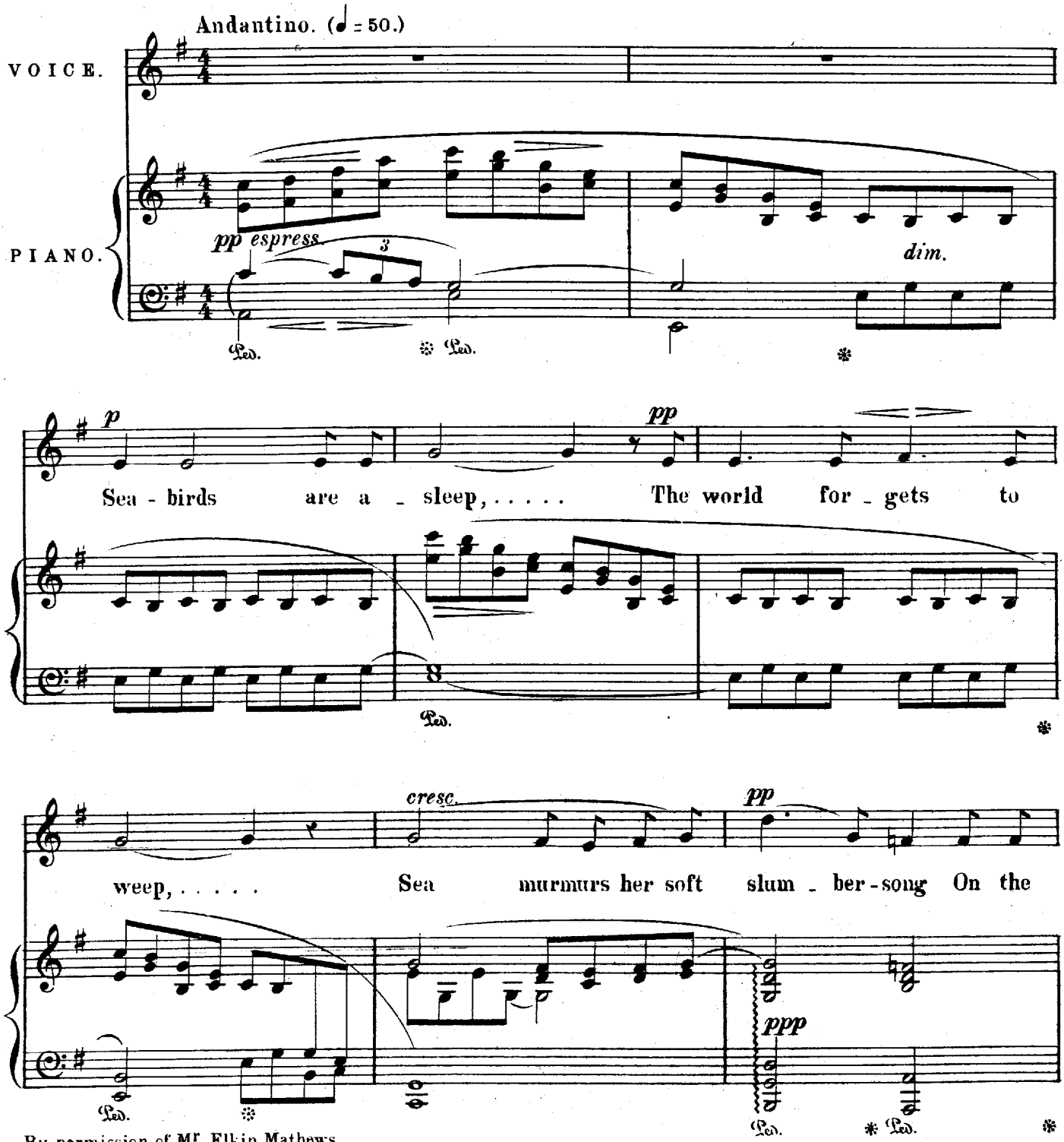
O, brave white horses! you gather and gallop,
The storm sprite loosens the gusty reins;
Now the stoutest ship were the frailest shallop
In your hollow backs, on your high-arched manes.
I would ride as never a man has ridden
In your sleepy, swirling surges hidden;
To gulfs foreshadow'd through strifes forbidden,
Where no light wearies and no love wanes.

From a poem by A. LINDSAY GORDON

SEA SLUMBER-SONG

Words by
Hon. RODEN NOEL.*

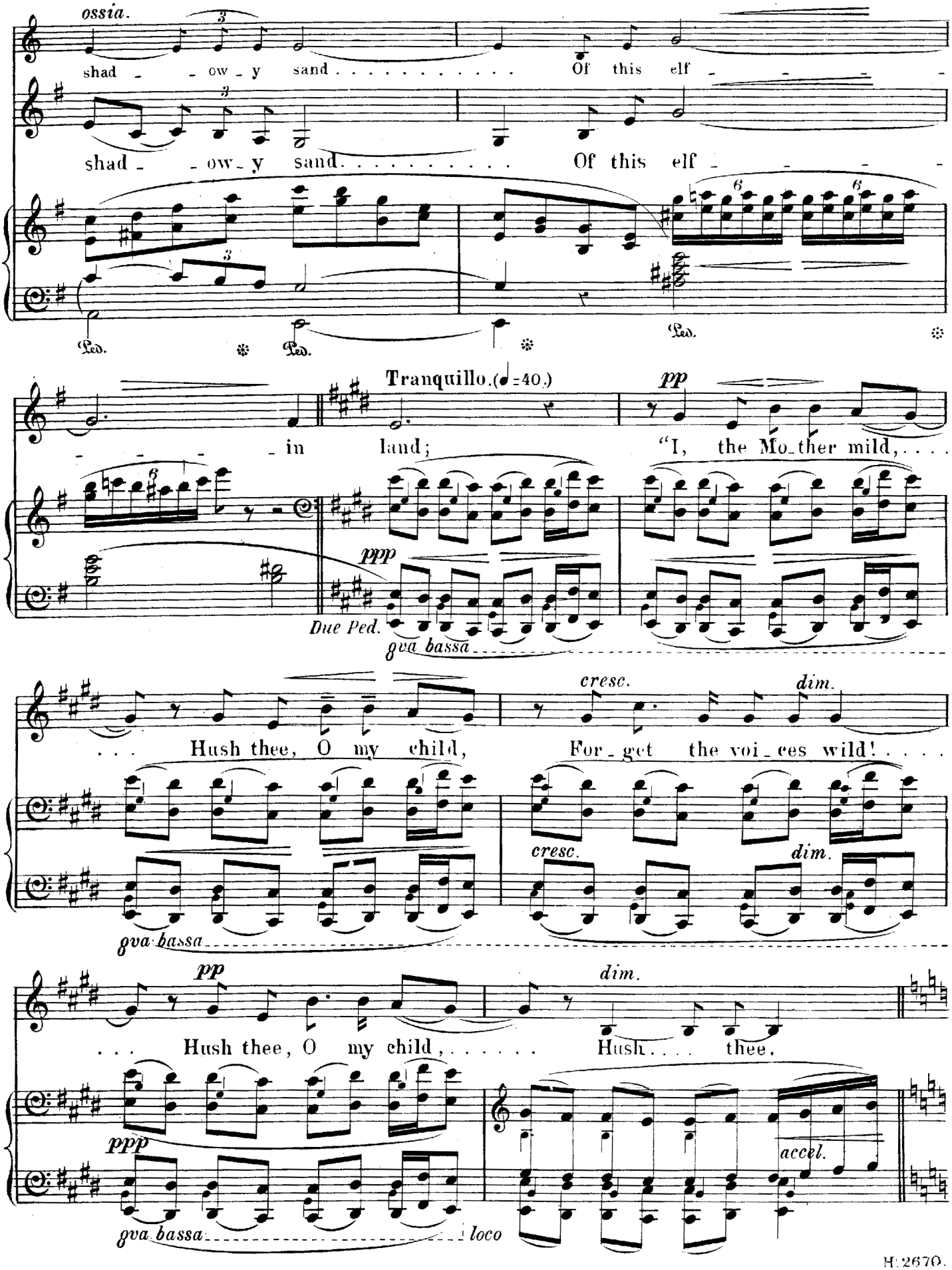
Music by
EDWARD ELGAR. Op. 37. Nº 1.

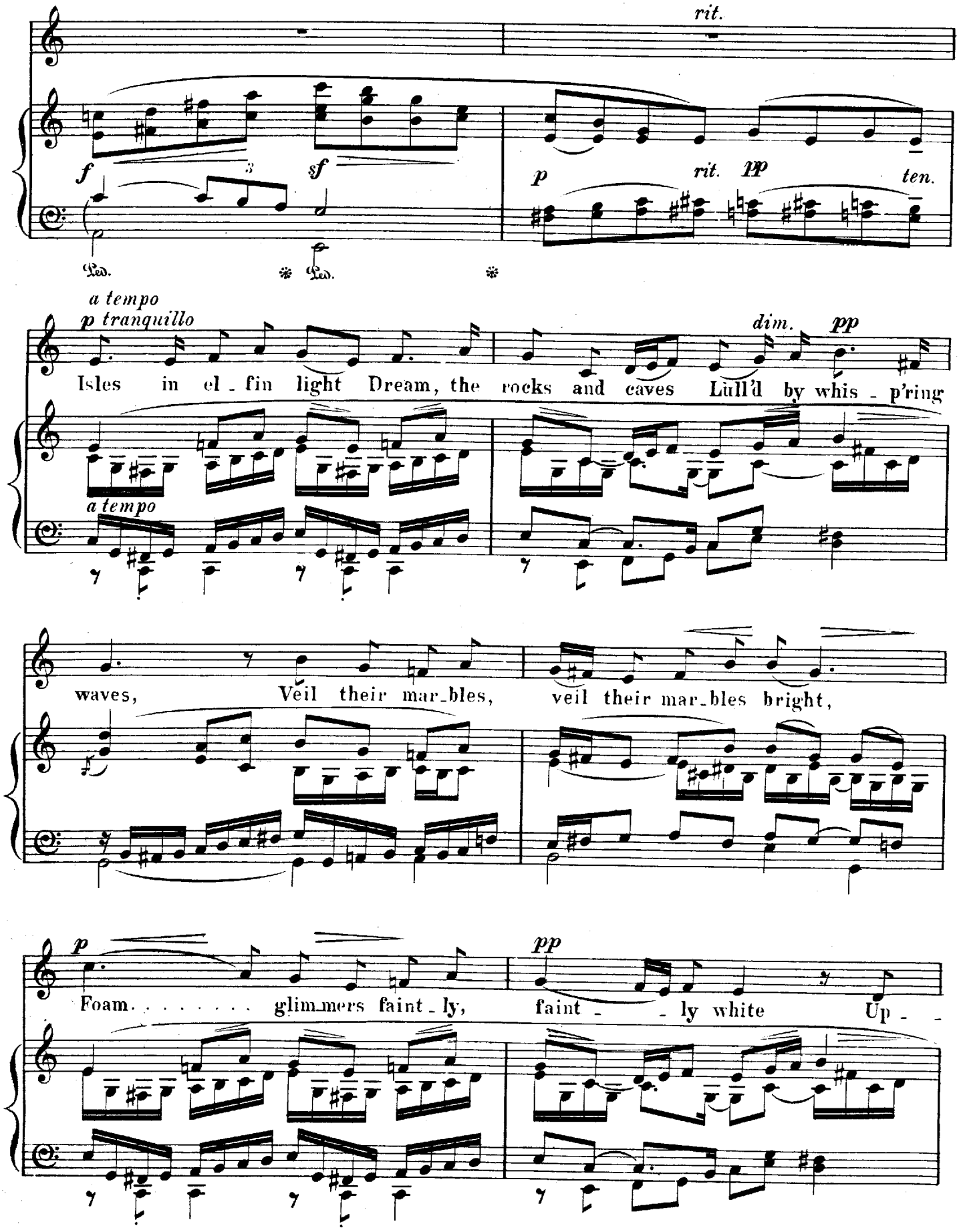


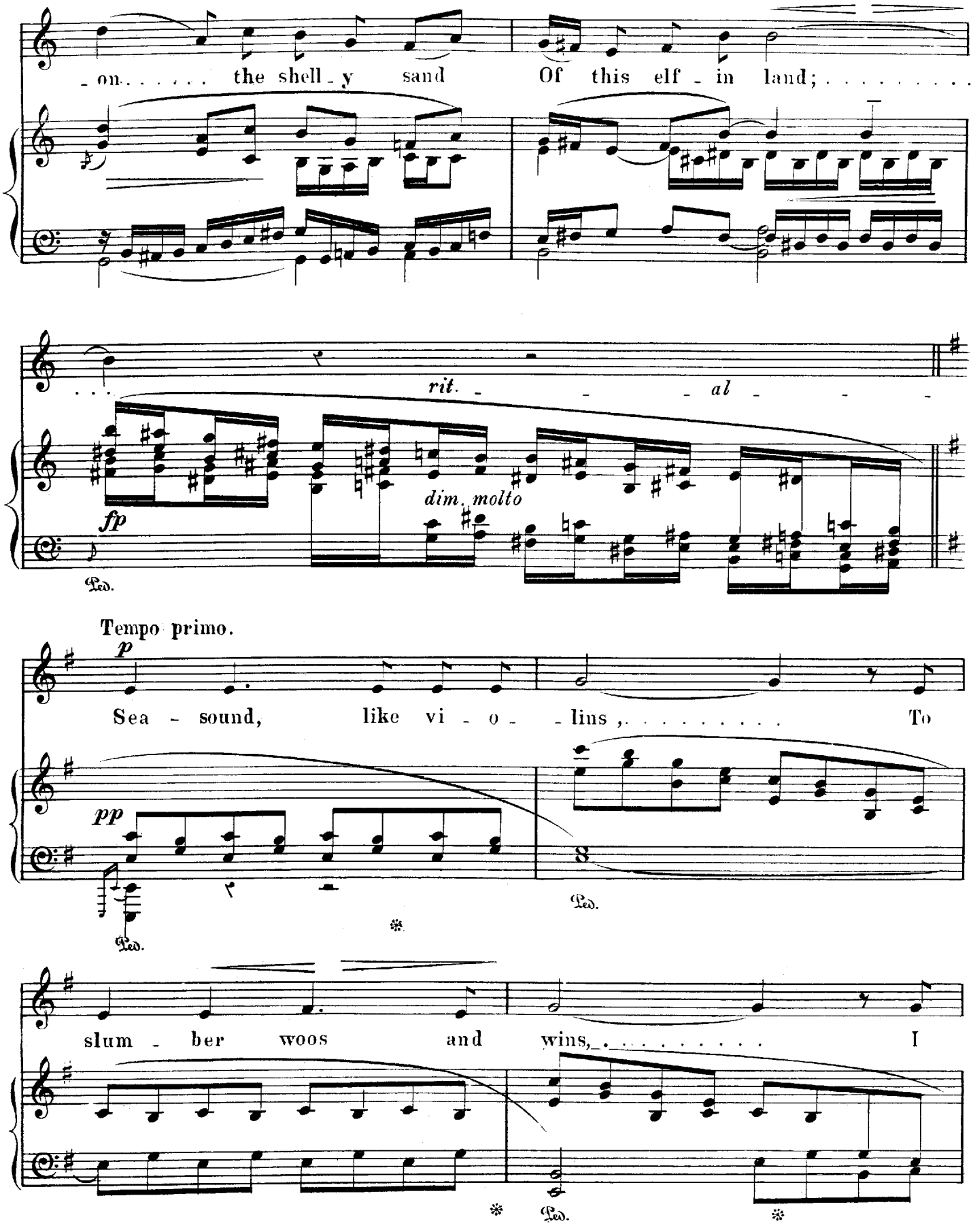
By permission of Mr Elkin Mathews.
Copyright 1899 by Boosey & Co.
Copyright renewed 1926 in U. S. A. by Boosey & Co. Ltd.

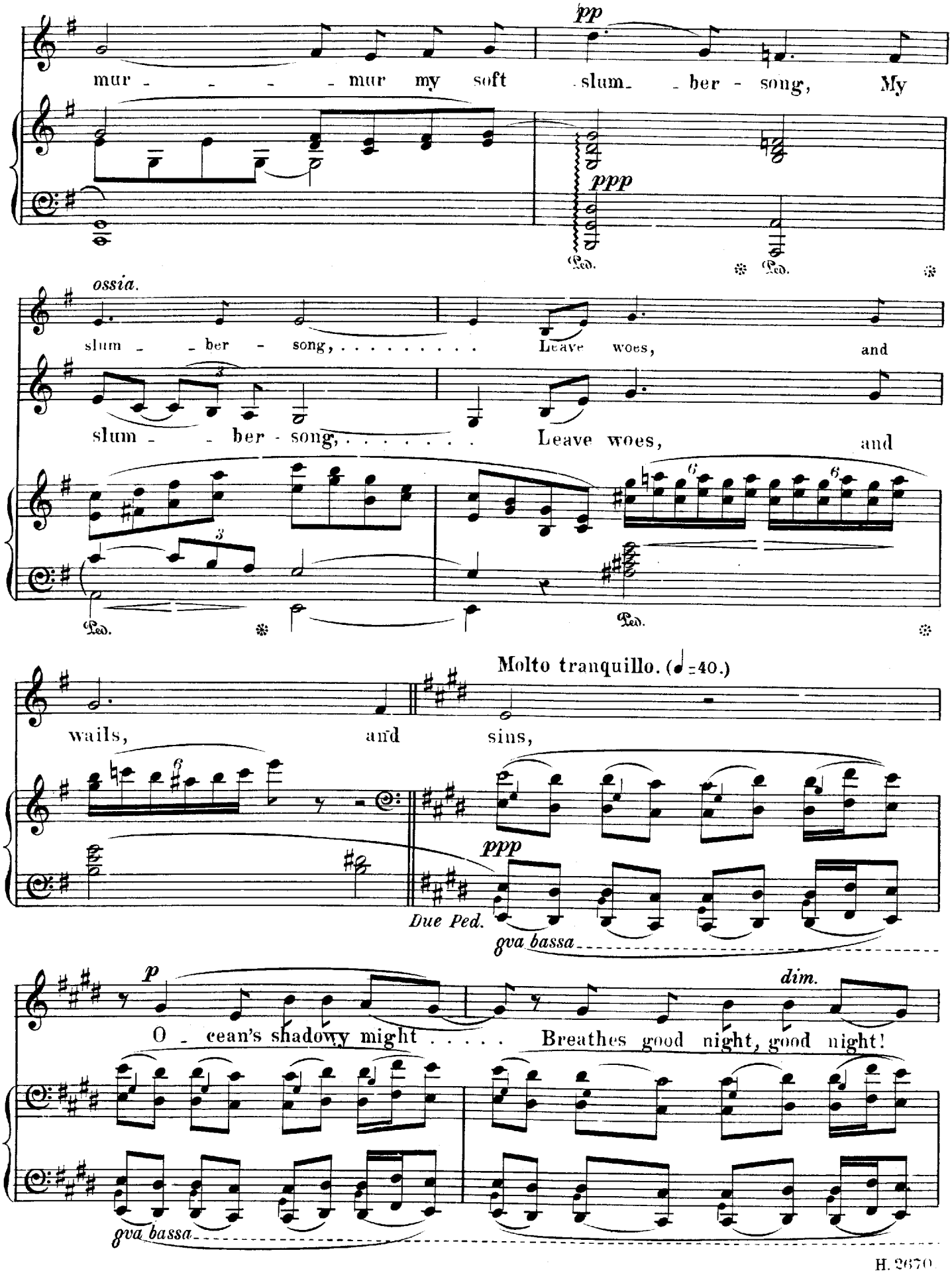
The Public Performance of any parodied version of this composition is strictly prohibited

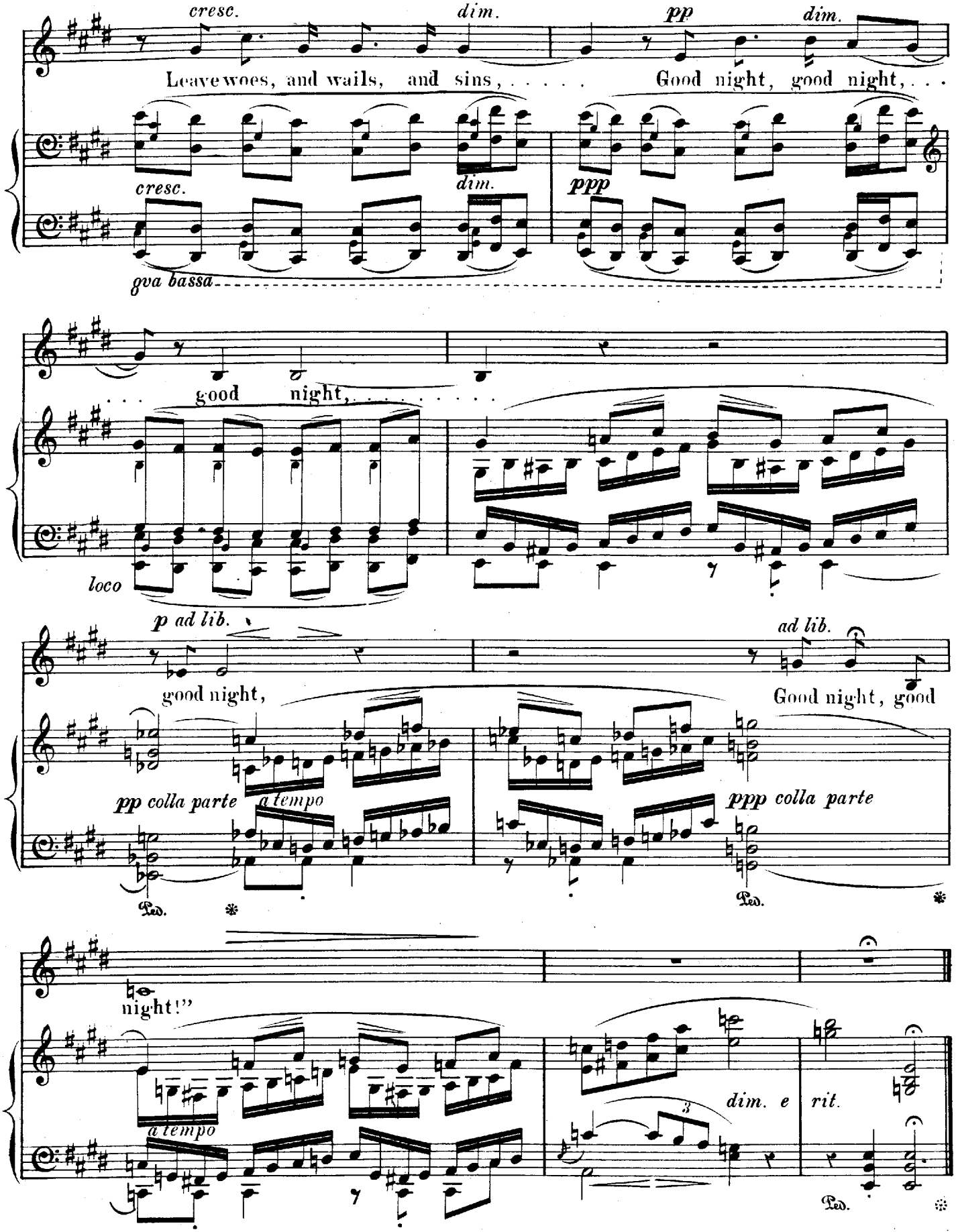
All rights reserved
Printed in England


ossia.
shad - - ow - y sand . . . . . Of this elf - - - -
shad - - ow - y sand . . . . . Of this elf - - - -
Ped. Ped. Ped.
- - - - in land;
Tranquillo. (♩=40.)
pp
"I, the Mo-ther mild, ...
ppp
Due Ped.
8va bassa
. . . Hush thee, O my child,
cresc.
dim.
For-get the voi-ces wild! . . . .
8va bassa
cresc.
dim.
pp
. . . Hush thee, O my child, ... Hush . . . . thee.
dim.
ppp
8va bassa
loco
accel.


rit.
f
3
sf
p
rit.
pp
ten.
Ped.
Ped.
a tempo
p tranquillo
Isles in el - fin light Dream, the rocks and caves Lull'd by whis - p'ring
dim.
pp
a tempo
waves, Veil their mar - bles, veil their mar - bles bright,
p
Foam glim - mers faint - ly,
pp
faint - - ly white Up - -


- on . . . . . the shell - y sand Of this elf - in land; . . . . . .
. . . rit. - - - al - - -
fp
dim. molto
Ped.
Tempo primo.
p
Sea - sound, like vi - o - - lins, ... To
pp
Ped.
Ped.
slum - ber woos and wins, ... I
Ped.


pp
mur - - - - mur my soft slum - ber - song, My
ppp
Ped.
Ped.
ossia.
slum - - ber - song, ... Leave woes, and
slum - - ber - song, ... Leave woes, and
Ped.
Ped.
Molto tranquillo. (♩=40.)
wails, and sins,
ppp
Due Ped.
8va bassa
p
dim.
O - cean's shadowy might . . . . . Breathes good night, good night!
8va bassa

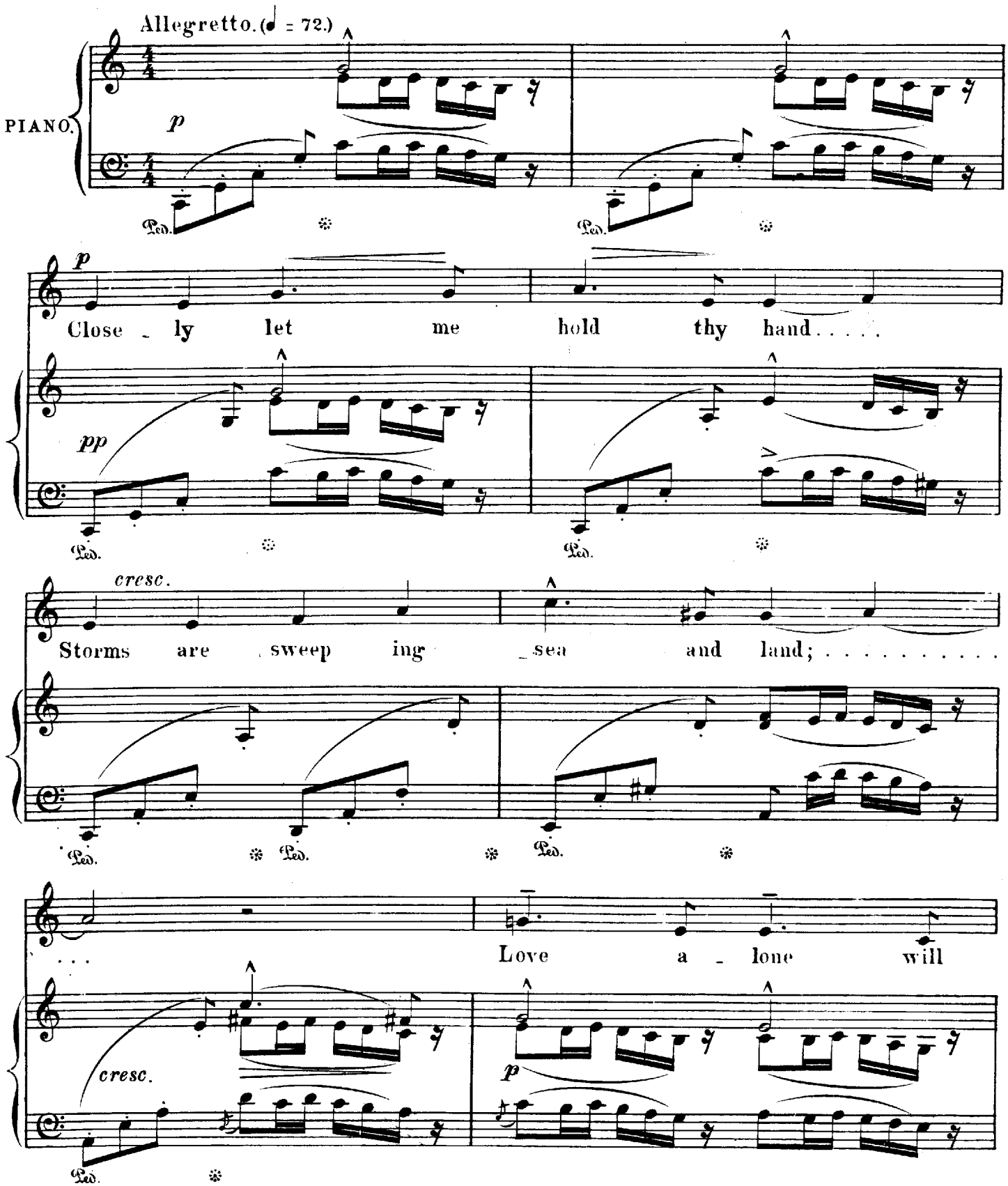

cresc.
dim.
pp
dim.
Leave woes, and wails, and sins, ...
Good night, good night, . . .
cresc.
dim.
ppp
8va bassa
. . . good night, ...
loco
p ad lib.
ad lib.
good night,
Good night, good
pp colla parte
a tempo
ppp colla parte
Ped.
Ped.
night!"
a tempo
dim. e
rit.
Ped.

IN HAVEN.

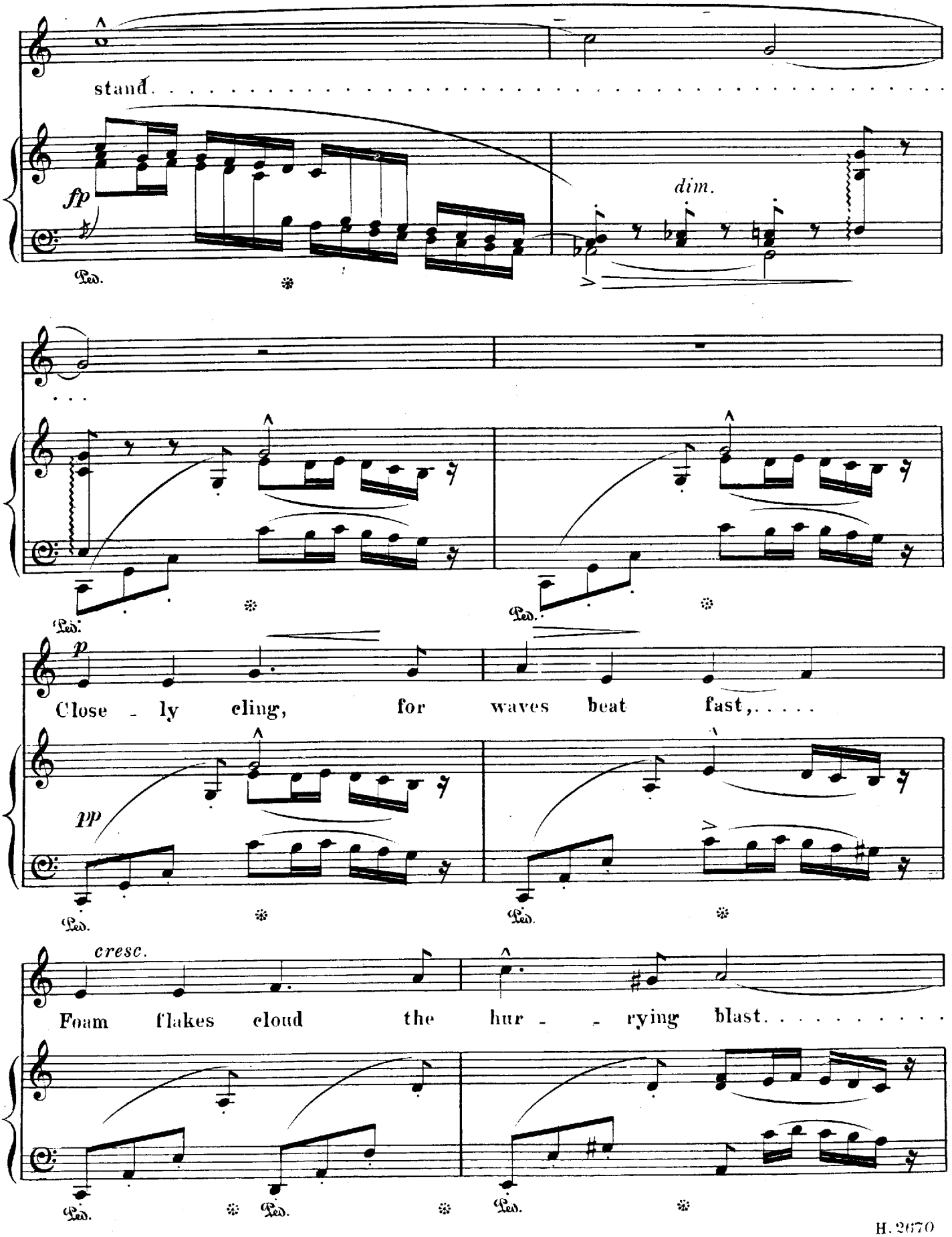
(Capri.)

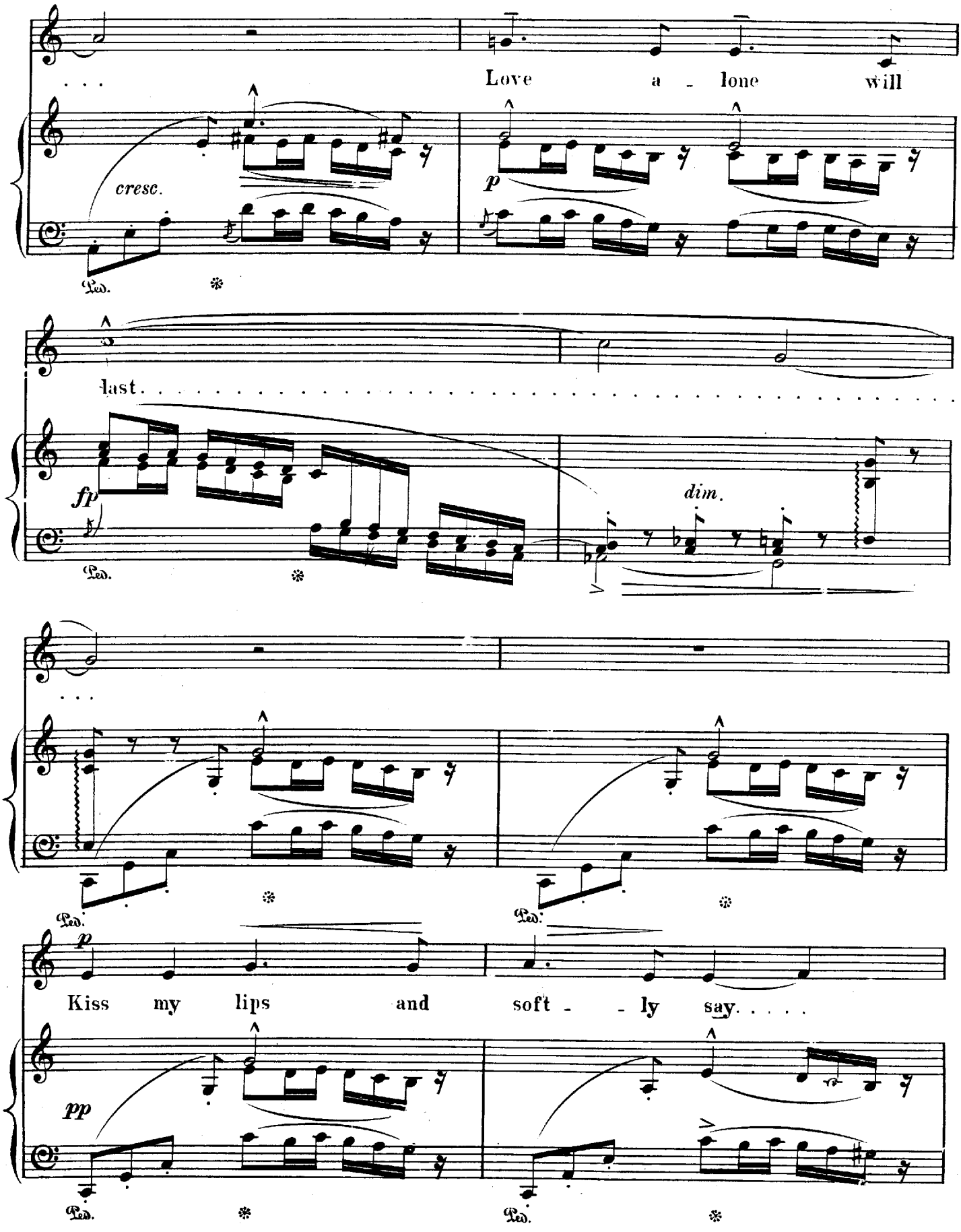
Words by
C. A. ELGAR.

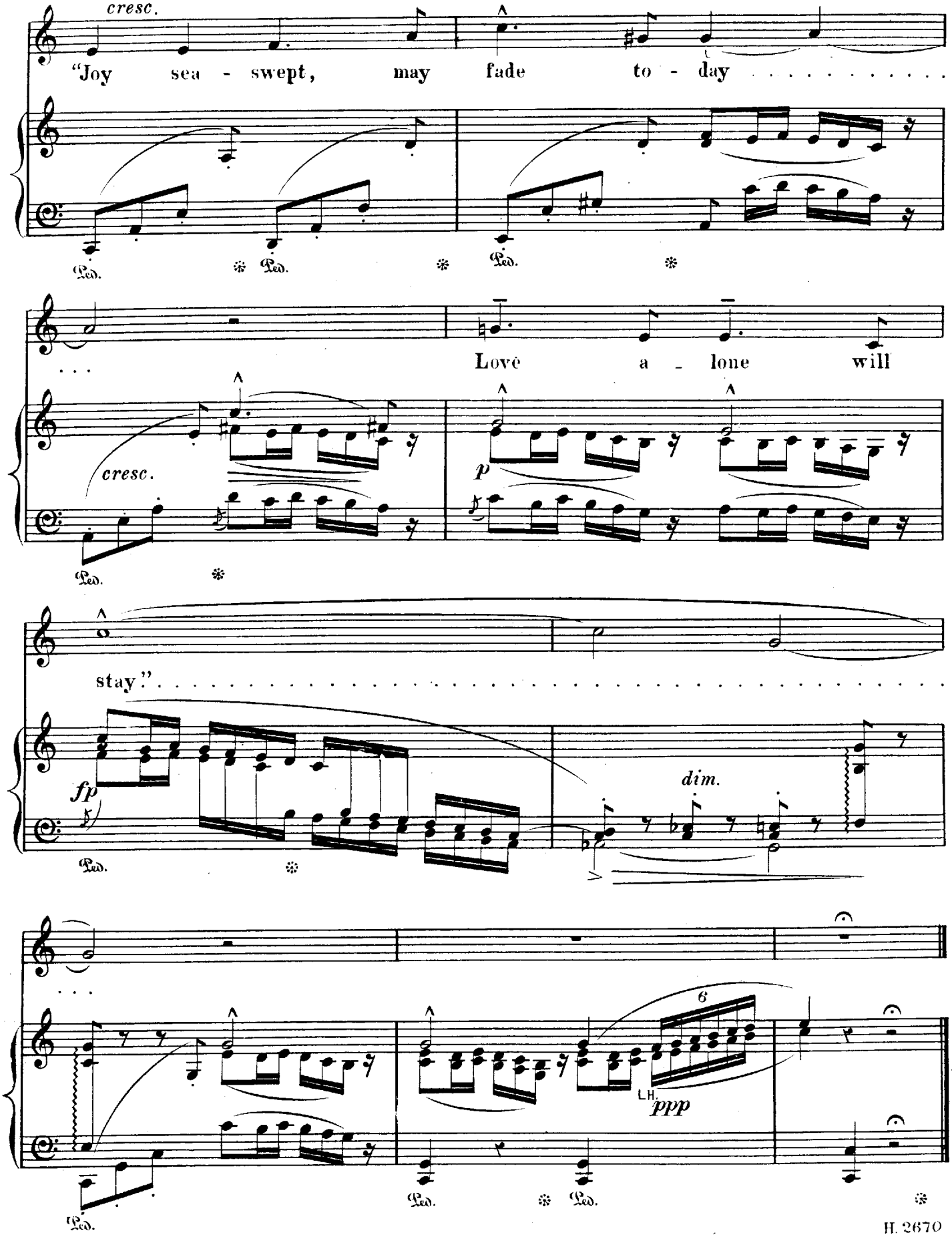
Music by
EDWARD ELGAR. Op. 37. Nº 2.



Copyright 1899 by Boosey & Cº *Copyright renewed 1926 in U. S. A. by Boosey & Co. Ltd.*


stand
fp
dim.
Ped.
p
Close - ly cling, for waves beat fast,
pp
cresc.
Foam flakes cloud the hur - - rying blast.

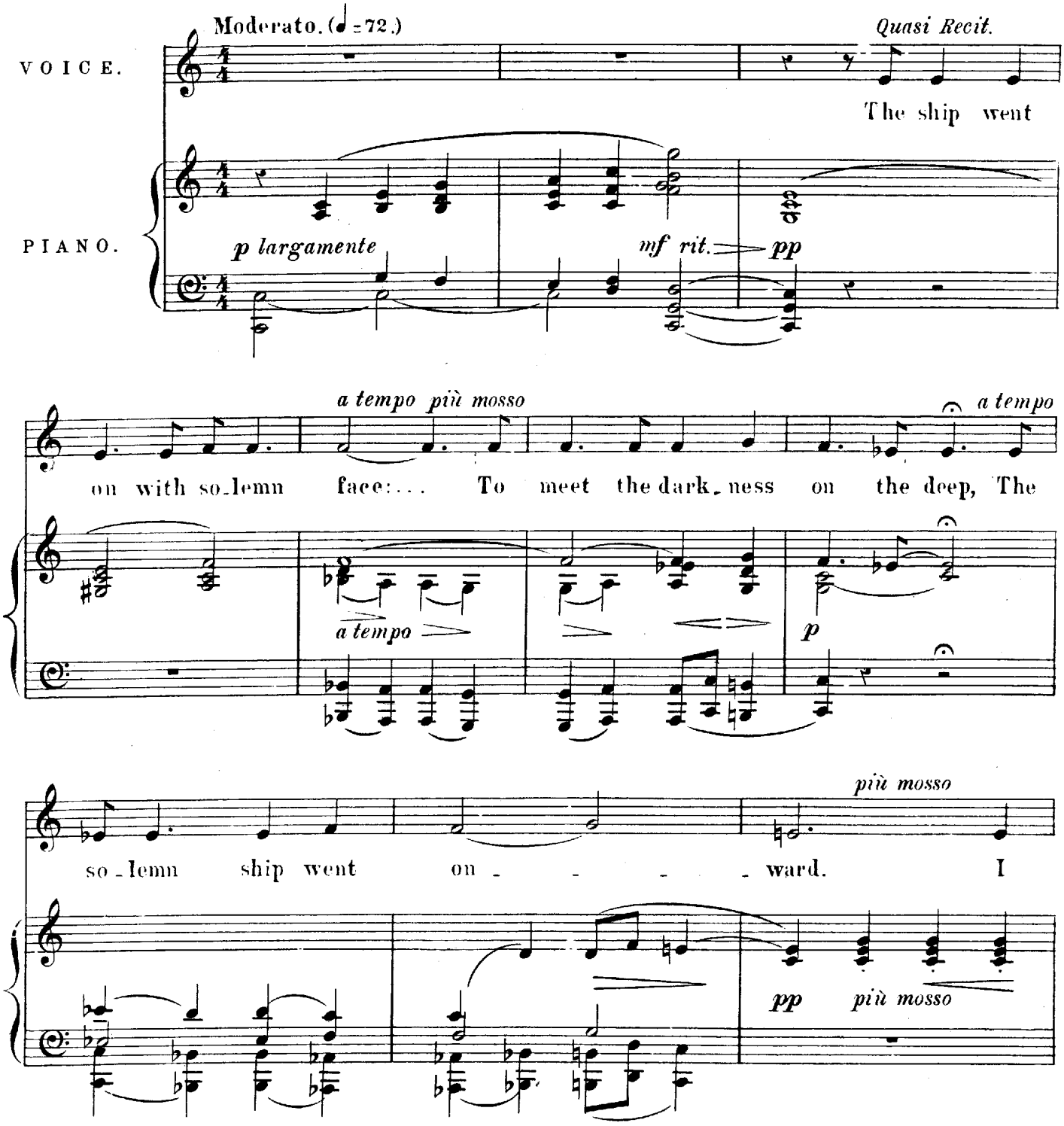

Love a - lone will
cresc.
p
Ped.
last
fp
dim.
Ped.
Ped.
p
Kiss my lips and soft - - ly say.
pp
Ped.
Ped.


cresc.
"Joy sea - swept, may fade to - day . . . . . .
Ped. Ped. Ped.
. . .
Love a - lone will
cresc.
p
Ped.
stay". . . . . .
fp
dim.
Ped.
. . .
6
LH
ppp
Ped. Ped.
Ped.

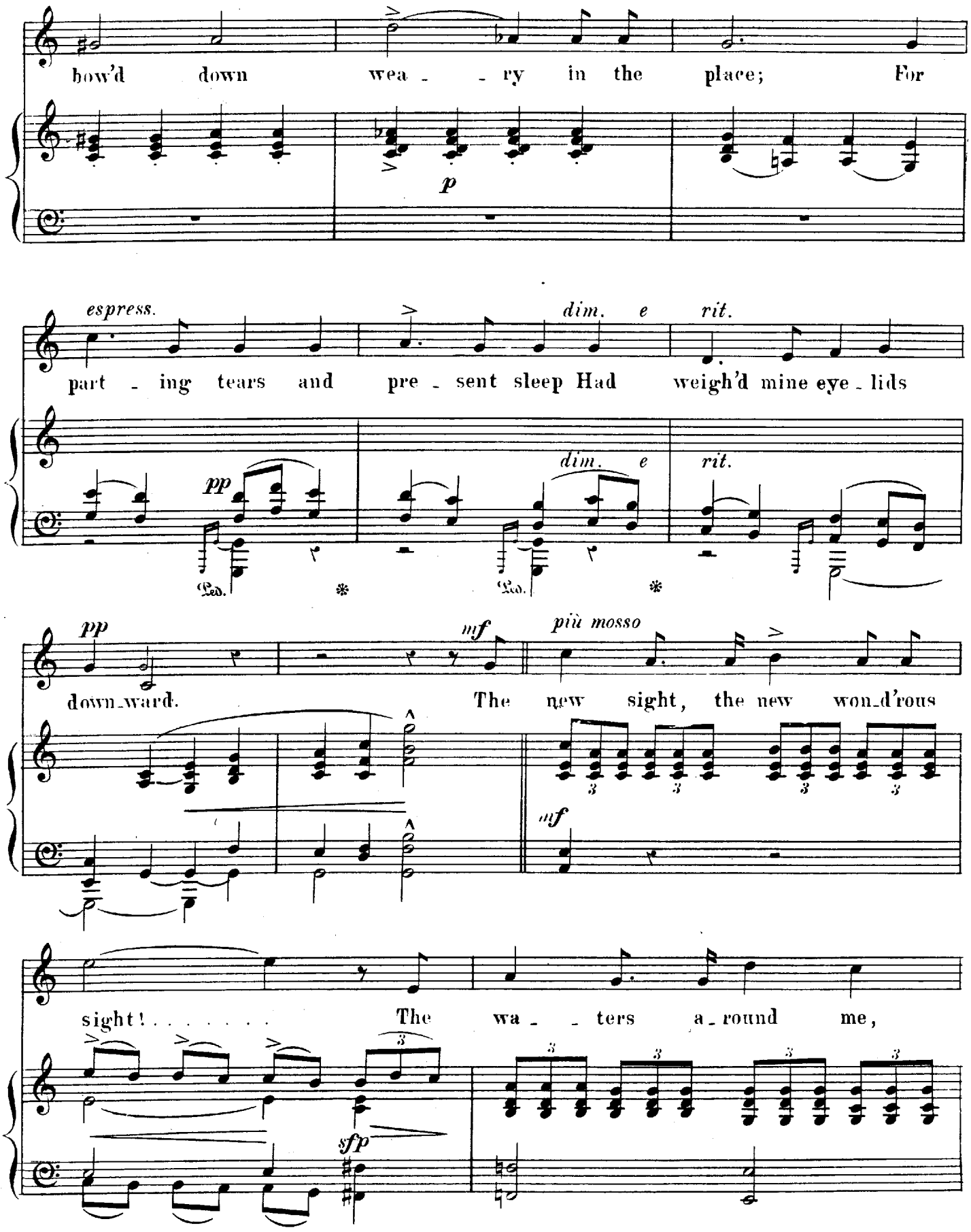
SABBATH MORNING AT SEA

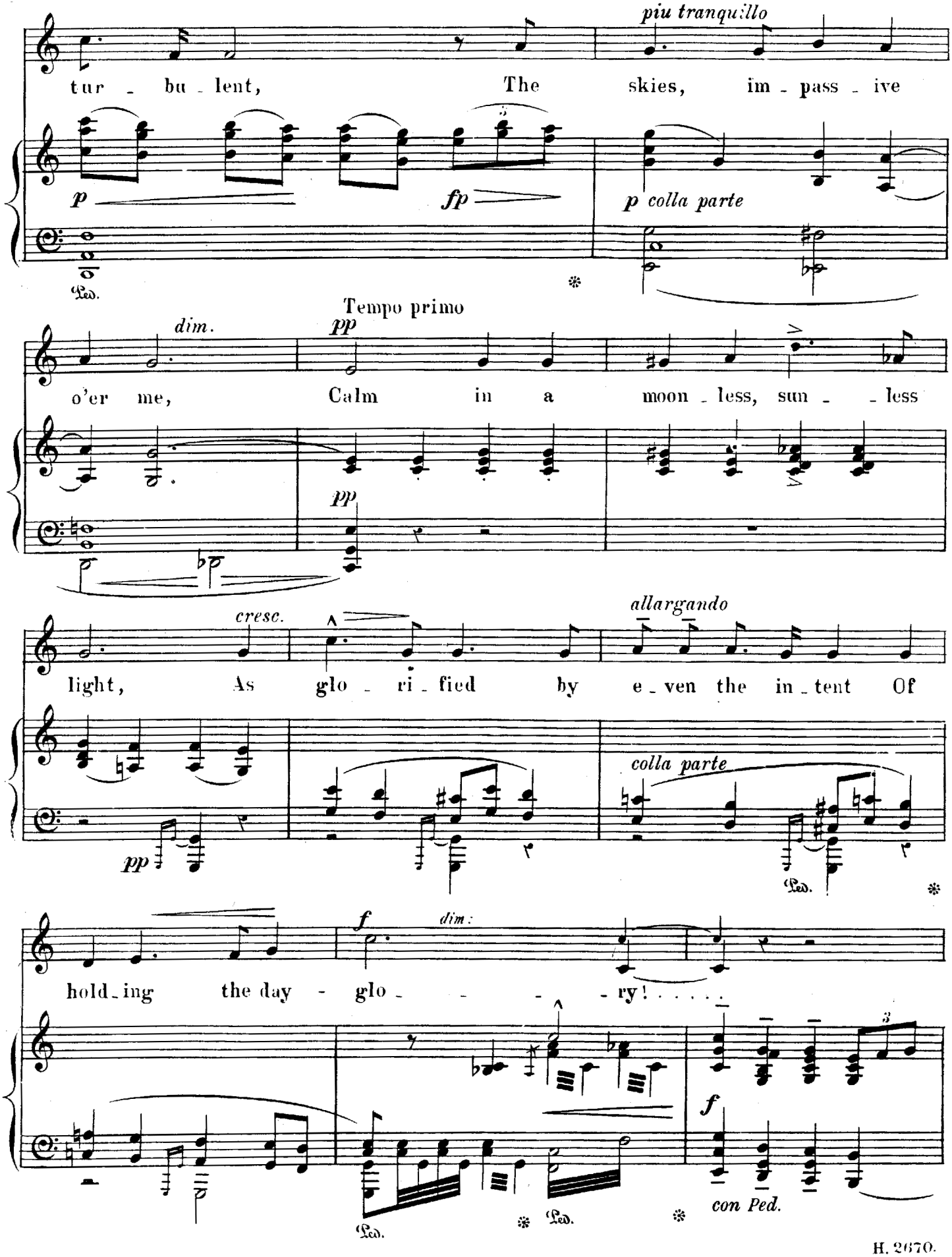
From a poem by
Mrs BROWNING.

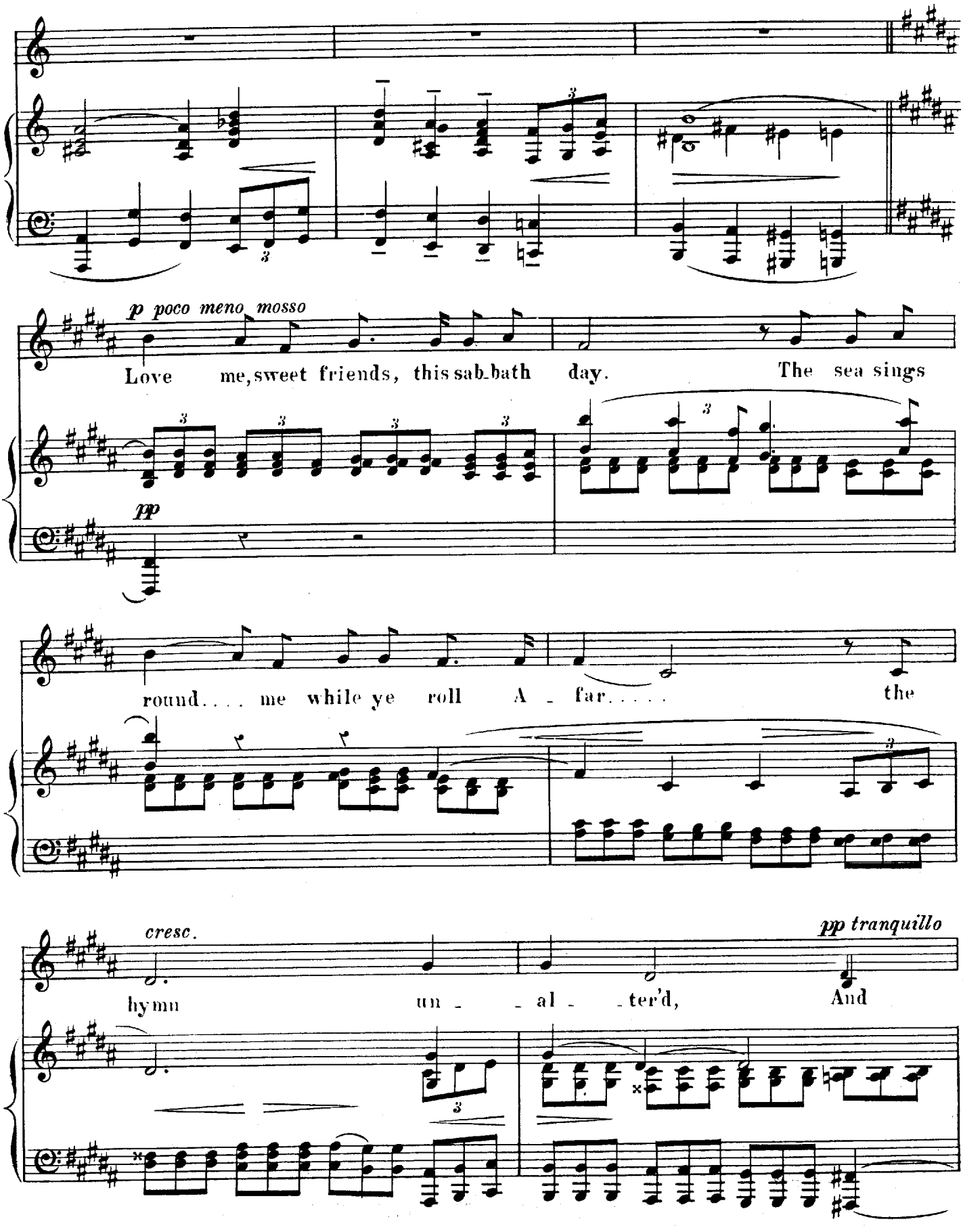
Music by
EDWARD ELGAR. Op. 37. No 3.

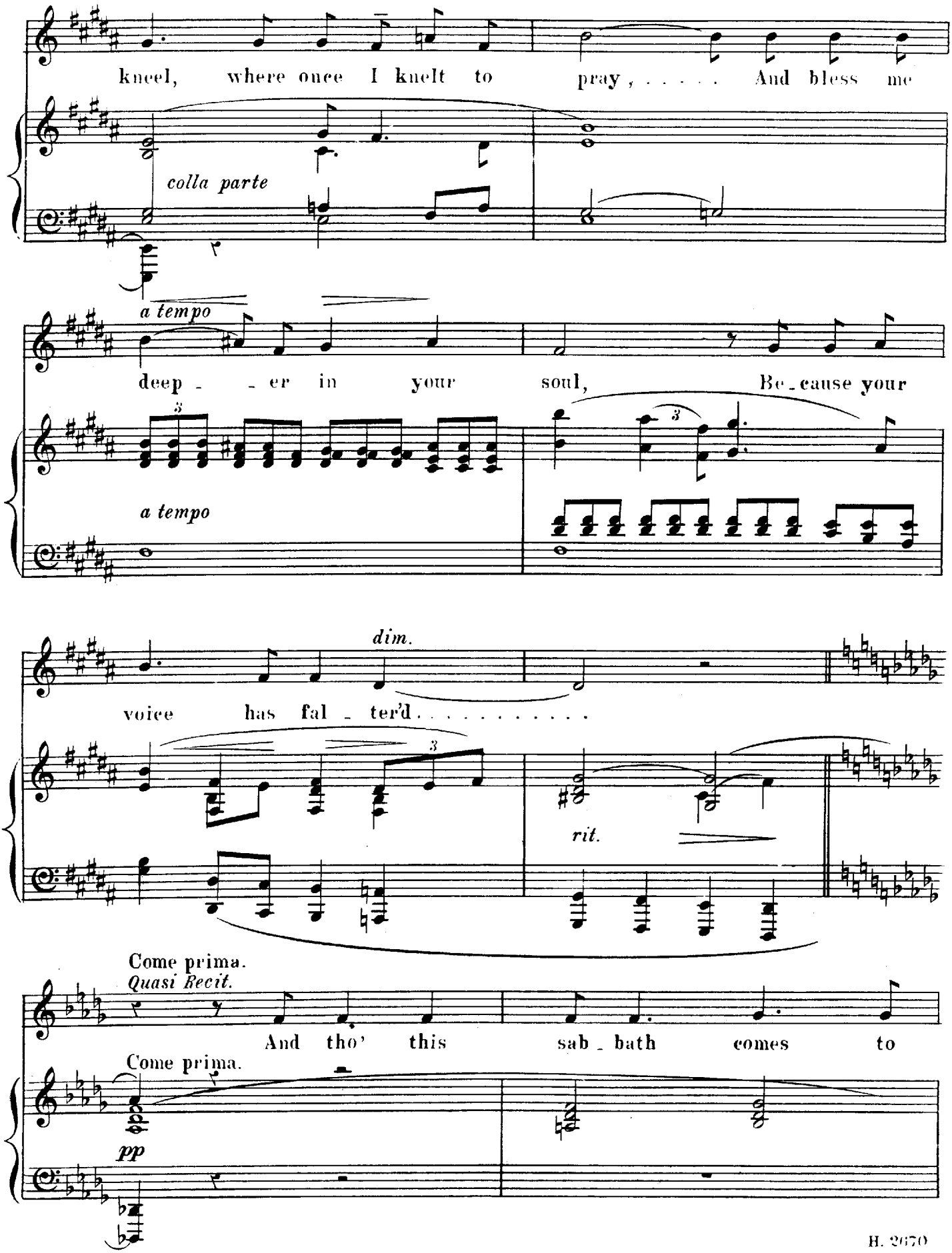


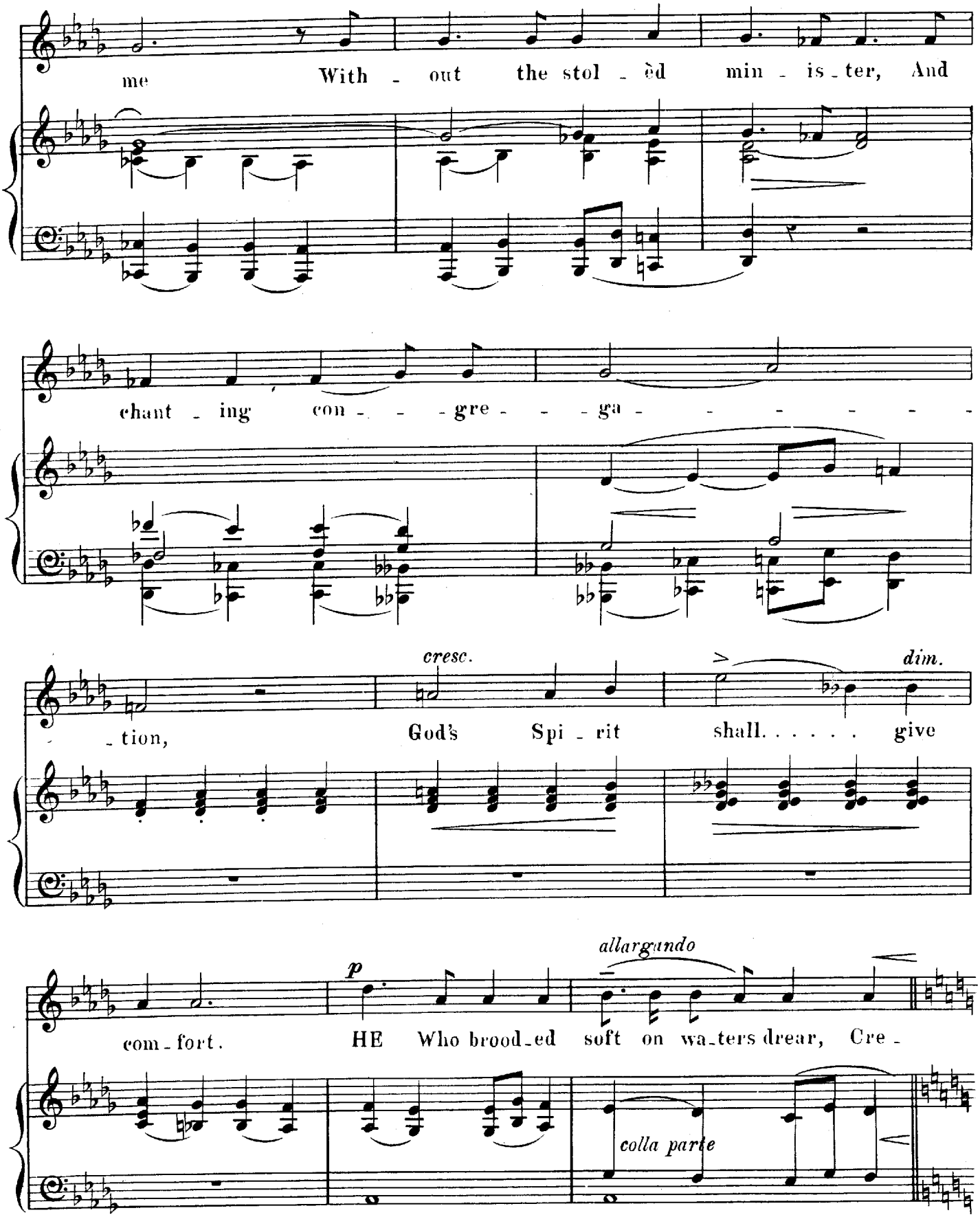
Copyright 1899 by Boosey & Co *Copyright renewed 1926 in U. S. A. by Boosey & Co. Ltd.*

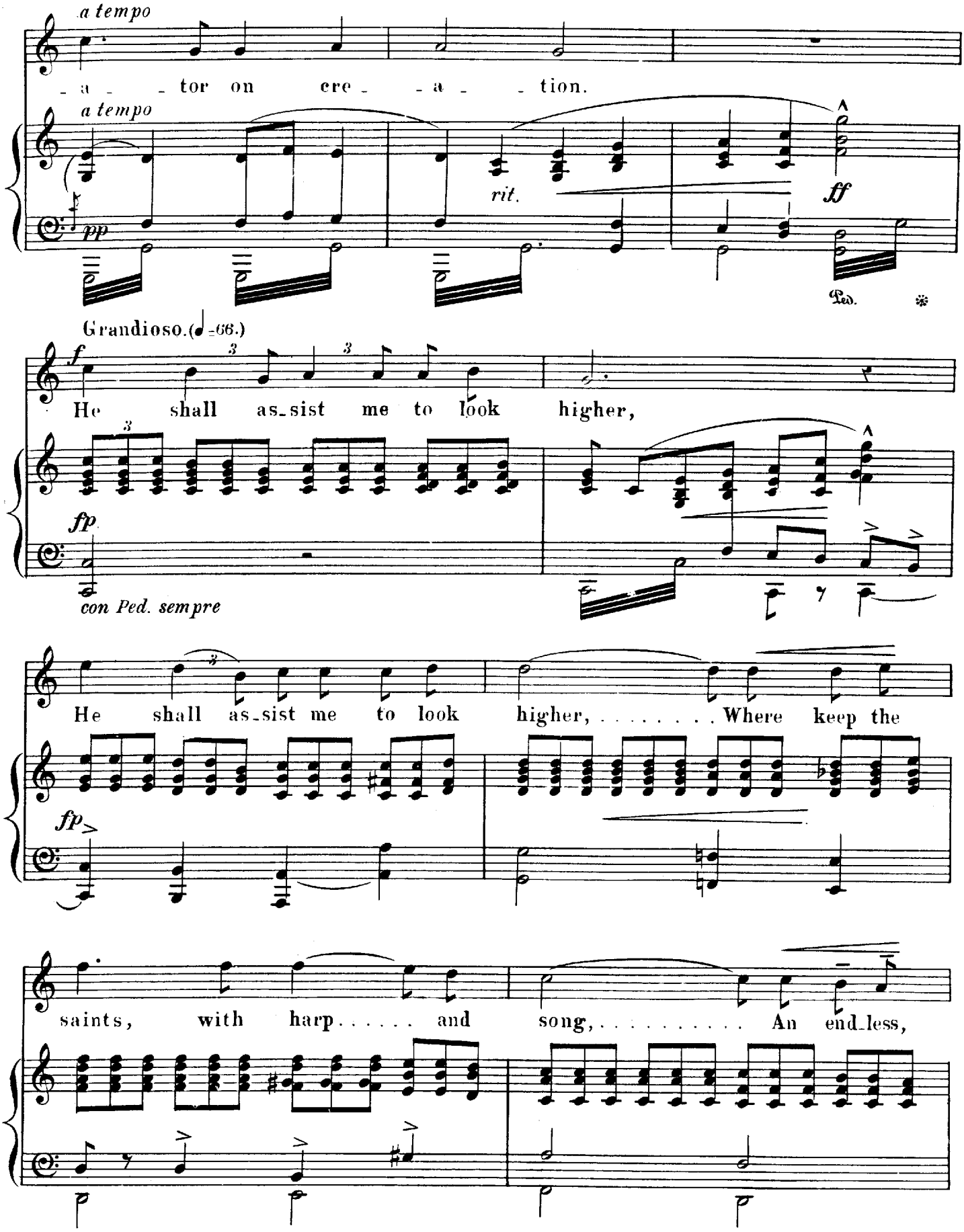

bow'd down wea - - ry in the place; For
p
espress.
dim. e rit.
part - ing tears and pre - sent sleep Had weigh'd mine eye - lids
pp
Ped.
dim. e
rit.
pp
down - ward.
mf
più mosso
The new sight, the new won - d'rous
mf
sight! . . . . . The wa - - ters a - round me,
sfp

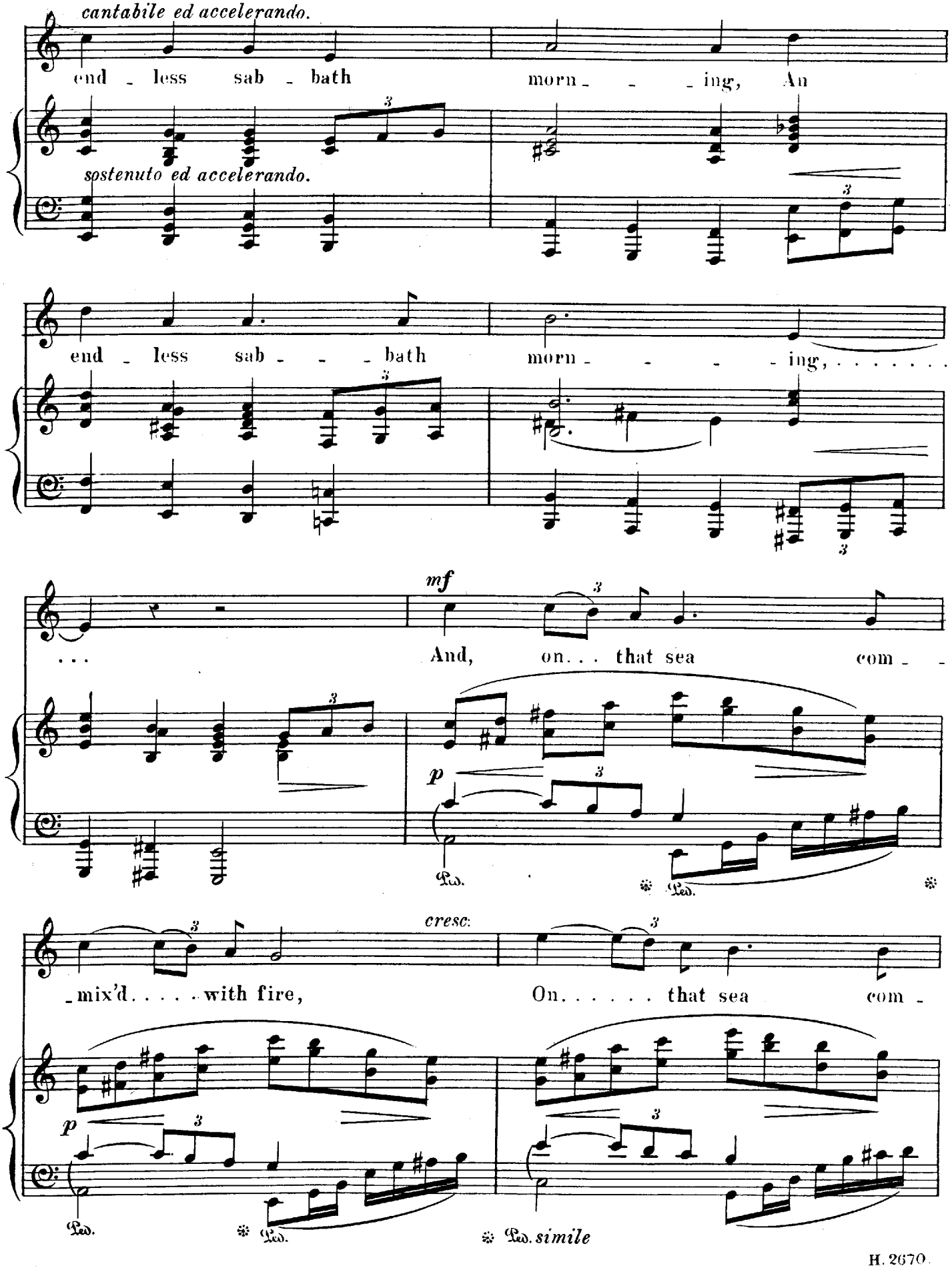

piu tranquillo
tur - bu - lent, The skies, im - pass - ive
p
fp
p colla parte
Ped.
Tempo primo
dim.
pp
o'er me, Calm in a moon - less, sun - - less
pp
cresc.
allargando
light, As glo - ri - fied by e - ven the in - tent Of
colla parte
pp
Ped.
f
dim:
hold - ing the day - glo - - - - - ry!
f
con Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

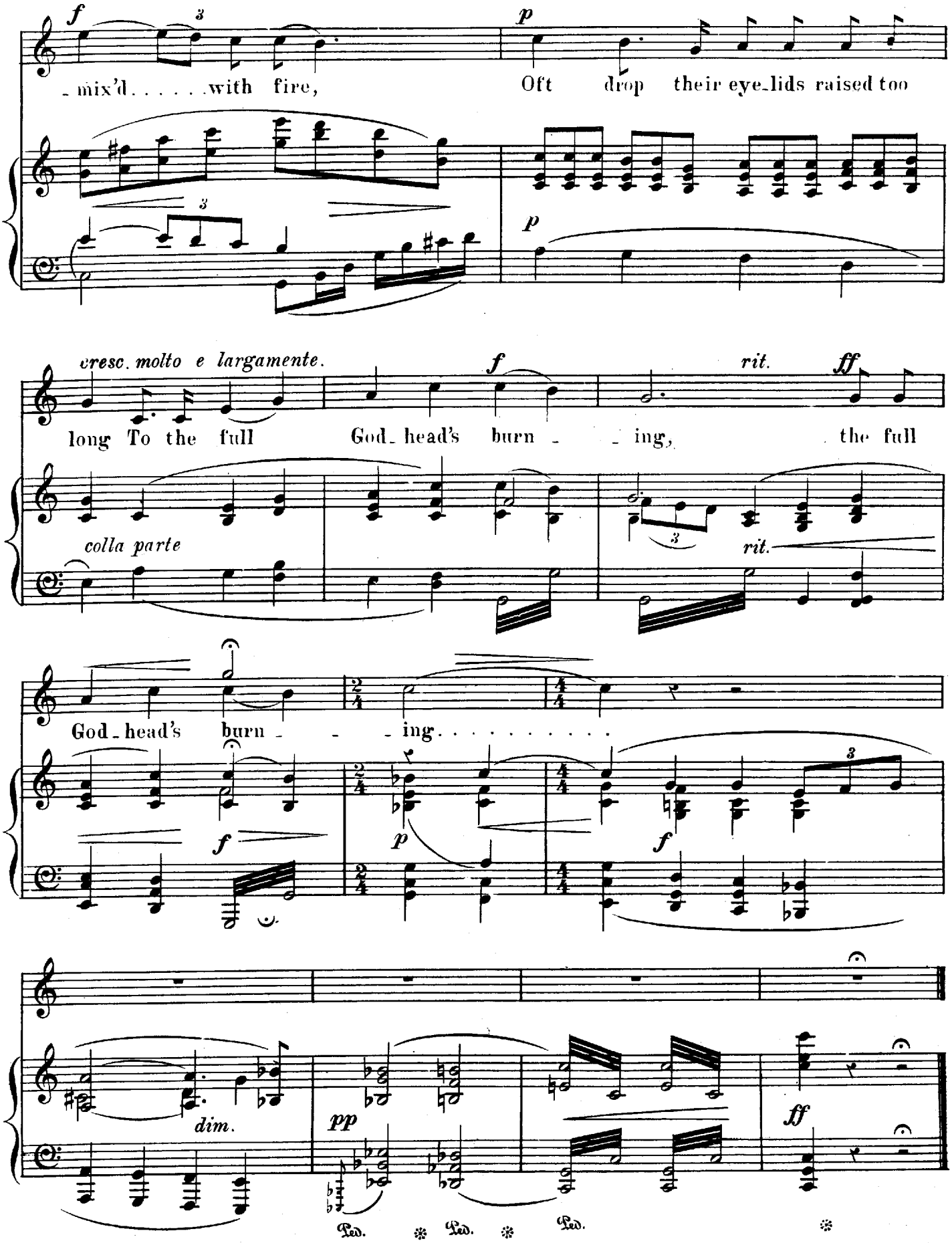

p poco meno mosso
Love me, sweet friends, this sab-bath day. The sea sings
pp
round.... me while ye roll A - far..... the
cresc.
pp tranquillo
hymn un - - al - - ter'd, And


kneel, where once I knelt to pray, ... And bless me
colla parte
a tempo
deep - - er in your soul, Be - cause your
a tempo
dim.
voice has fal - ter'd . . . . . .
rit.
Come prima.
Quasi Recit.
And tho' this sab - bath comes to
Come prima.
pp


me With - out the stol - èd min - is - ter, And
chant - ing con - - - gre - - - ga - - - - - - - -
cresc.
dim.
- tion, God's Spi - rit shall. . . . . give
allargando
p
com - fort. HE Who brood - ed soft on wa - ters drear, Cre -
colla parte


a tempo
- a - - tor on cre - - a - - tion.
a tempo
pp
rit.
ff
Ped. *
Grandioso.(♩=66.)
f
He shall as-sist me to look higher,
fp
con Ped. sempre
He shall as-sist me to look higher, ... Where keep the
fp
saints, with harp . . . . . and song, ... An end-less,

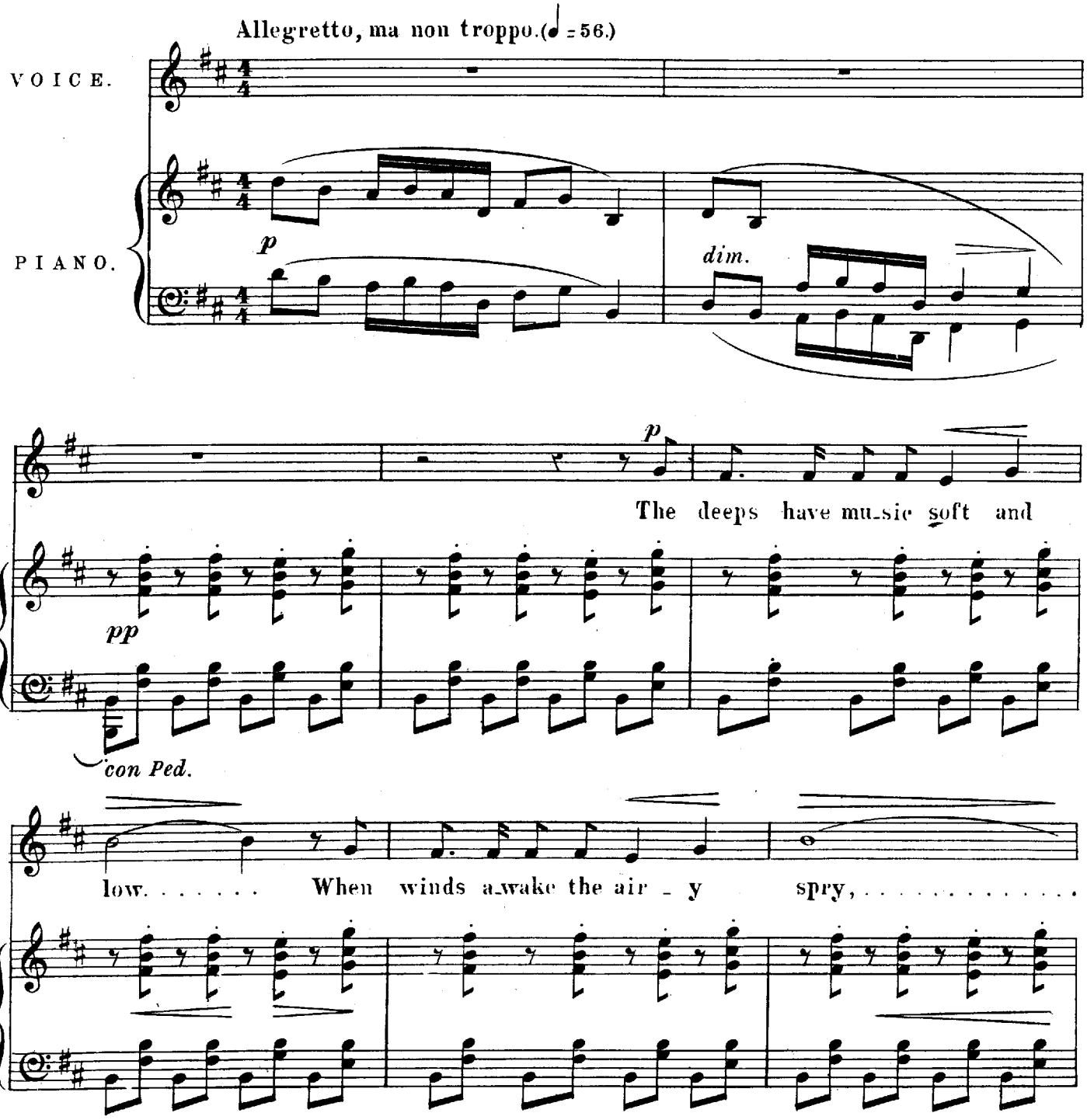

cantabile ed accelerando.
end - less sab - bath morn - - - ing, An
sostenuto ed accelerando.
end - less sab - - - bath morn - - - - - ing, ...
mf
. . . And, on. . . that sea com - -
p
Ped.
Ped.
cresc.
- mix'd. . . . . with fire, On. . . . . that sea com -
p
Ped.
Ped.
Ped. simile


f
p
- mix'd . . . . . with fire,
Oft drop their eye-lids raised too
cresc. molto e largamente.
f
rit.
ff
long To the full
God-head's burn - - ing,
the full
colla parte
rit.
God-head's burn - - - ing . . . . . .
f
p
f
dim.
pp
ff
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

WHERE CORALS LIE.

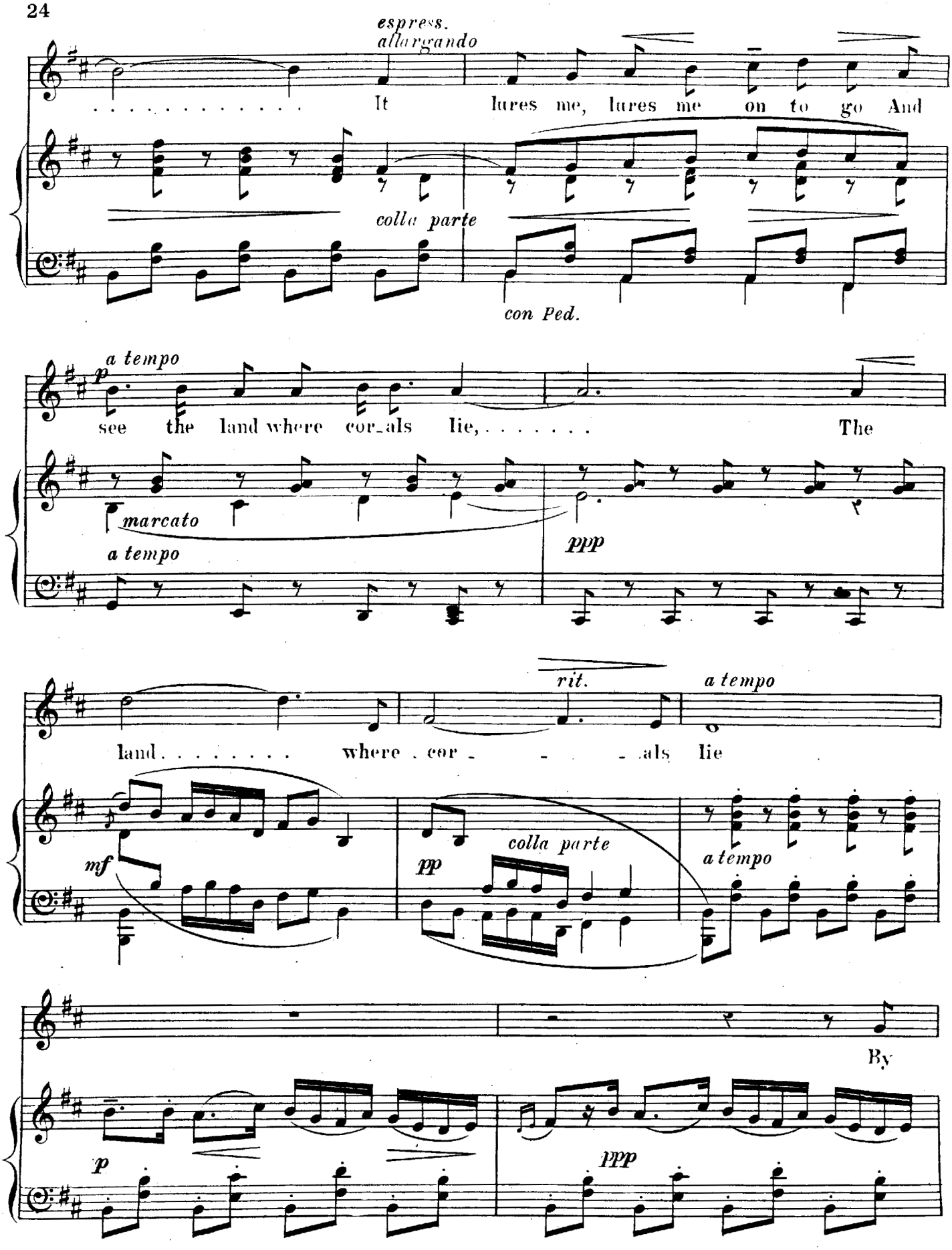
Words by
RICHARD GARNETT.*

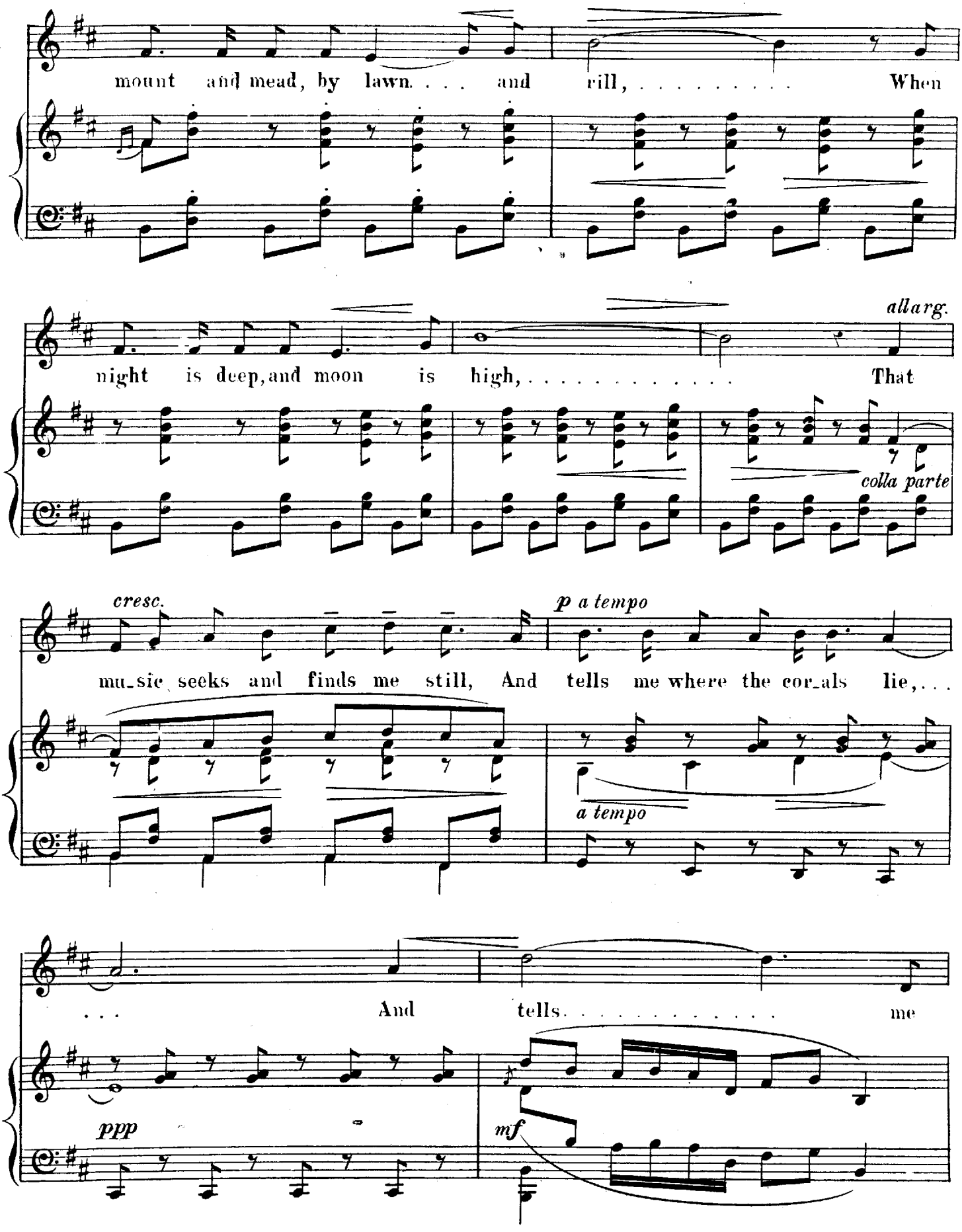
Music by
EDWARD ELGAR. Op.37. Nº 4.

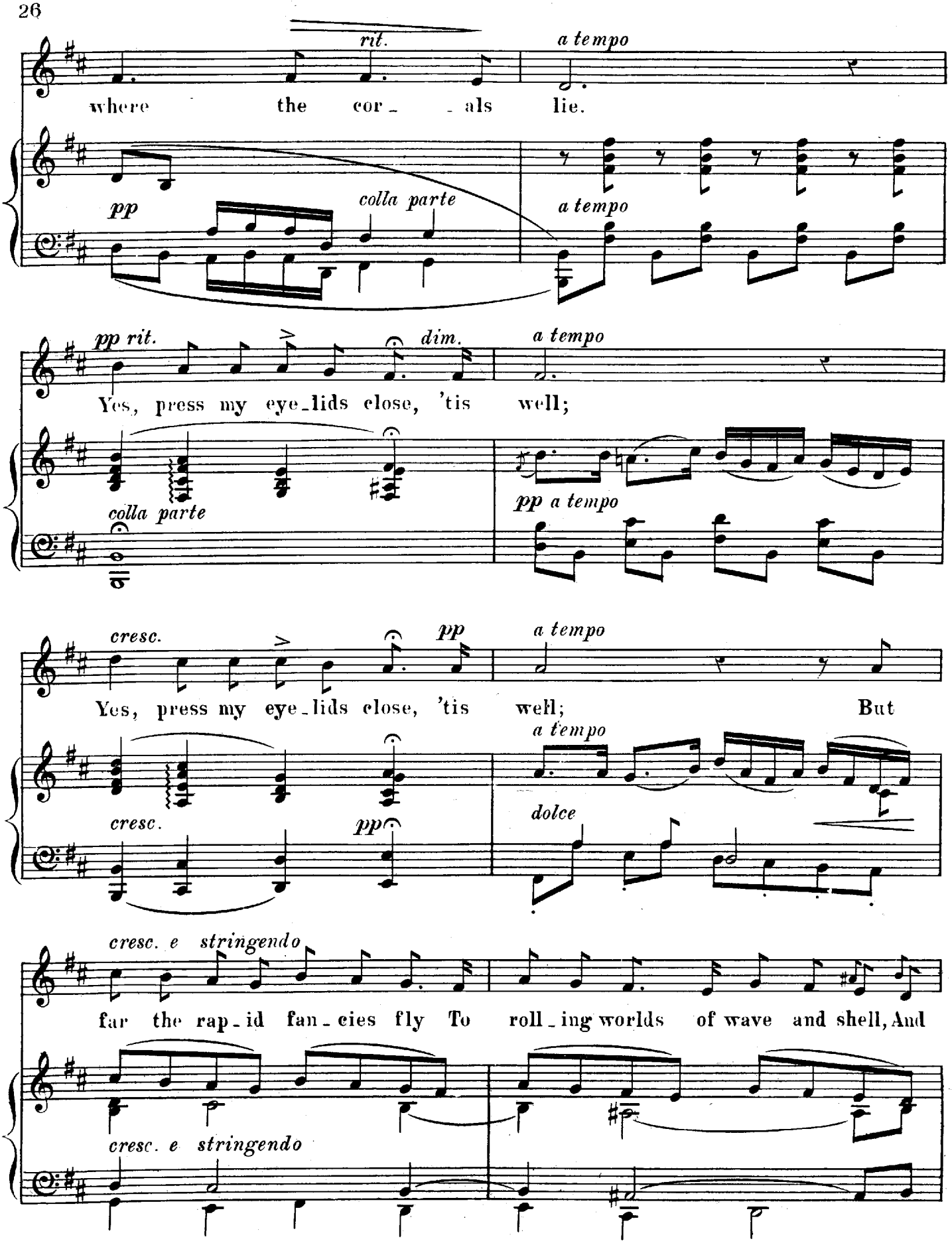


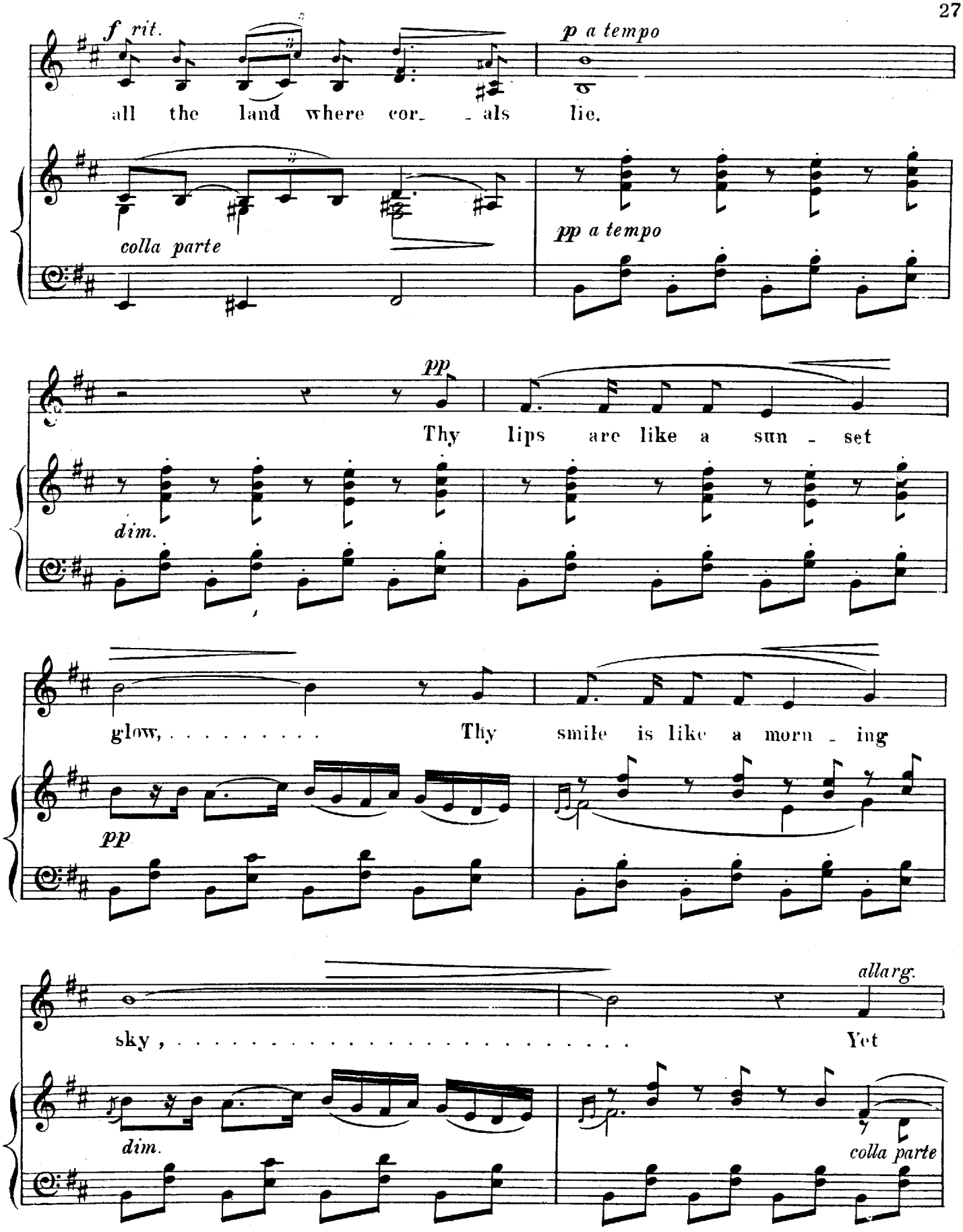
With the Author's kind permission.

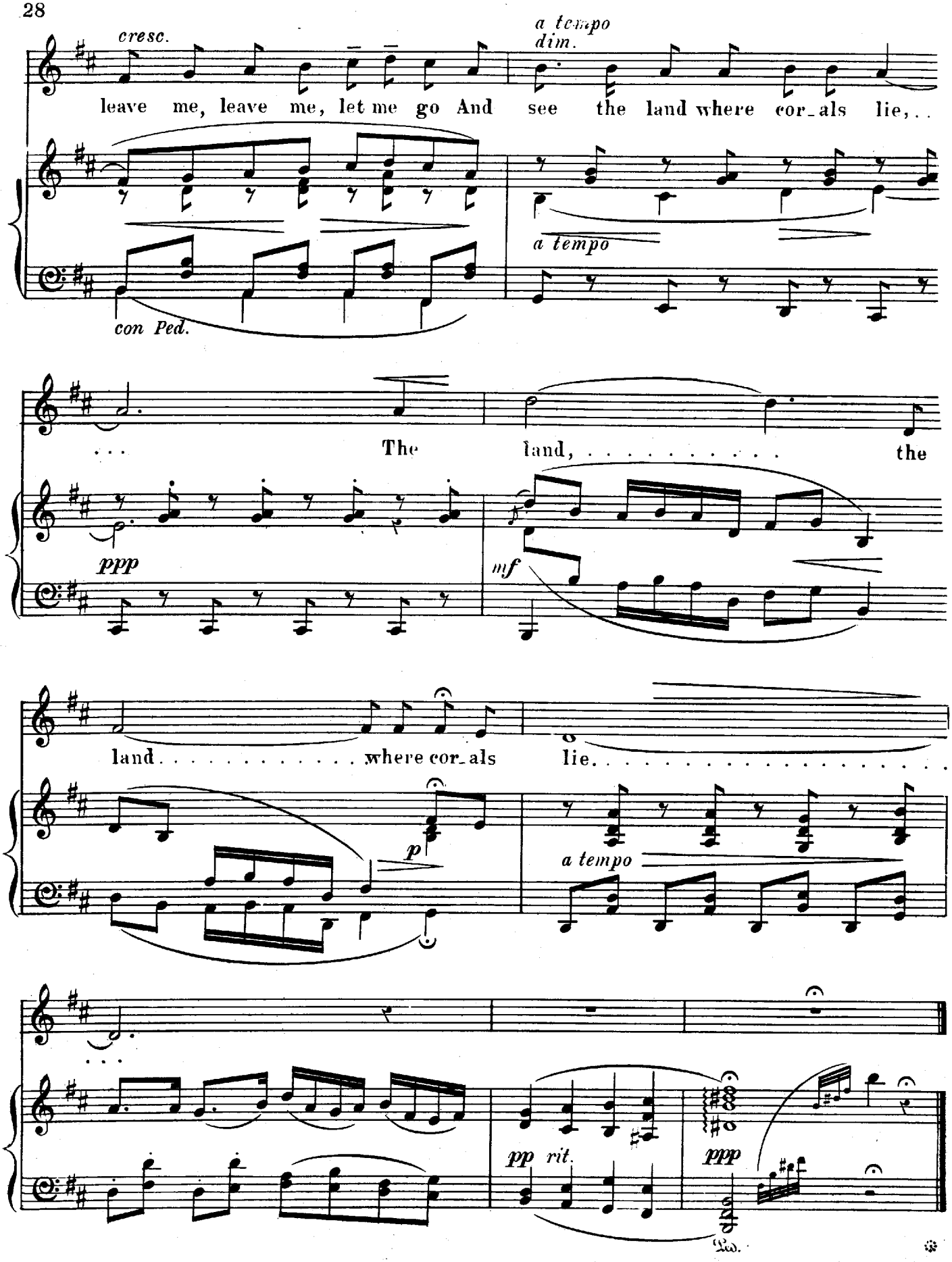
Copyright 1899 by Boosey & Cº *Copyright renewed 1926 in U. S. A. by Boosey & Co. Ltd.*


espress.
allargando
It lures me, lures me on to go And
colla parte
con Ped.
a tempo
p
see the land where cor_als lie, ... The
marcato
a tempo
ppp
rit.
a tempo
land . . . . . where . cor - - - - als lie
mf
pp
colla parte
a tempo
By
p
ppp


mount and mead, by lawn . . . and rill, ... When
night is deep, and moon is high, ... That
allarg.
colla parte
cresc.
p a tempo
mu-sic seeks and finds me still, And tells me where the cor-als lie, . . .
a tempo
. . . And tells . . . . . me
ppp
mf


rit.
a tempo
where the cor_ _als lie.
pp
colla parte
a tempo
pp rit.
dim.
a tempo
Yes, press my eye_lids close, 'tis well;
colla parte
pp a tempo
cresc.
pp
a tempo
Yes, press my eye_lids close, 'tis well; But
a tempo
cresc.
pp
dolce
cresc. e stringendo
far the rap_id fan_cies fly To roll_ing worlds of wave and shell, And
cresc. e stringendo

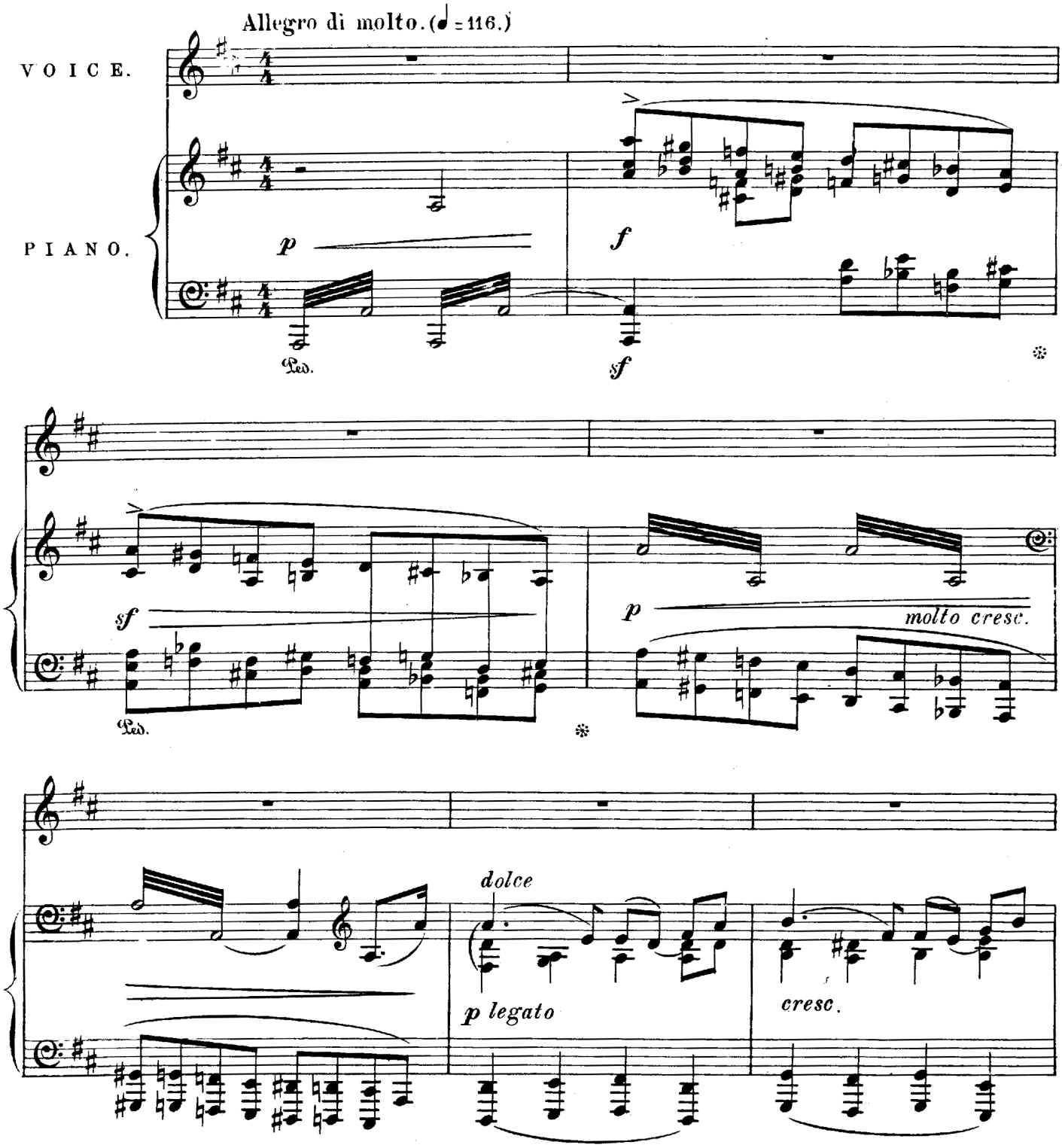

f rit.
p a tempo
all the land where cor_ _als lie.
colla parte
pp a tempo
pp
Thy lips are like a sun _ set
dim.
glow, ... Thy smile is like a morn _ ing
pp
allarg.
sky , ... Yet
dim.
colla parte


cresc.
a tempo
dim.
leave me, leave me, let me go And see the land where cor_als lie, . .
a tempo
con Ped.
. . . The land, ... the
ppp
mf
land . . . . . where cor_als lie. . . . . .
p
a tempo
. . .
pp rit.
ppp
Ped.

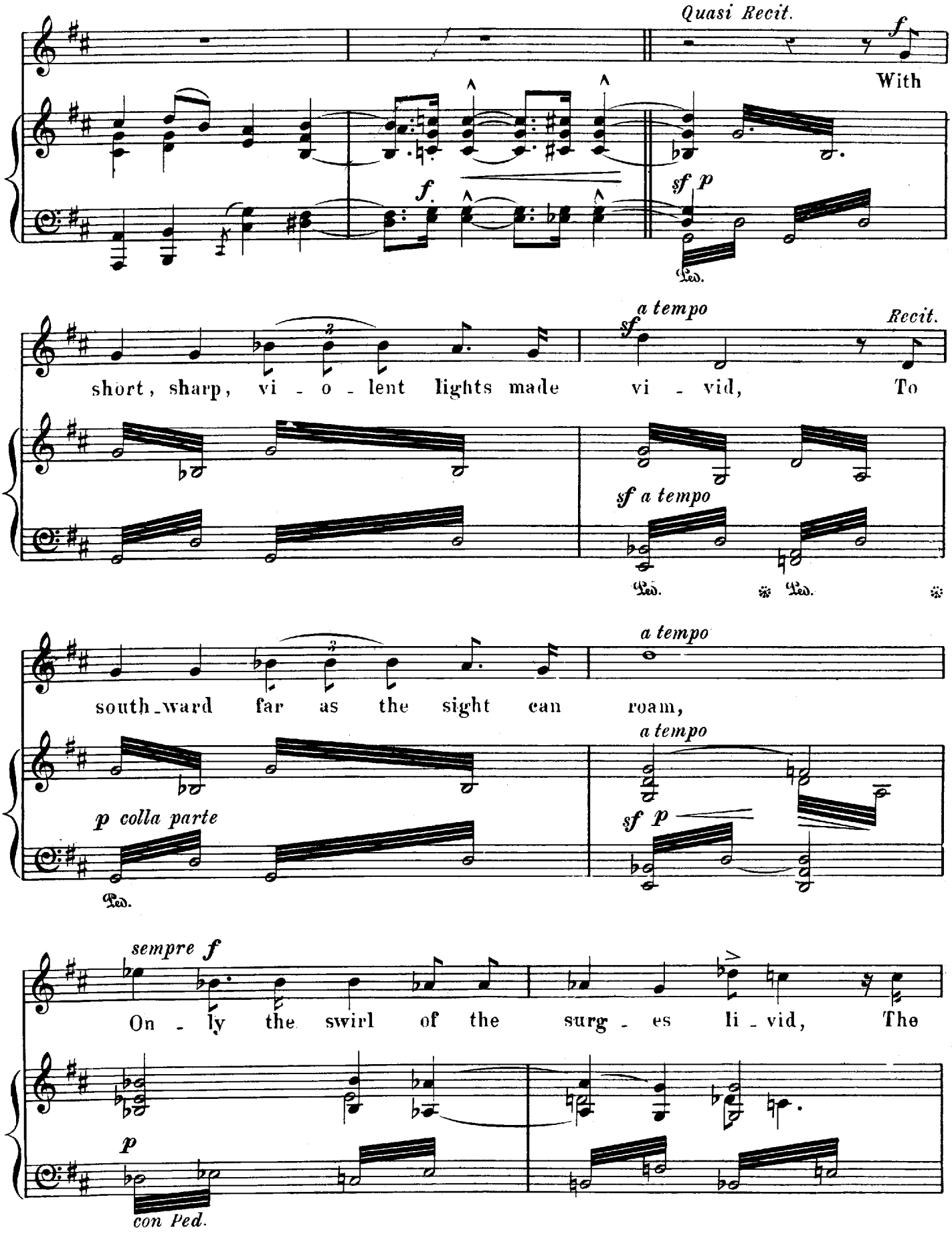
THE SWIMMER.

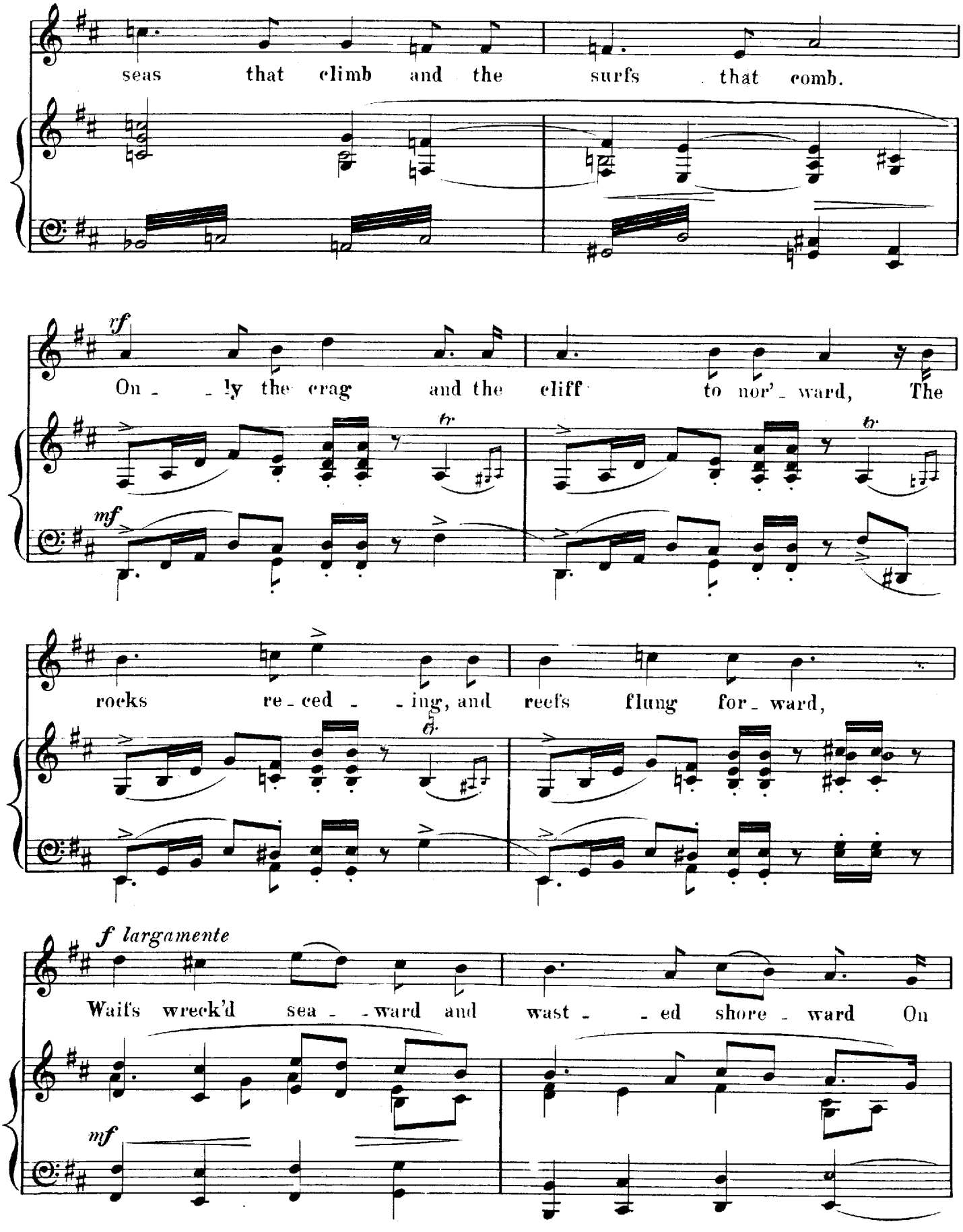
From a Poem by
A. LINDSAY GORDON.

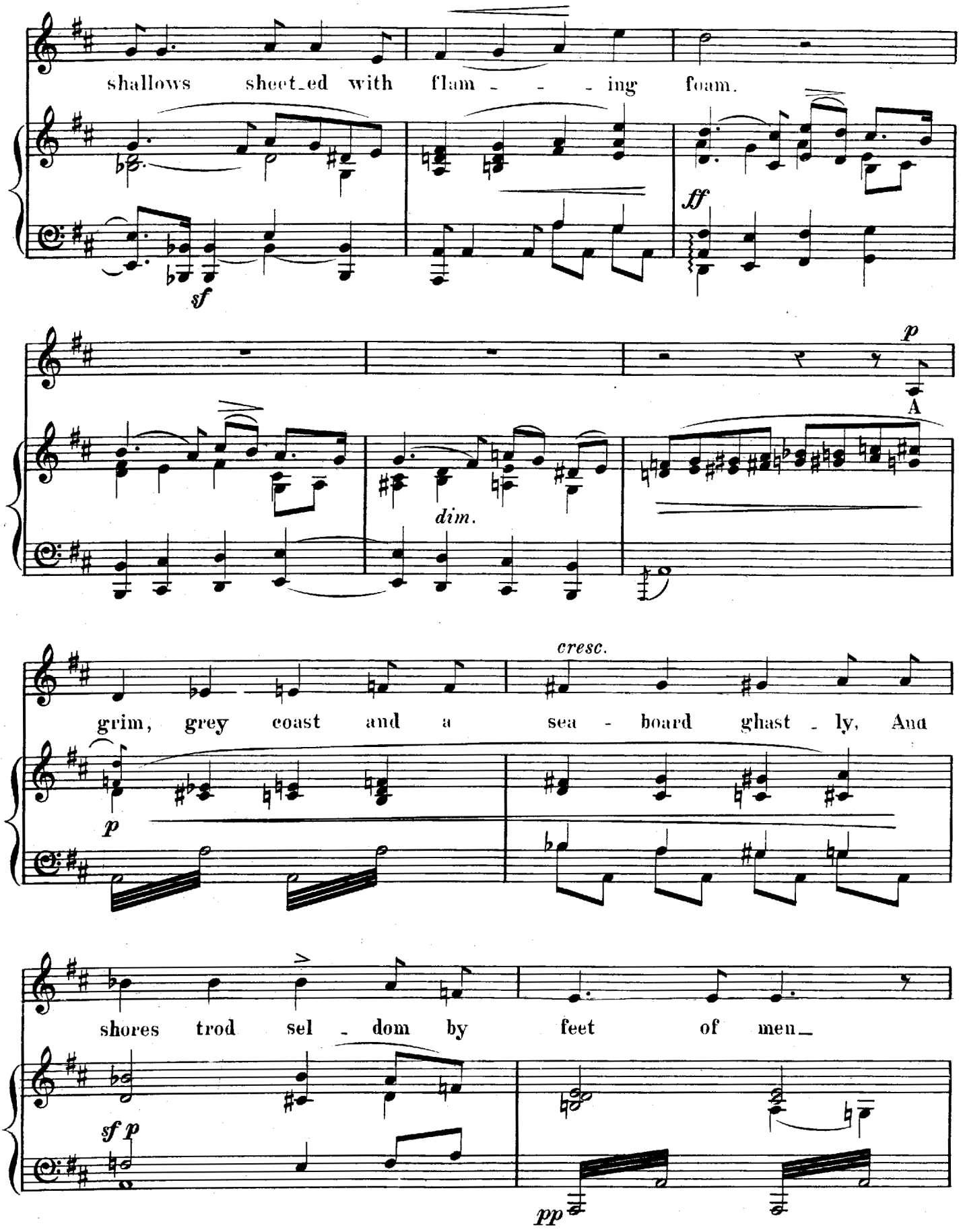
Music by
EDWARD ELGAR. Op. 37. Nº 5.

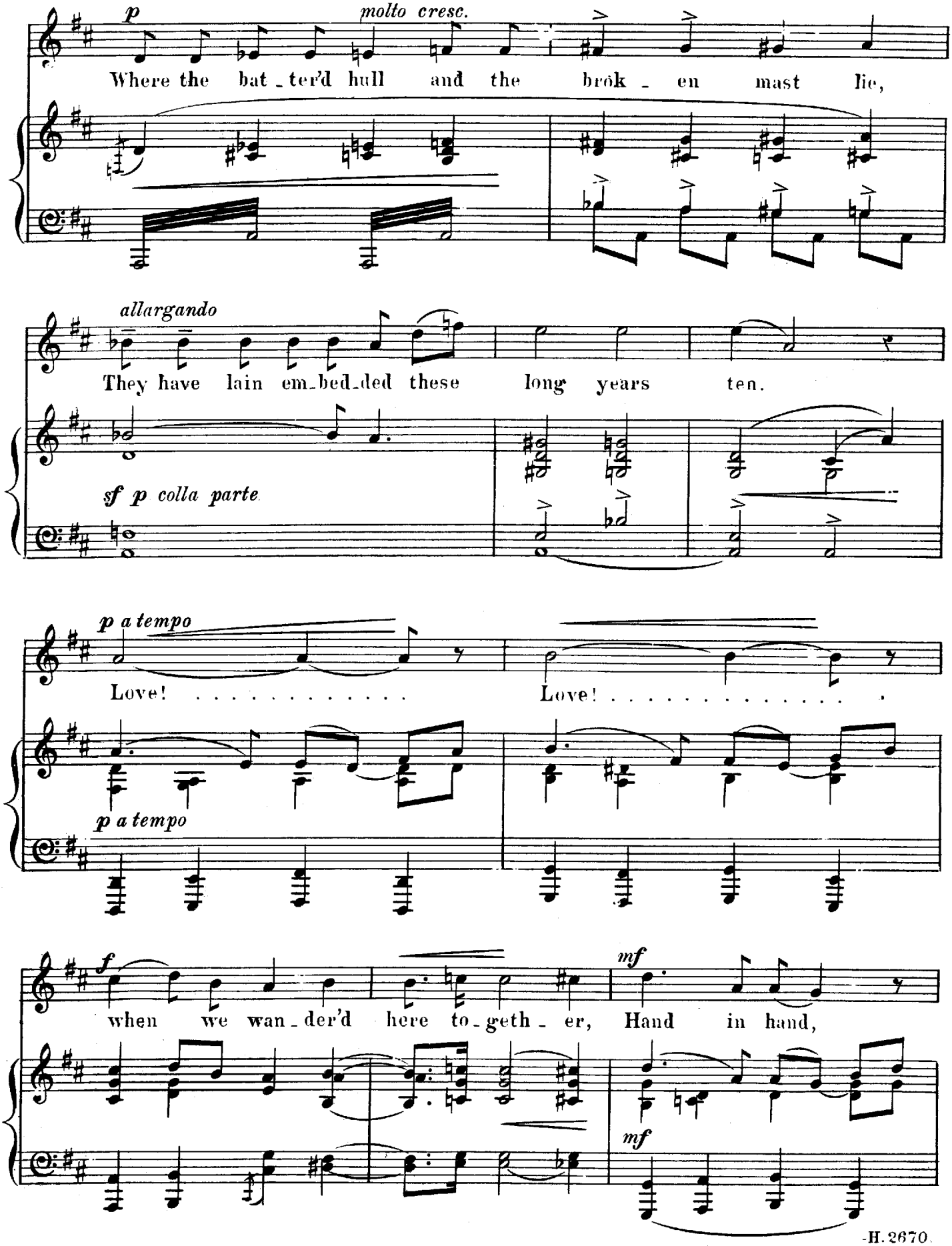


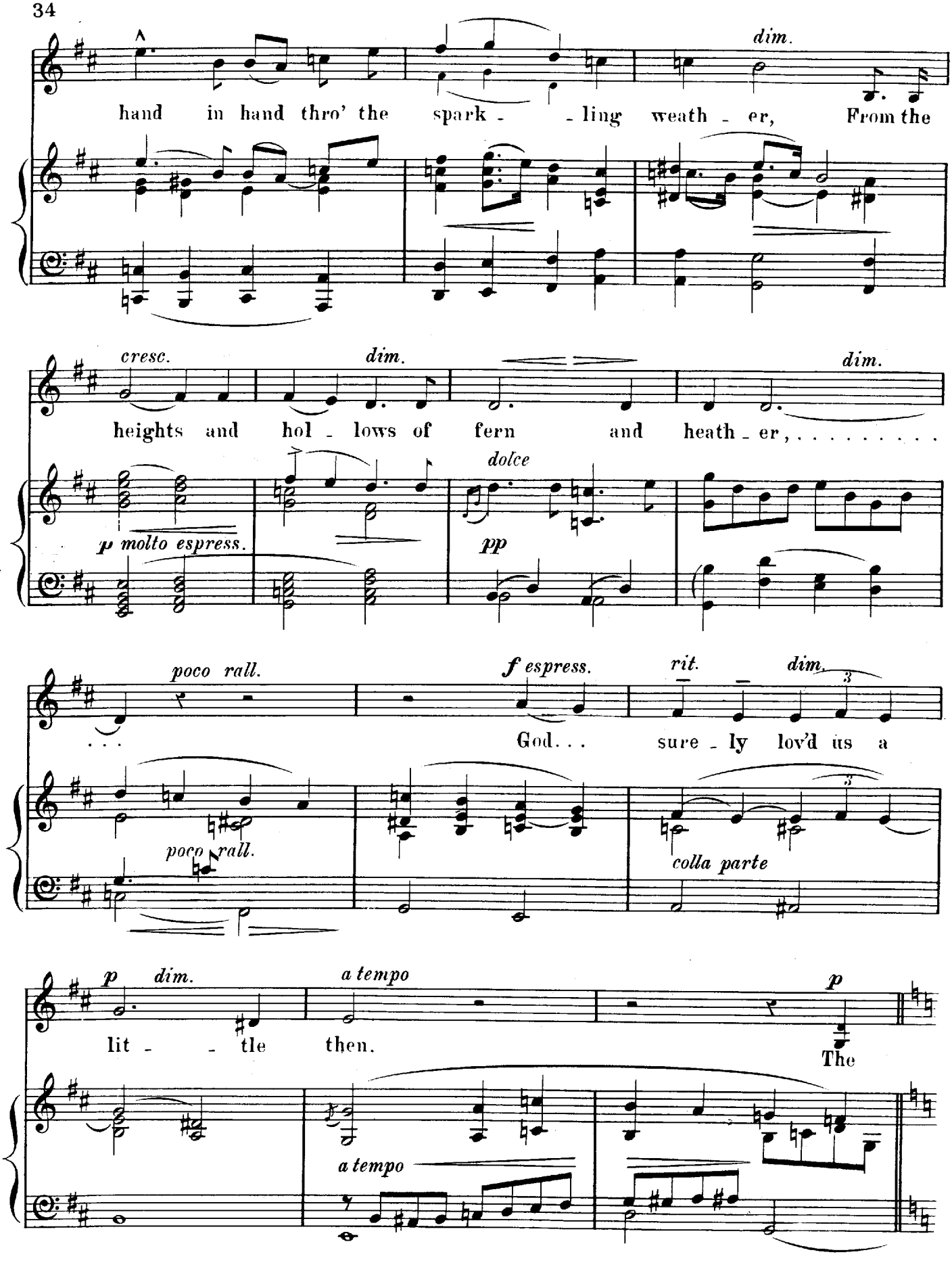
Copyright 1899 by Boosey & Cº *Copyright renewed 1926 in U. S. A. by Boosey & Co. Ltd.*

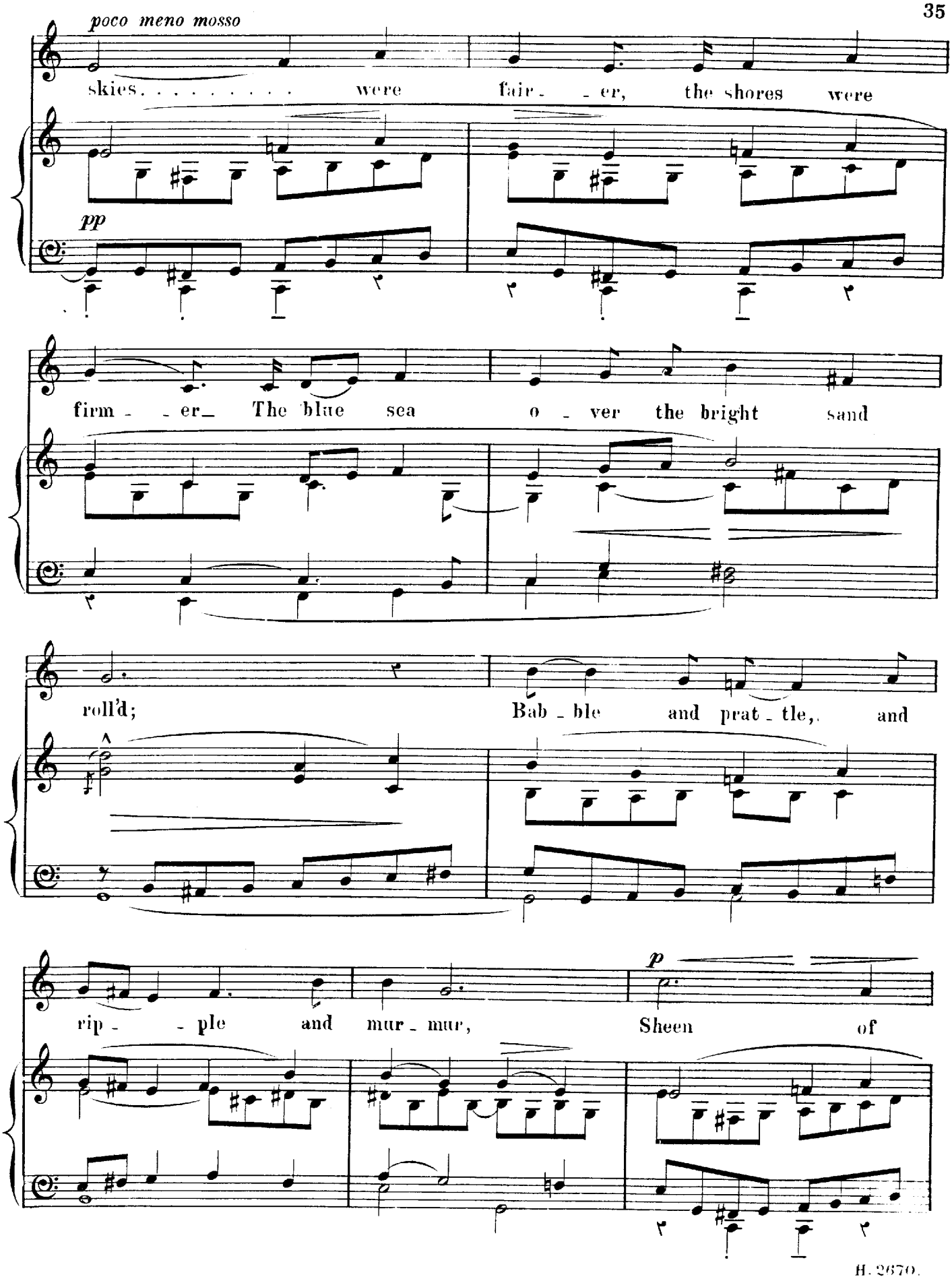

Quasi Recit.
f
With
f.
sf p
Ped.
a tempo
sf
Recit.
short, sharp, vi - o - lent lights made vi - vid, To
sf a tempo
Ped. Ped.
a tempo
south-ward far as the sight can roam,
a tempo
p colla parte
sf p
Ped.
sempre f
On - ly the swirl of the surg - es li - vid, The
p
con Ped.

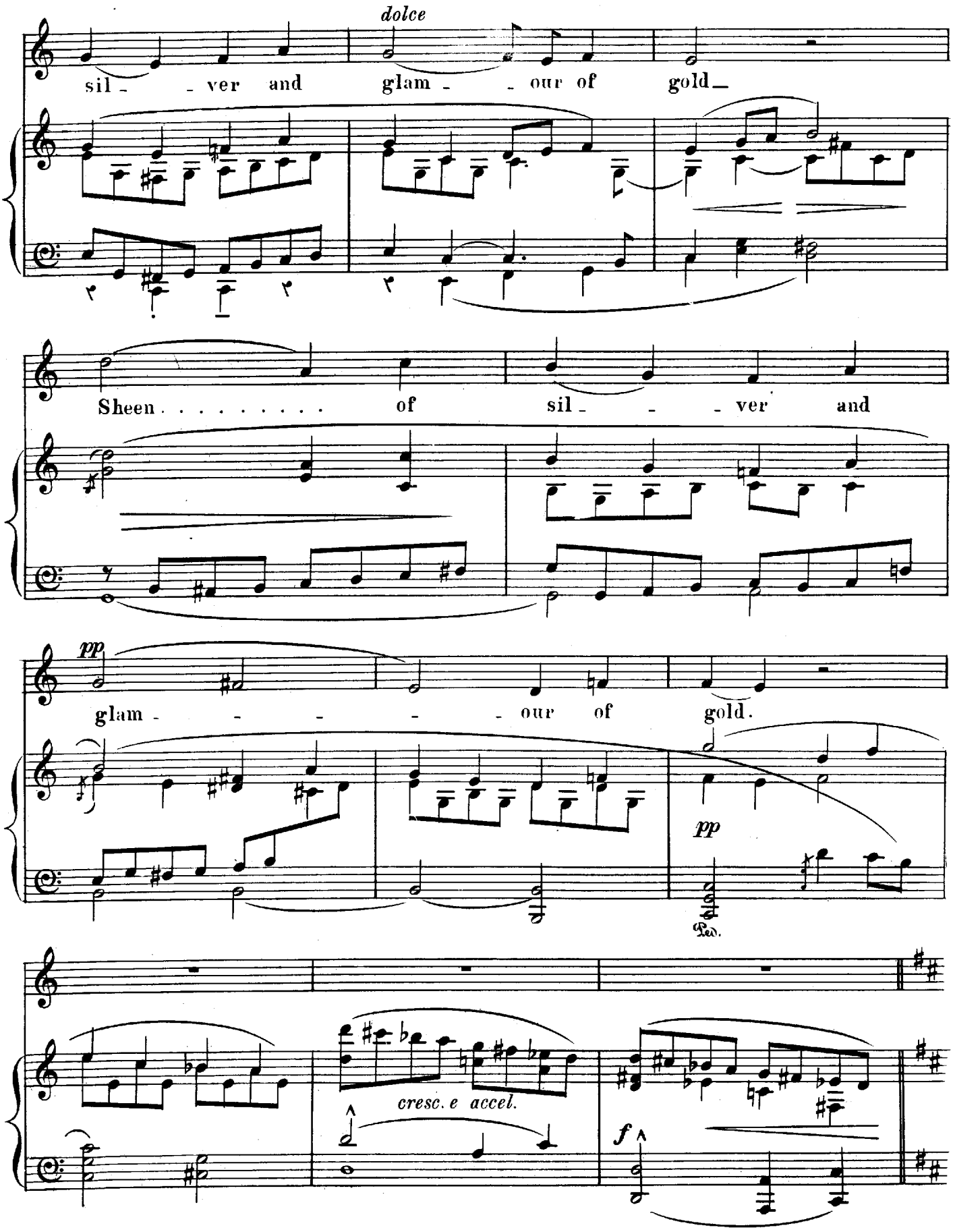

seas that climb and the surfs that comb.
rf
On - ly the crag and the cliff to nor' - ward, The
mf
rocks re - ced - ing, and reefs flung for - ward,
f largamente
Waifs wreck'd sea - ward and wast - ed shore - ward On
mf

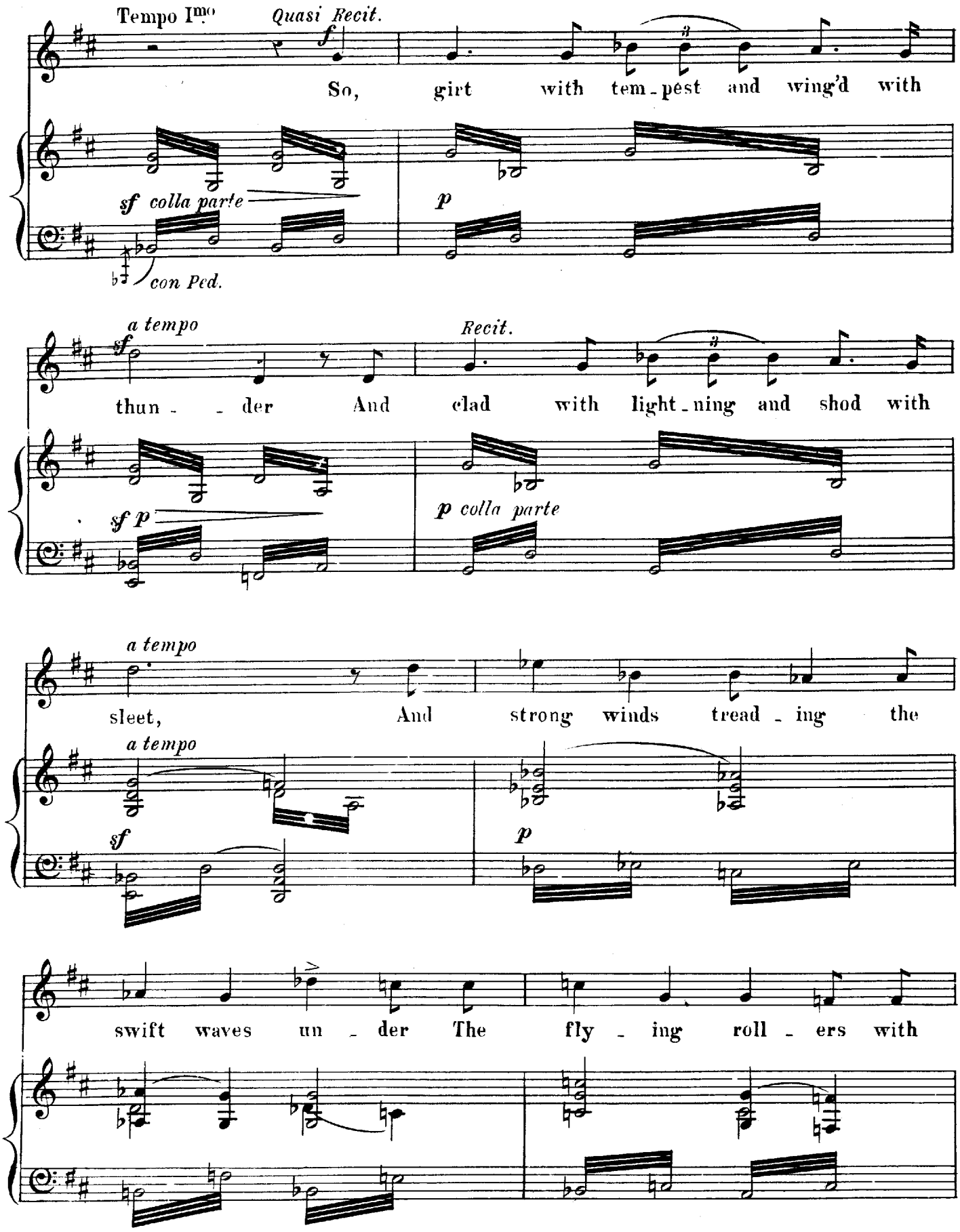

shallows sheet-ed with flam - - - ing foam.
sf
ff
p
A
dim.
cresc.
grim, grey coast and a sea - board ghast - ly, And
p
shores trod sel - dom by feet of men_
sf p
pp

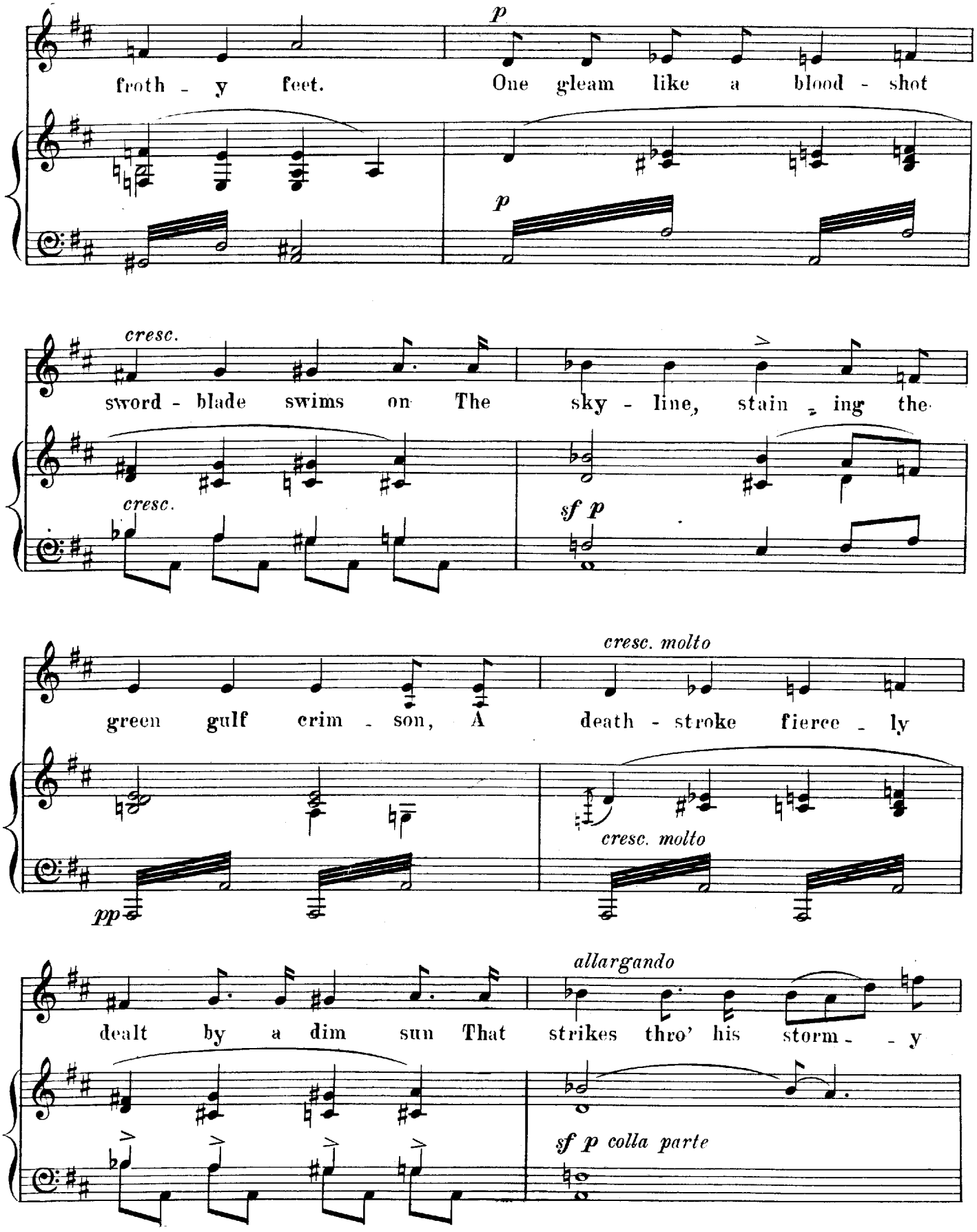

p
molto cresc.
Where the bat_ter'd hull and the brok_en mast lie,
allargando
They have lain em_bed_ded these long years ten.
sf p colla parte
p a tempo
Love! . . . . . Love! . . . . . .
p a tempo
f
when we wan_der'd here to_geth_er, Hand in hand,
mf
mf

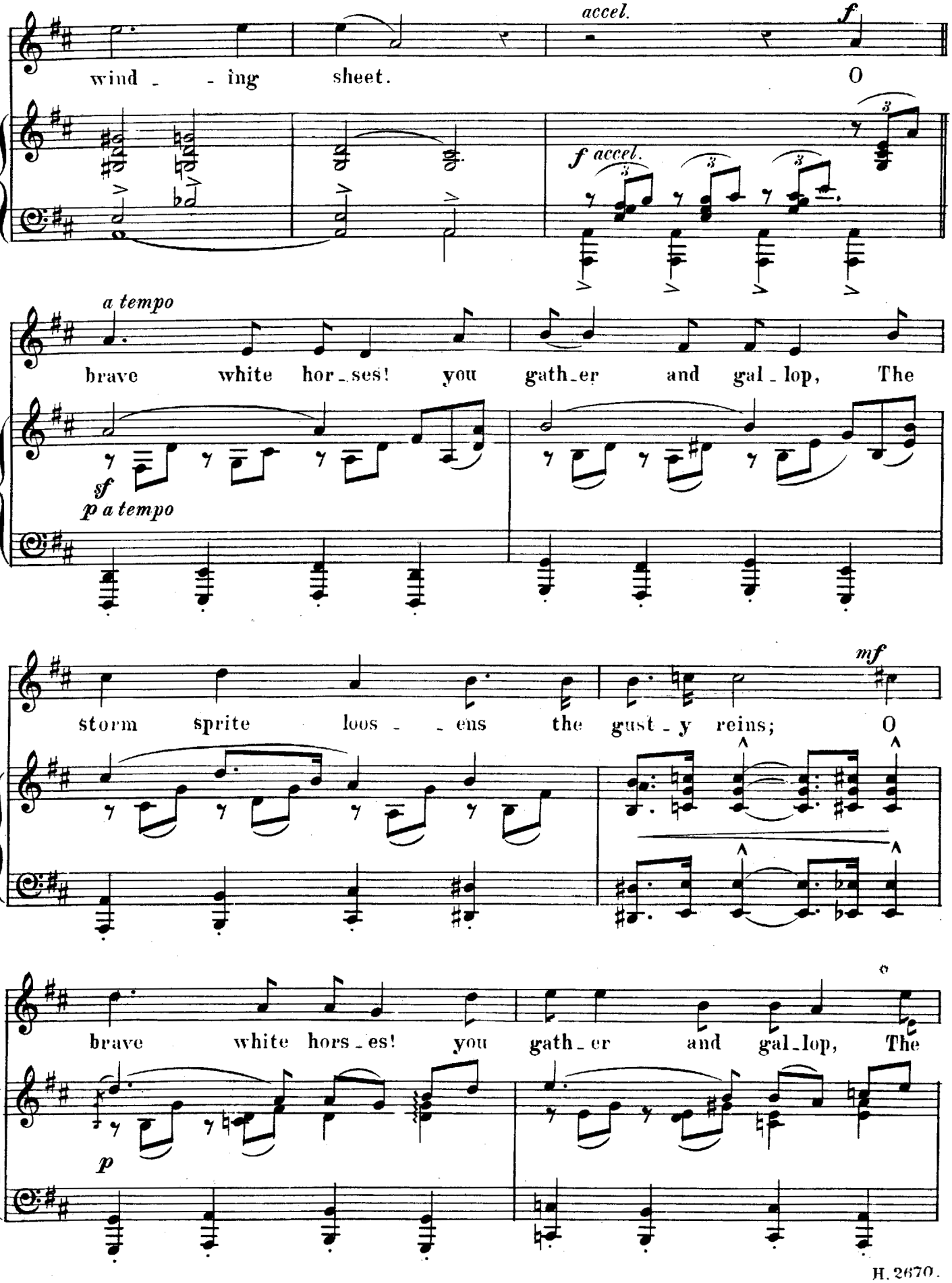

dim.
hand in hand thro' the spark - - ling weath - er, From the
cresc.
dim.
dim.
heights and hol - lows of fern and heath - er, ...
p molto espress.
dolce
pp
poco rall.
f espress.
rit.
dim.
. . .
God. . . sure - ly lov'd us a
poco rall.
colla parte
p
dim.
a tempo
p
lit - - tle then.
The
a tempo

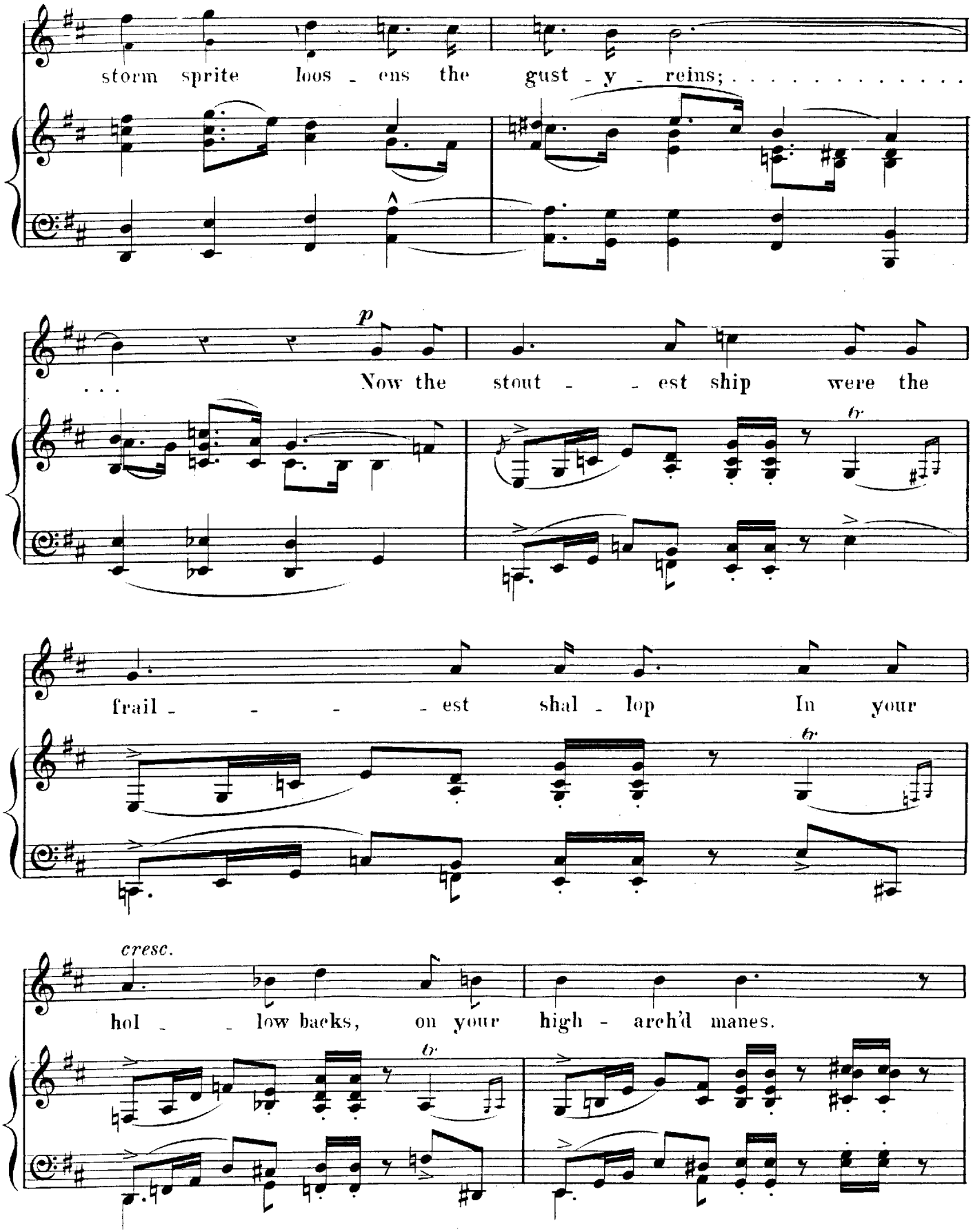

poco meno mosso
skies . . . . . were fair - - er, the shores were
pp
firm - - er_ The blue sea o - ver the bright sand
roll'd; Bab - ble and prat - tle, and
p
rip - - ple and mur - mur, Sheen of

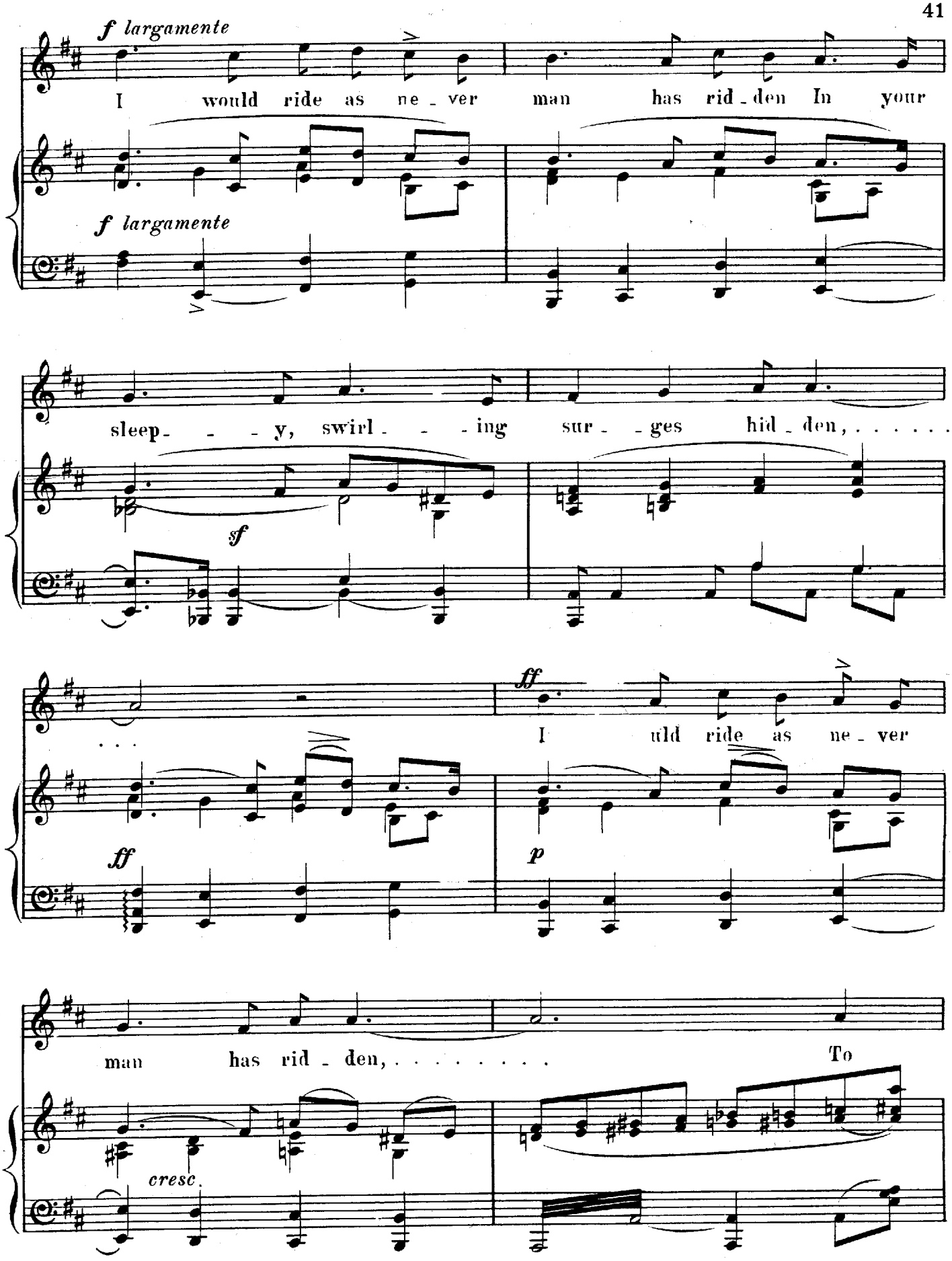

dolce
sil - - ver and glam - - our of gold_
Sheen . . . . . of sil - - - ver and
pp
glam - - - - - our of gold.
pp
Ped.
cresc. e accel.
f

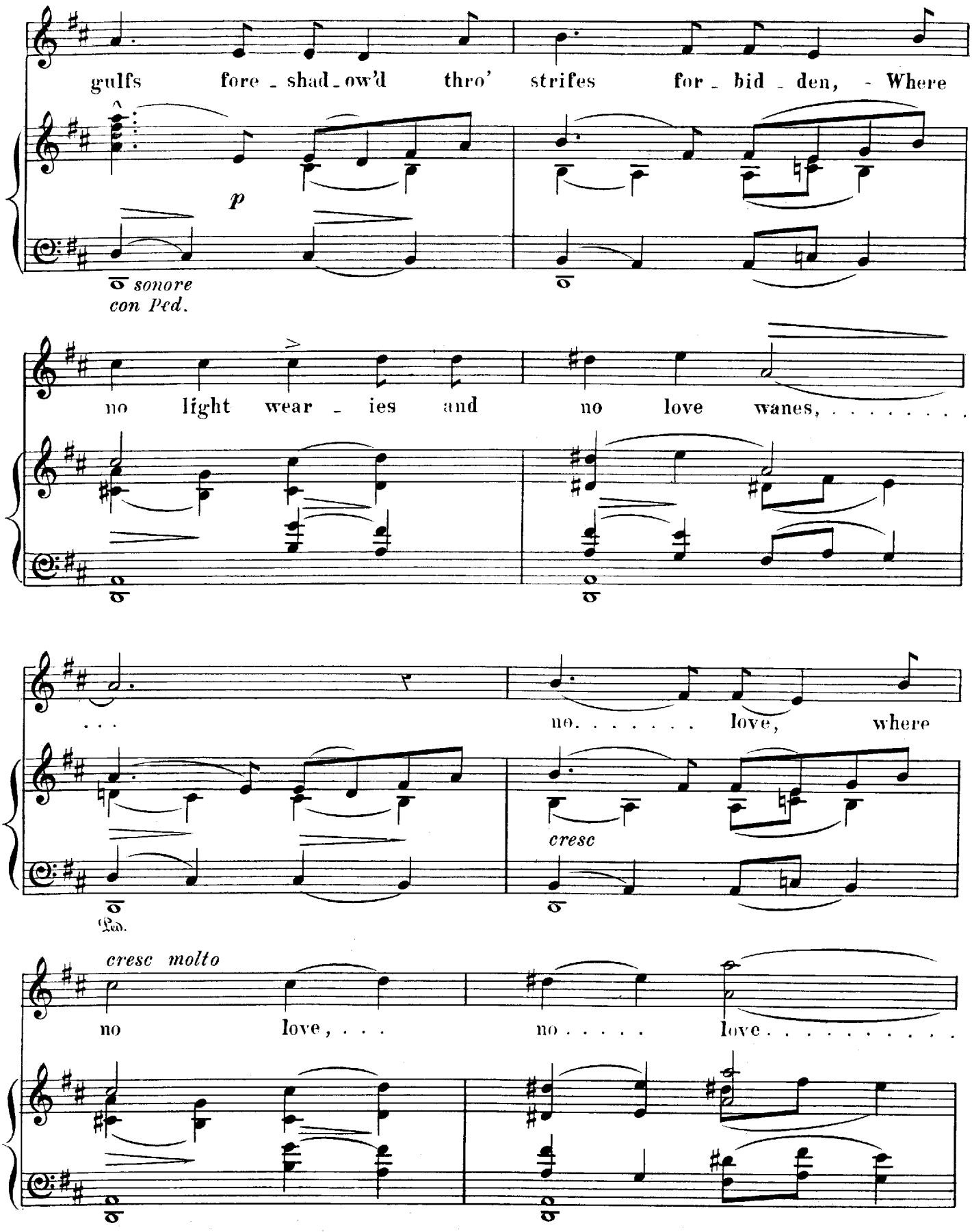

Tempo Imo
Quasi Recit.
So, girt with tem - pest and wing'd with
sf colla parte
con Ped.
p
a tempo
Recit.
thun - - der And clad with light - ning and shod with
sf p
p colla parte
a tempo
sleet, And strong winds tread - ing the
a tempo
sf
p
swift waves un - der The fly - ing roll - ers with

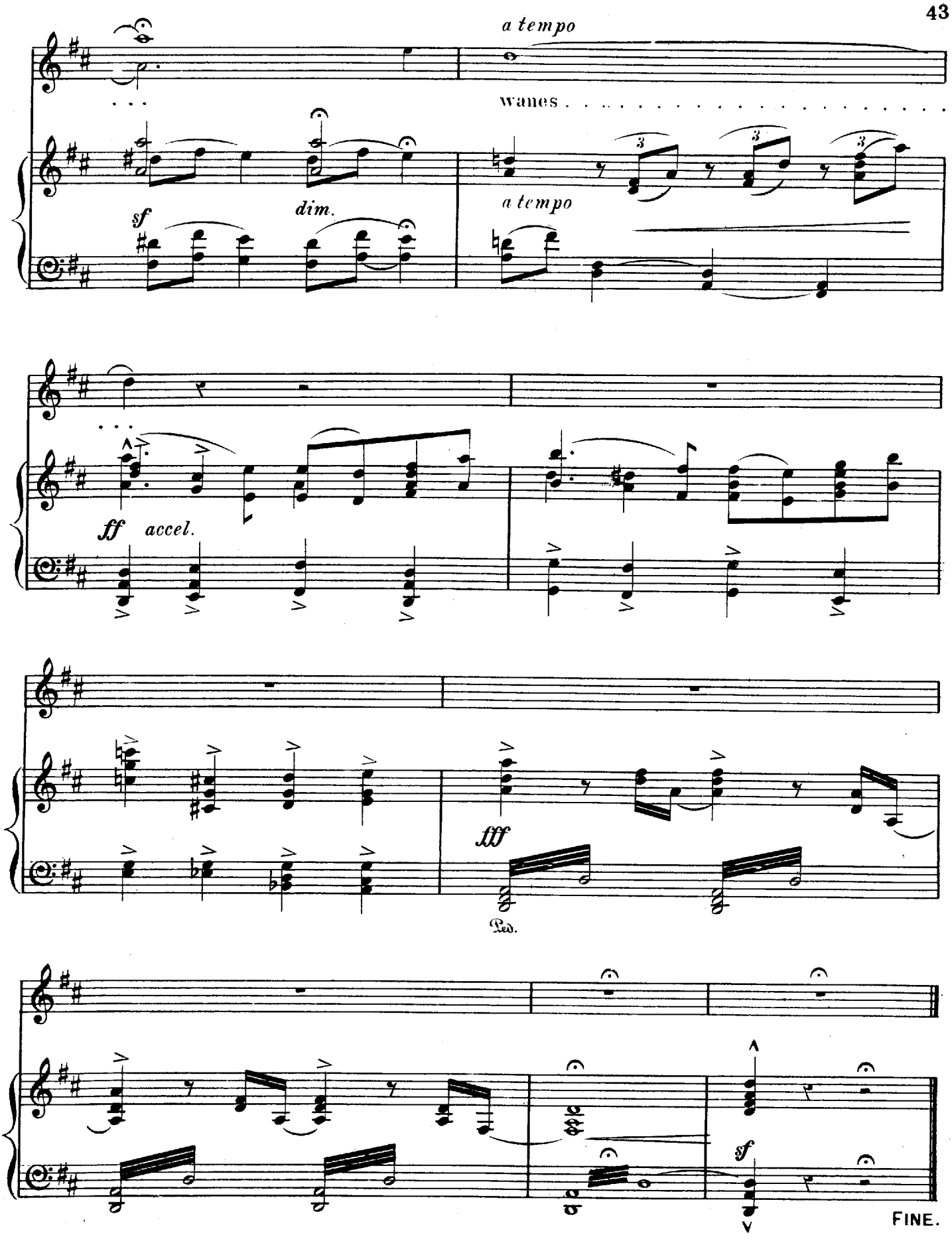

p
froth - y feet. One gleam like a blood - shot
p
cresc.
sword - blade swims on The sky - line, stain - ing the
cresc.
sf p
cresc. molto
green gulf crim - son, A death - stroke fierce - ly
cresc. molto
pp
allargando
dealt by a dim sun That strikes thro' his storm - - y
sf p colla parte


accel.
f
wind - - ing sheet. O
f accel.
a tempo
brave white hor - ses! you gath - er and gal - lop, The
sf
p a tempo
mf
storm sprite loos - - ens the gust - y reins; O
brave white hors - es! you gath - er and gal - lop, The
p


storm sprite loos - ens the gust - y - reins; . . . . . .
p
. . . Now the stout - - est ship were the
tr
frail - - - - est shal - lop In your
tr
cresc.
hol - - low backs, on your high - arch'd manes.
tr


f largamente
I would ride as ne - ver man has rid - den In your
f largamente
sleep - - - y, swirl - - - ing sur - - ges hid - den, ...
sf
. . .
ff
I uld ride as ne - ver
ff
p
man has rid - den, ...
To
cresc.


gulfs fore - shad - ow'd thro' strifes for - bid - den, - Where
p
sonore
con Ped.
no light wear - ies and no love wanes, ...
. . .
no. . . . . love, where
cresc
Ped.
cresc molto
no love, . . . no . . . . . love . . . . . .


a tempo
wanes . . . . . .
sf
dim.
a tempo
ff
accel.
fff
Ped.
sf
FINE.