Fays

of the

Floating Islands

Cantata

For Three-part Chorus of Treble Voices
Without Solos

Text and Music by

Paul Bliss

Price, 60 Cents

The Willis Music Company
Cincinnati
O

Staging

Fays of the Floating Islands

Scene. *Back curtain* — A woodland dell with water visible in the background. Trailing vines and streamers of sparkling cobwebs hung from trees. By the water's edge, two low stones. Subdued blue lights give the effect of a moonlight scene.

Costumes — Fairy gowns of tarlatan in pastel shades of pink, yellow, blue, and pale green. The skirts of the gowns full and billowy, with pointed overskirts decorated with spangles and bright flowers. The waists made with wing sleeves and large bows at the back.

Immediately after the curtain, the fairy-costumed chorus flits in from either side, and advances in fairy step (short running steps with arms extended backward) to form a double semi-circle in center-front of stage. In this position they sing the opening chorus, "Evening."

At beginning of "The Cricket Band" all girls catch hands and dance in light balance step, extending lines of semi-circle through eight measures, then closing in through next eight measures, then extending through next eight. At words "Hark how the crickets play," all assume listening pose and hold it through eight measures. The dance is then resumed and continued to words, "Wilder and faster..." where all whirl around once, then stand with arms gracefully poised above head until end of the song and then, whirling, run off the stage. One fairy feigning to be lost lingers behind and bewildered, slips back to the front of the stage to sing the solo on page 17.

During interlude on page 18, three of the fairies run in from left side of stage and sing as a trio "The Flight of the Fays." The "Song of the Fays" is given by the same three, two of the fairies flitting back to rest on the stones by the water's edge while the third sings solo at front of stage.

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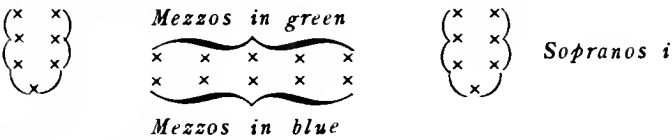
With the first notes of "The Storm" the stage is darkened and the fairies look up frightened (whole chorus sings off stage). Then starting to run away, they are arrested by a flash of lightning. They remain on stage acting as if bewildered and scared while the flashes of lightning continue during the singing of "The Storm" by girls in the front wings. The three on the stage sing as a trio the part beginning "Where now is the moon?" page 38 and ending with the word "afraid" page 40. The three girls then creep stealthily out of sight, leaving one at a time, the third girl beckoning to her comrades whom she had just descried in the distance. She returns almost immediately with the fairies who came skipping in for "Return of the Fairies."

At the opening measure of page 44 a stream of light is thrown on the stage and following this "moonbeam" the fairies skip in, hitched together, in groups, with streamers of white satin ribbon. The arrangement on stage is like this:



This song is rendered in joyful animation, the fairies tip-toeing lightly backward and forward on the staccato "tip-toes."

For "The Dance" page 53, the chorus resumes semi-circle and sings while two solo dancers give rhythmic expression in front. At end of song all fairies break into dance as music is repeated.

Carrie B. Miller

Curtain

564494

Fays
of the
Floating Islands

An evening, 'mid the floating islands in the South where the water-lilies grow.

The fays (or fairies) in the moonlight, all are dancing to the ceaseless music of the cricket band.

Three fairies, wearied, run to the water's edge and there espy a cob-web reaching out through the dark to a neighboring island.

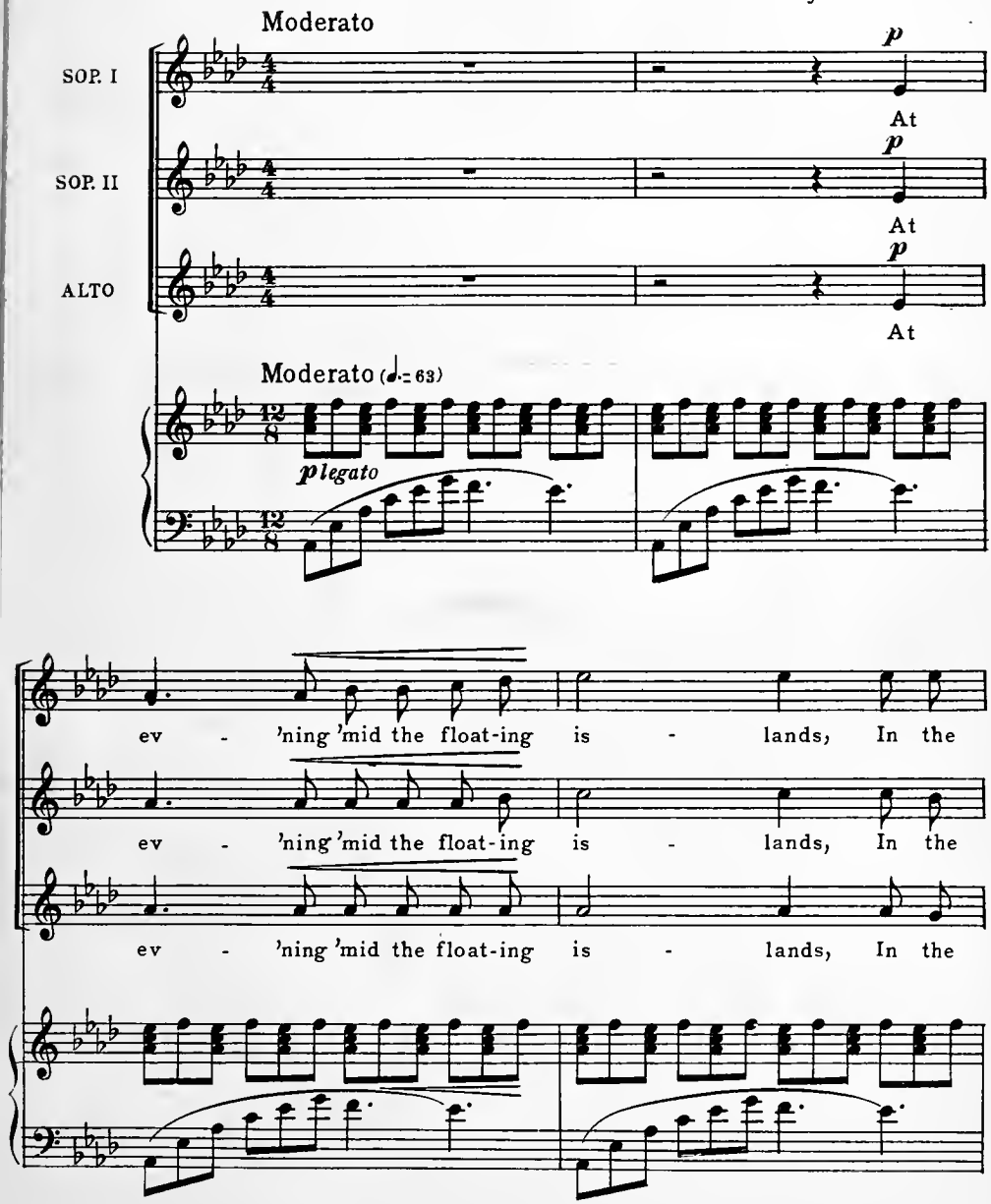
They seek rest — they hurry across on the gossamer web and sing of the beauties of the new island.

Suddenly a storm arises. Clouds hide the moon and the fairies become frightened.

The storm quickly passes, the moon shines out; and upon its silvery beam the fairies tip-toe back to their home and the wild dance goes on.

Fays
of the
Floating Islands
Evening

Text and Music by PAUL BLISS



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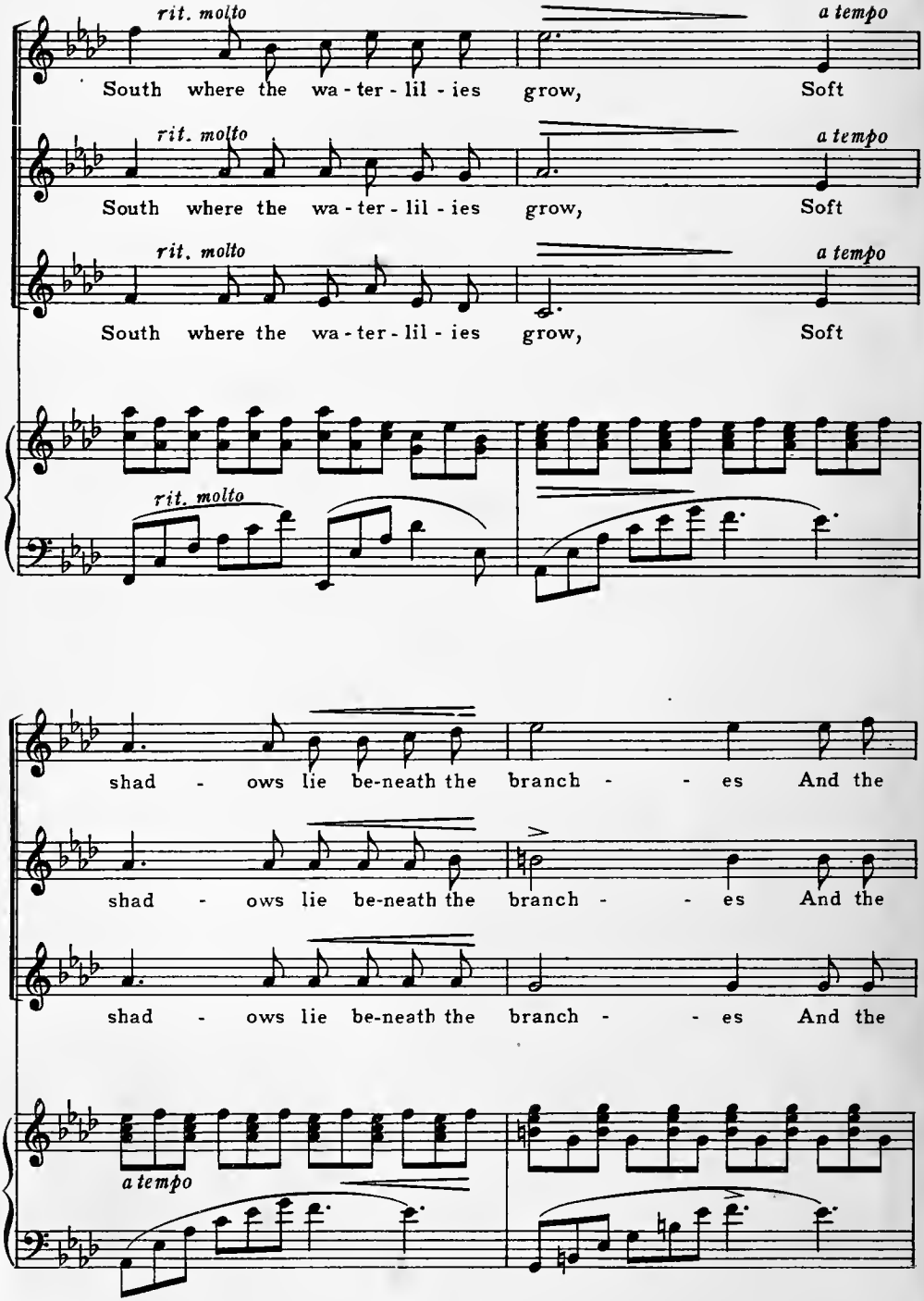
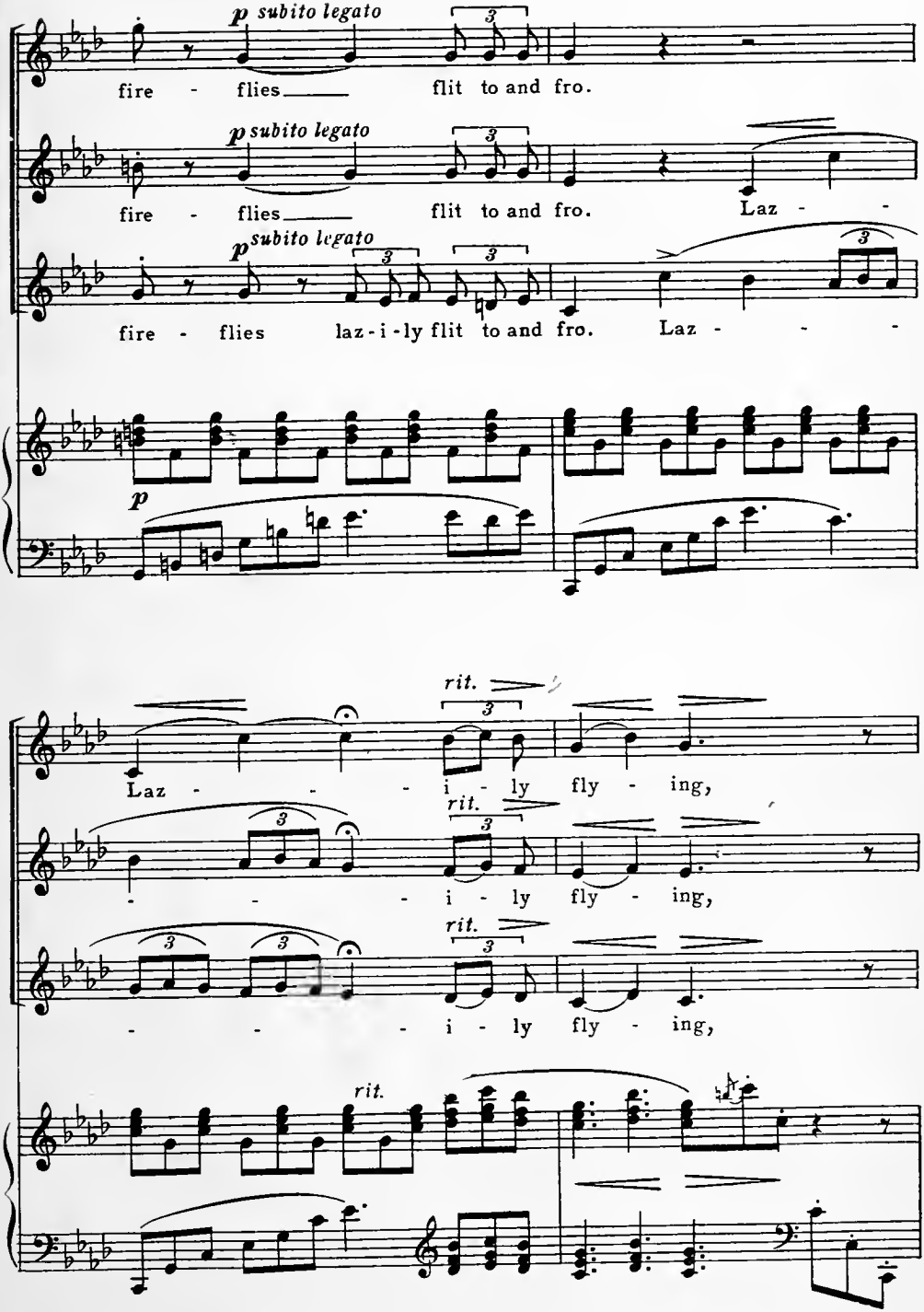
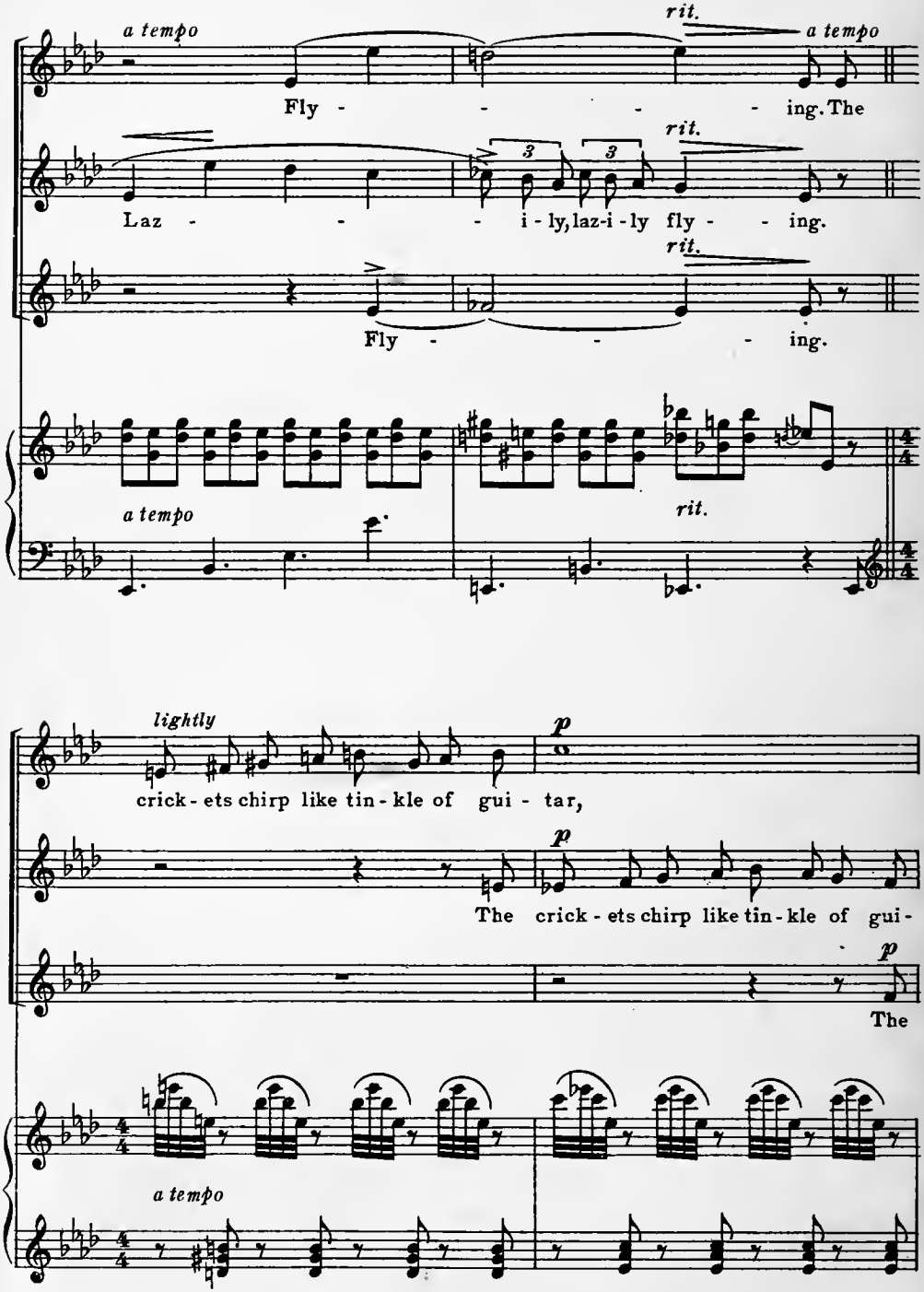
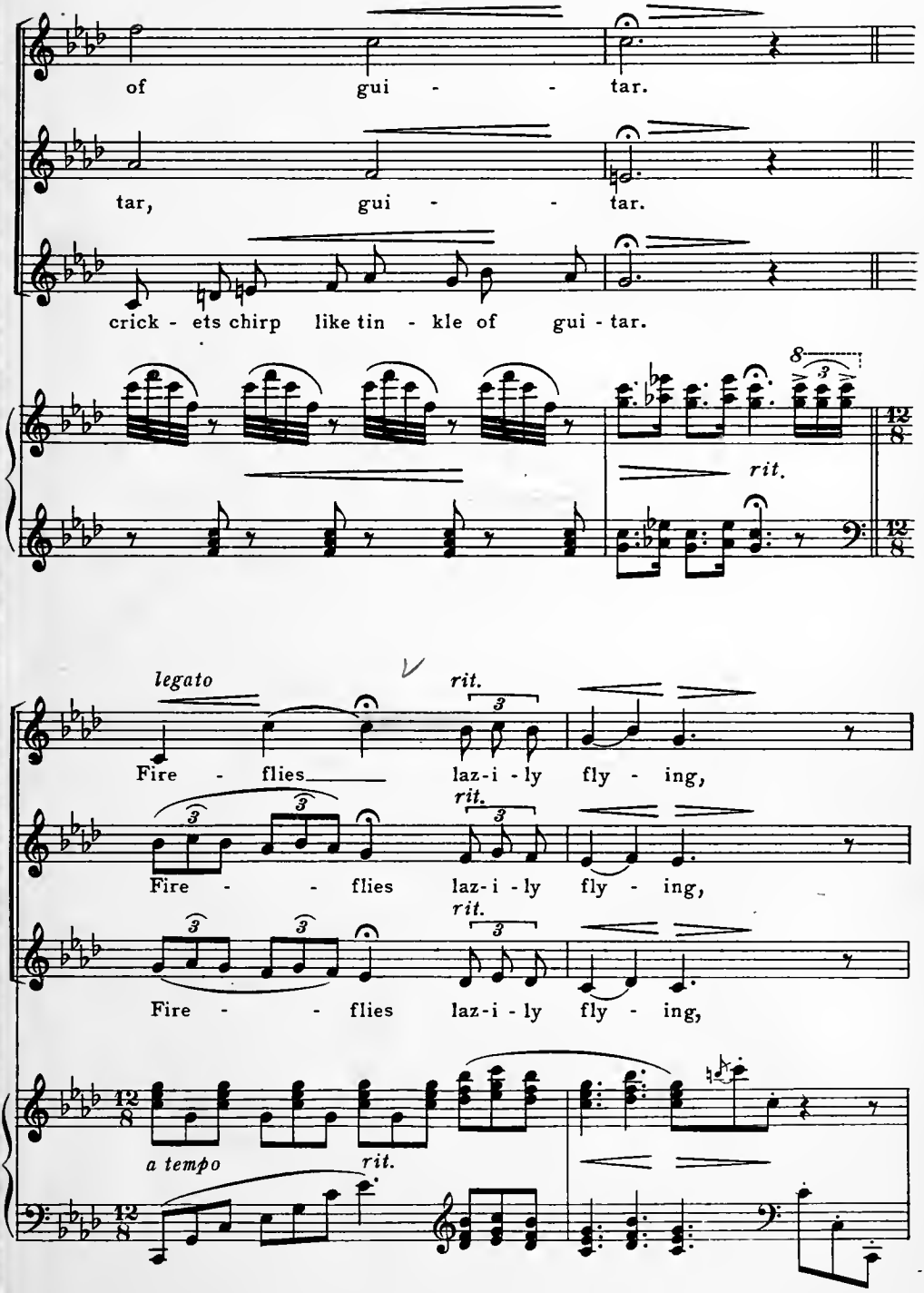
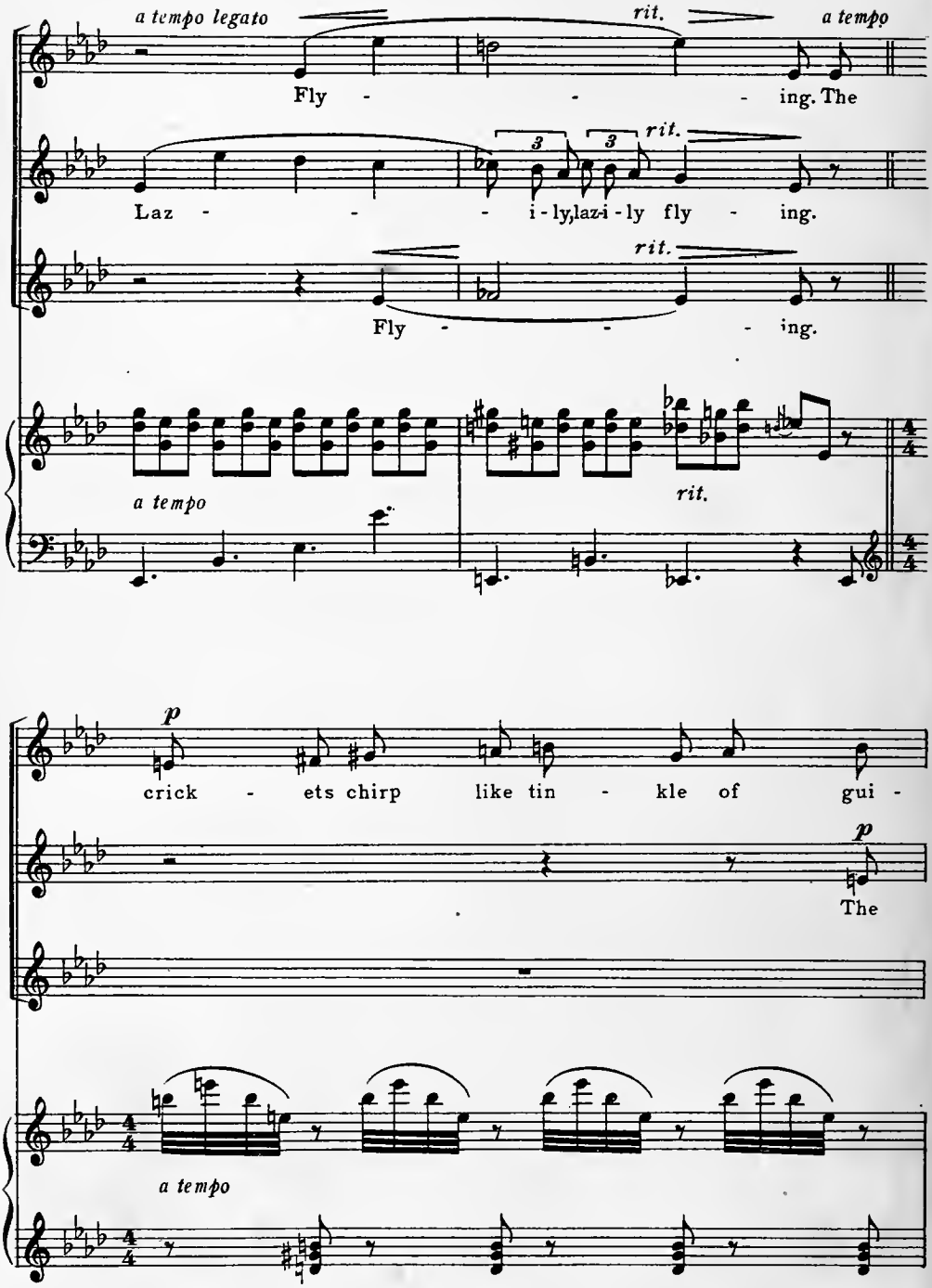
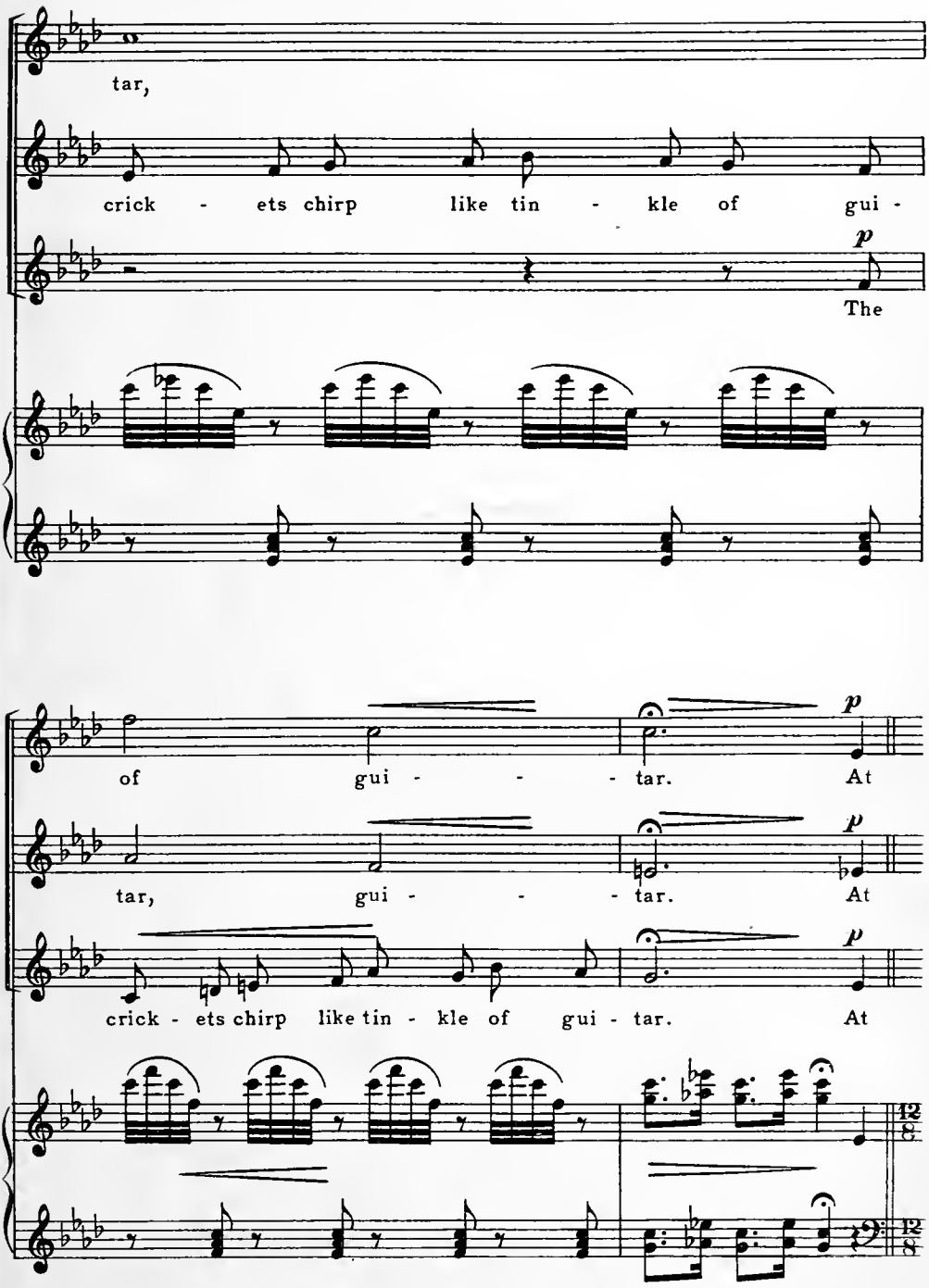

rit. molto
a tempo
South where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow, Soft
rit. molto
a tempo
South where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow, Soft
rit. molto
a tempo
South where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow, Soft
rit. molto
shad - ows lie be-neath the branch - - es And the
shad - ows lie be-neath the branch - - es And the
shad - ows lie be-neath the branch - - es And the
a tempo

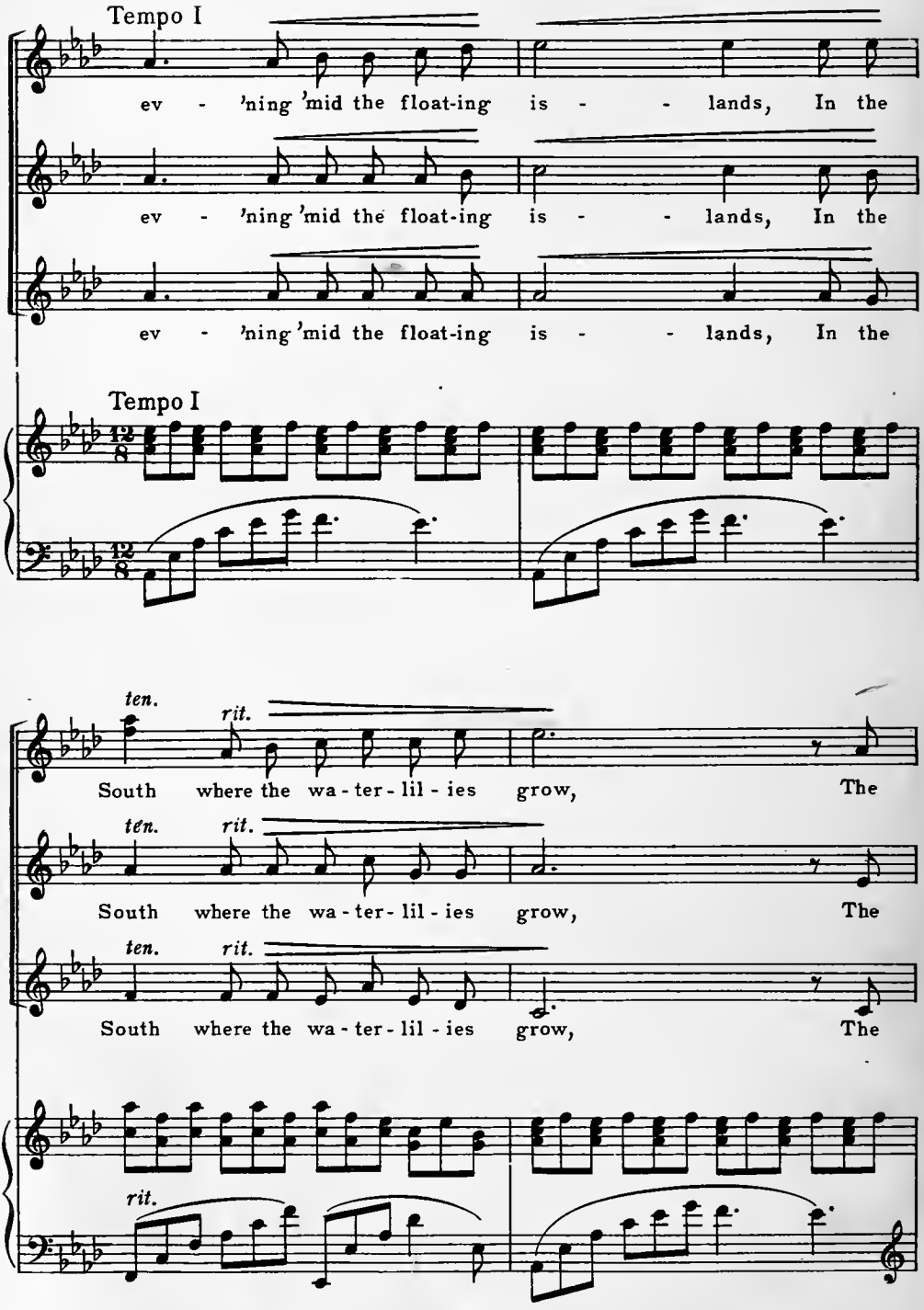

p subito legato
fire - flies flit to and fro.
p subito legato
fire - flies flit to and fro. Laz - -
p subito legato
fire - flies laz-i-ly flit to and fro. Laz - - -
p
rit.
Laz - - - i - ly fly - ing,
rit.
- - - i - ly fly - ing,
rit.
- - - i - ly fly - ing,
rit.

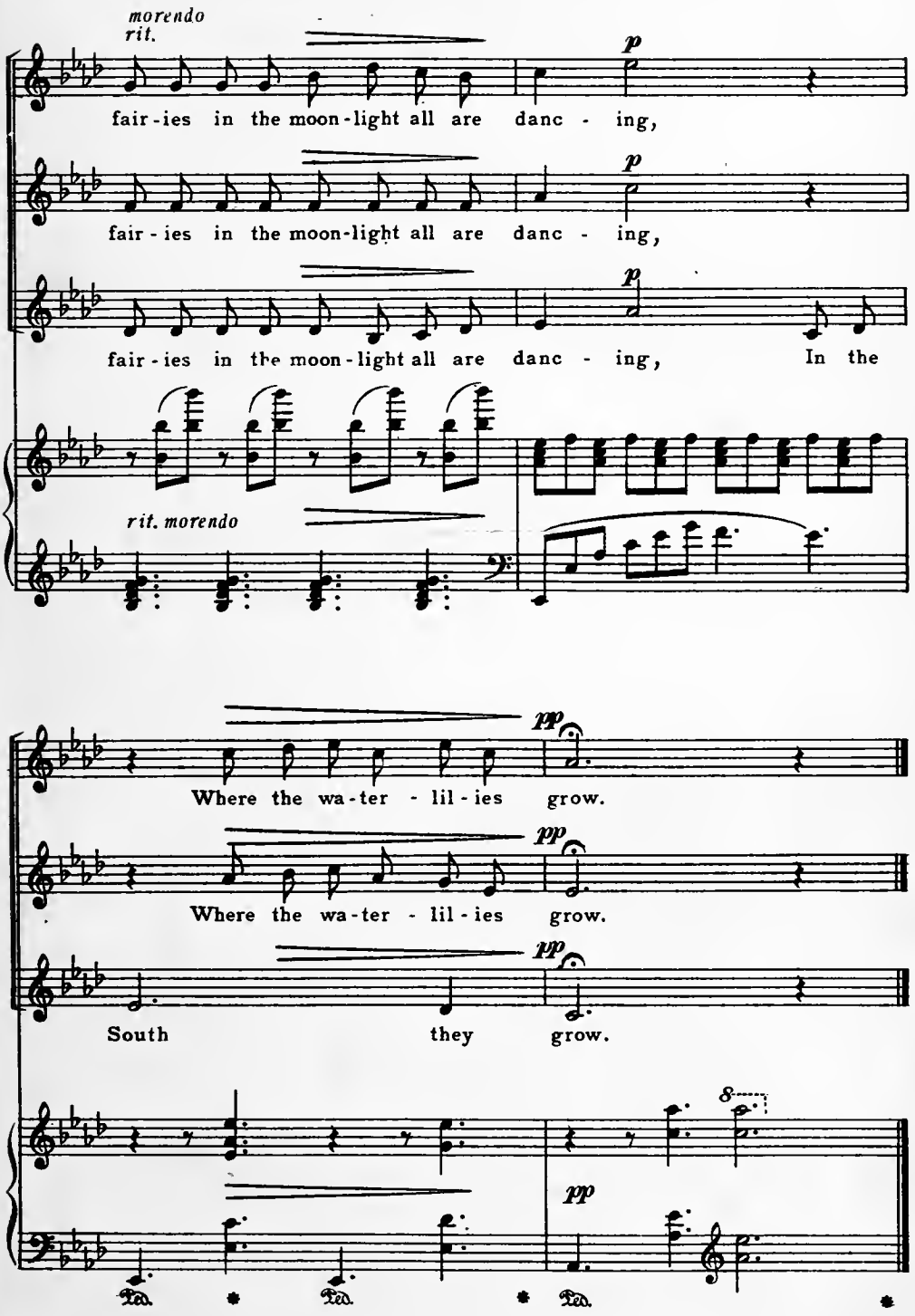

a tempo
rit.
a tempo
Fly - - - - ing. The
Laz - - - i - ly, laz-i - ly fly - - ing.
Fly - - - ing.
a tempo
rit.
lightly
p
crick - ets chirp like tin - kle of gui - tar,
The crick - ets chirp like tin - kle of gui -
The
a tempo


of gui - - tar.
tar, gui - - tar.
crick - ets chirp like tin - kle of gui - tar.
rit.
legato
rit.
Fire - flies laz-i - ly fly - ing,
rit.
Fire - - flies laz-i - ly fly - ing,
rit.
Fire - - flies laz-i - ly fly - ing,
a tempo
rit.

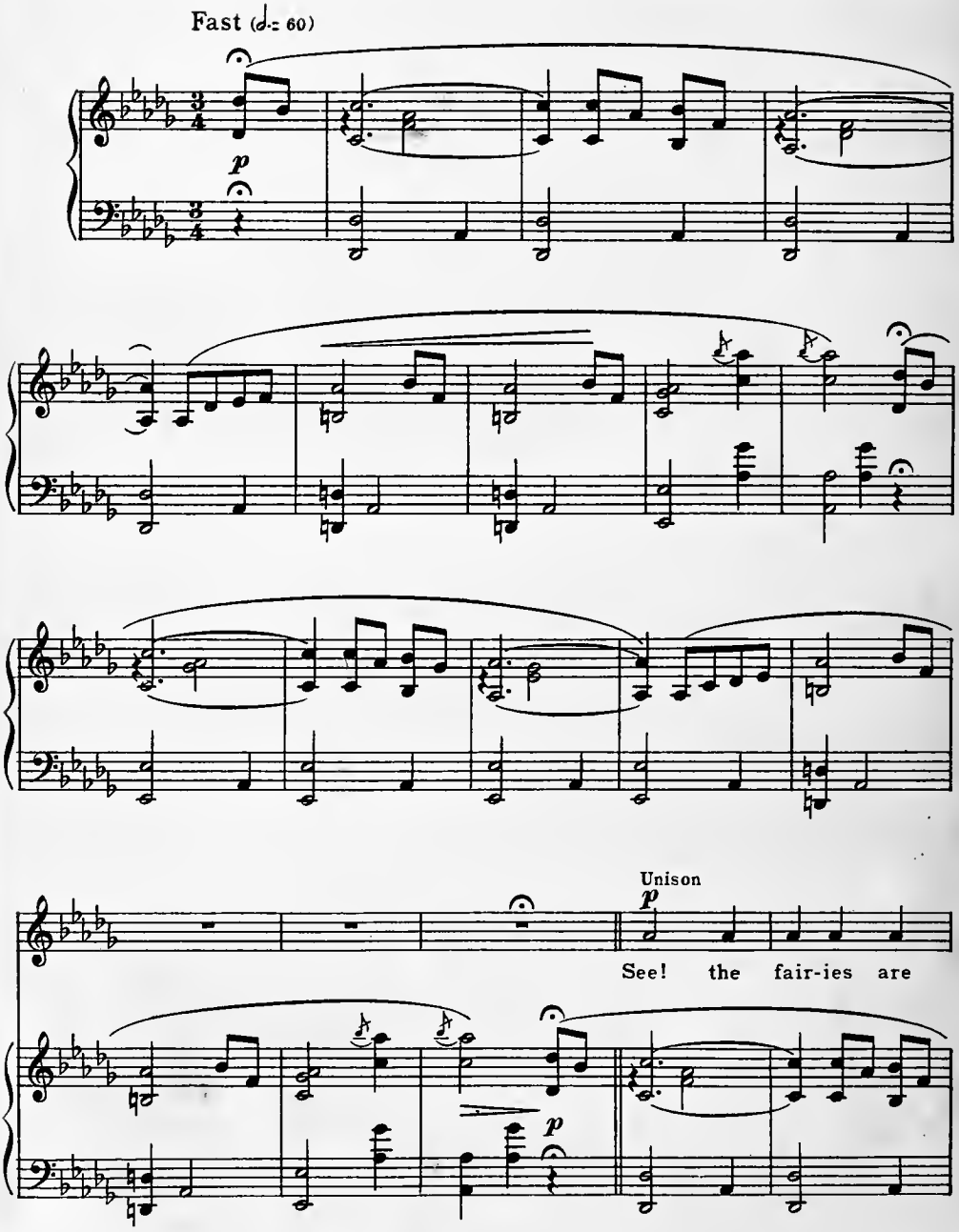

a tempo legato
rit.
a tempo
Fly - - - ing. The
Laz - - - i - ly, laz - i - ly fly - ing.
Fly - - - ing.
a tempo
rit.
p
crick - ets chirp like tin - kle of gui -
The
a tempo

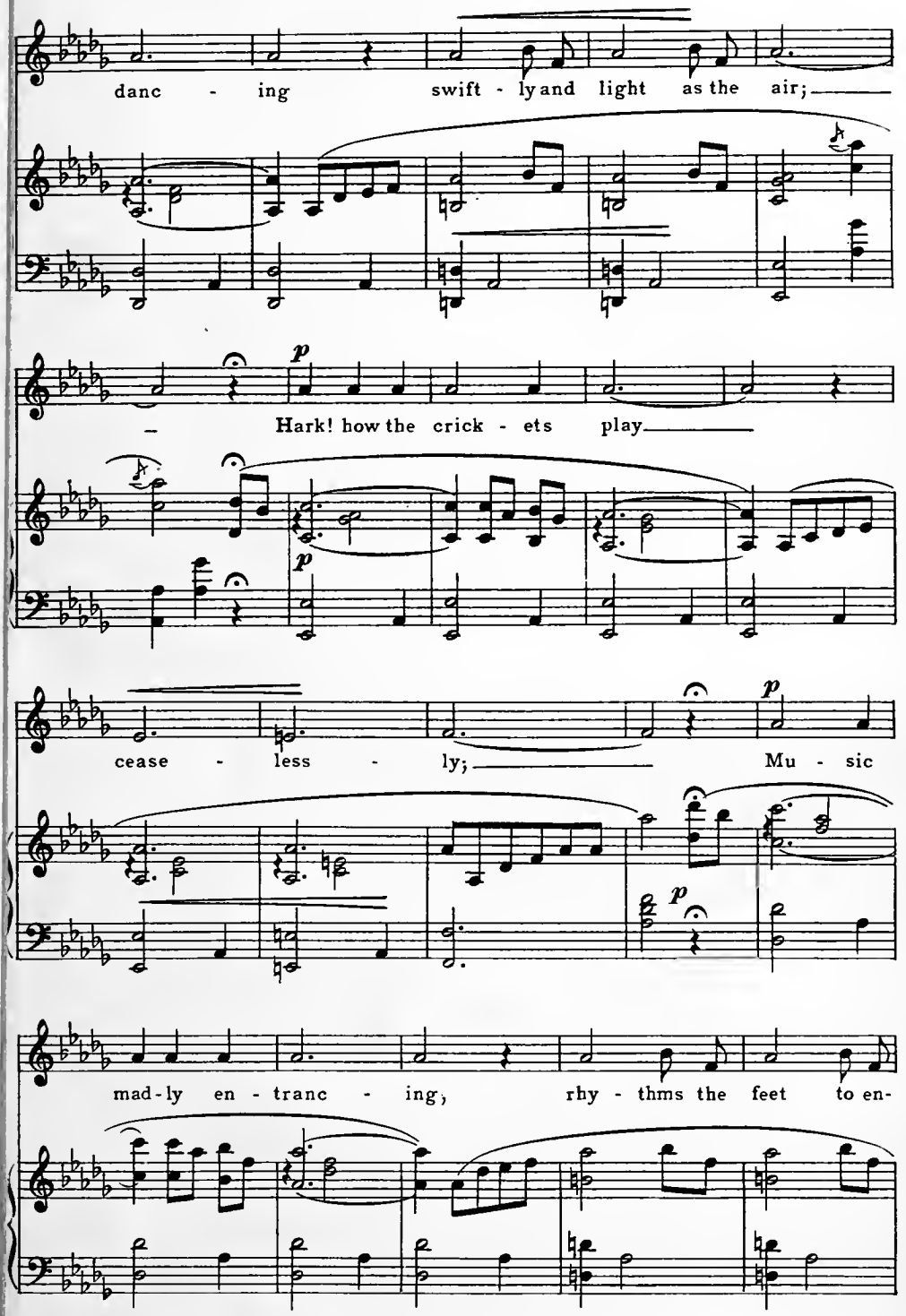

tar,
crick - ets chirp like tin - kle of gui -
p
The
of gui - - - tar. At
p
tar, gui - - - tar. At
p
crick - ets chirp like tin - kle of gui - tar. At
p
12/8
12/8

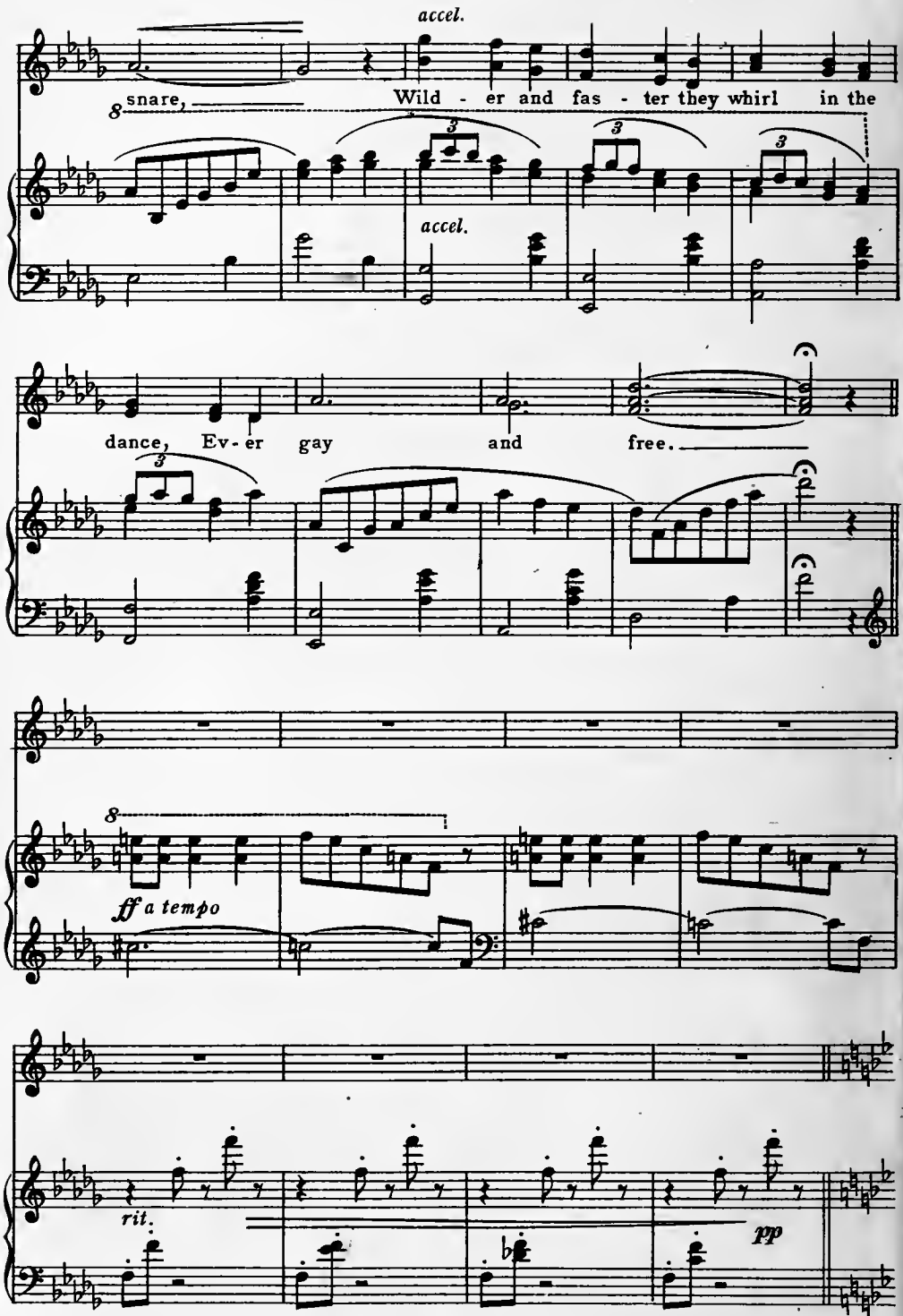

Tempo I
ev - 'ning 'mid the float-ing is - - lands, In the
ev - 'ning 'mid the float-ing is - - lands, In the
ev - 'ning 'mid the float-ing is - - lands, In the
Tempo I
ten.
rit.
South where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow, The
ten.
rit.
South where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow, The
ten.
rit.
South where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow, The
rit.

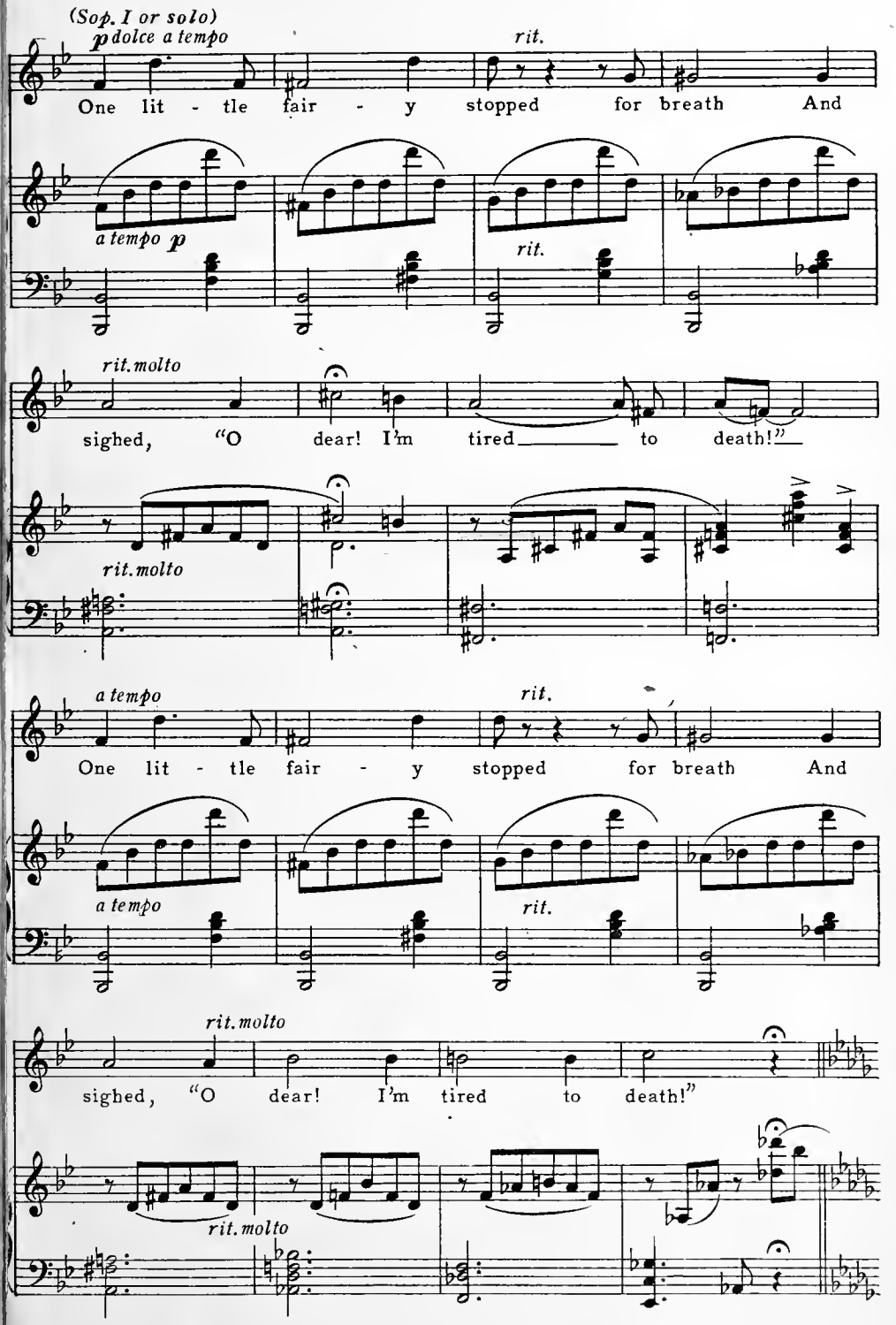

morendo
rit.
p
fair - ies in the moon - light all are danc - ing,
p
fair - ies in the moon - light all are danc - ing,
p
fair - ies in the moon - light all are danc - ing, In the
rit. morendo
pp
Where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow.
pp
Where the wa - ter - lil - ies grow.
pp
South they grow.
8
pp
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

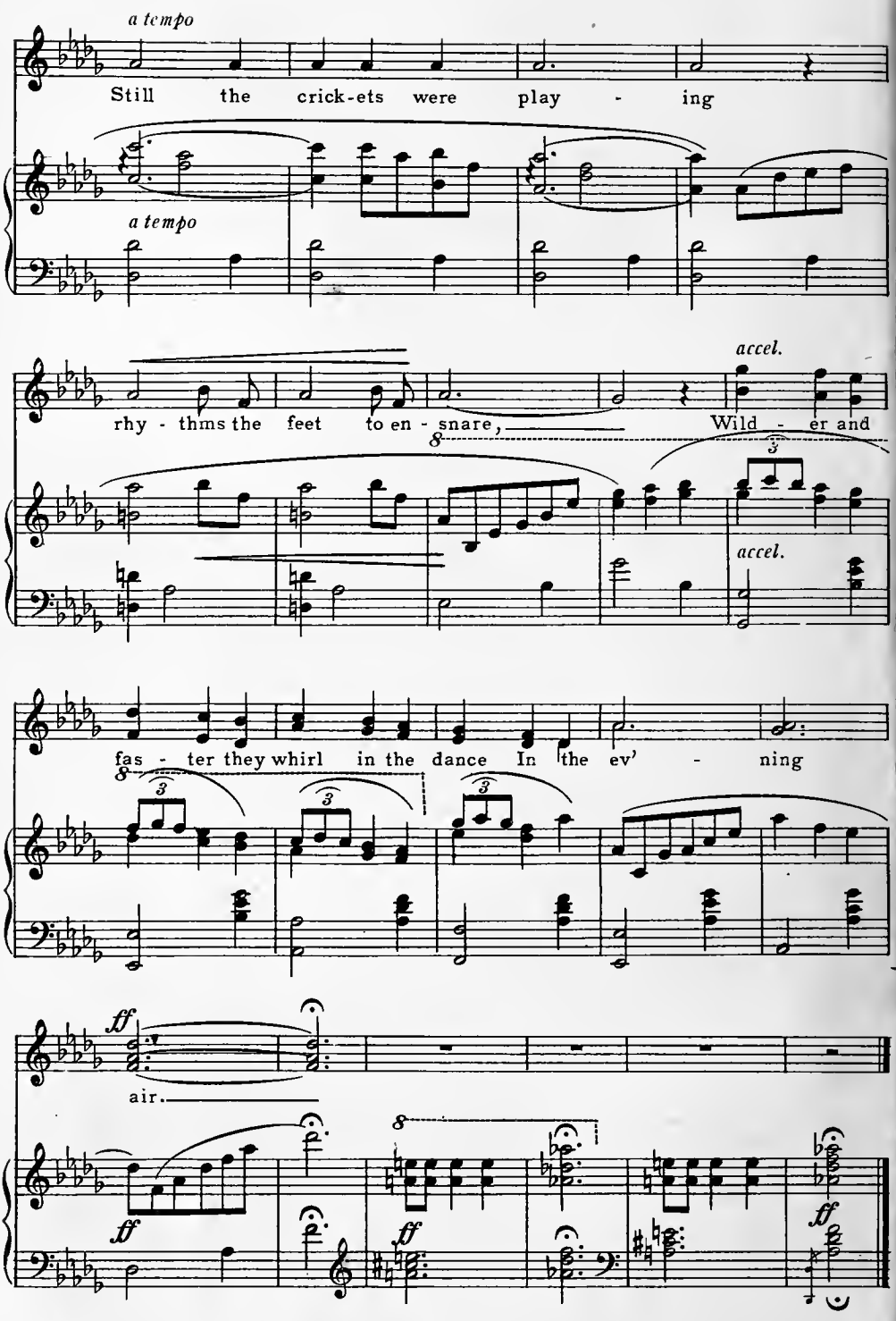
The Cricket Band



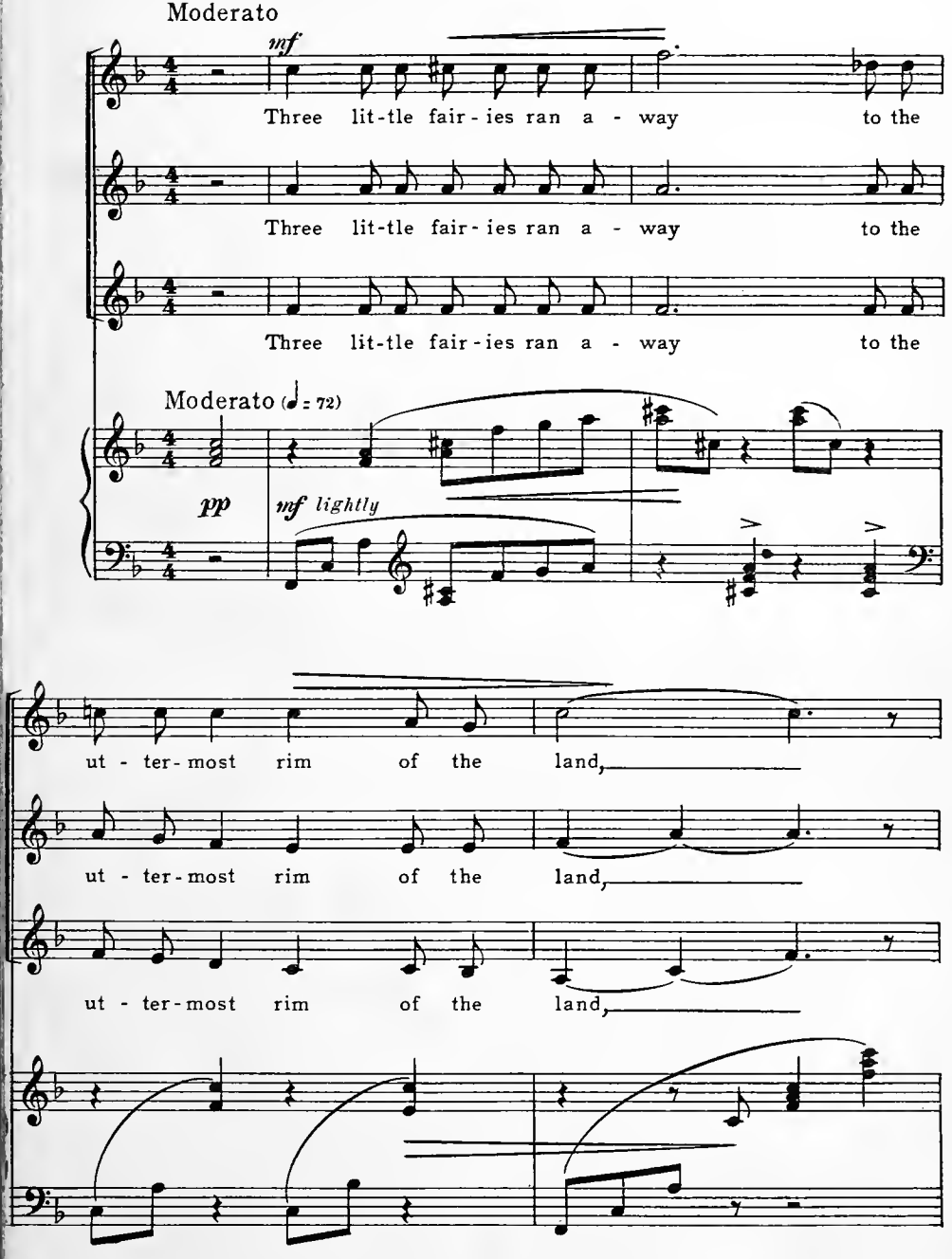

danc - ing swift - ly and light as the air;
p
Hark! how the crick - ets play
p
cease - less - ly;
p
Mu - sic
p
mad - ly en - tranc - ing, rhy - thms the feet to en-

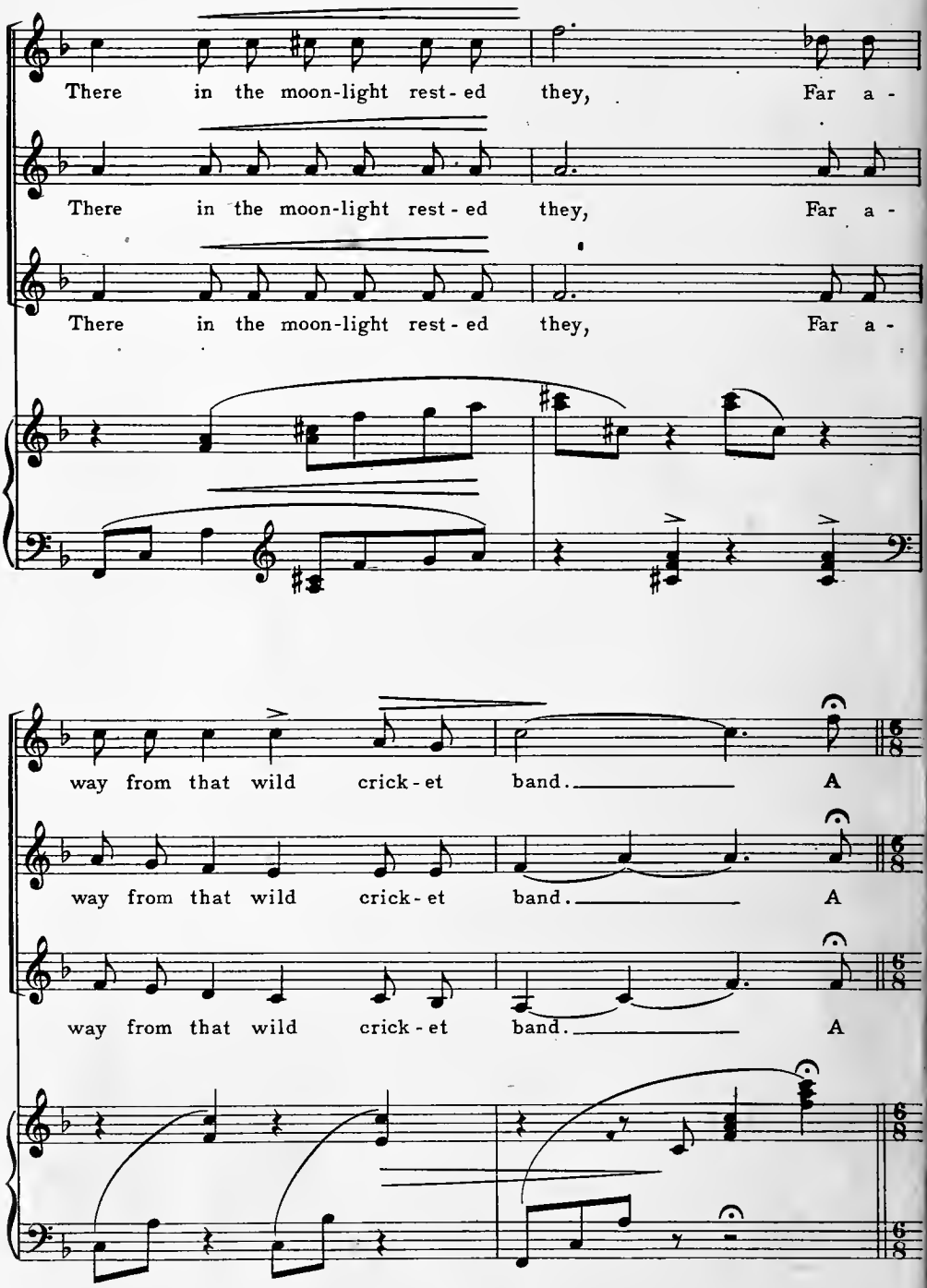

accel.
snare,
Wild - er and fas - ter they whirl in the
accel.
dance, Ev-er gay and free.
ff a tempo
rit.
pp

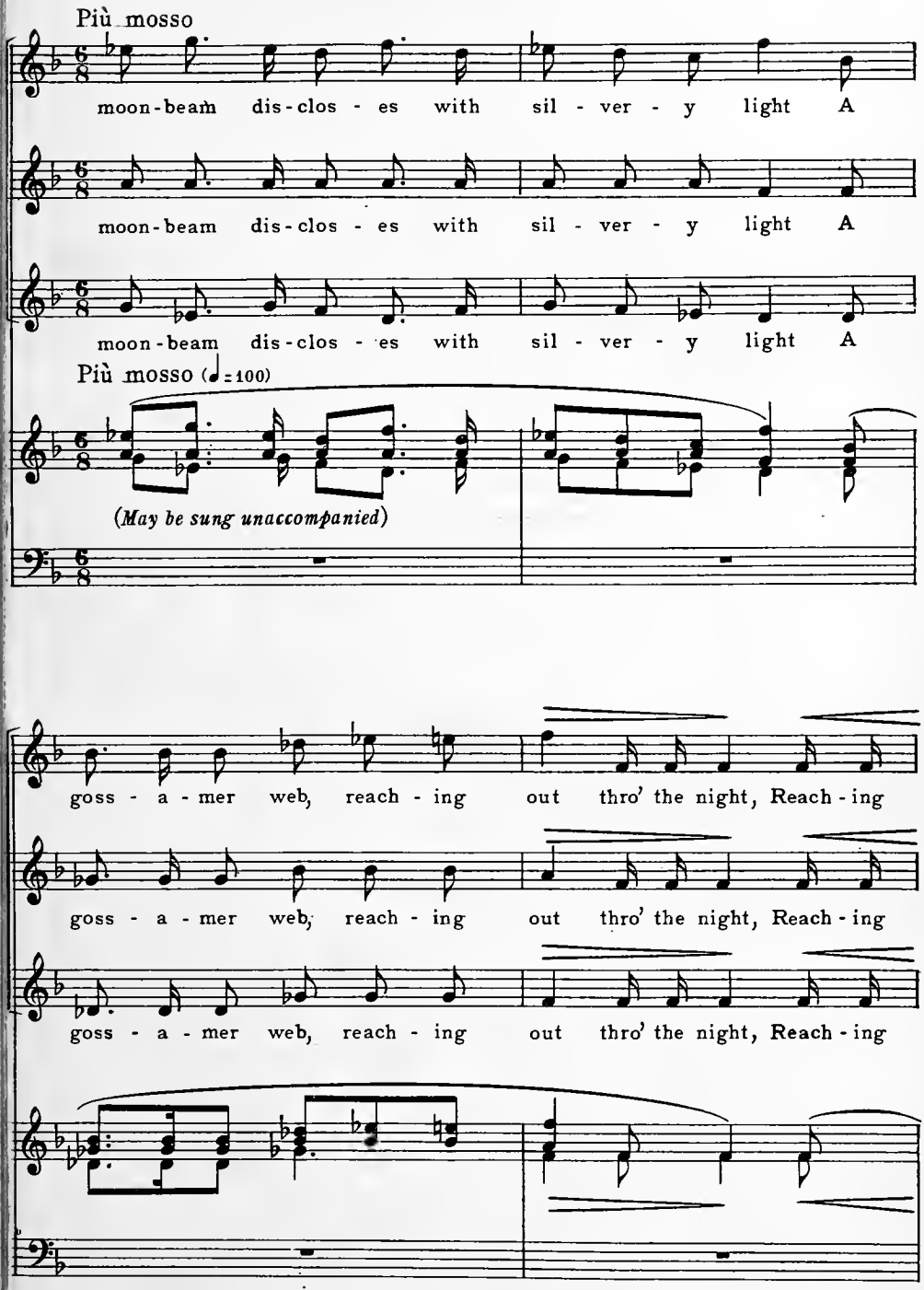

(Sop. I or solo)
p dolce a tempo
rit.
One lit - tle fair - y stopped for breath And
a tempo p
rit.
rit. molto
sighed, "O dear! I'm tired to death!"
rit. molto
a tempo
rit.
One lit - tle fair - y stopped for breath And
a tempo
rit.
rit. molto
sighed, "O dear! I'm tired to death!"
rit. molto

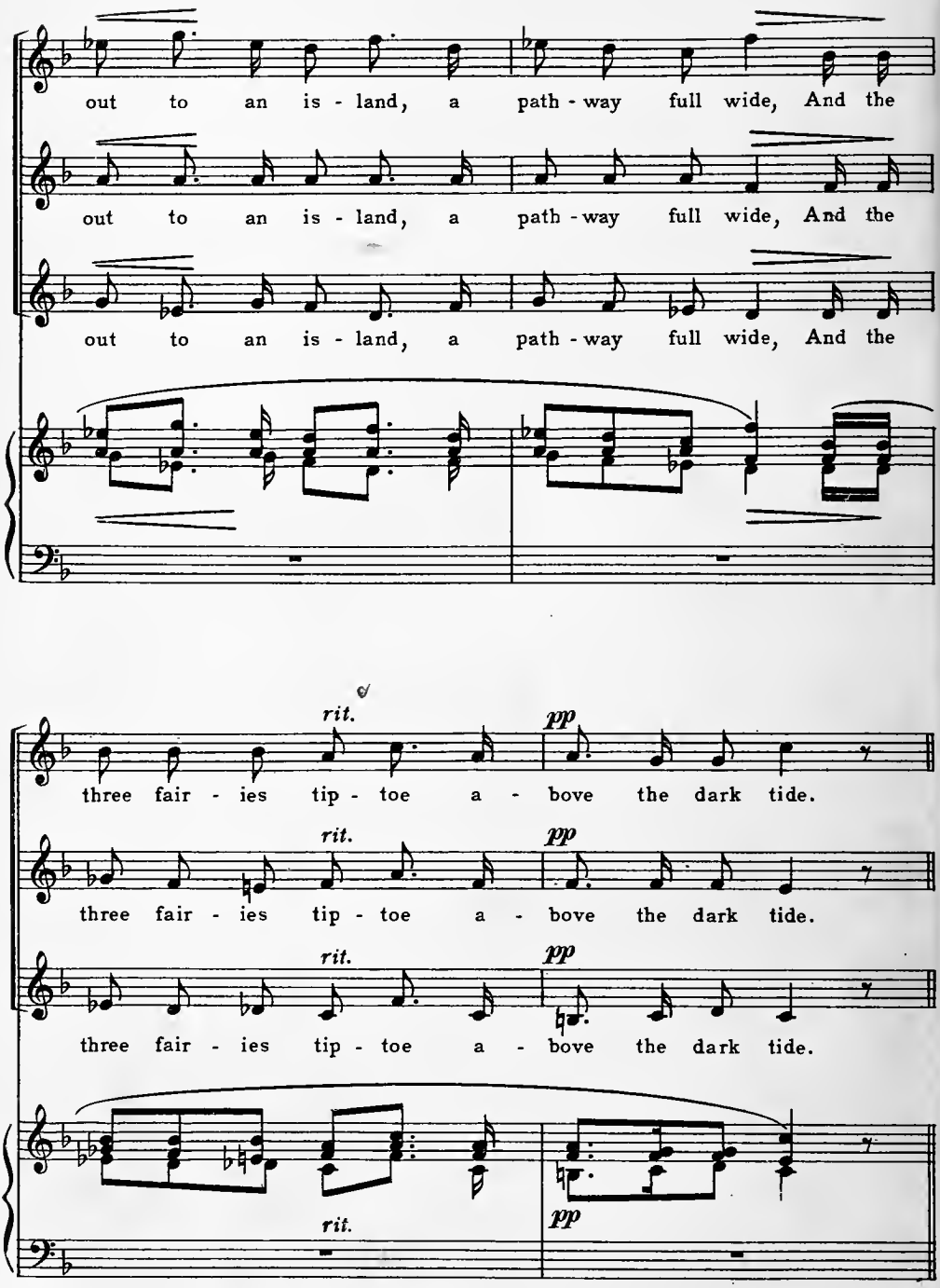

a tempo
Still the crick-ets were play - ing
a tempo
rhy - thms the feet to en - snare,
accel.
Wild - er and
accel.
fas - ter they whirl in the dance In the ev' - ning
ff
air.
ff
ff
ff

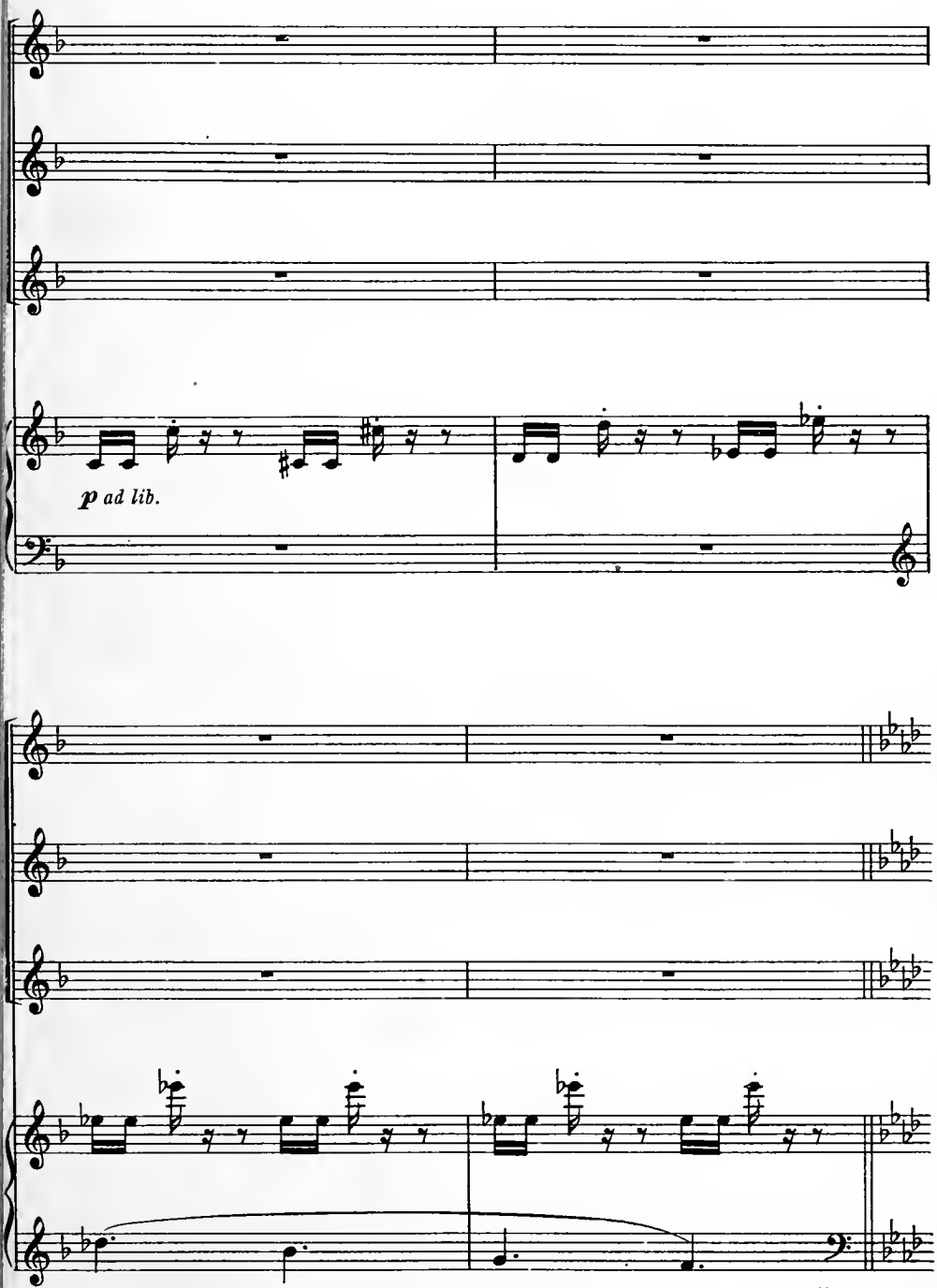
The Flight of the Fays



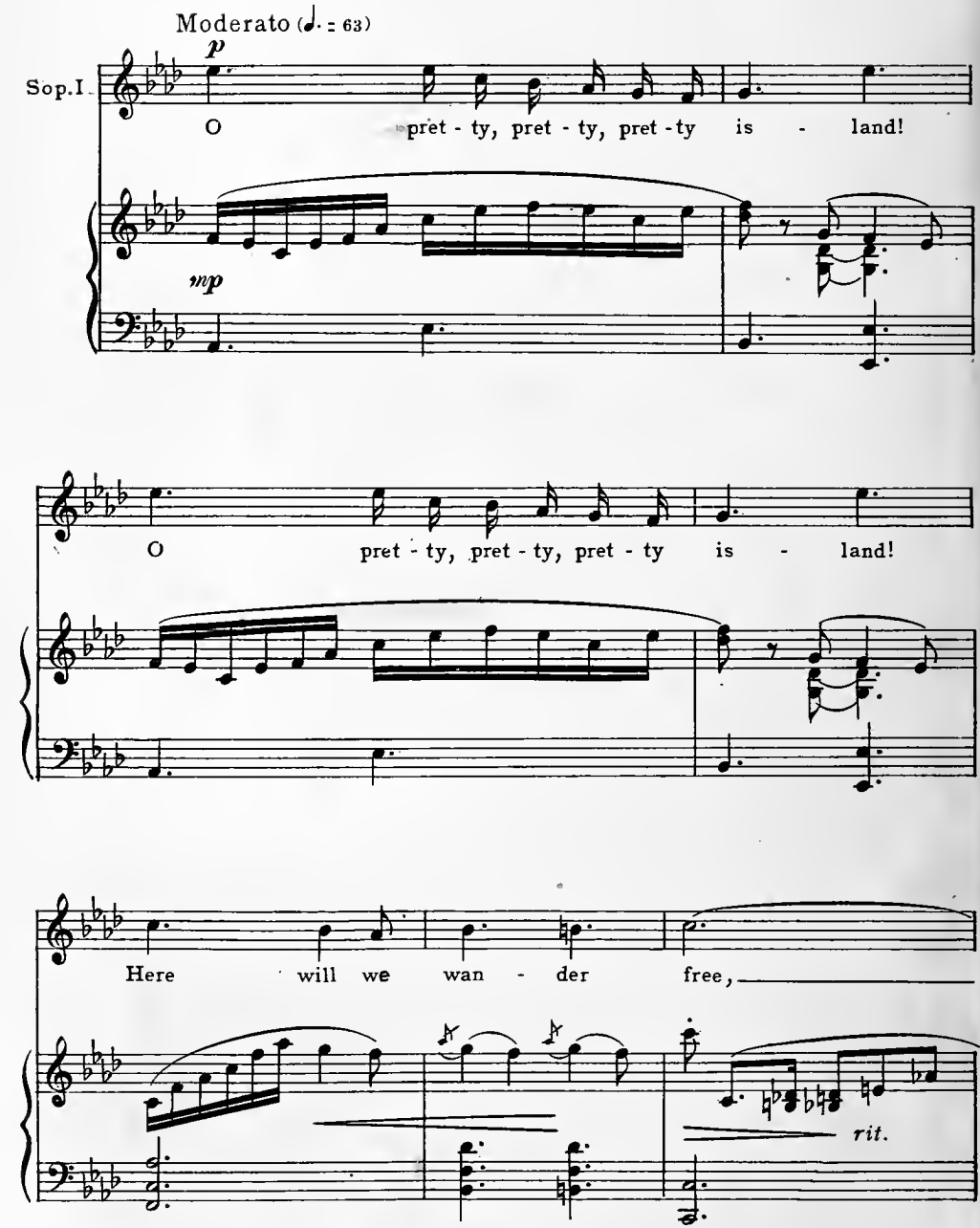

There in the moon-light rest-ed they, Far a-
There in the moon-light rest-ed they, Far a-
There in the moon-light rest-ed they, Far a-
way from that wild crick-et band. A
way from that wild crick-et band. A
way from that wild crick-et band. A

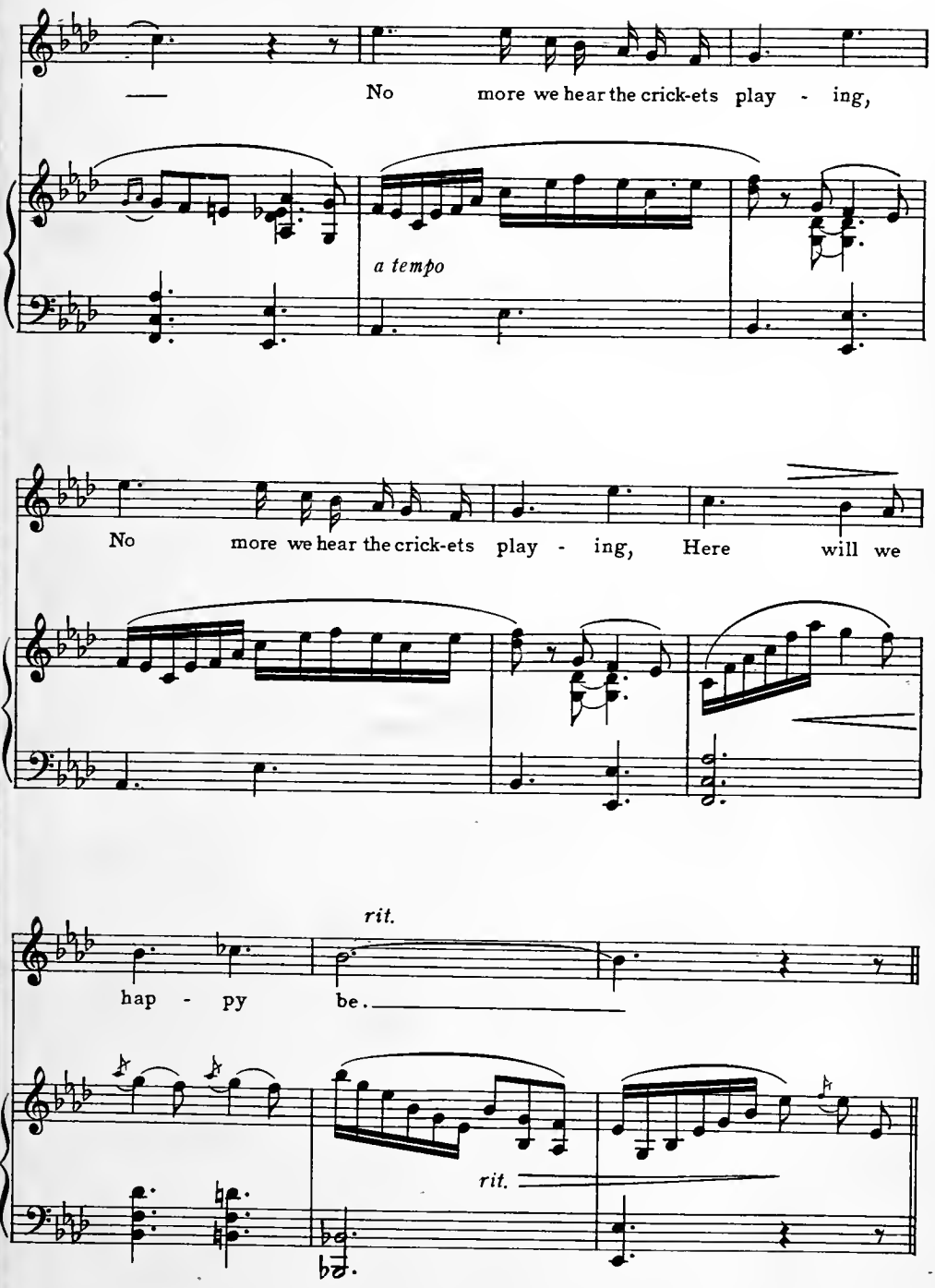

Più mosso
moon-beam dis-clos - es with sil - ver - y light A
moon-beam dis-clos - es with sil - ver - y light A
moon-beam dis-clos - es with sil - ver - y light A
Più mosso (♩=100)
(May be sung unaccompanied)
goss - a - mer web, reach - ing out thro' the night, Reach - ing
goss - a - mer web, reach - ing out thro' the night, Reach - ing
goss - a - mer web, reach - ing out thro' the night, Reach - ing

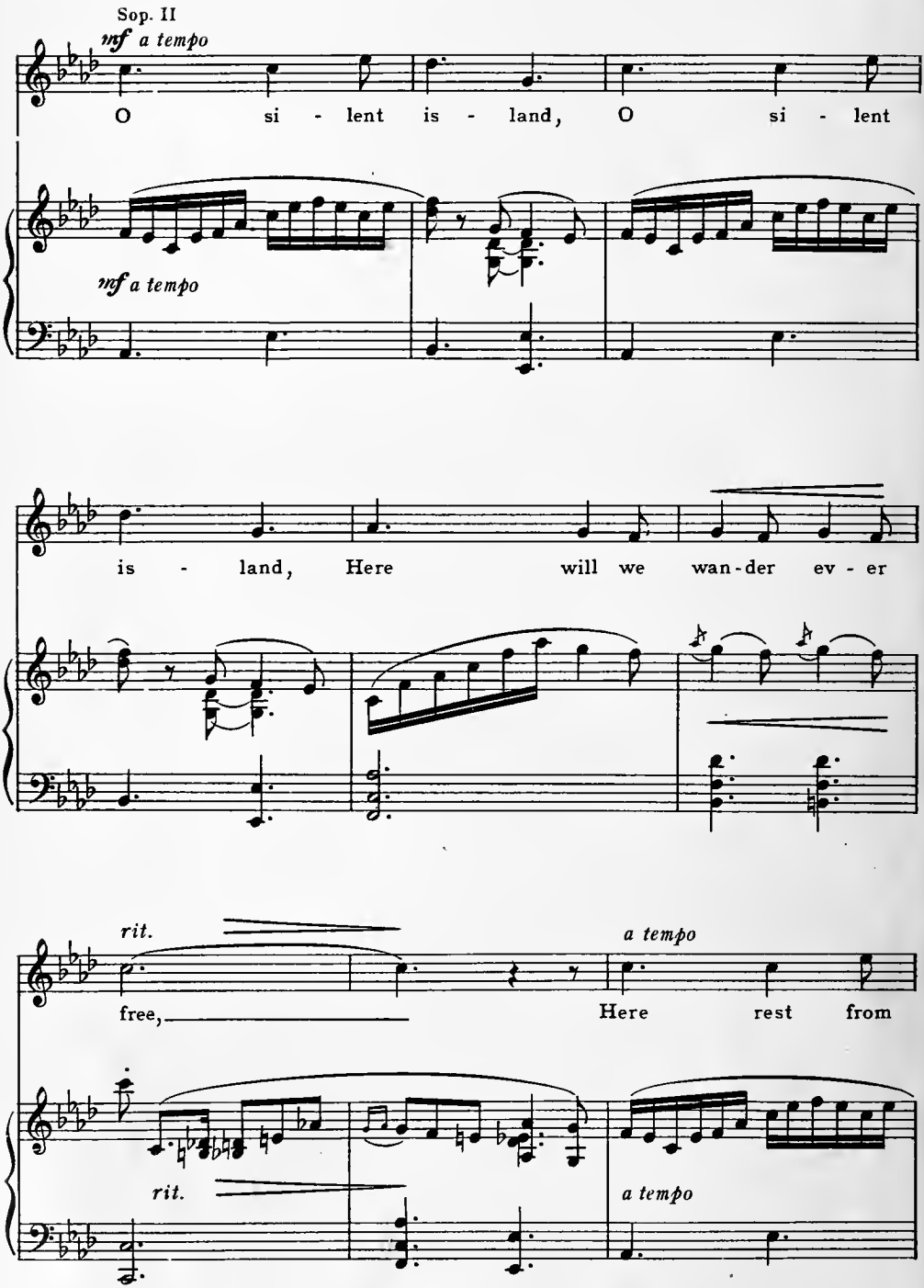

out to an is - land, a path - way full wide, And the
out to an is - land, a path - way full wide, And the
out to an is - land, a path - way full wide, And the
rit.
pp
three fair - ies tip - toe a - bove the dark tide.
rit.
pp
three fair - ies tip - toe a - bove the dark tide.
rit.
pp
three fair - ies tip - toe a - bove the dark tide.
rit.
pp

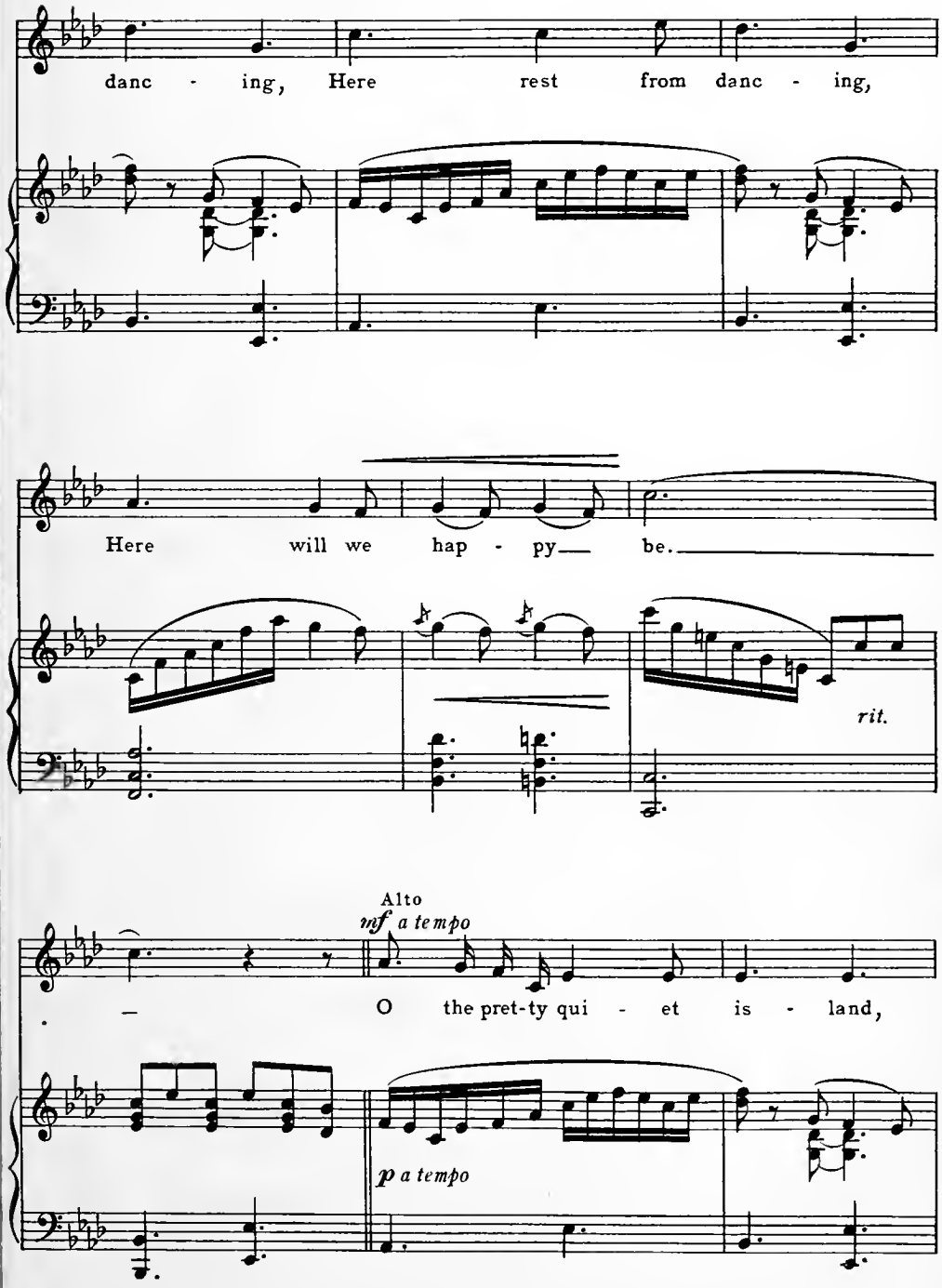

p ad lib.
attacca

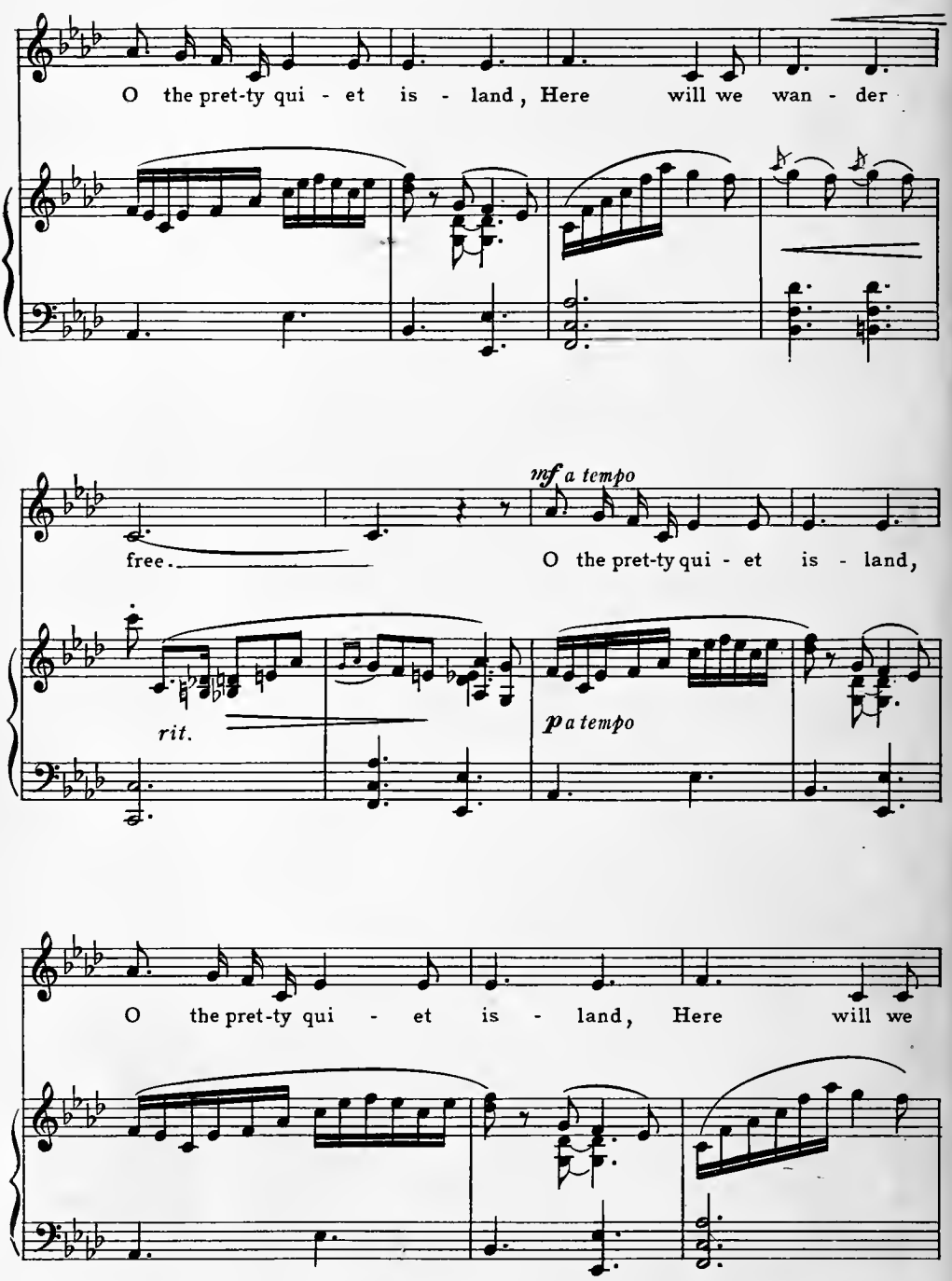
The Song of the Fays

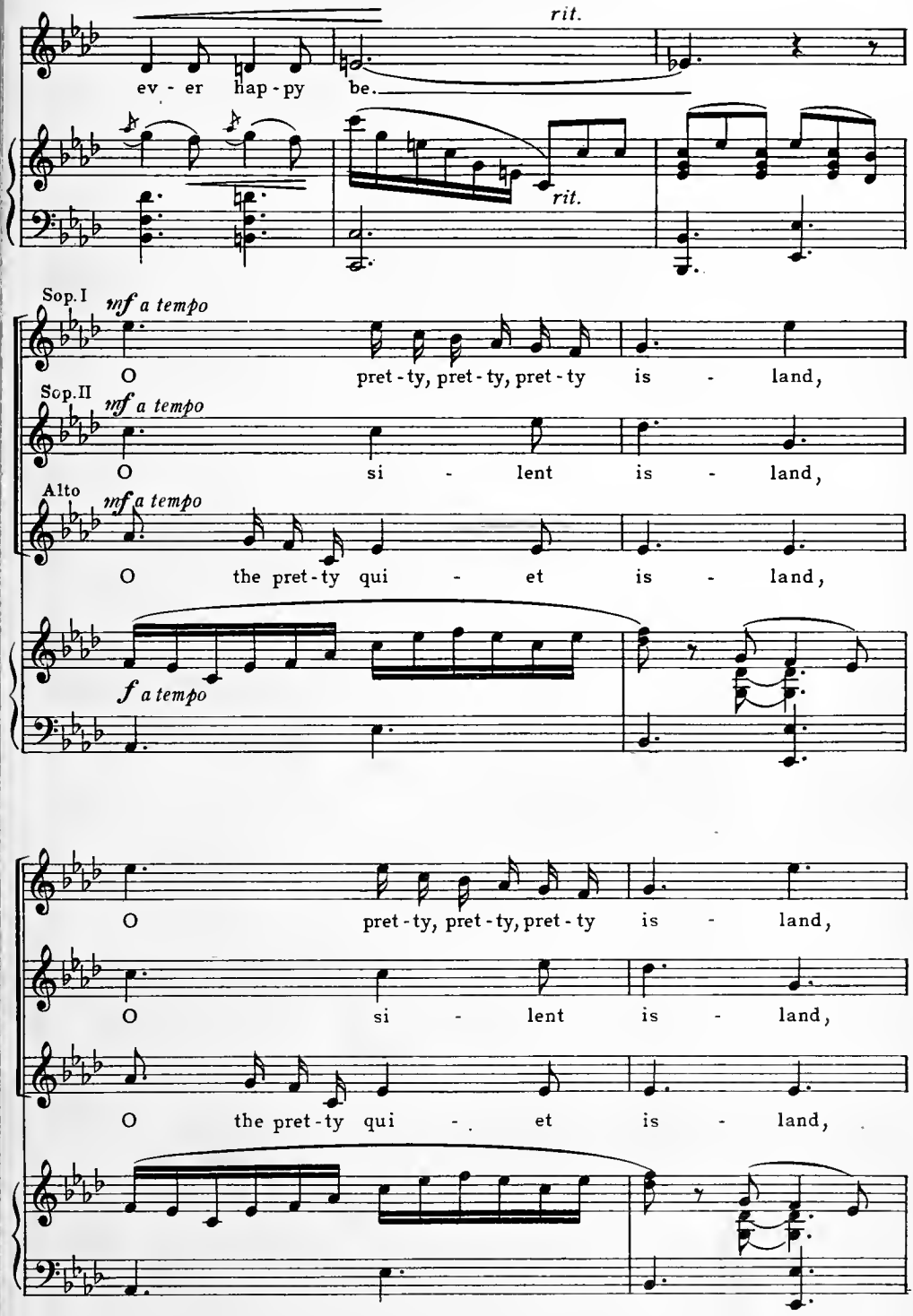


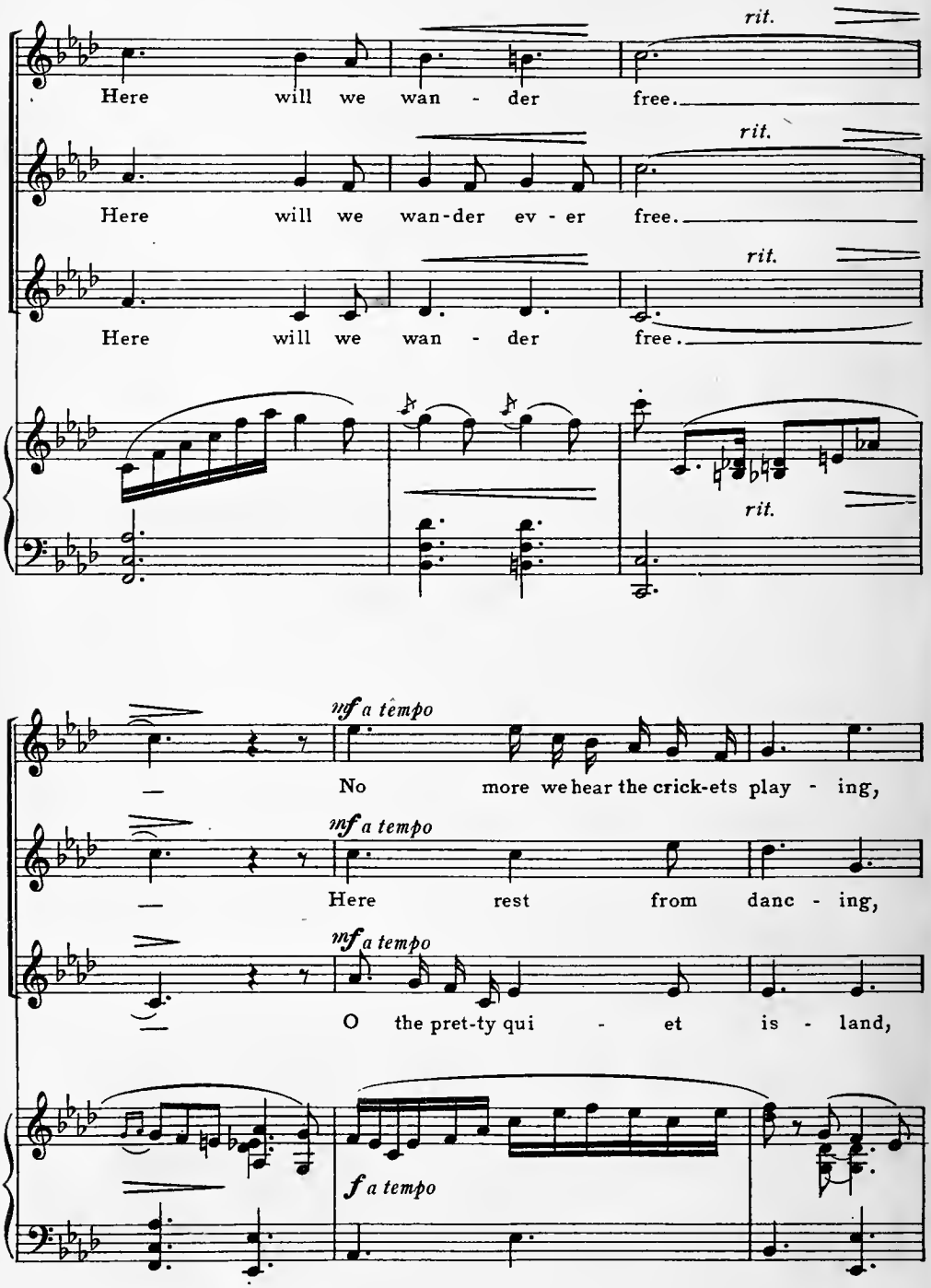

No more we hear the crick-ets play - ing,
a tempo
No more we hear the crick-ets play - ing, Here will we
rit.
hap - py be.
rit.

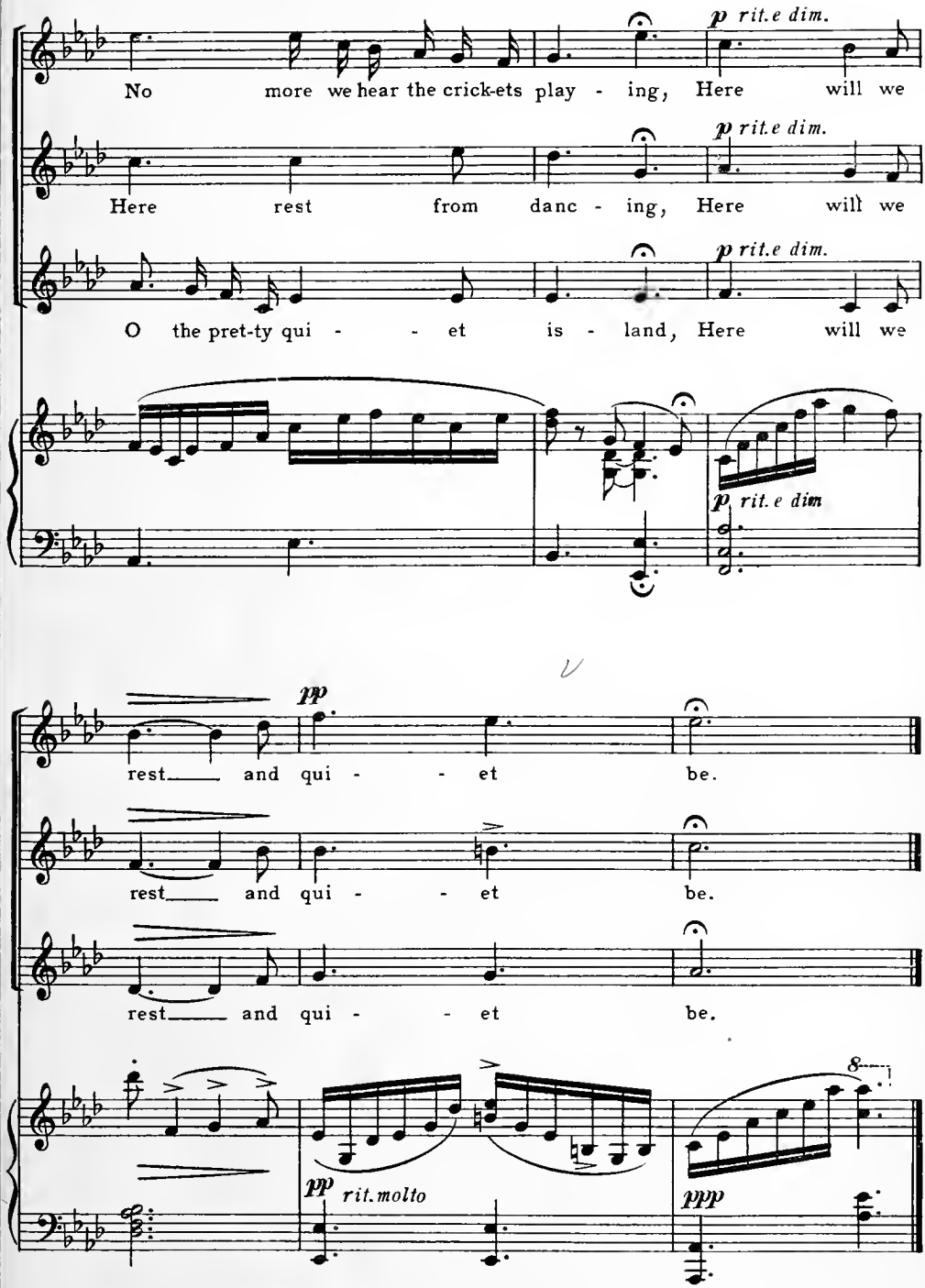

Sop. II
mf a tempo
O si - lent is - land, O si - lent
mf a tempo
is - land, Here will we wan-der ev - er
rit.
a tempo
free,
Here rest from
rit.
a tempo


danc - ing, Here rest from danc - ing,
Here will we hap - py be.
rit.
Alto
mf a tempo
O the pret-ty qui - et is - land,
p a tempo

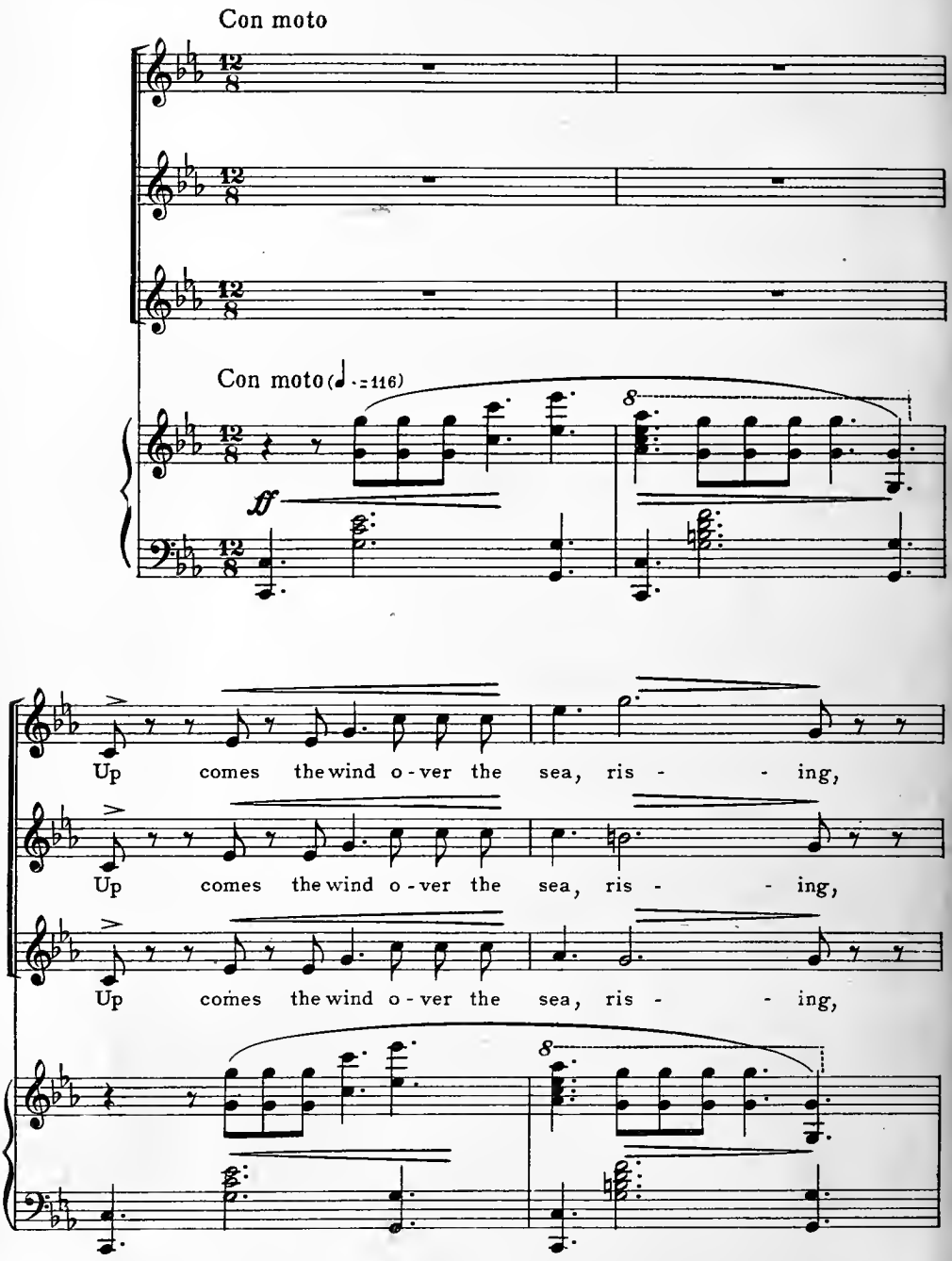

O the pret-ty qui - et is - land, Here will we wan - der
free.
mf a tempo
O the pret-ty qui - et is - land,
rit.
p a tempo
O the pret-ty qui - et is - land, Here will we

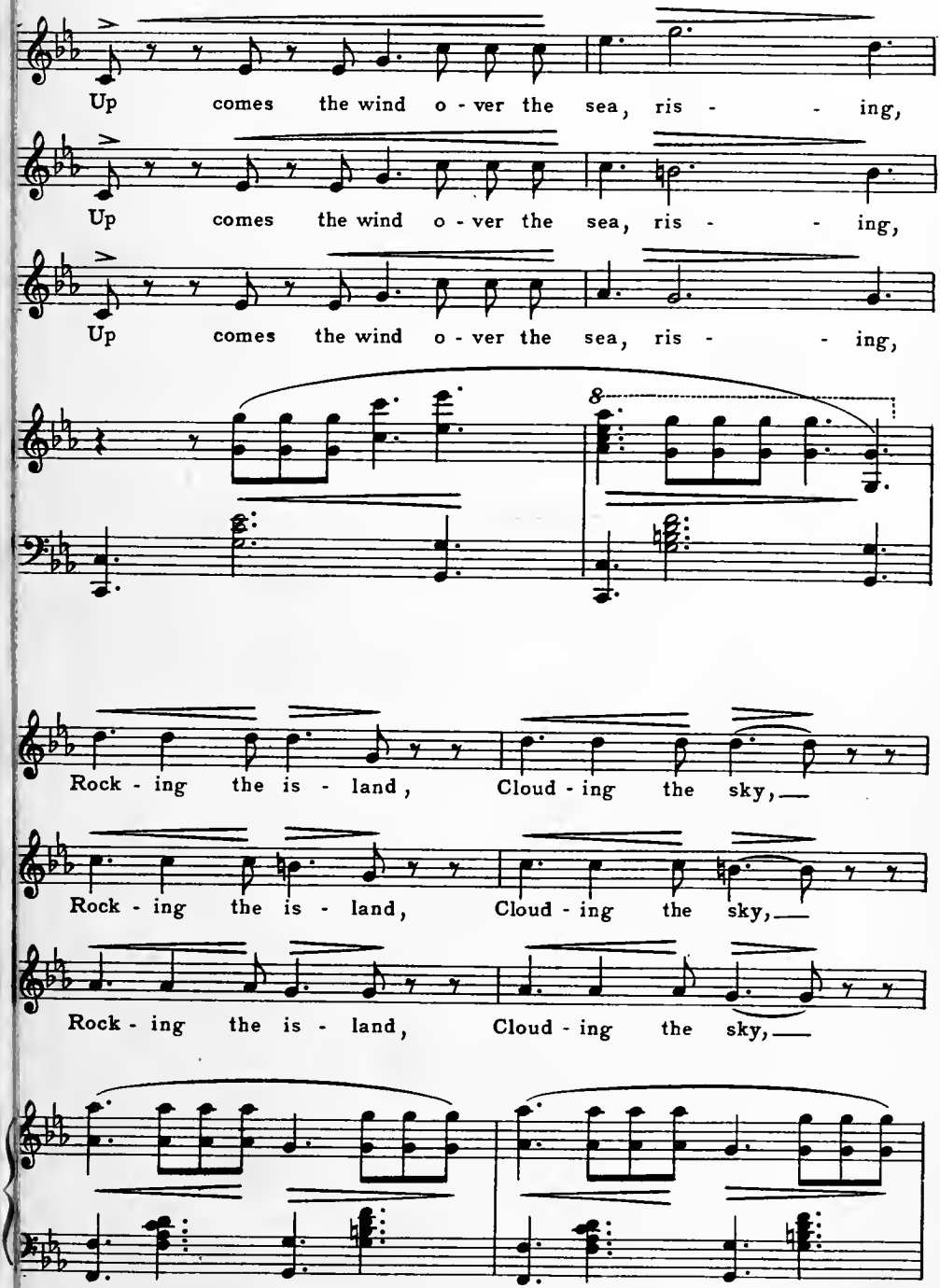

rit.
ev - er hap - py be.
rit.
Sop.I
mf a tempo
O pret - ty, pret - ty, pret - ty is - land,
Sop.II
mf a tempo
O si - lent is - land,
Alto
mf a tempo
O the pret - ty qui - et is - land,
f a tempo
O pret - ty, pret - ty, pret - ty is - land,
O si - lent is - land,
O the pret - ty qui - et is - land,

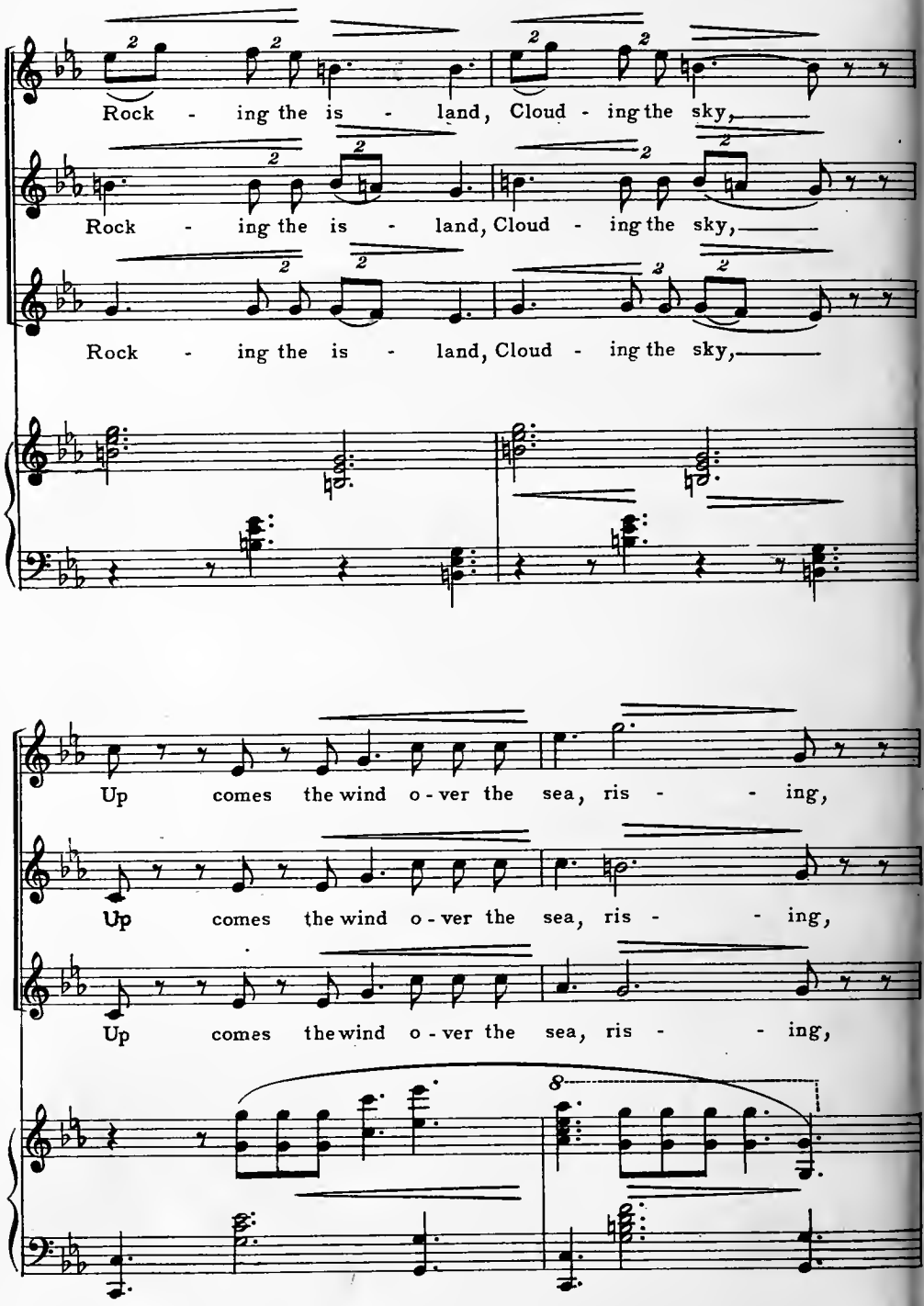

rit.
Here will we wan - der free.
rit.
Here will we wan-der ev - er free.
rit.
Here will we wan - der free.
rit.
mf a tempo
No more we hear the crick-ets play - ing,
mf a tempo
Here rest from danc - ing,
mf a tempo
O the pret-ty qui - et is - land,
f a tempo

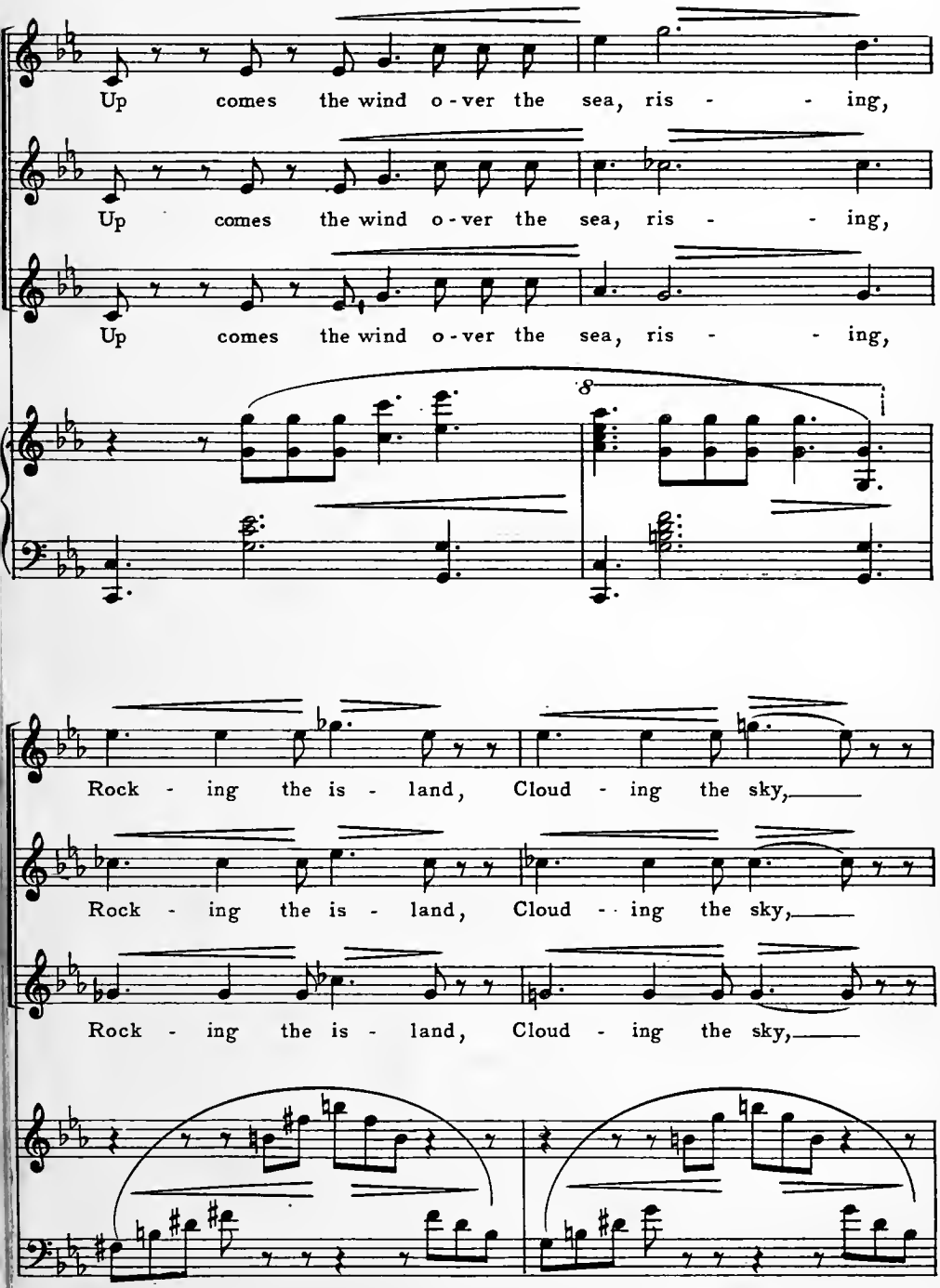

No more we hear the crick-ets play - ing, Here will we
p rit.e dim.
Here rest from danc - ing, Here will we
p rit.e dim.
O the pret-ty qui - - et is - land, Here will we
p rit.e dim
p rit.e dim
rest and qui - - et be.
rest and qui - - et be.
rest and qui - - et be.
pp
pp rit.molto
ppp
8

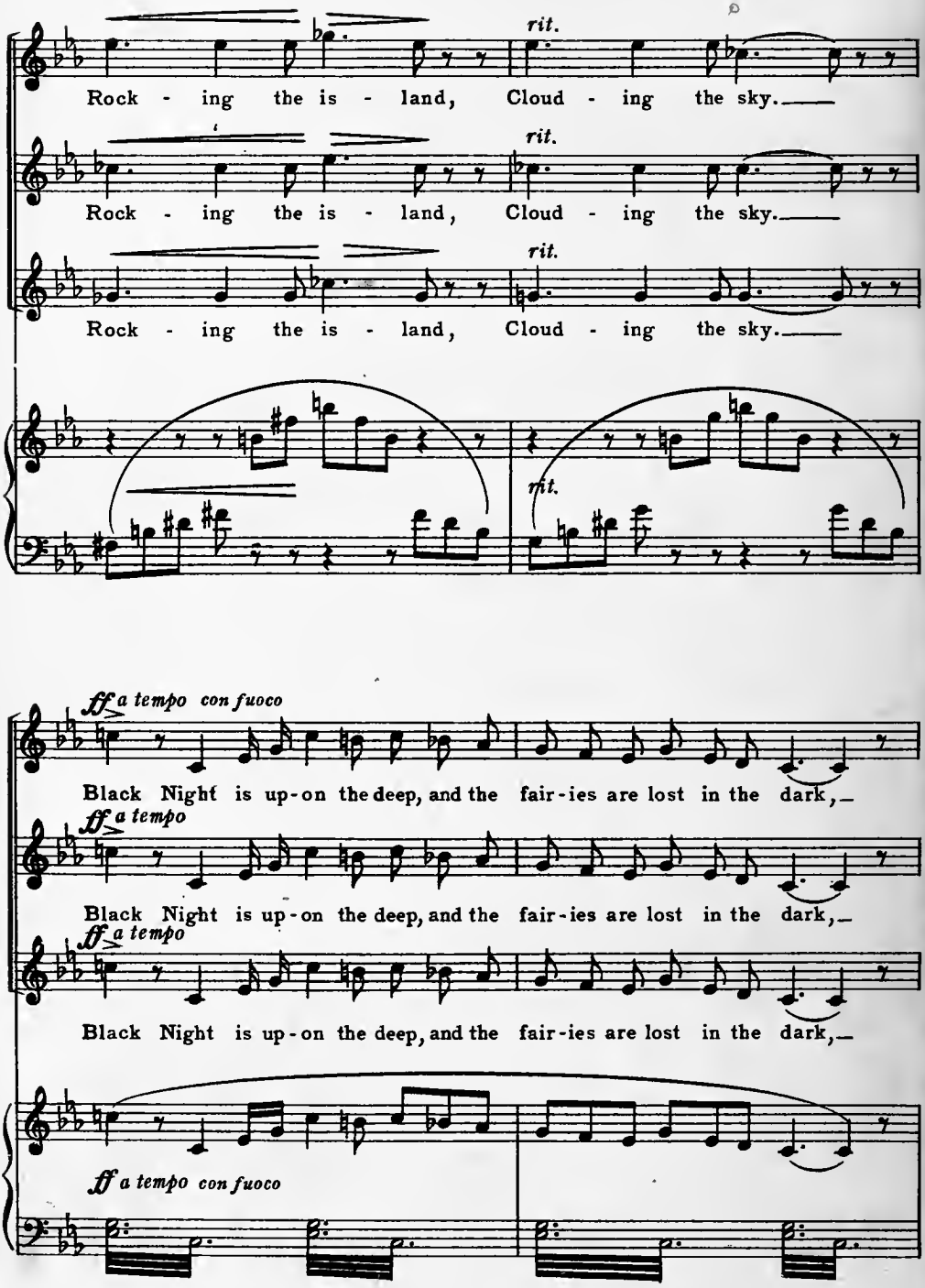
The Storm

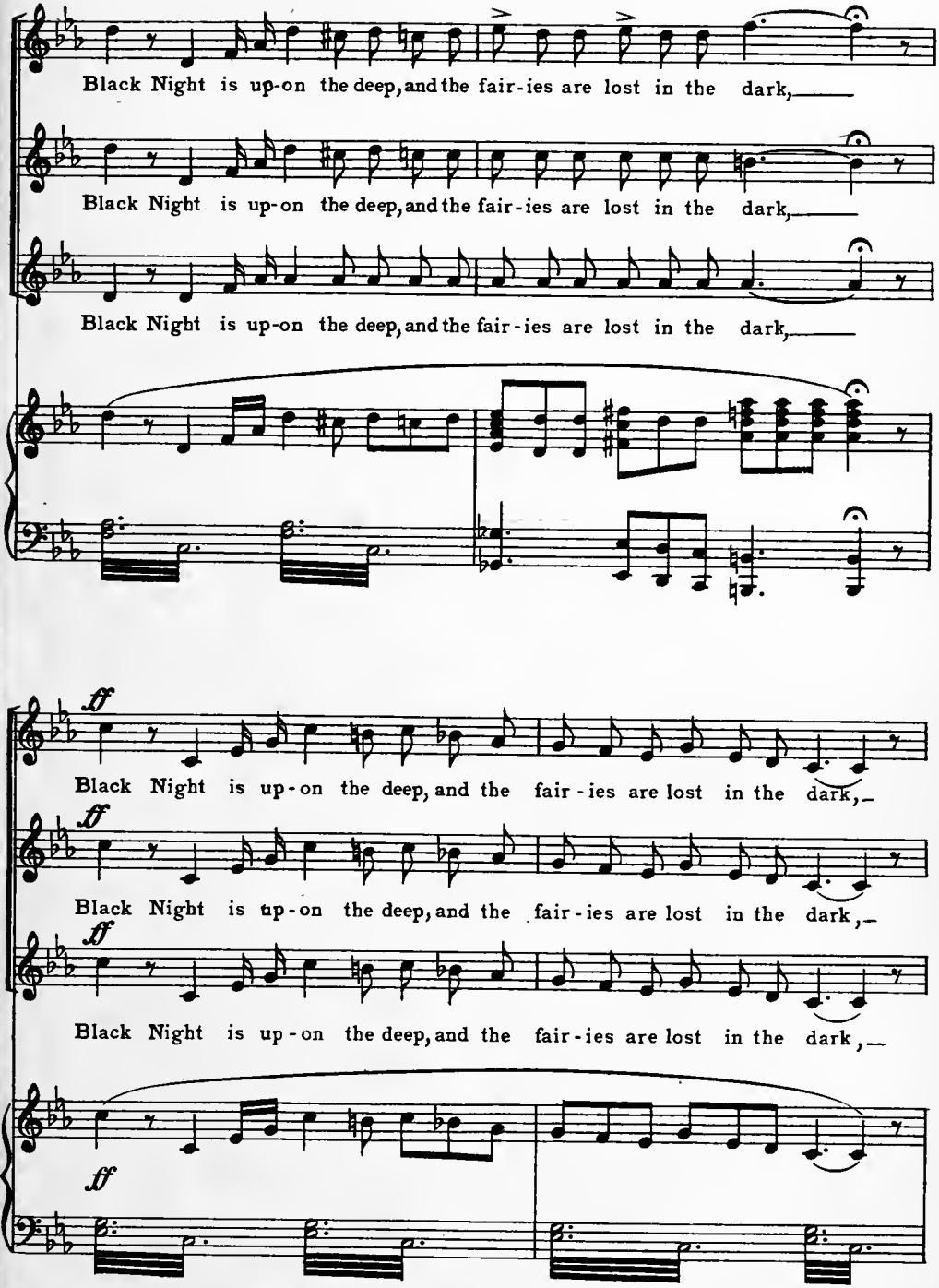

Con moto
Con moto (♩ = 116)
ff
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,

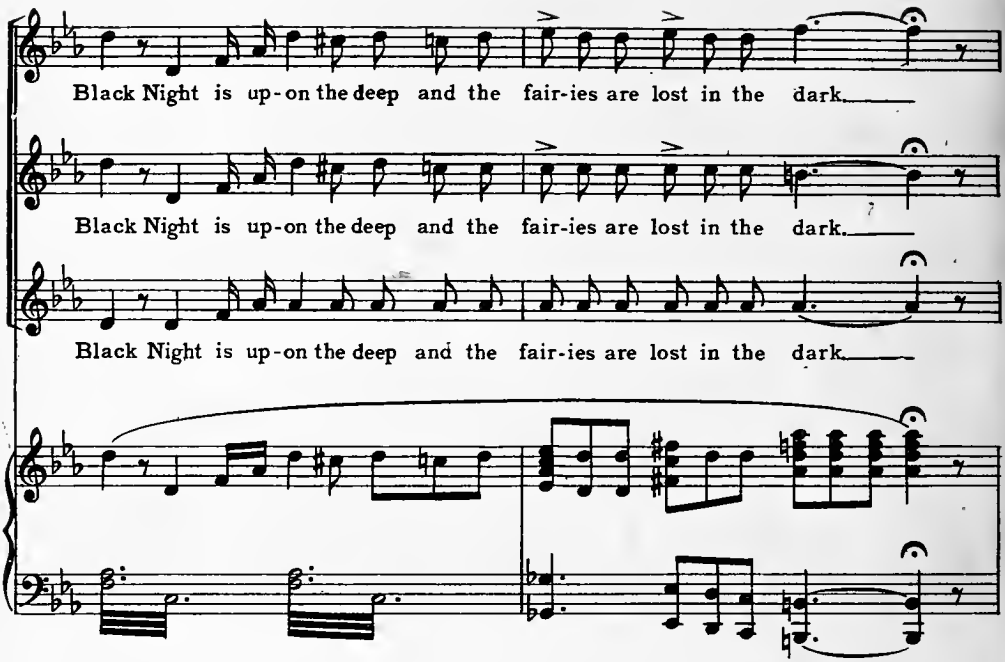

Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
8
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,

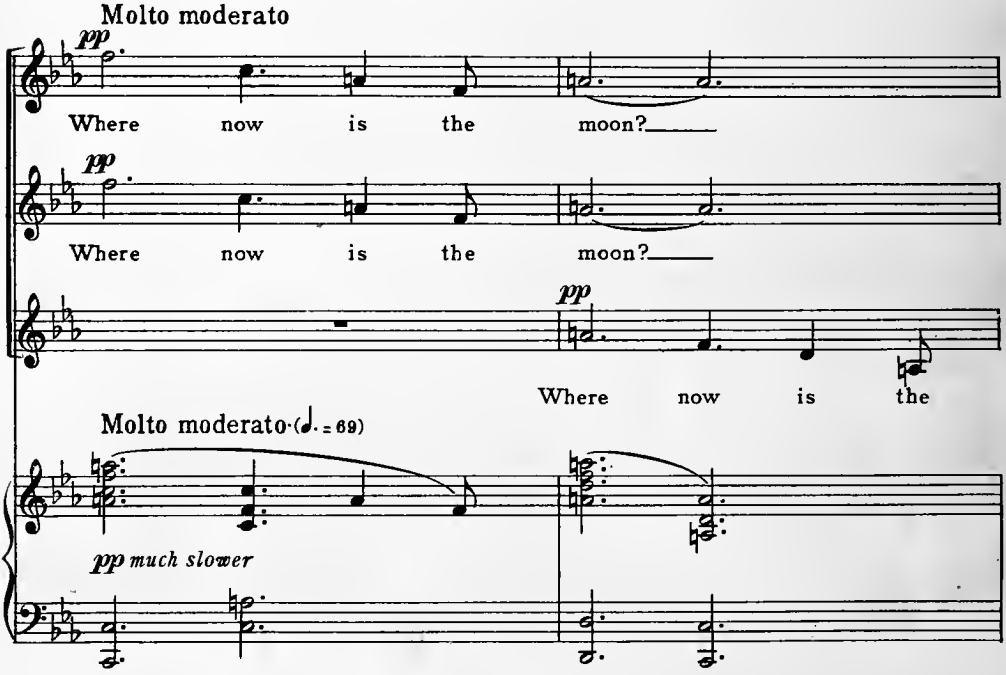

Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o - ver the sea, ris - - ing,
8

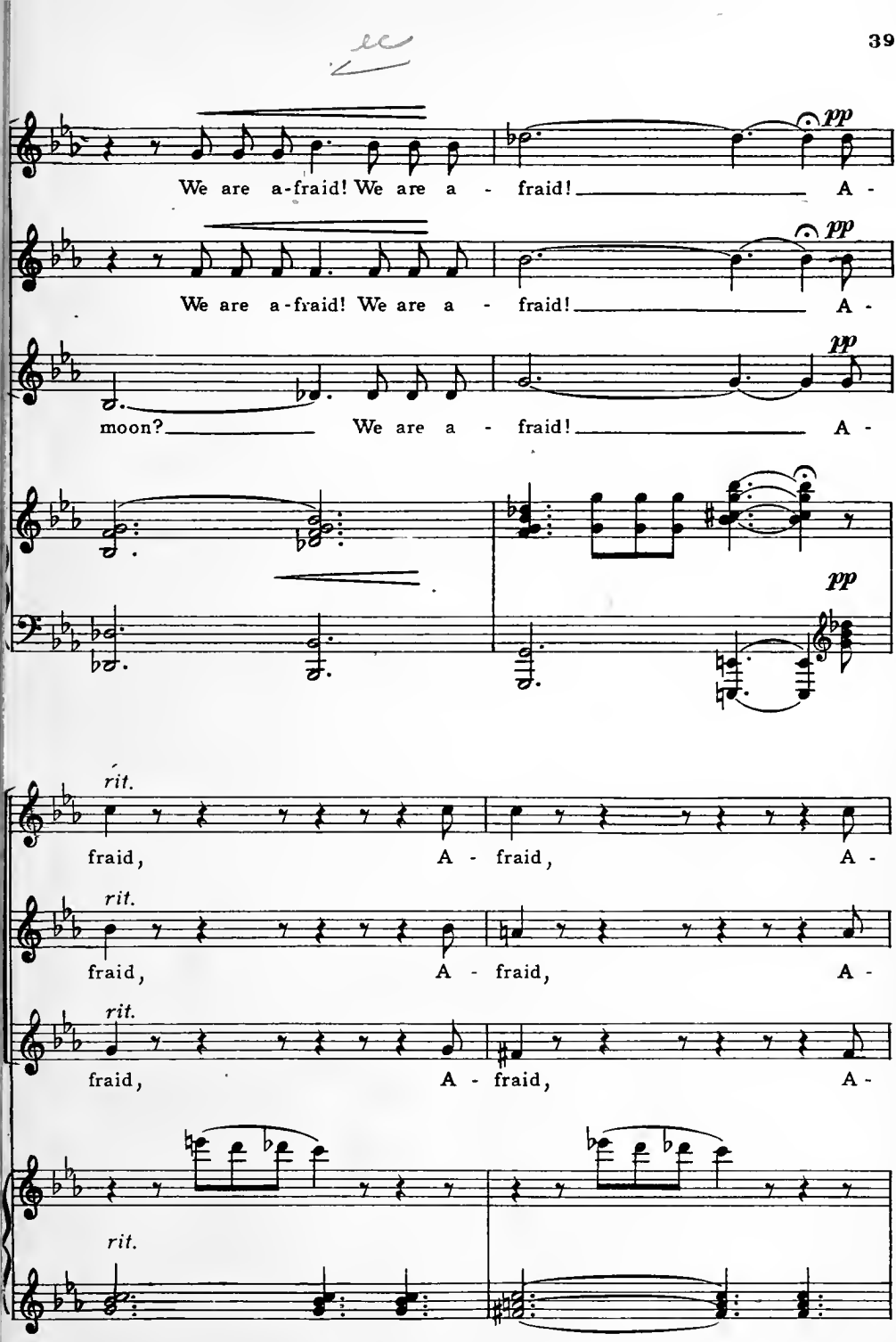

Up comes the wind o-ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o-ver the sea, ris - - ing,
Up comes the wind o-ver the sea, ris - - ing,
8
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky,

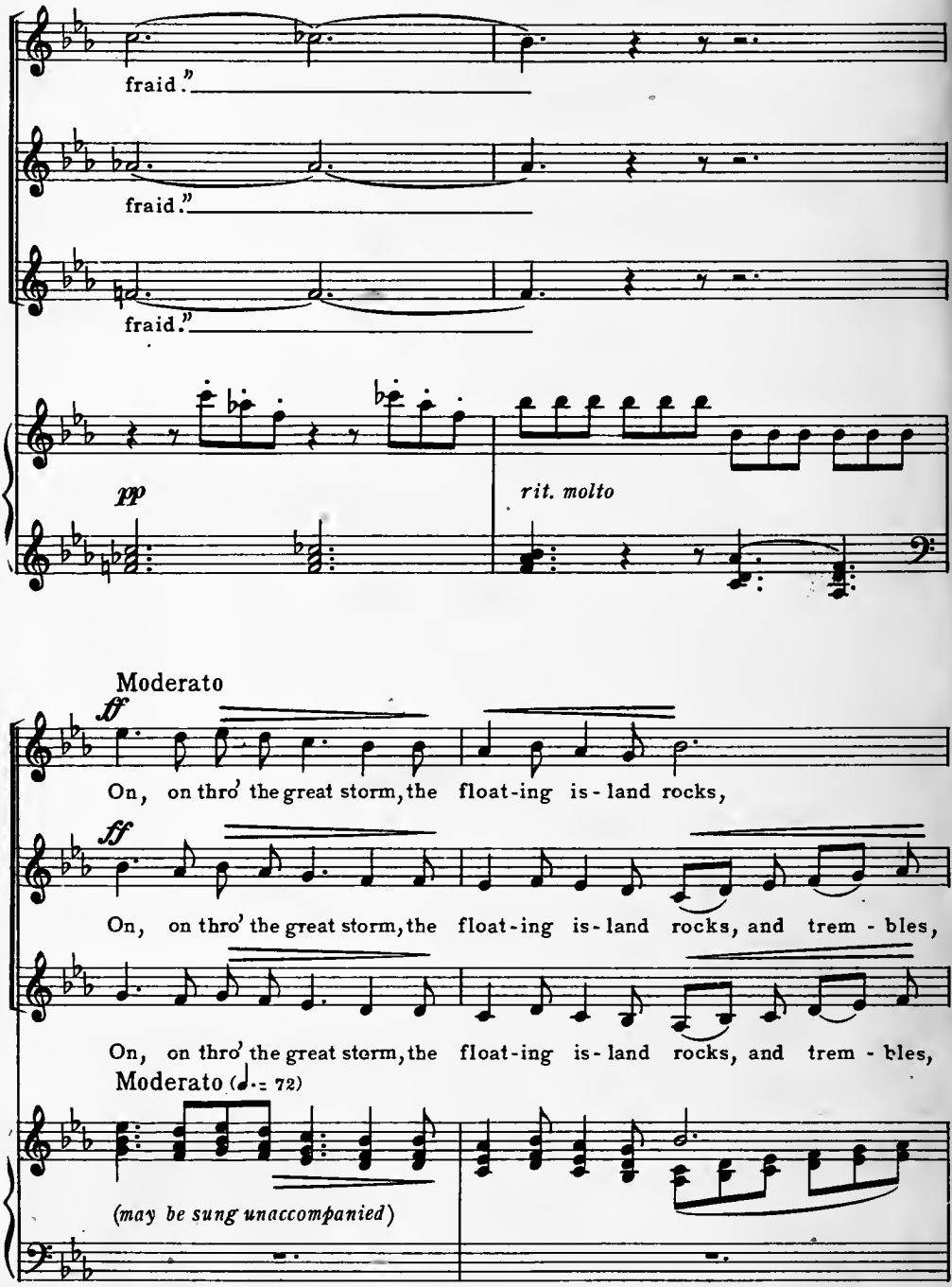

rit.
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky.
rit.
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky.
rit.
Rock - ing the is - land, Cloud - ing the sky.
rit.
ff a tempo con fuoco
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff a tempo
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff a tempo
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff a tempo con fuoco

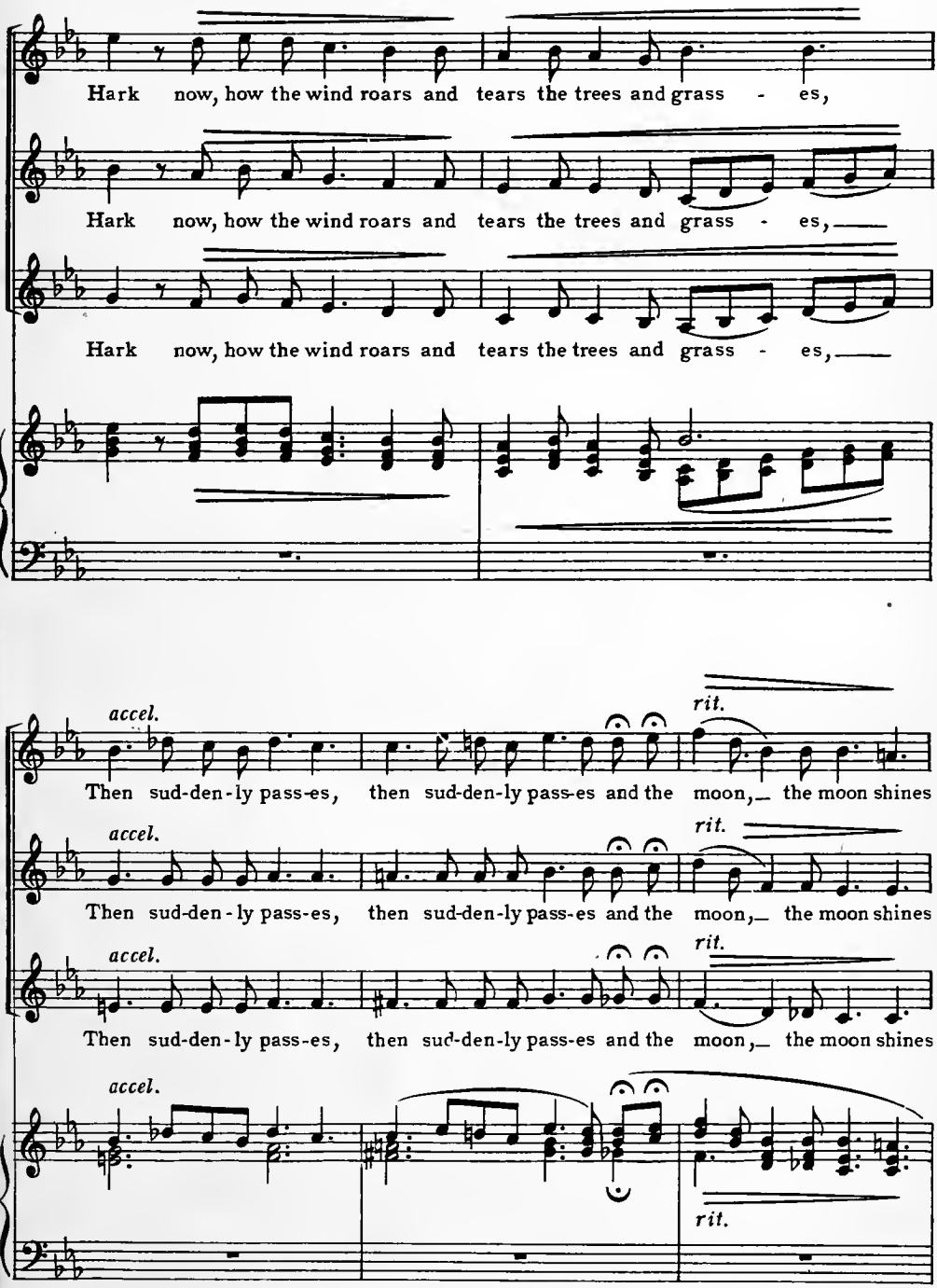

Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff
Black Night is up-on the deep, and the fair-ies are lost in the dark,
ff

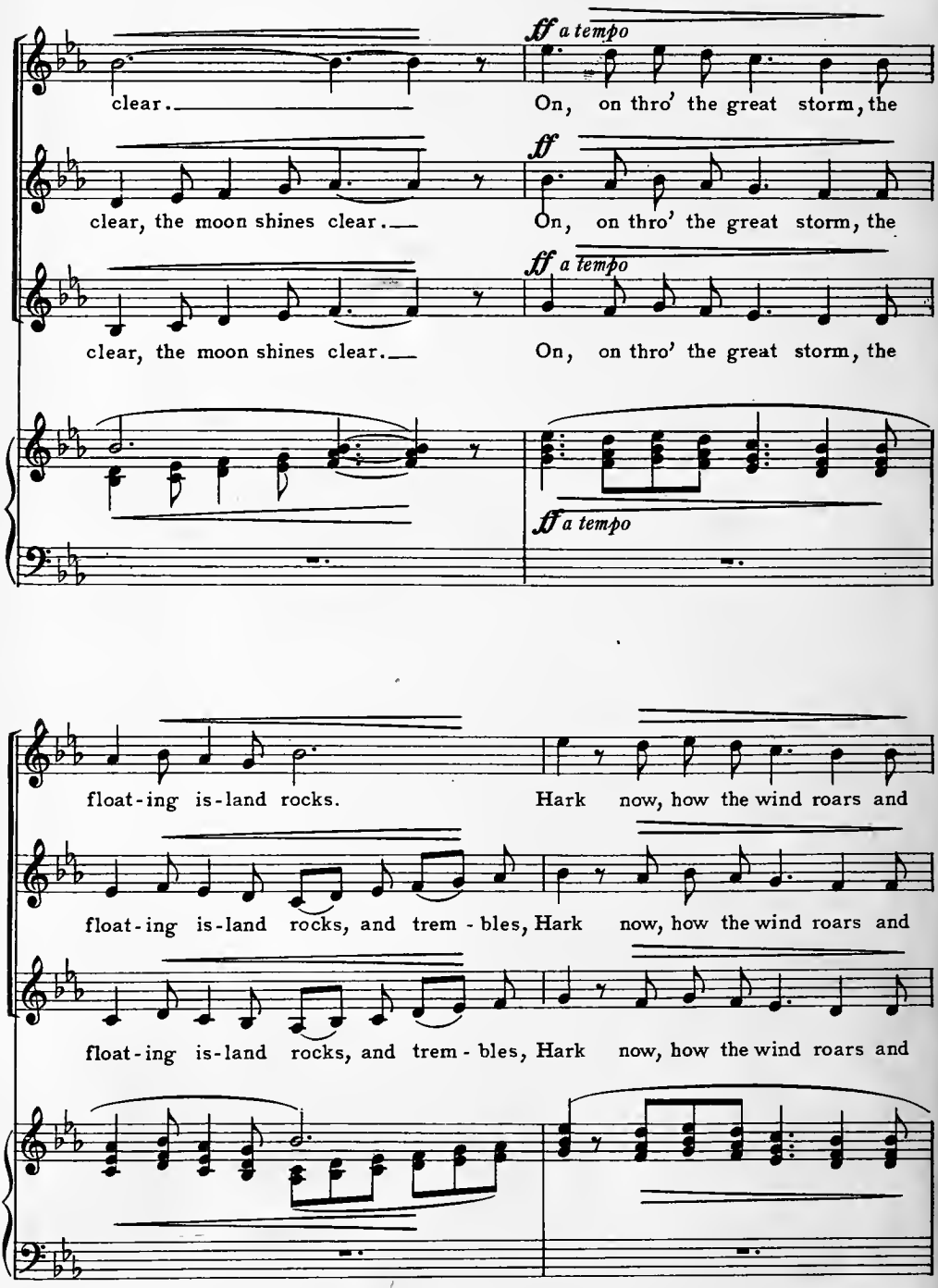

Black Night is up-on the deep and the fair-ies are lost in the dark.
Black Night is up-on the deep and the fair-ies are lost in the dark.
Black Night is up-on the deep and the fair-ies are lost in the dark.

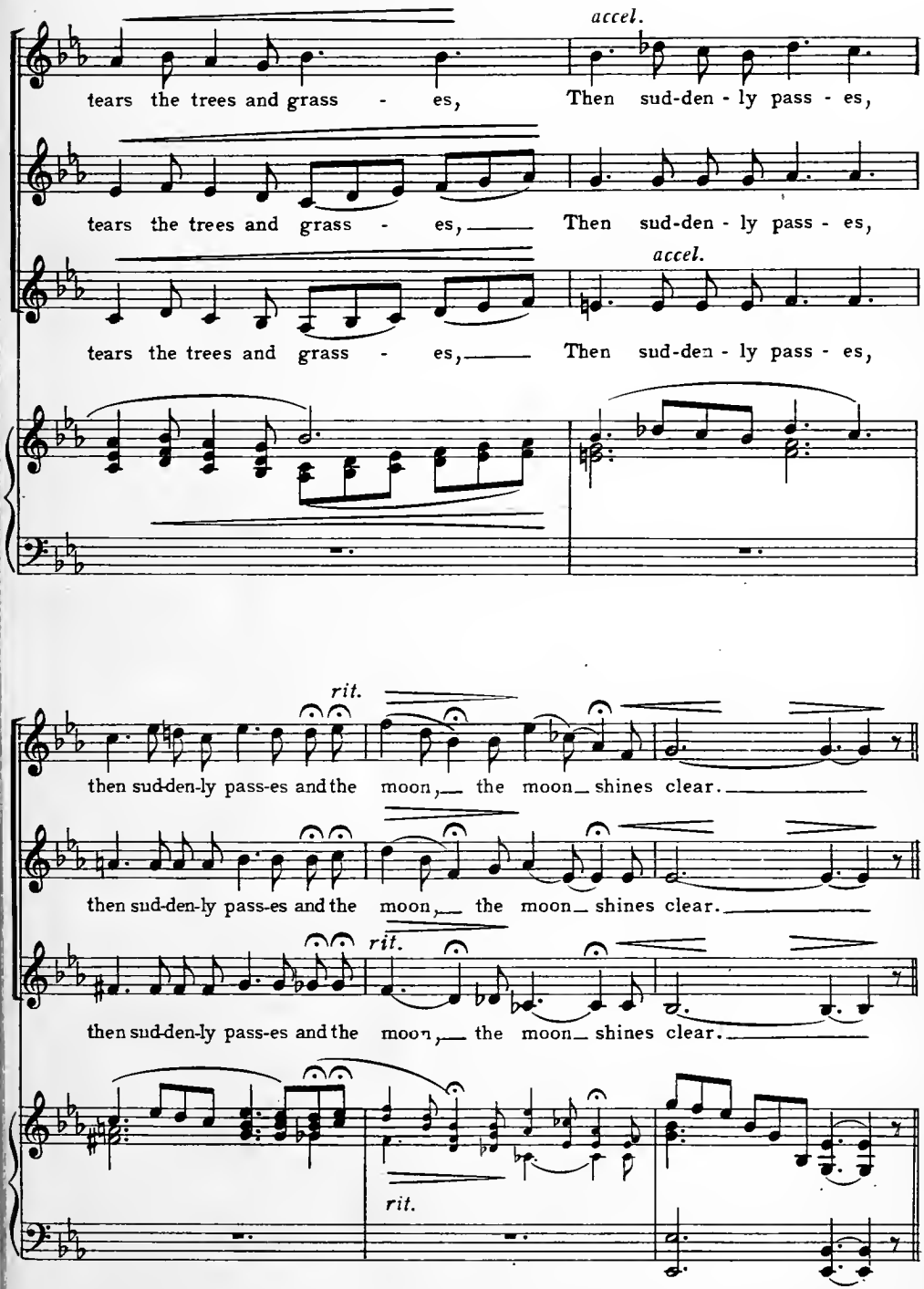

Molto moderato
pp
Where now is the moon?
pp
Where now is the moon?
pp
Where now is the
Molto moderato (♩. = 69)
pp much slower


pp
We are a-fraid! We are a - fraid! A -
pp
We are a-fraid! We are a - fraid! A -
pp
moon? We are a - fraid! A -
pp
rit.
fraid, A - fraid, A -
rit.
fraid, A - fraid, A -
rit.
fraid, A - fraid, A -
rit.

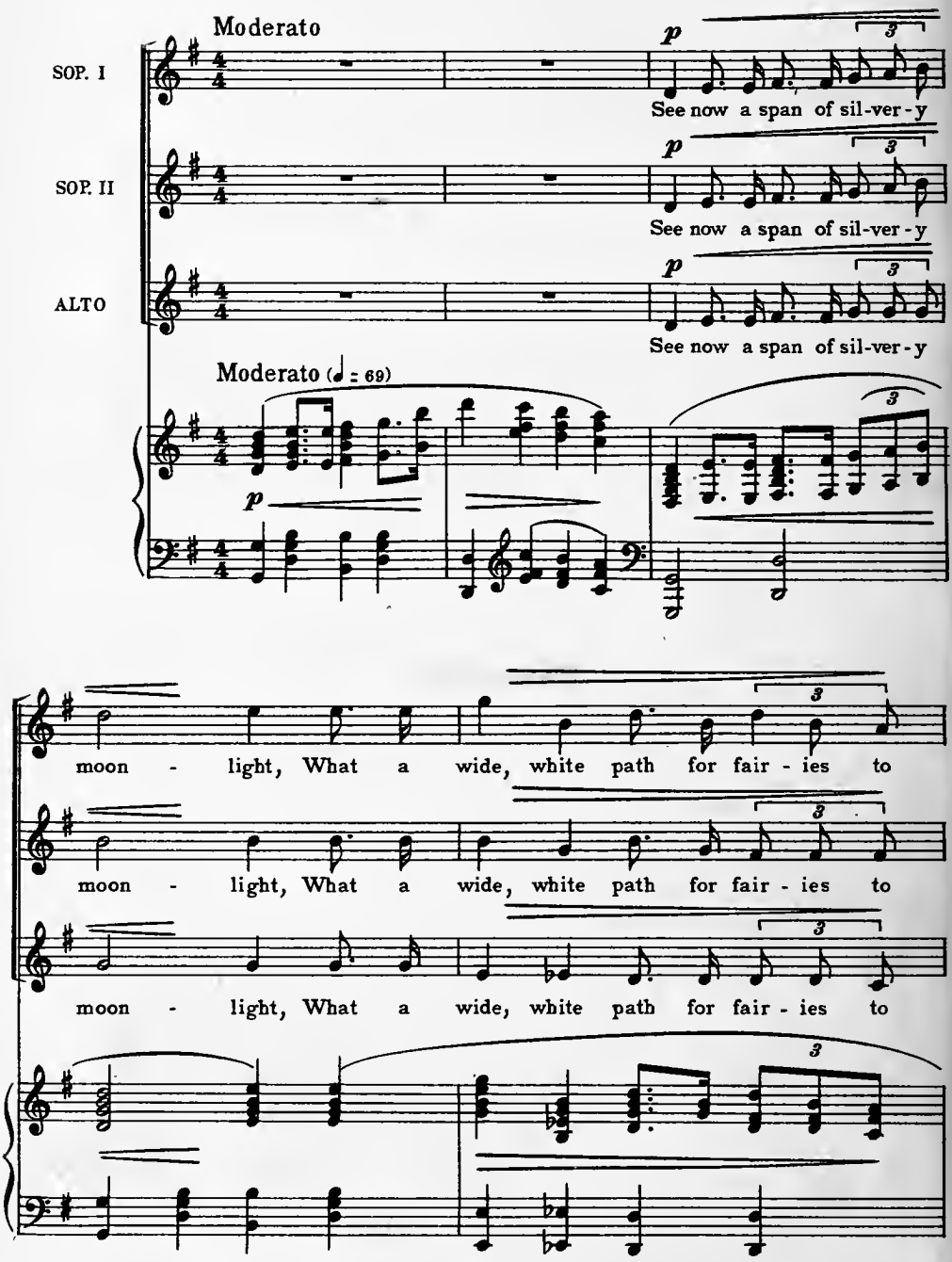

fraid."
fraid."
fraid."
pp
rit. molto
Moderato
ff
On, on thro' the great storm, the float-ing is-land rocks,
ff
On, on thro' the great storm, the float-ing is-land rocks, and trem-bles,
On, on thro' the great storm, the float-ing is-land rocks, and trem-bles,
Moderato (♩.= 72)
(may be sung unaccompanied)

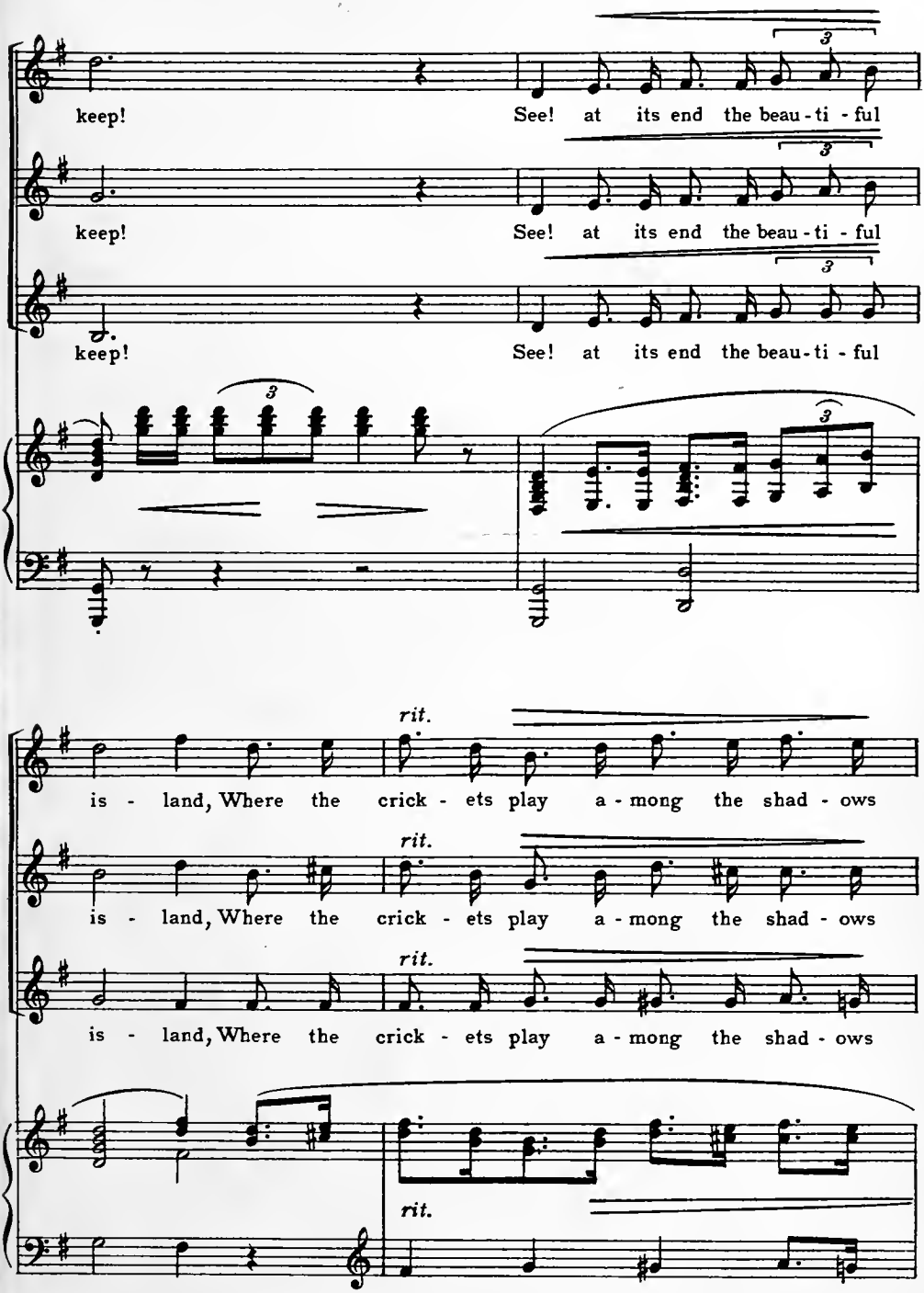

Hark now, how the wind roars and tears the trees and grass - es,
Hark now, how the wind roars and tears the trees and grass - es,
Hark now, how the wind roars and tears the trees and grass - es,
accel.
rit.
Then sud-den-ly pass-es, then sud-den-ly pass-es and the moon, the moon shines
accel.
rit.
Then sud-den-ly pass-es, then sud-den-ly pass-es and the moon, the moon shines
accel.
rit.
Then sud-den-ly pass-es, then sud-den-ly pass-es and the moon, the moon shines
accel.
rit.

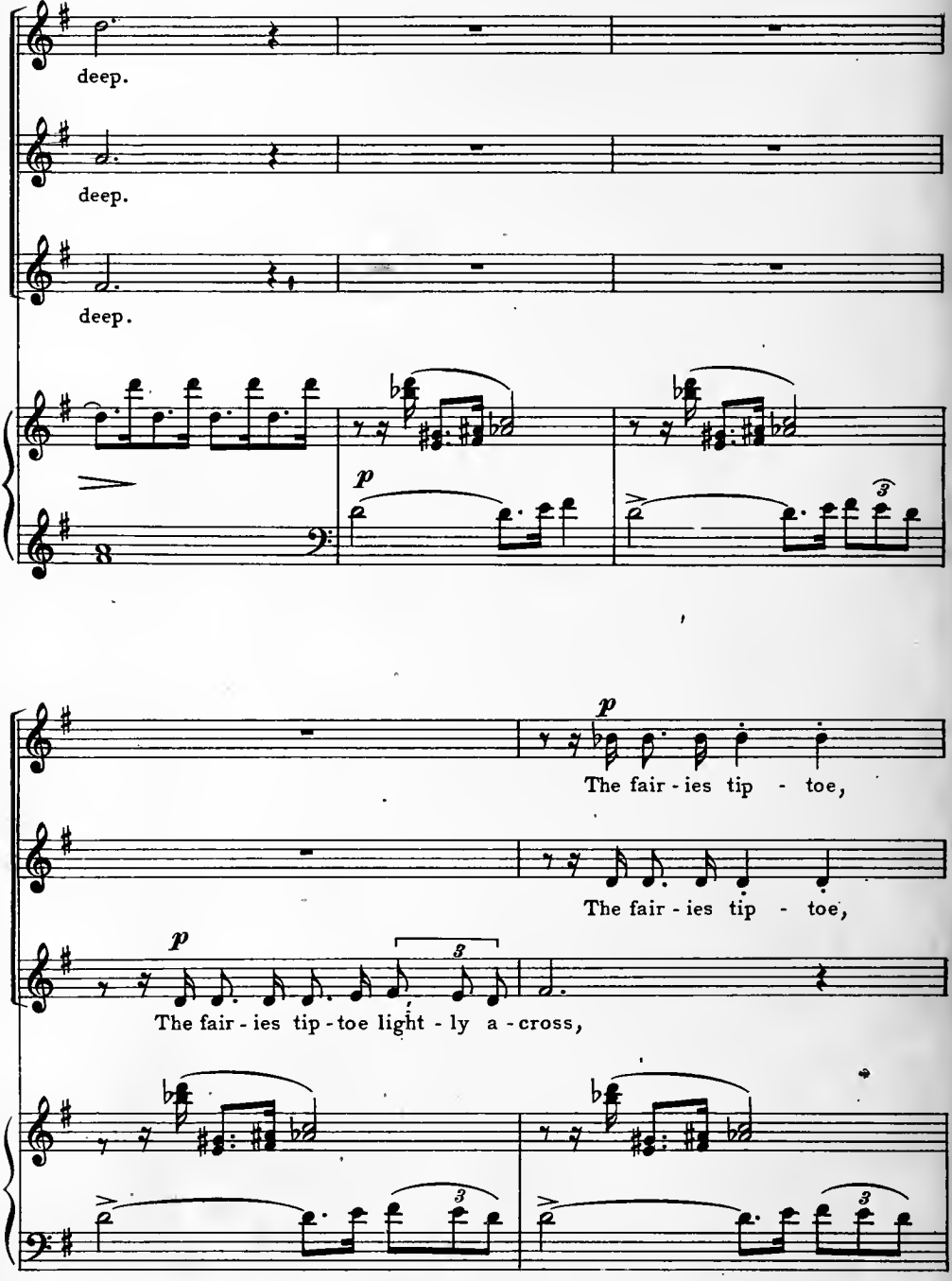

clear.
ff a tempo
On, on thro' the great storm, the
clear, the moon shines clear.
ff
On, on thro' the great storm, the
clear, the moon shines clear.
ff a tempo
On, on thro' the great storm, the
ff a tempo
float-ing is-land rocks.
Hark now, how the wind roars and
float-ing is-land rocks, and trem-bles,
Hark now, how the wind roars and
float-ing is-land rocks, and trem-bles,
Hark now, how the wind roars and

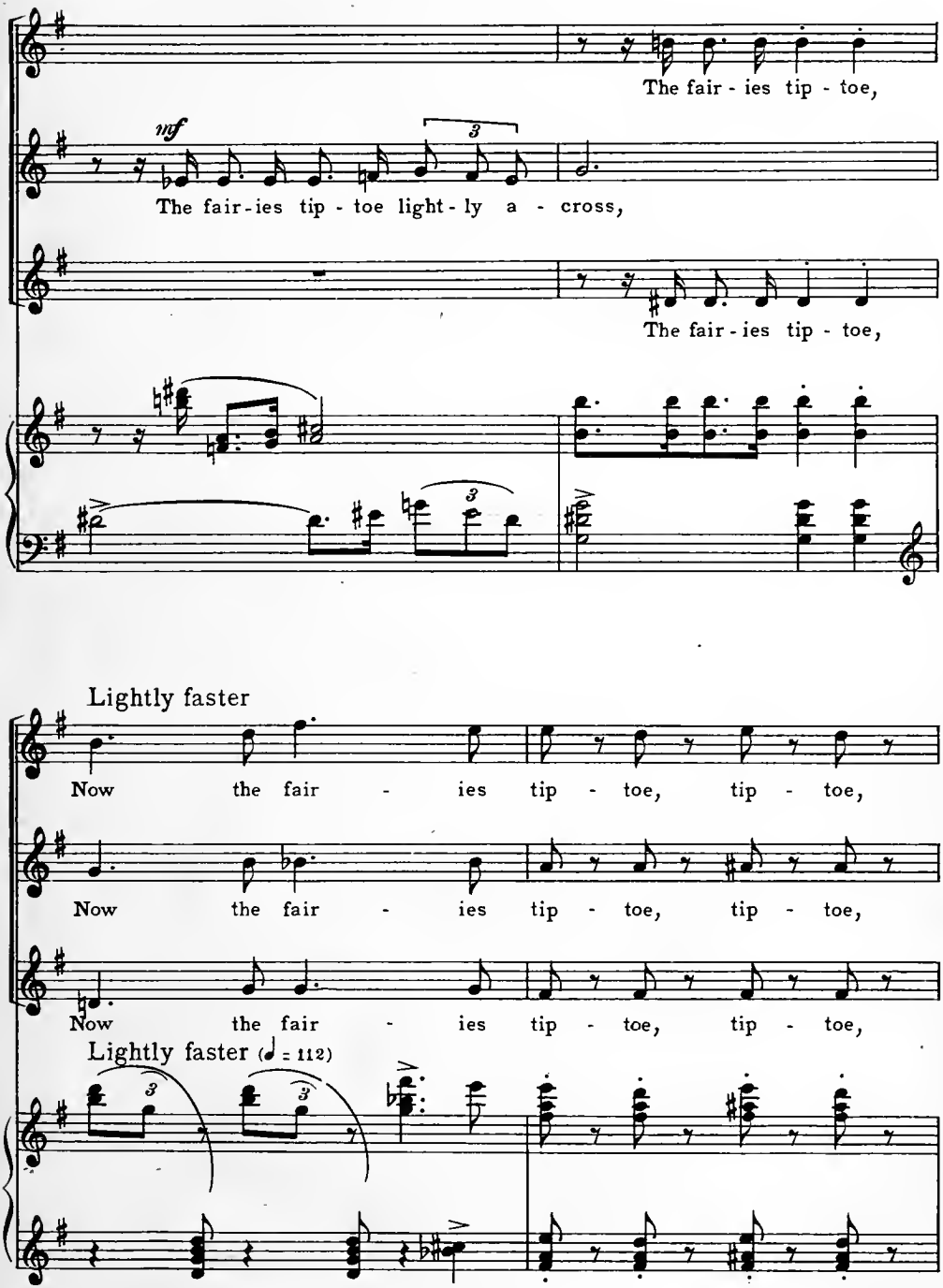

accel.
tears the trees and grass - es, Then sud-den - ly pass - es,
tears the trees and grass - es, Then sud-den - ly pass - es,
accel.
tears the trees and grass - es, Then sud-den - ly pass - es,
rit.
then sud-den-ly pass-es and the moon, the moon shines clear.
then sud-den-ly pass-es and the moon, the moon shines clear.
rit.
then sud-den-ly pass-es and the moon, the moon shines clear.
rit.

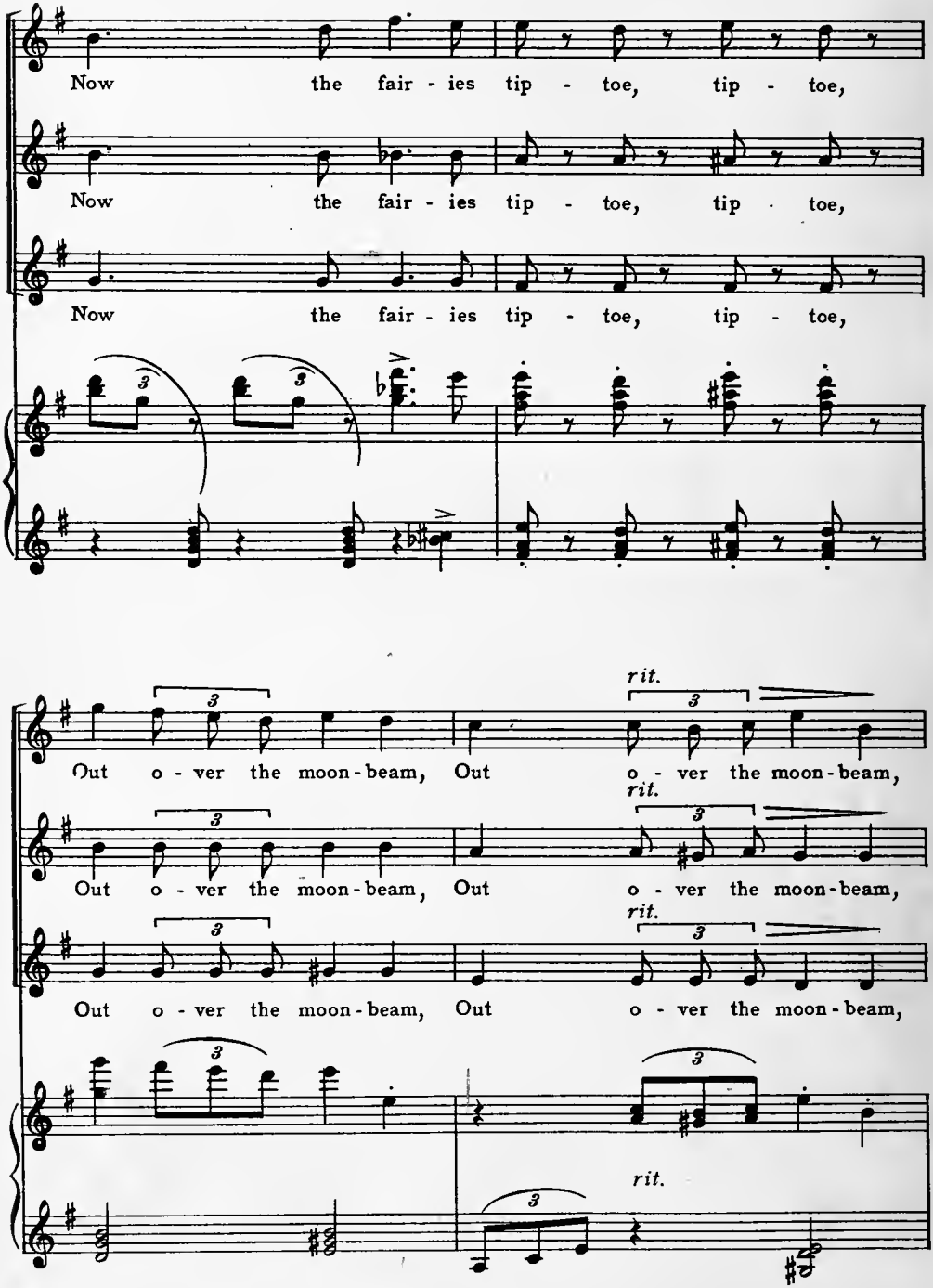
Return of the Fairies

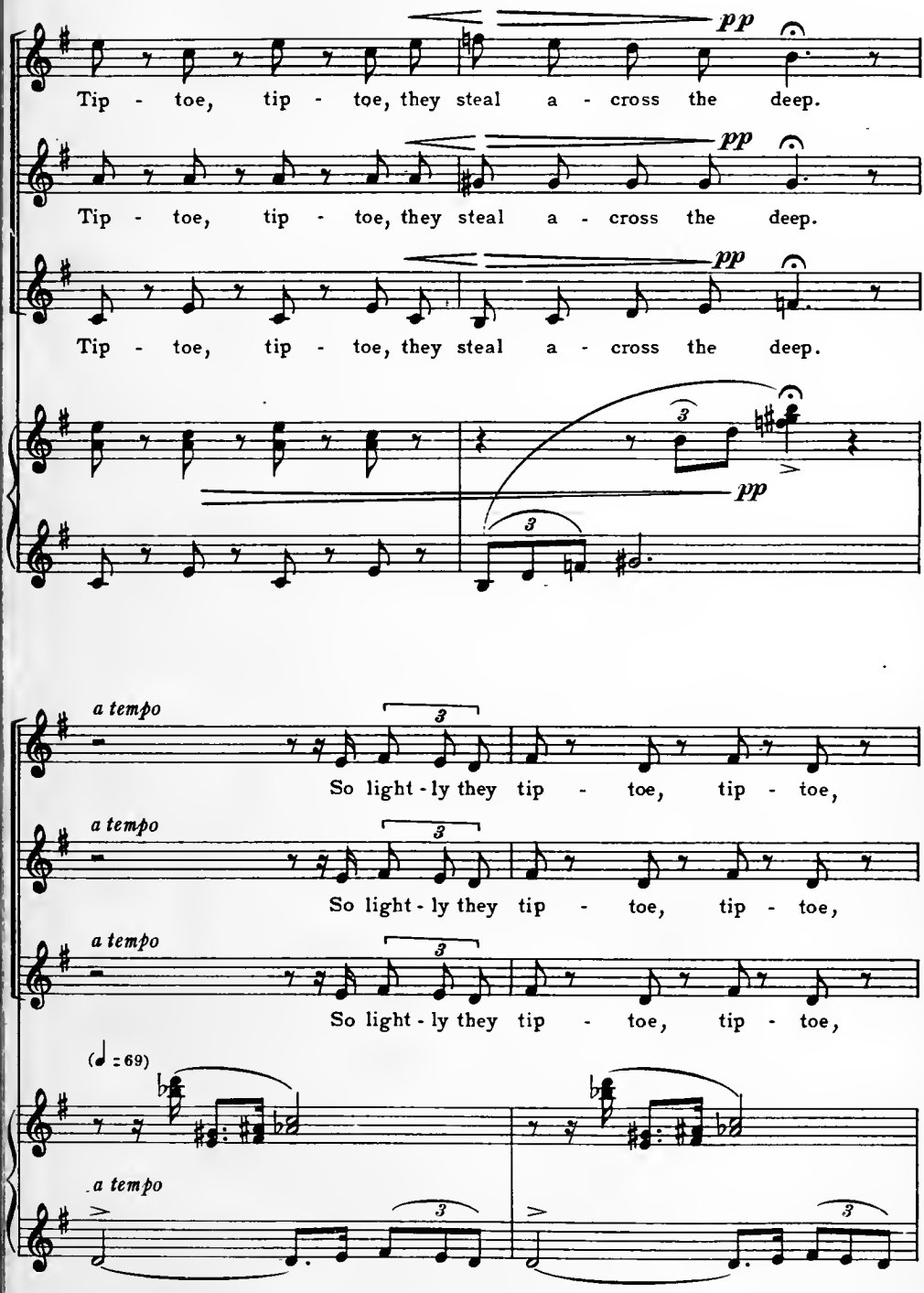


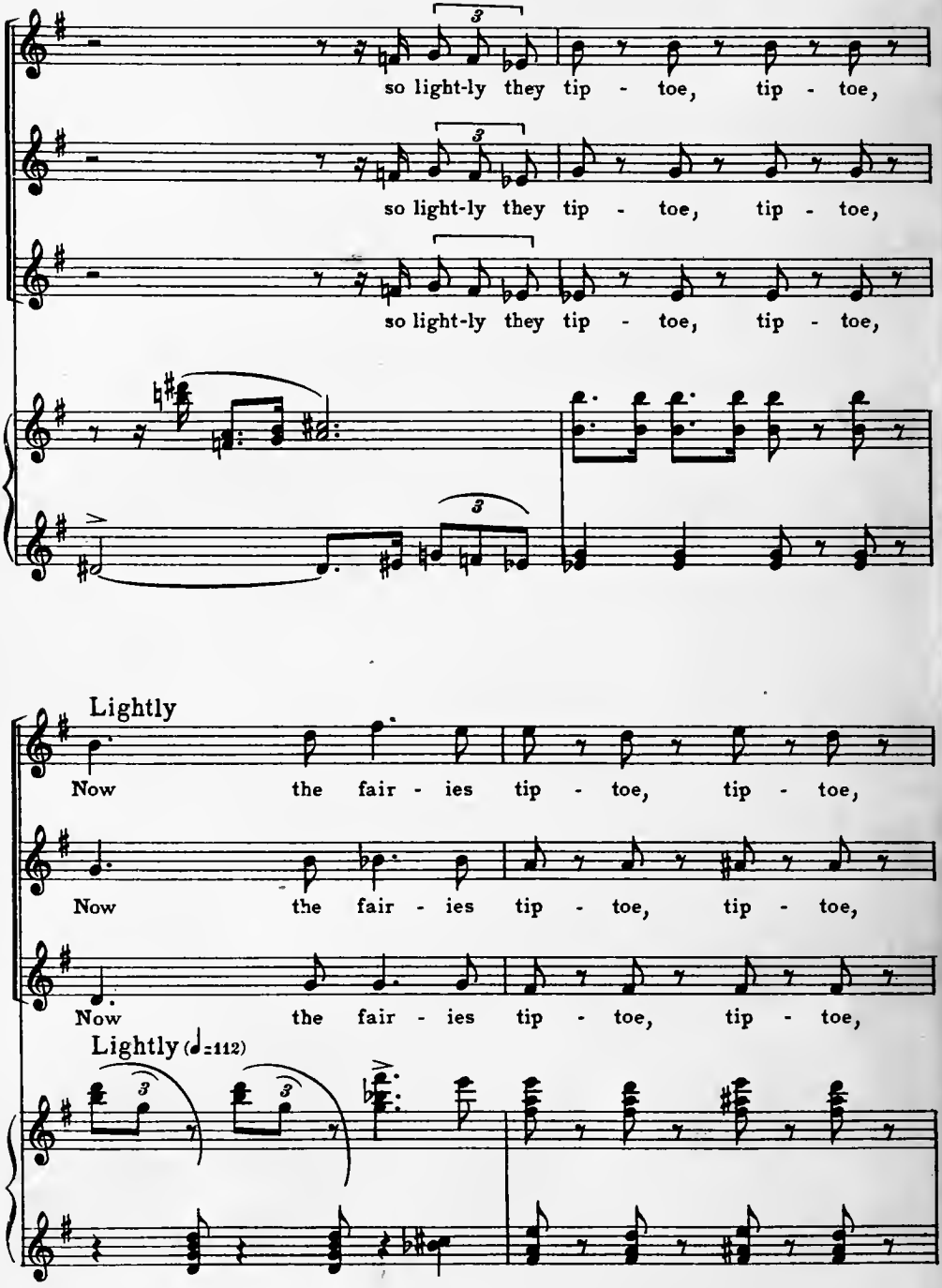

keep!
See! at its end the beau - ti - ful
keep!
See! at its end the beau - ti - ful
keep!
See! at its end the beau - ti - ful
rit.
is - land, Where the crick - ets play a - mong the shad - ows
rit.
is - land, Where the crick - ets play a - mong the shad - ows
rit.
is - land, Where the crick - ets play a - mong the shad - ows
rit.

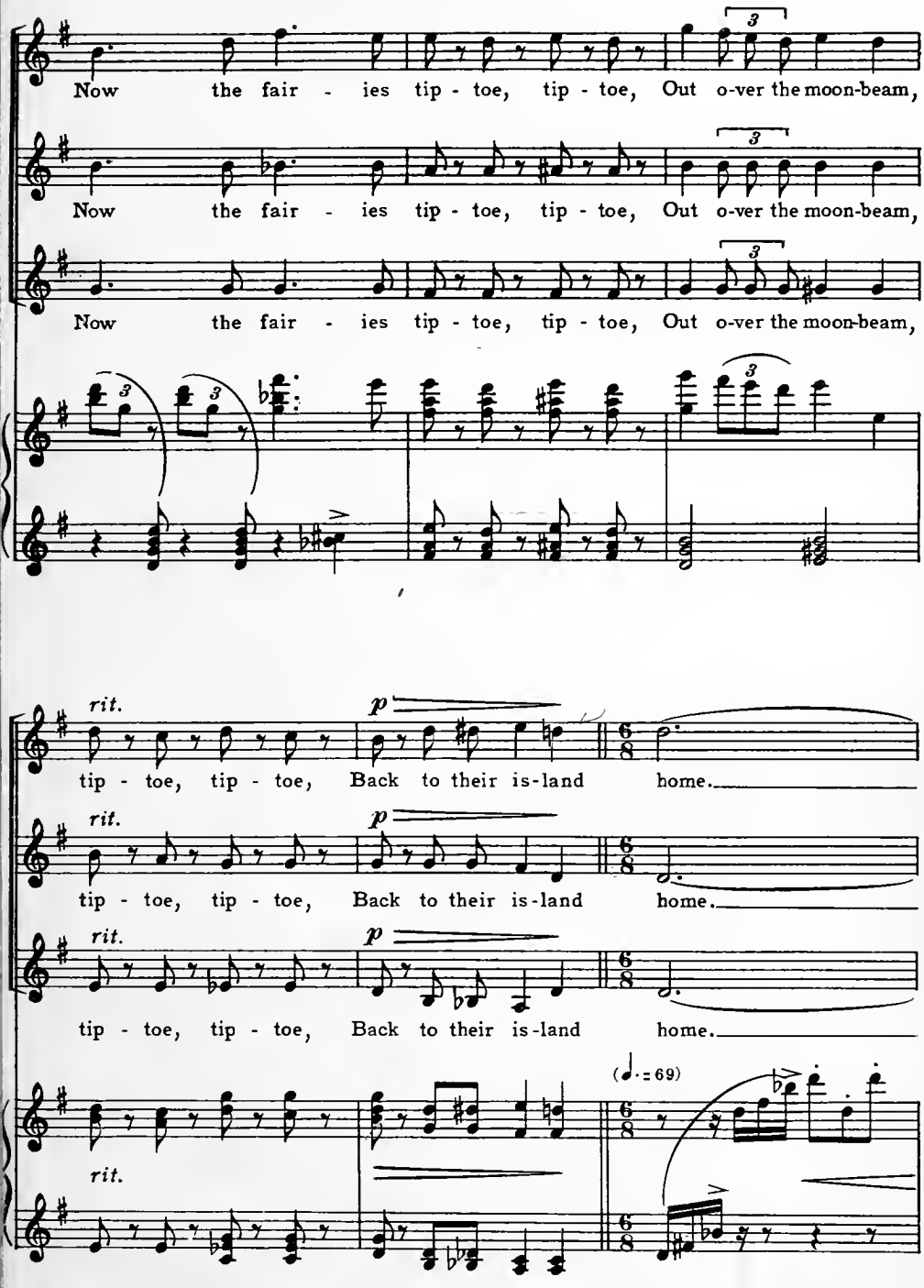

deep.
deep.
deep.
p
The fair - ies tip - toe,
The fair - ies tip - toe,
p
The fair - ies tip - toe light - ly a - cross,

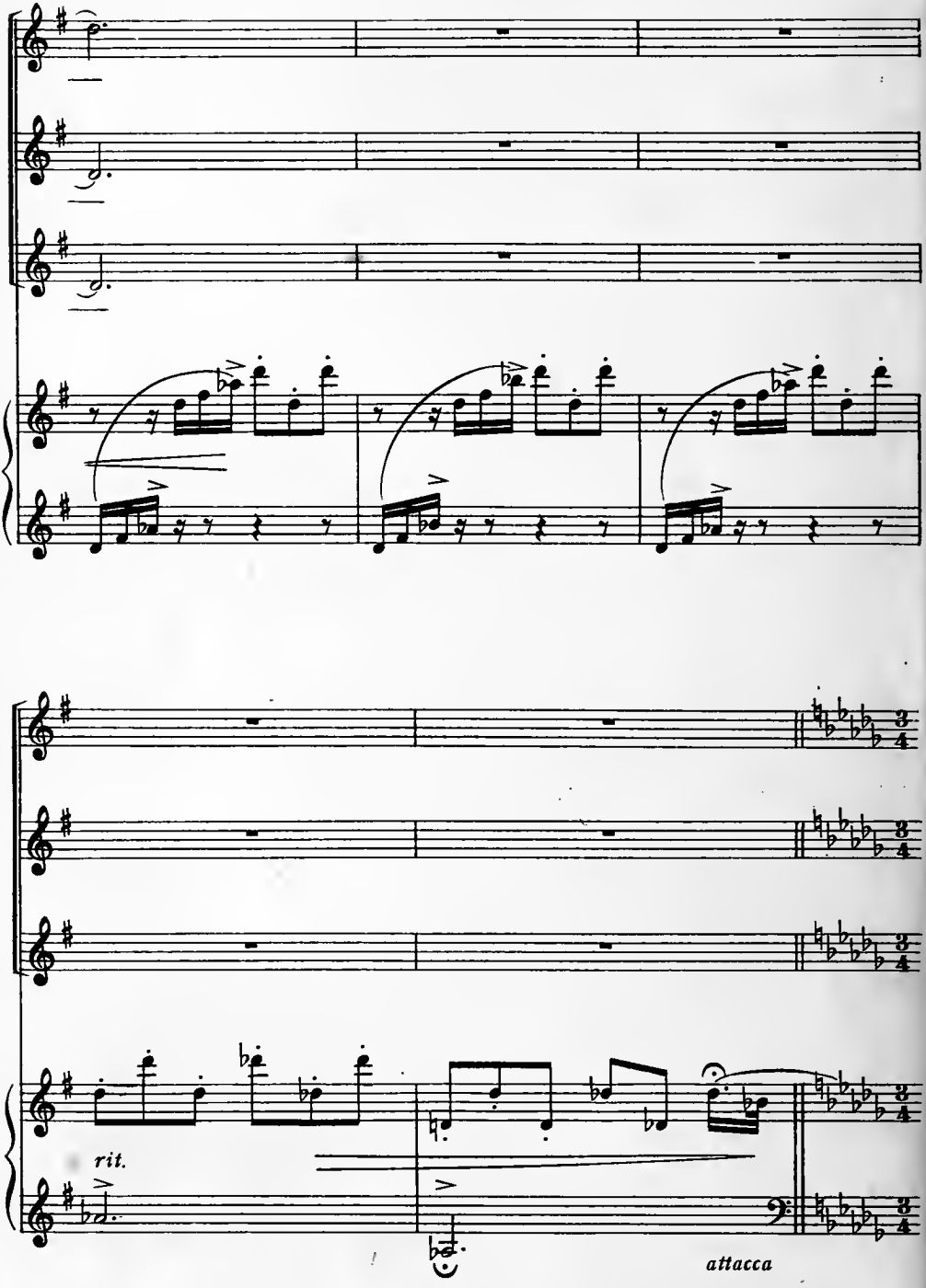

The fair - ies tip - toe,
mf
The fair-ies tip - toe light - ly a - cross,
The fair - ies tip - toe,
Lightly faster
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Lightly faster (♩ = 112)


Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Out o - ver the moon - beam, Out o - ver the moon - beam,
rit.
Out o - ver the moon - beam, Out o - ver the moon - beam,
rit.
Out o - ver the moon - beam, Out o - ver the moon - beam,
rit.
rit.

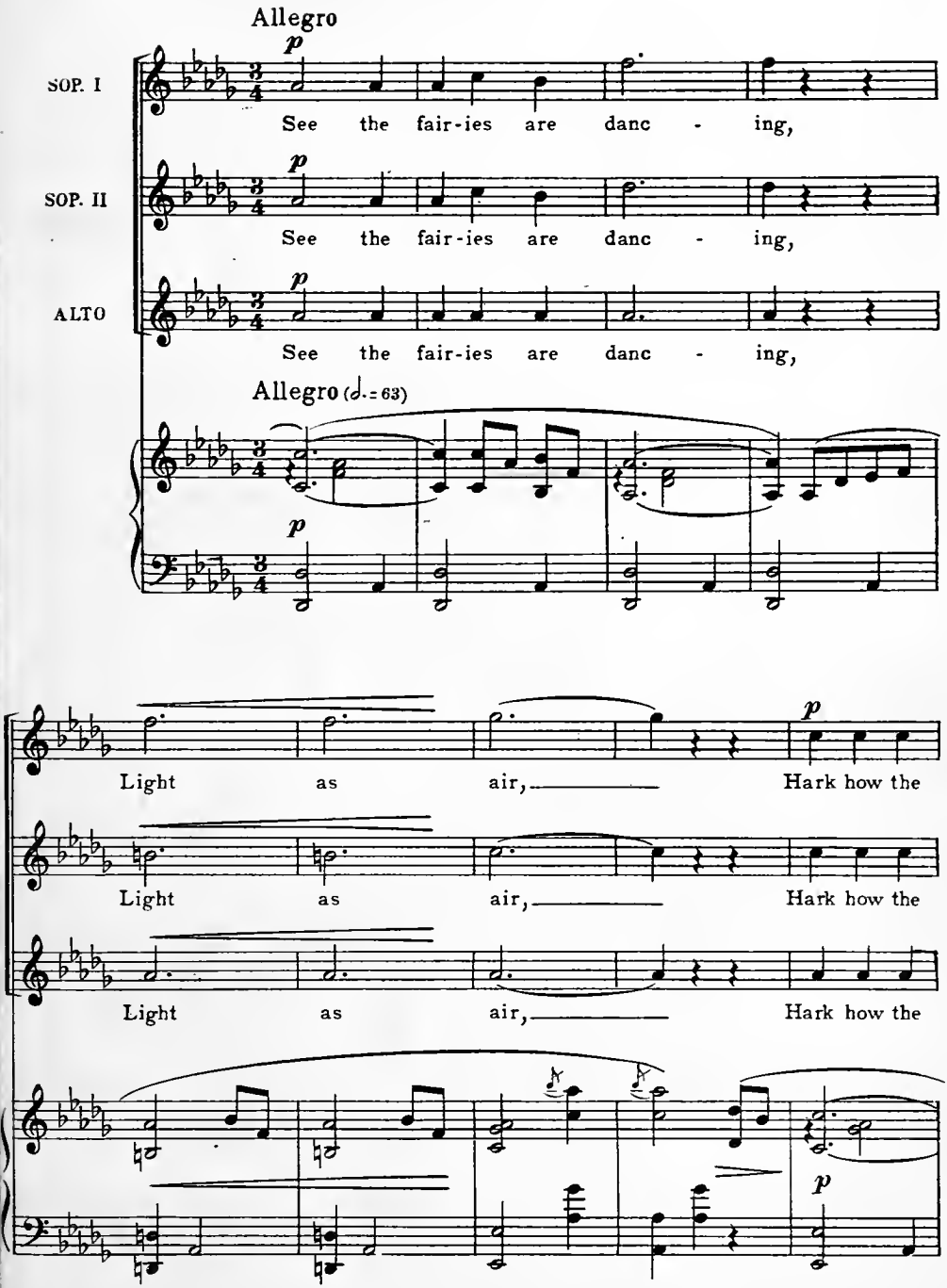

pp
Tip - toe, tip - toe, they steal a - cross the deep.
pp
Tip - toe, tip - toe, they steal a - cross the deep.
pp
Tip - toe, tip - toe, they steal a - cross the deep.
pp
a tempo
So light - ly they tip - toe, tip - toe,
a tempo
So light - ly they tip - toe, tip - toe,
a tempo
So light - ly they tip - toe, tip - toe,
(♩ = 69)
a tempo

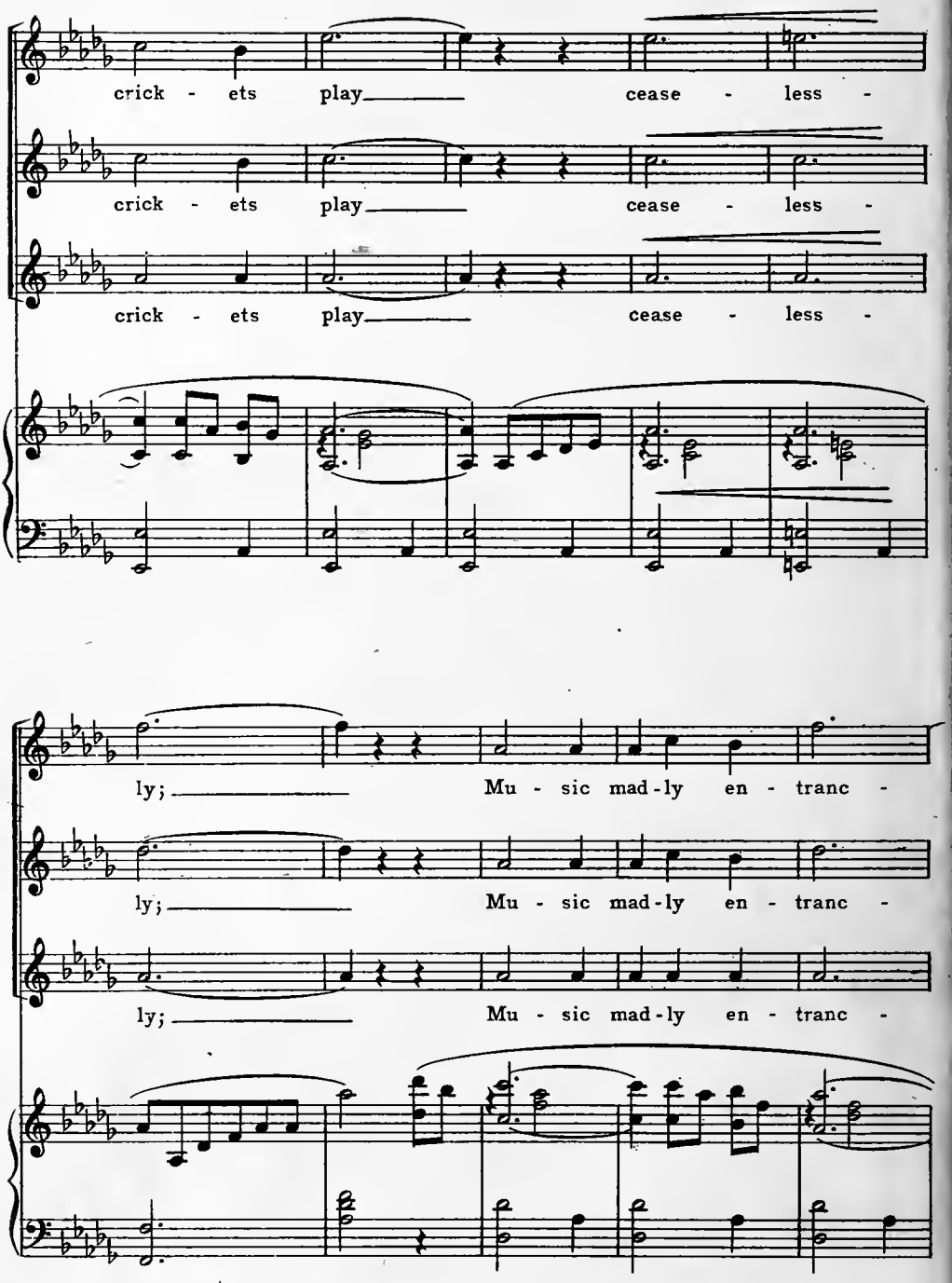

so light-ly they tip - toe, tip - toe,
so light-ly they tip - toe, tip - toe,
so light-ly they tip - toe, tip - toe,
Lightly
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe,
Lightly (♩=112)

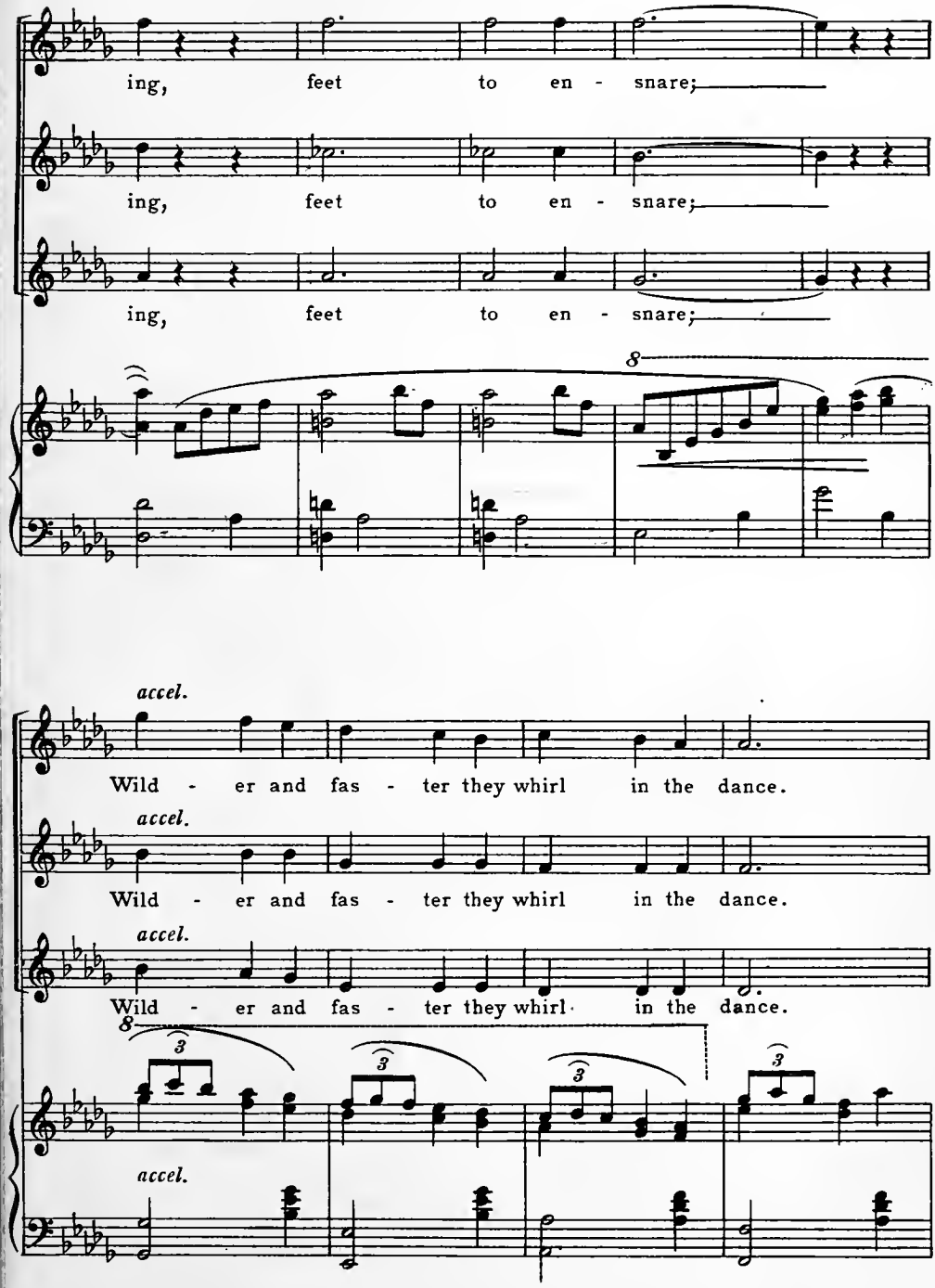

Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe, Out o-ver the moon-beam,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe, Out o-ver the moon-beam,
Now the fair - ies tip - toe, tip - toe, Out o-ver the moon-beam,
rit.
p
tip - toe, tip - toe, Back to their is-land home.
rit.
p
tip - toe, tip - toe, Back to their is-land home.
rit.
p
tip - toe, tip - toe, Back to their is-land home.
(♩. = 69)
rit.

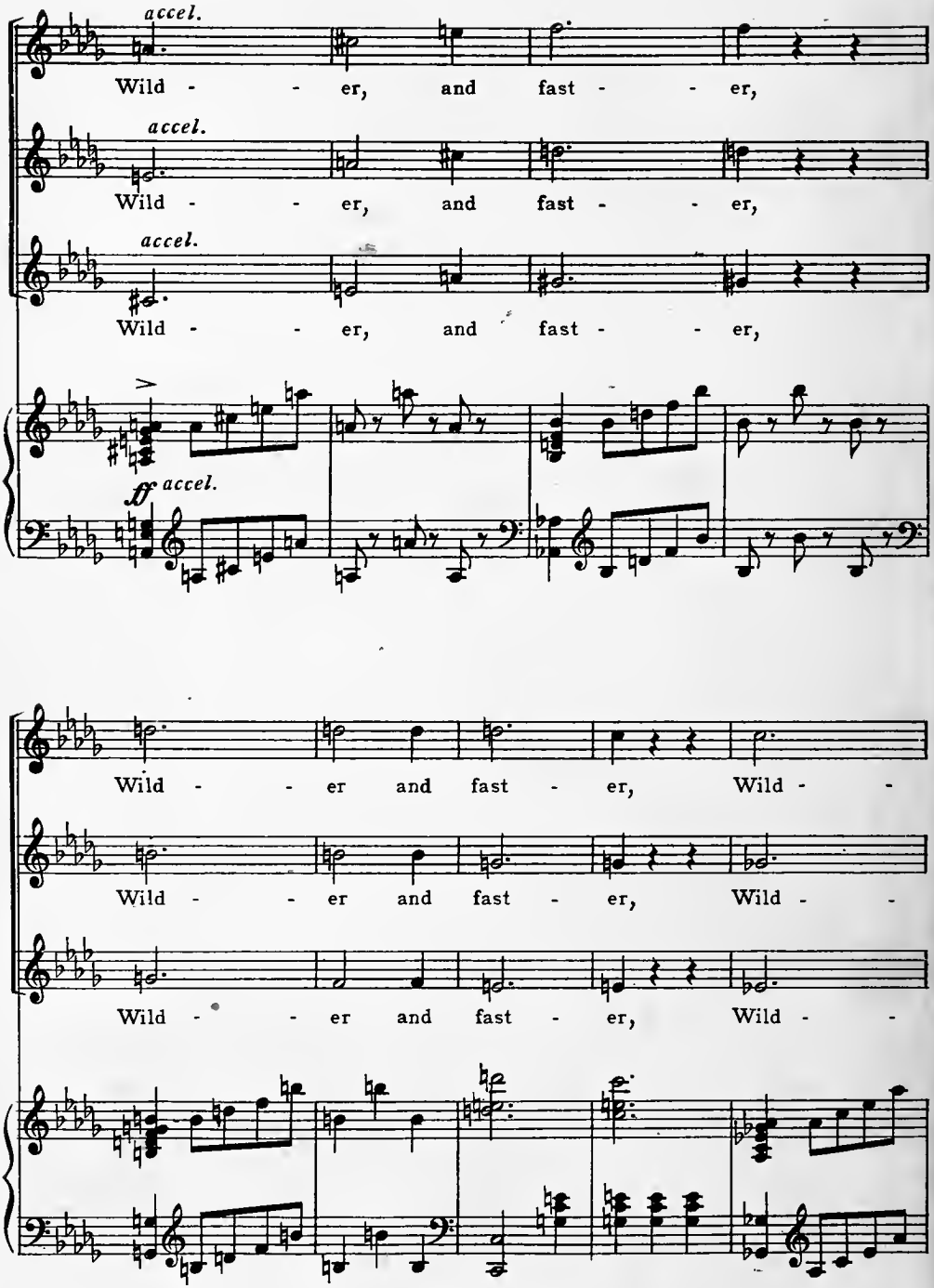

rit.
attacca

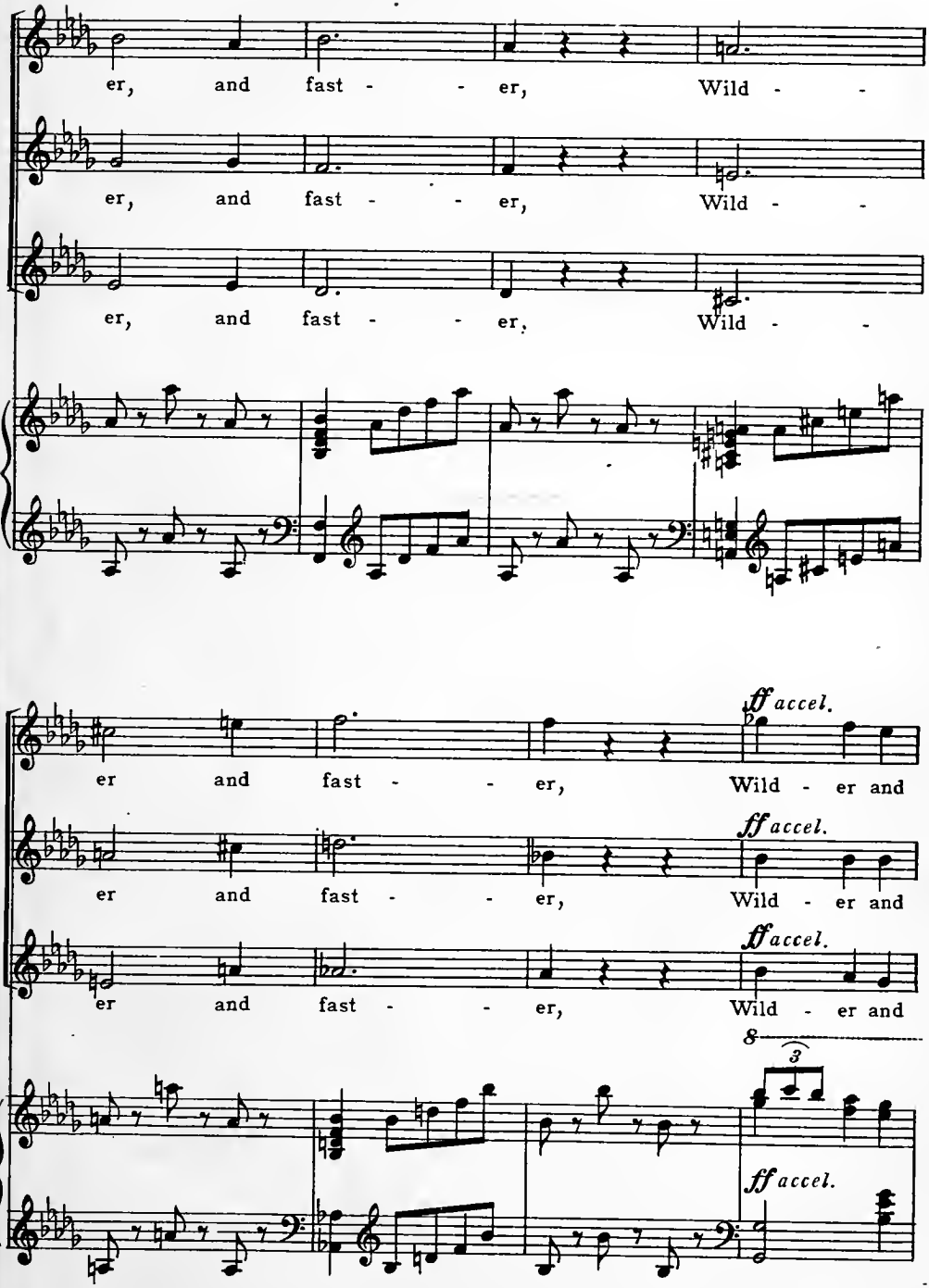
The Dance

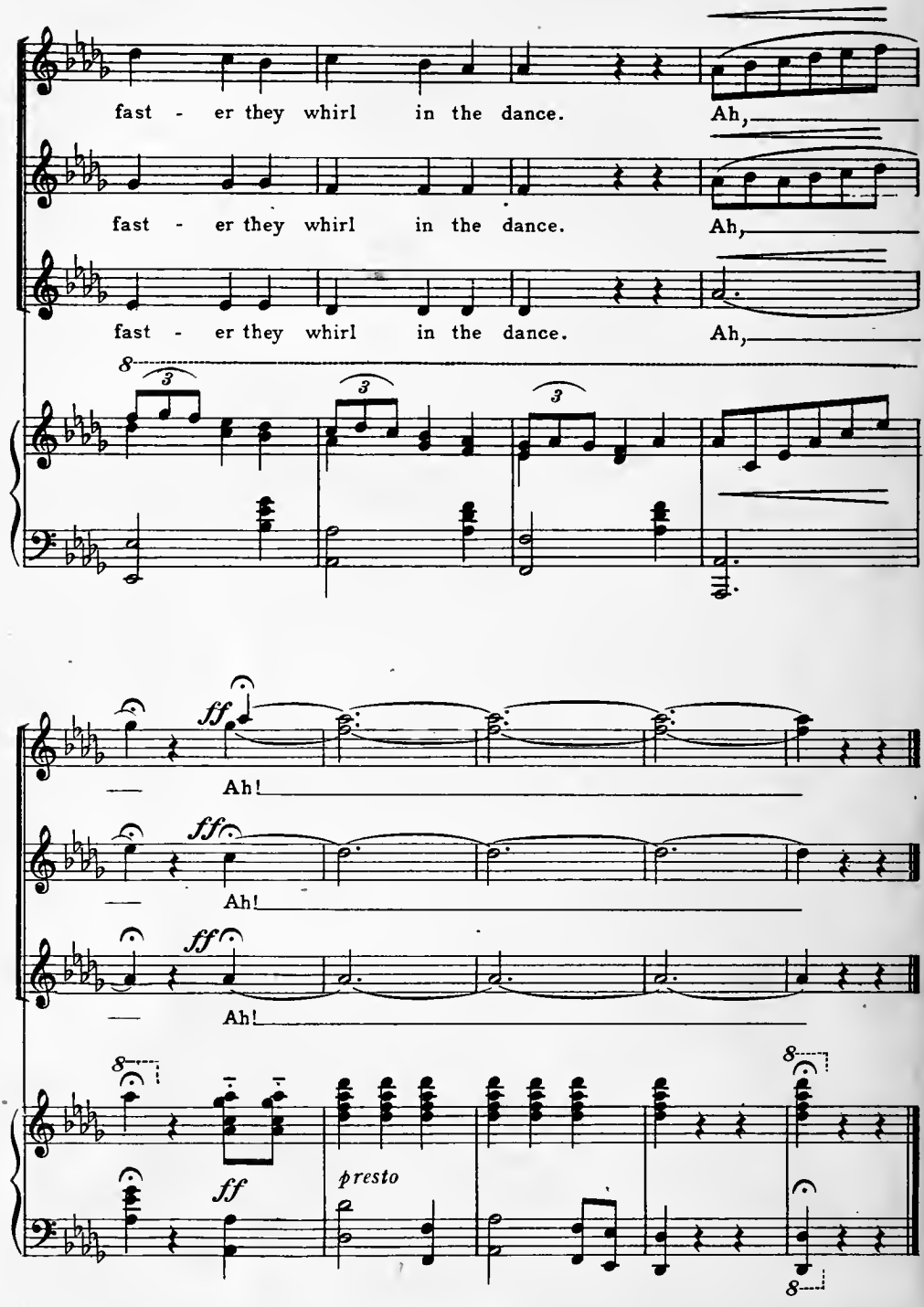

Allegro
SOP. I
SOP. II
ALTO
See the fair-ies are danc - ing,
See the fair-ies are danc - ing,
See the fair-ies are danc - ing,
Allegro (♩.= 63)
Light as air,
Hark how the
Light as air,
Hark how the
Light as air,
Hark how the


crick - ets play cease - less -
crick - ets play cease - less -
crick - ets play cease - less -
ly; Mu - sic mad - ly en - tranc -
ly; Mu - sic mad - ly en - tranc -
ly; Mu - sic mad - ly en - tranc -


ing, feet to en - snare;
ing, feet to en - snare;
ing, feet to en - snare;
8
accel.
Wild - er and fas - ter they whirl in the dance.
accel.
Wild - er and fas - ter they whirl in the dance.
accel.
Wild - er and fas - ter they whirl in the dance.
8
3
3
3
3
accel.


accel.
Wild - - er, and fast - - er,
accel.
Wild - - er, and fast - - er,
accel.
Wild - - er, and fast - - er,
ff accel.
Wild - - er and fast - er, Wild - -
Wild - - er and fast - er, Wild - -
Wild - - er and fast - er, Wild - -


er, and fast - - er, Wild - -
er, and fast - - er, Wild - -
er, and fast - - er, Wild - -
ff accel.
er and fast - - er, Wild - er and
ff accel.
er and fast - - er, Wild - er and
ff accel.
er and fast - - er, Wild - er and
8
3
ff accel.


fast - er they whirl in the dance. Ah,
fast - er they whirl in the dance. Ah,
fast - er they whirl in the dance. Ah,
ff
Ah!
ff
Ah!
ff
Ah!
ff
presto