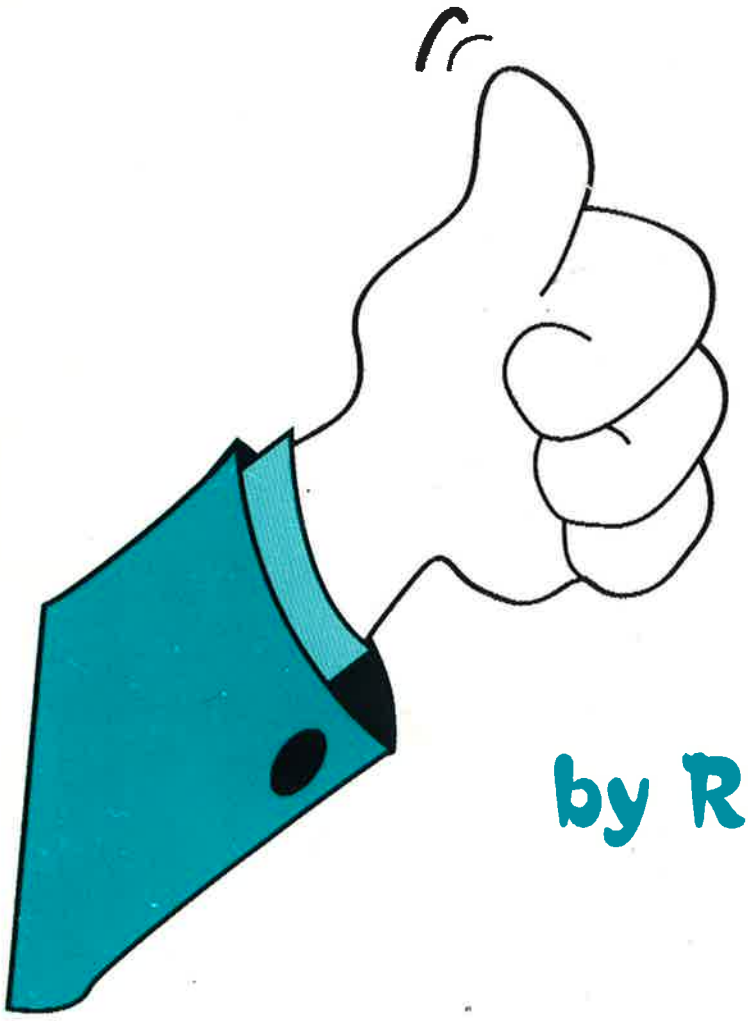
Thumb Position for Cello

Book 1



by Rick Mooney

SUMMY-BIRCHARD INC.

EVA Mª SIERRA

Thumb Position for Cello

Book 1

by Rick Mooney

© 1998 Summy-Birchard Music
a division of Summy-Birchard, Inc.
Exclusive print rights administered by
Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

0-87487-763-6

Any duplication, adaptation or arrangement of the compositions
contained in this collection requires the written consent of the Publisher.
No part of this book may be photocopied or reproduced in any way without permission.
Unauthorized uses are an infringement of the U.S. Copyright Act and are punishable by law.

Contents

A Note to Students 3

Thumb Position Pattern I

Daily Warm-ups 4
French Folk Song 6
May Song 7
Oh Susannah 8
Are You Sleeping? 9
I'll Always Remember You 10
Soldier's Joy 11
Arkansas Traveller 12
The Hundred Pipers 14

Thumb Position Pattern II

Daily Warm-ups 17
French Folk Song 19
May Song 20
Oh Susannah 21
Old Folks at Home 22
The Blue Bells of Scotland 23
Crawdad 24
The Devil's Dream 25
The California Traveller 26

Thumb Position Pattern III

Daily Warm-ups 27
French Folk Song 29
May Song 30
Oh Susannah 31
Cockles and Mussels 32
Larry O'Gaff 33
Battle Hymn of the Republic 34
Fisher's Hornpipe 35
The Piper of Dundee 36

Thumb Position Pattern IV

Daily Warm-ups 38
French Folk Song 40
May Song 41
Oh Susannah 42
Clair de Lune 43
My Wild Irish Rose 44
Garry Owen 45
Eat My Dust 46

Various Patterns

Minuet 47
Rigadoon 48
Old French Song 50
German Dance 51
Highland Hoedown 52
Chorale 55
Brich Entzwei, Mein Armes Herze
The Irish Washerwoman 56
Go Down, Moses 57
Chorale 58
Gott, Wie Gross Ist Deine Güte
Walking Music from Appelbo 59
The Coyote's Bark 60
Chorale 62
Die Bittre Leidenszeit
Chorale 63
Jesu, Deine Liebeswunden
Boil Them Cabbage Down 64
Chorale 67
Jesu, Jesu Du Bist Mein
The Triumph 68

A Note to Students

This book has been designed to give you a solid understanding of the four basic thumb position fingering patterns. In the first part of the book, each section deals with one pattern. The pieces in the last section have a variety of patterns in them. It will be up to you to figure out which ones to use!

Please follow your teacher's instruction about playing in thumb position. Here, though, is a summary of some important points to observe:

- Let the side of your thumb lie across two (and only two) strings.
- Keep your thumb in a natural, loose "straight" position. Your thumb should neither bow backward nor bend at the first joint. Both of these things usually indicate tension -- which you should avoid at all costs.
- Use the weight from your back to stop the strings. Be careful that your fingers do not poke down into the string causing the knuckles to stick up. Your hand shape should be curved and the base knuckles should be soft and flexible.
- Since your thumb will be resting on harmonics in this book, it is not required that you firmly stop the strings with the thumb. However, I usually recommend that you try to balance some weight from your back onto the thumb. That way it will remain in one spot on the string and not wander around the harmonic spot. Be sure that you do not collapse your knuckles or tighten your thumb as you do this.

Here are a few practice hints:

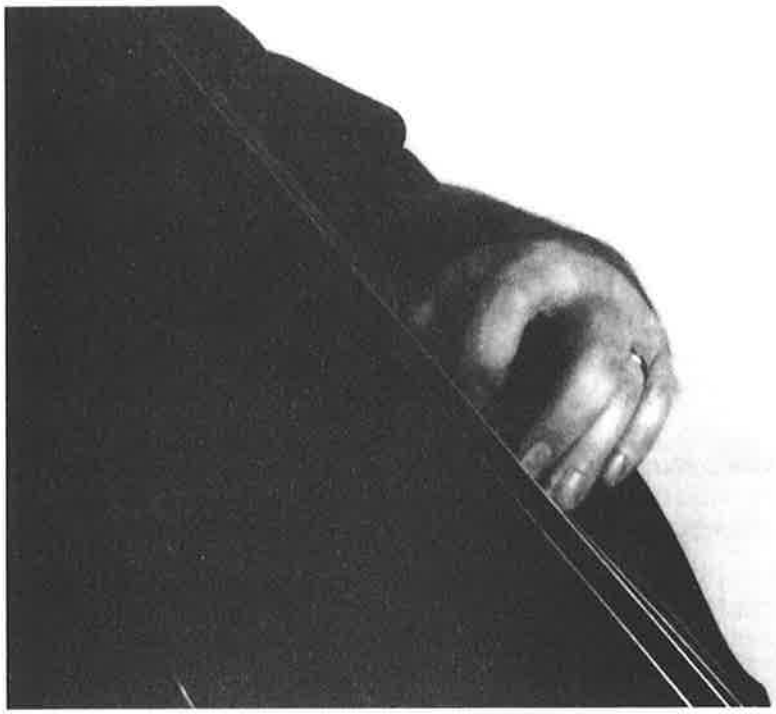
- The Daily Warm-ups at the beginning of each section are designed to help you establish each finger pattern carefully and correctly. Please practice them slowly with careful attention to intonation. Practice them every day, but don't feel that you must finish all of them before starting on the pieces.
- As you play the pieces, notice the names of the notes and the distances between them so you will know which finger pattern you must use. Then pay attention to how each pattern feels. If you memorize the feelings, you can successfully use these patterns in other pieces.
- You will notice that there are very few fingerings in this book. That is because your hand will remain basically in the same place on the fingerboard all the time. Since there is no shifting, you should be able to figure out the fingerings for yourself.
- In addition to the fast fiddle tunes in this book, I have included several pieces in each section which are slow and melodic. Please try to vibrato on these pieces. Using a mellow, relaxed vibrato will help make sure that your hand stays loose and balanced.

I hope you enjoy playing these pieces. I really believe that developing good technique can be a lot of fun!

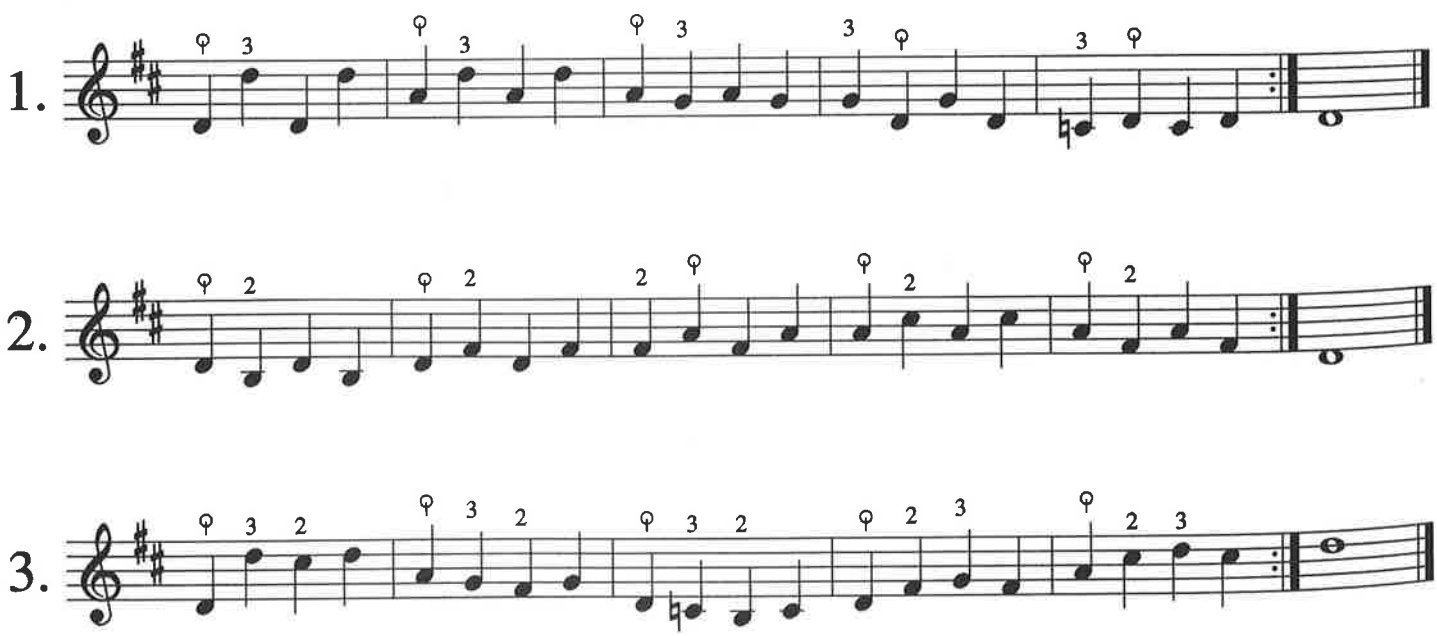
-- Rick Mooney

Thumb Position Pattern I

half step between 2nd and 3rd fingers

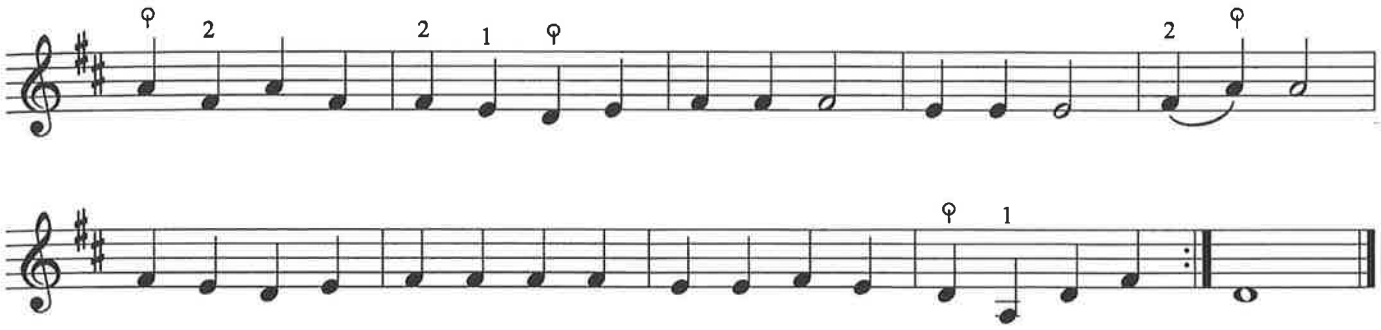


Daily Warm-ups

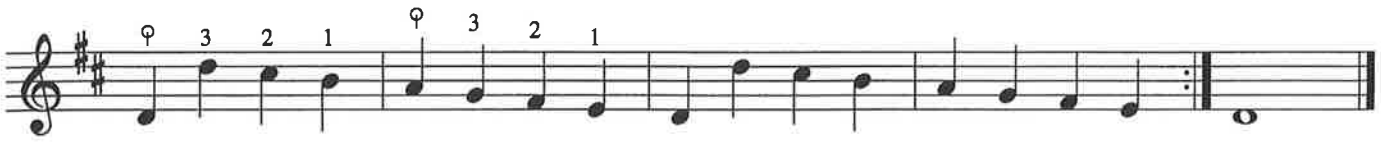


Thumb Position Pattern I -- Daily Warm-ups (continued)

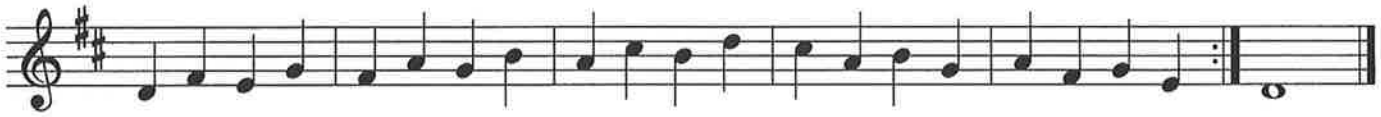
4.



5.



6.

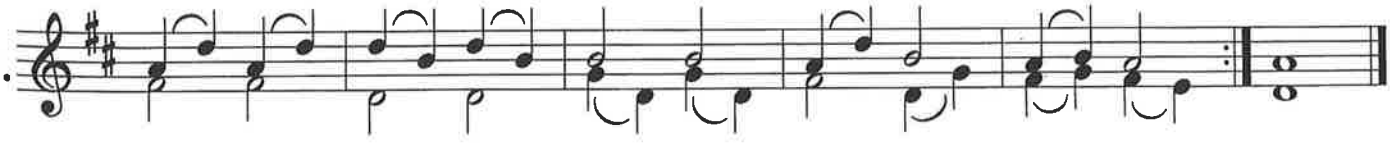


7.

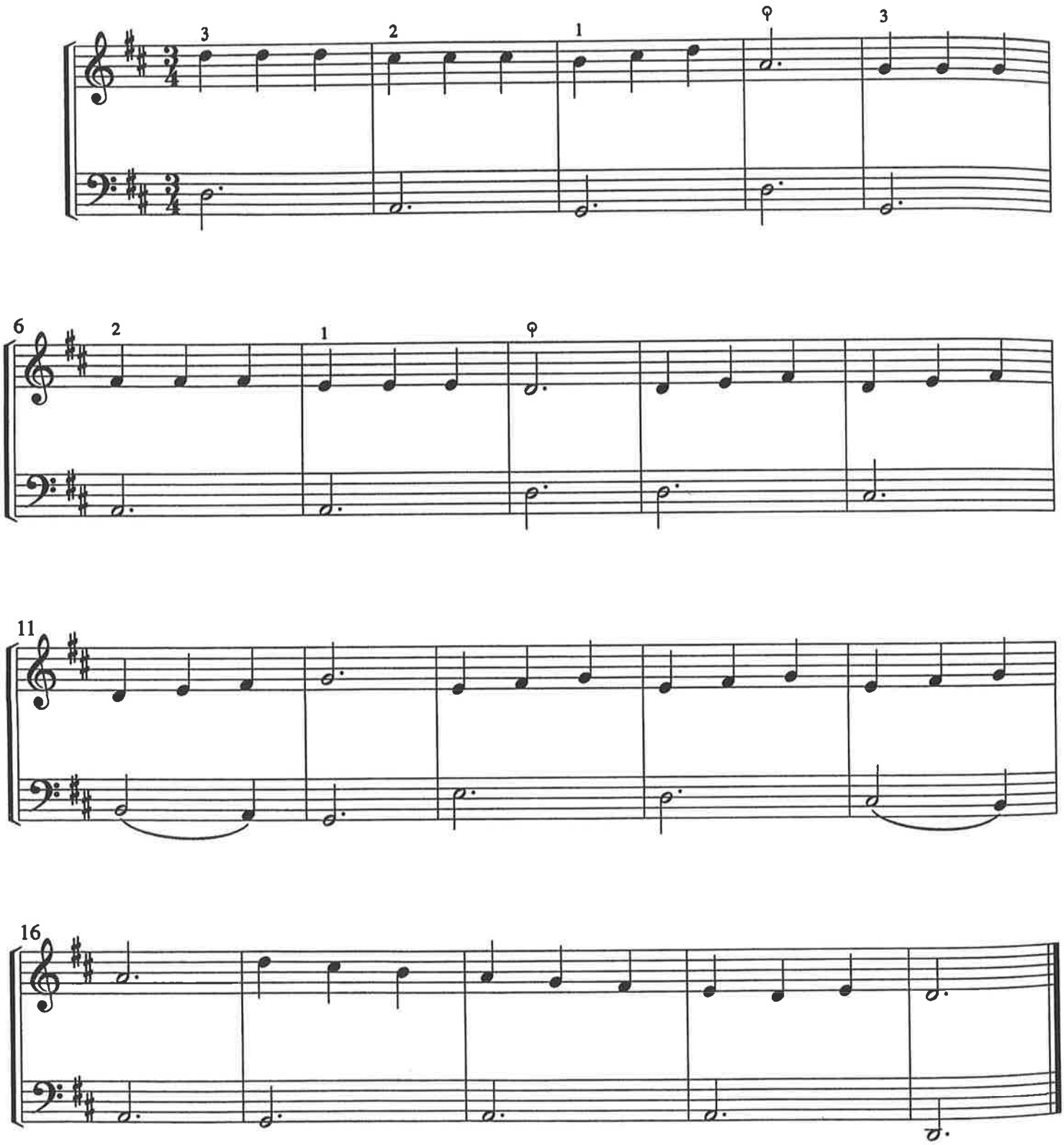
8.

9.

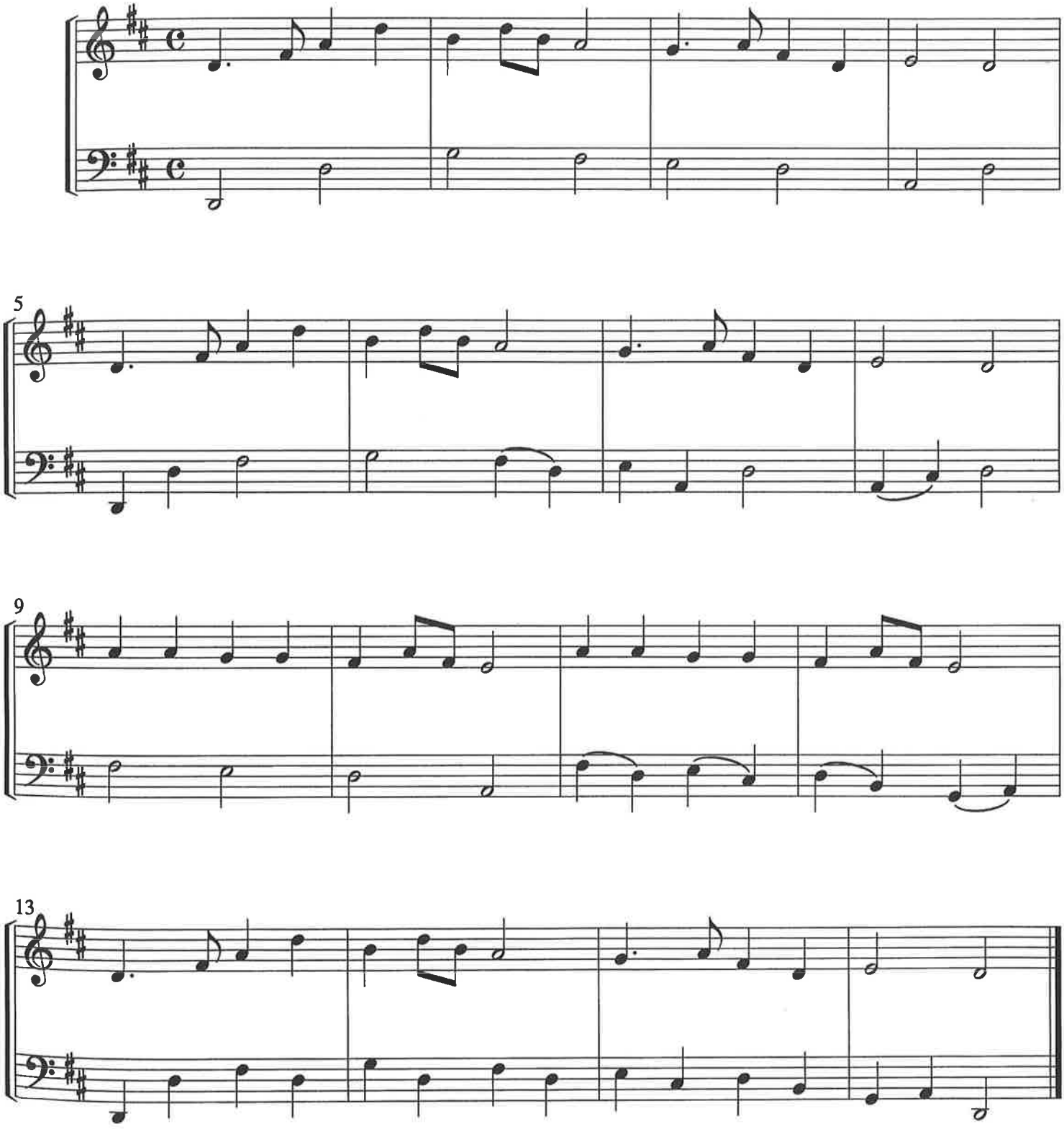
10.



French Folk Song

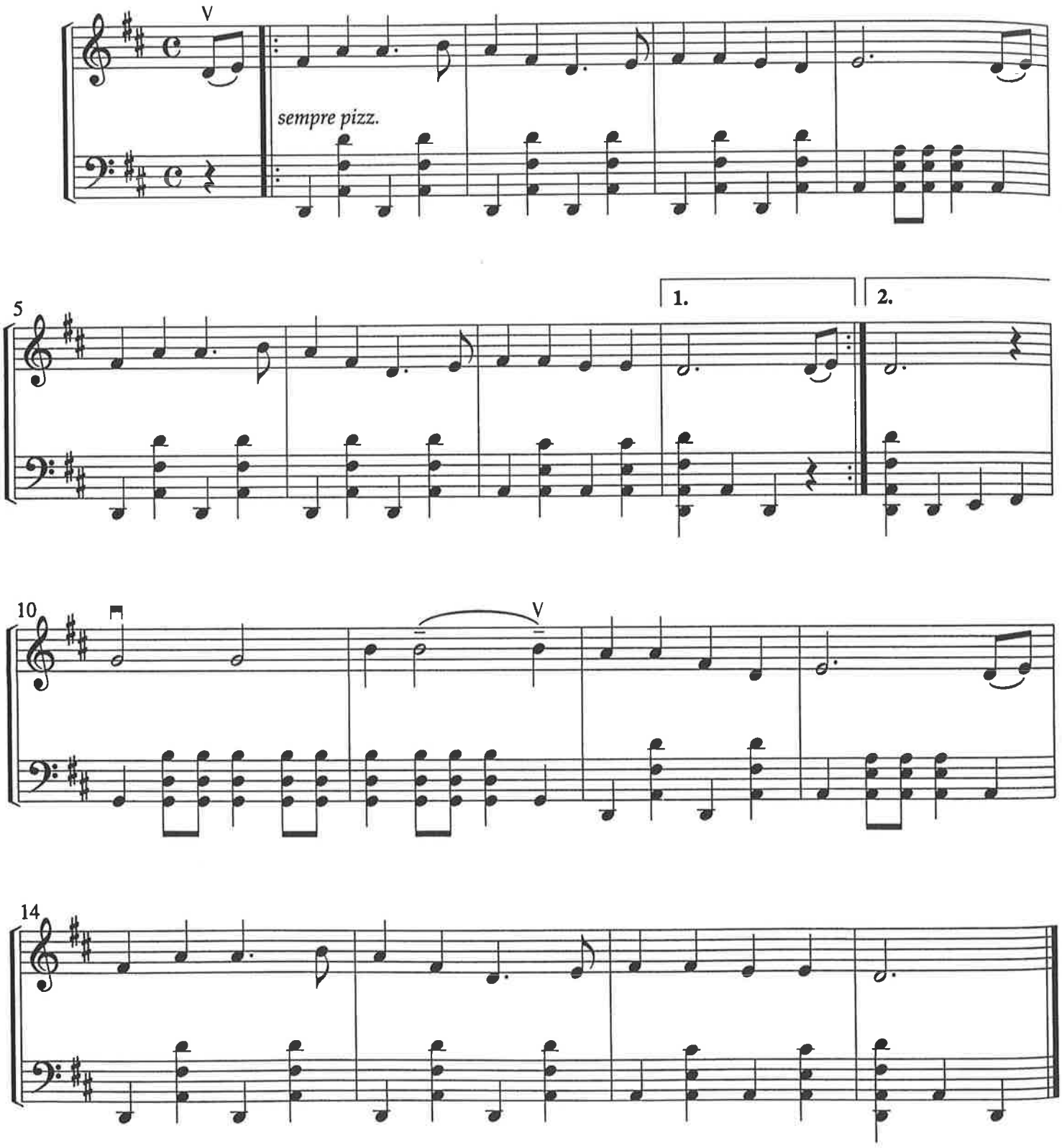


May Song
(Alle Vögel Sind Schon Da)

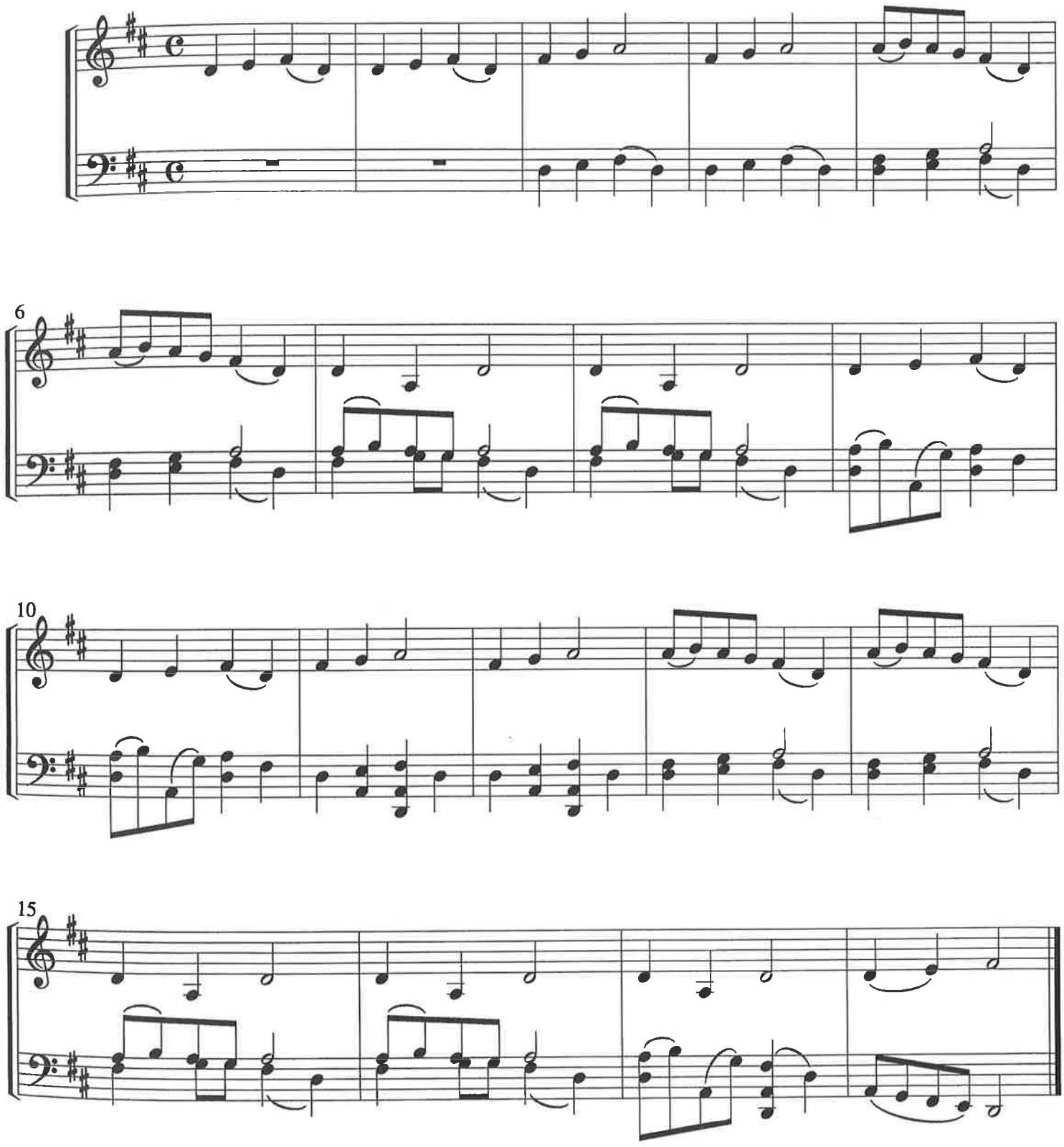


Oh Susannah

Stephen Foster

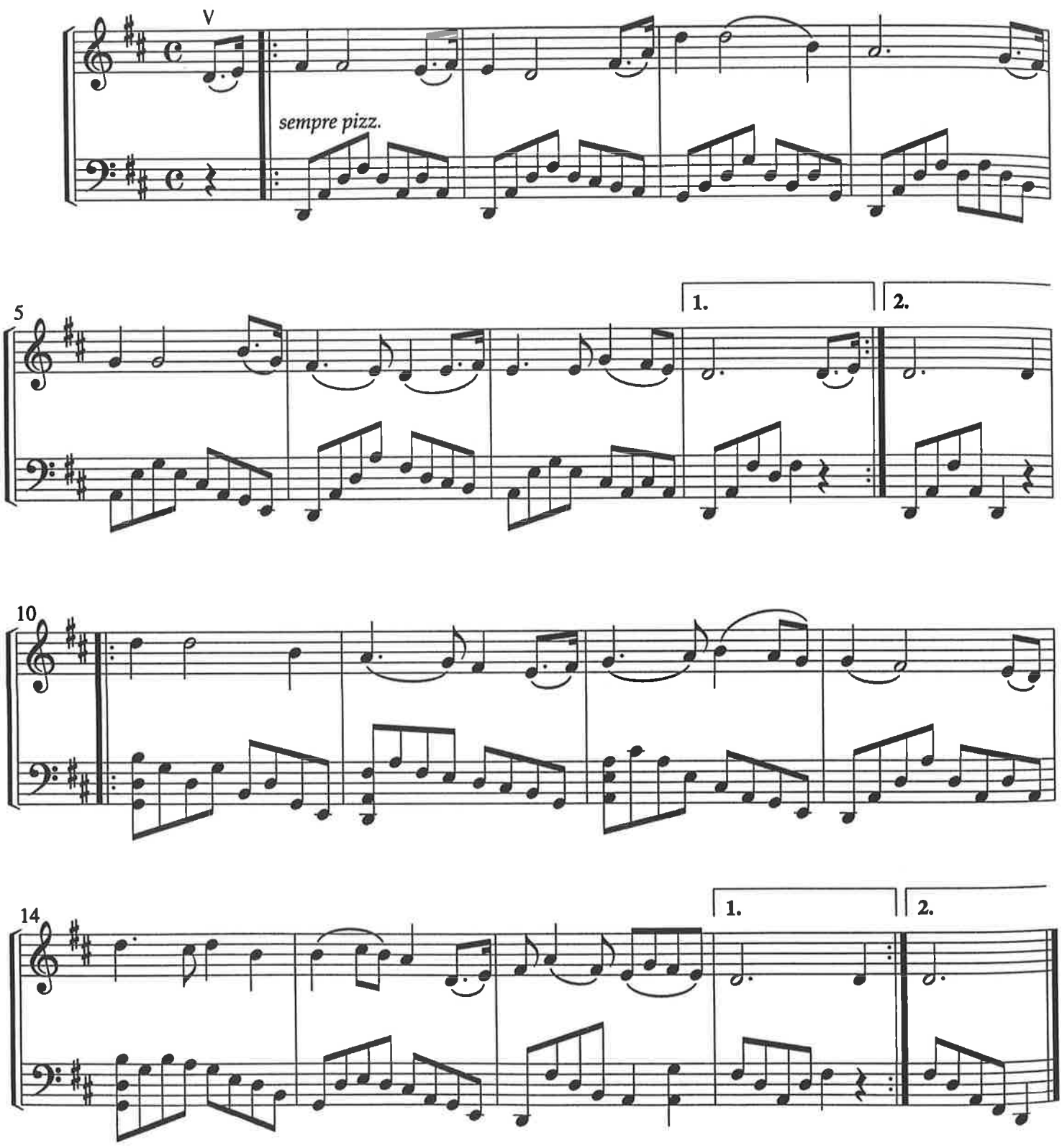


Are You Sleeping?
(Frère Jacques)

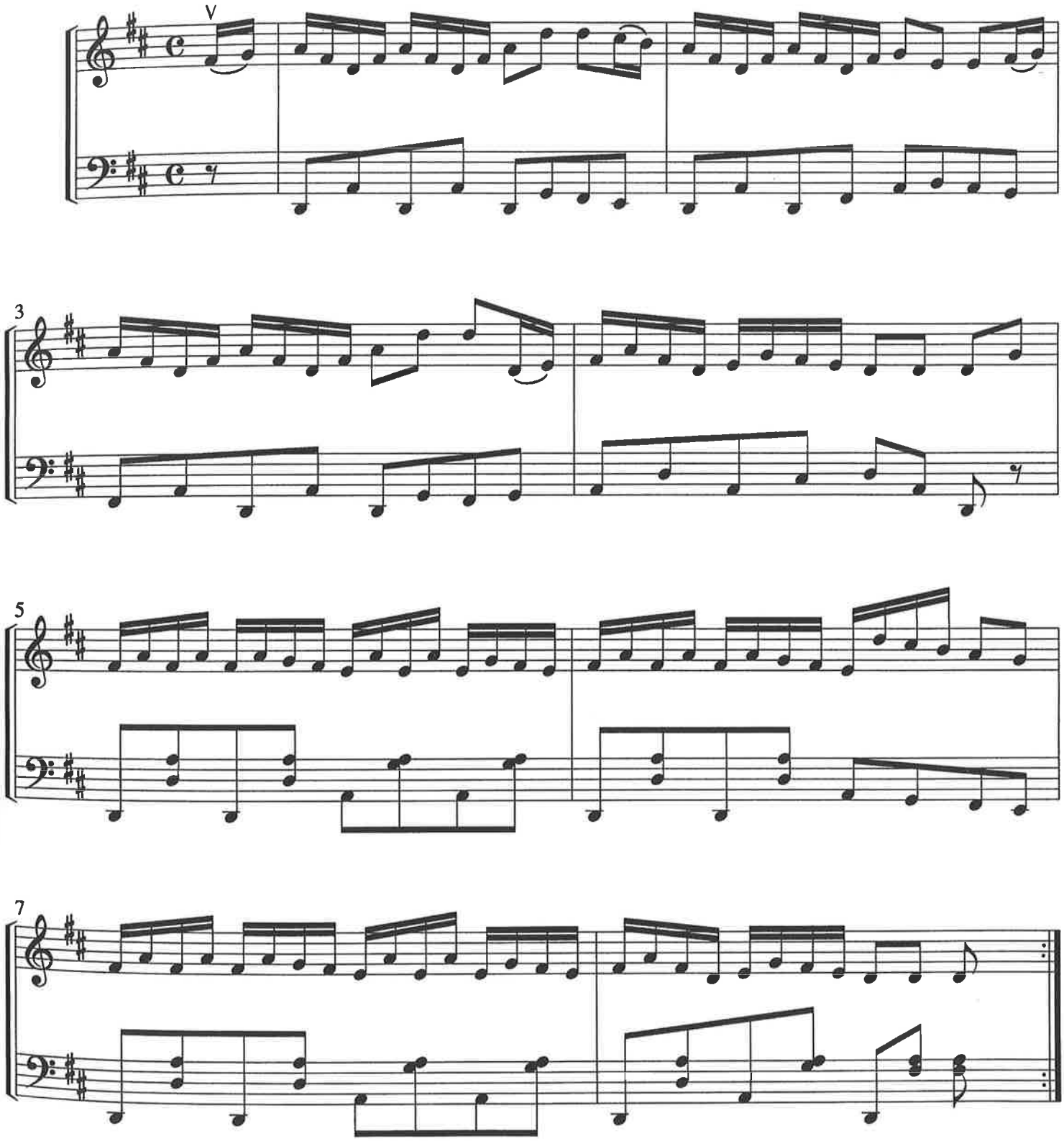


I'll Always Remember You

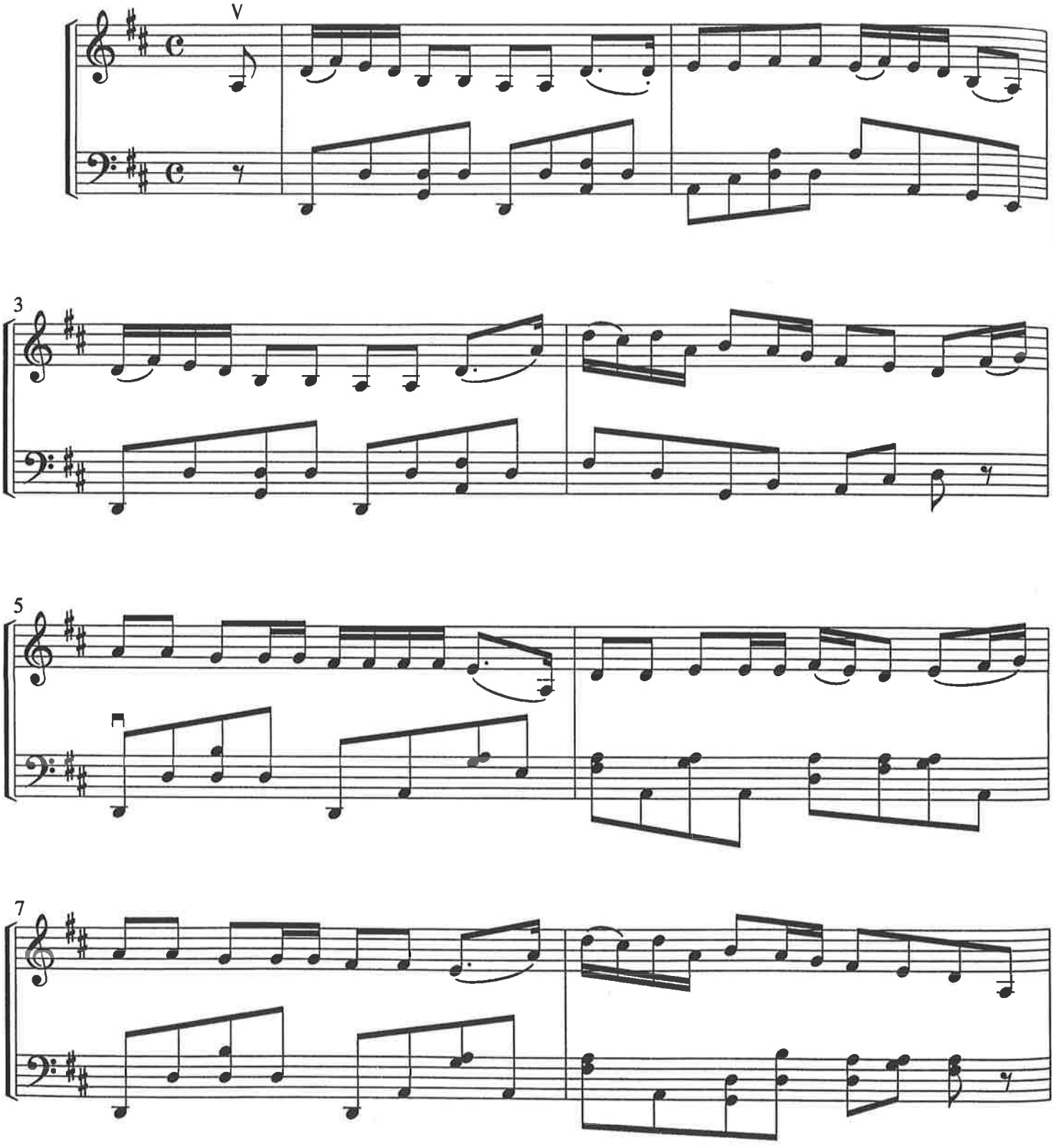
Rick Mooney



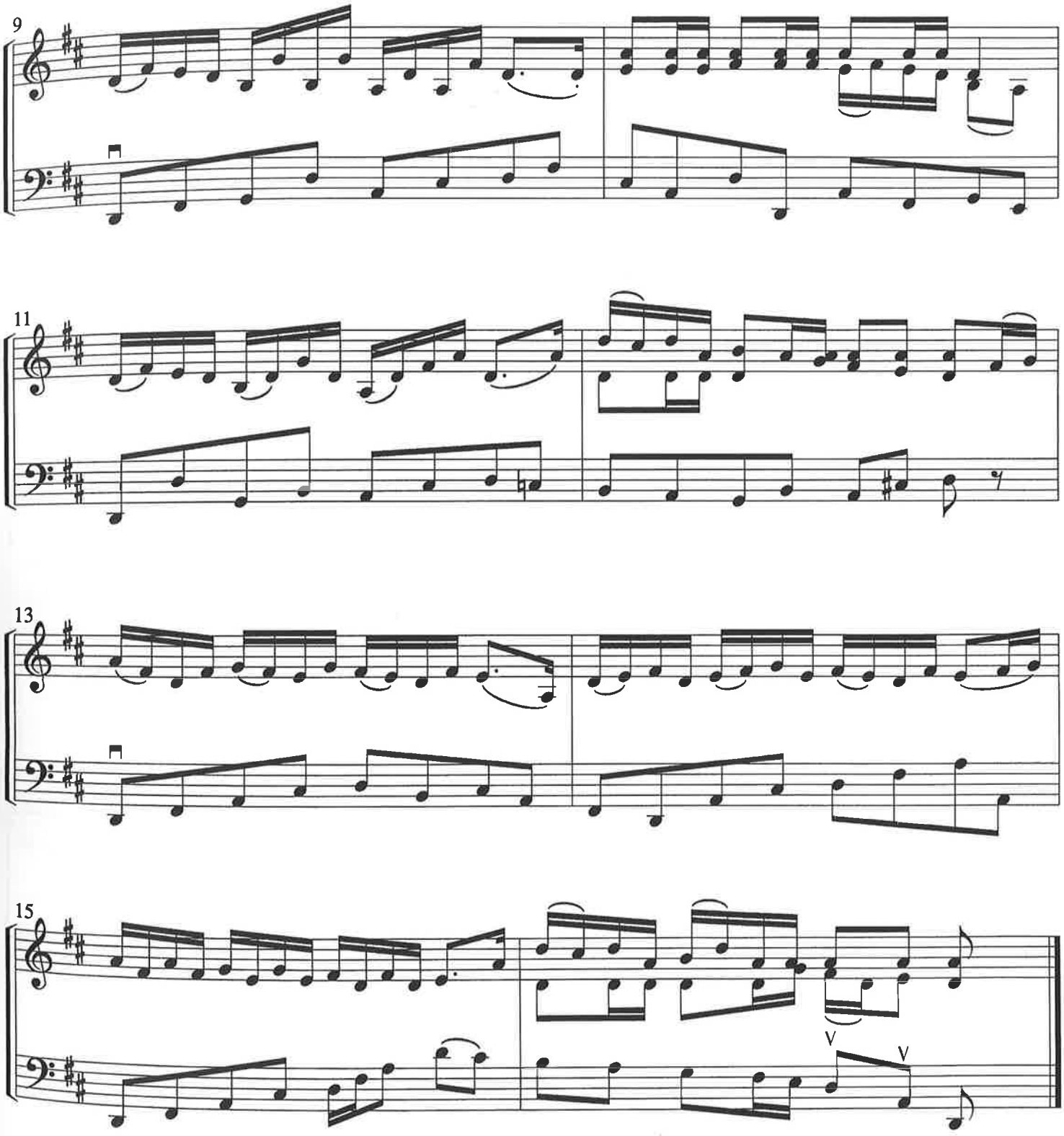
Soldier's Joy



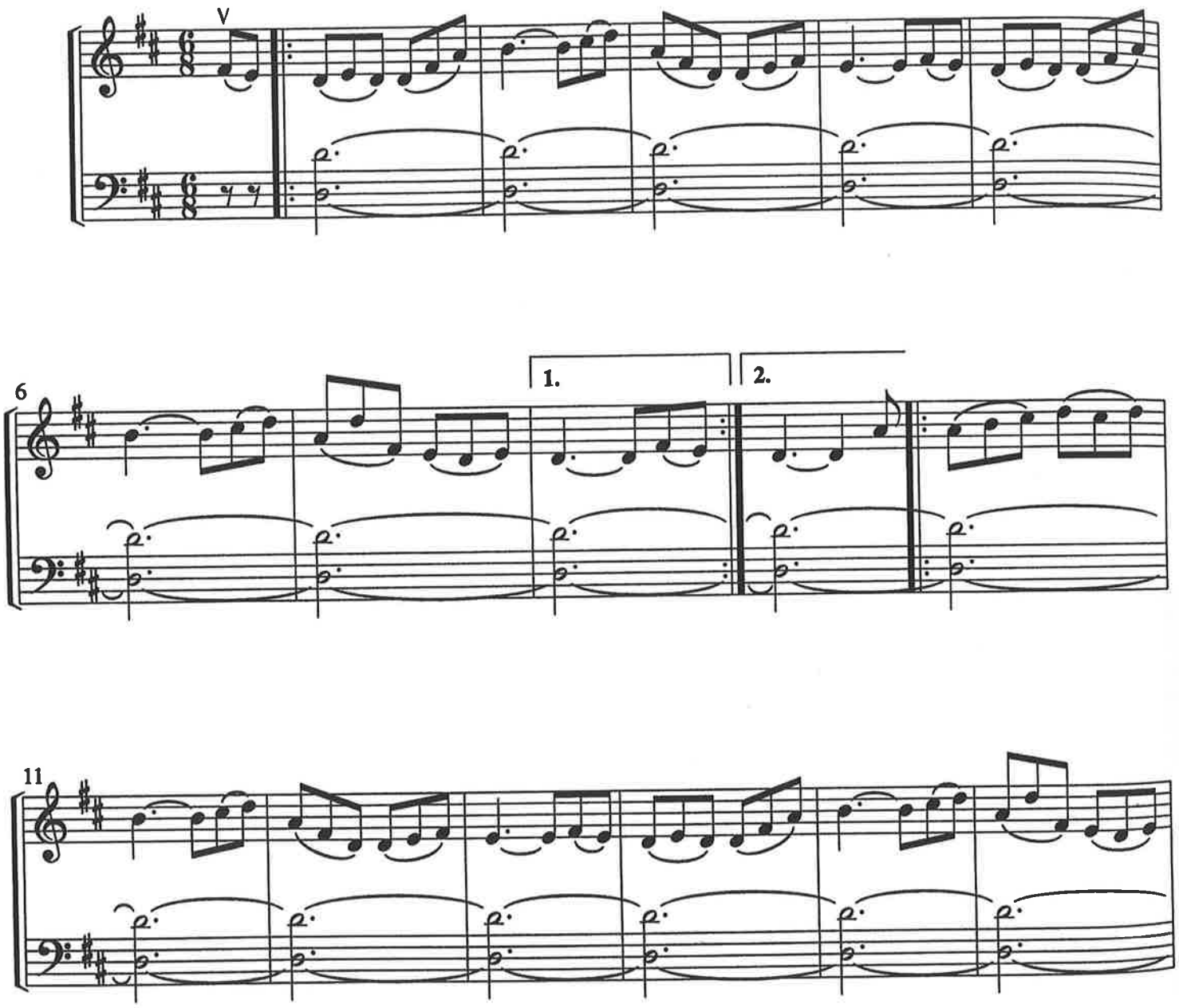
Arkansas Traveller



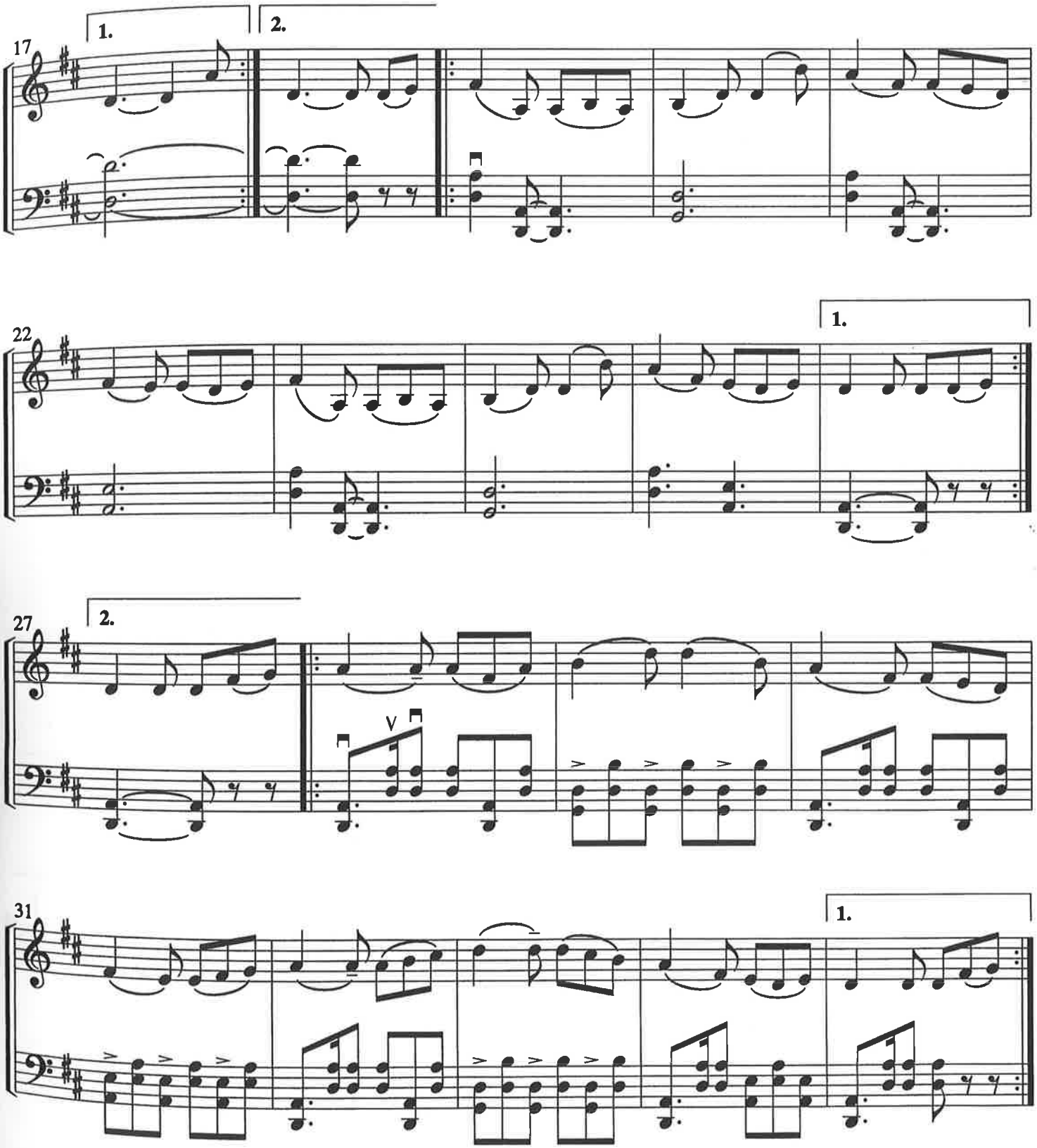
Arkansas Traveller



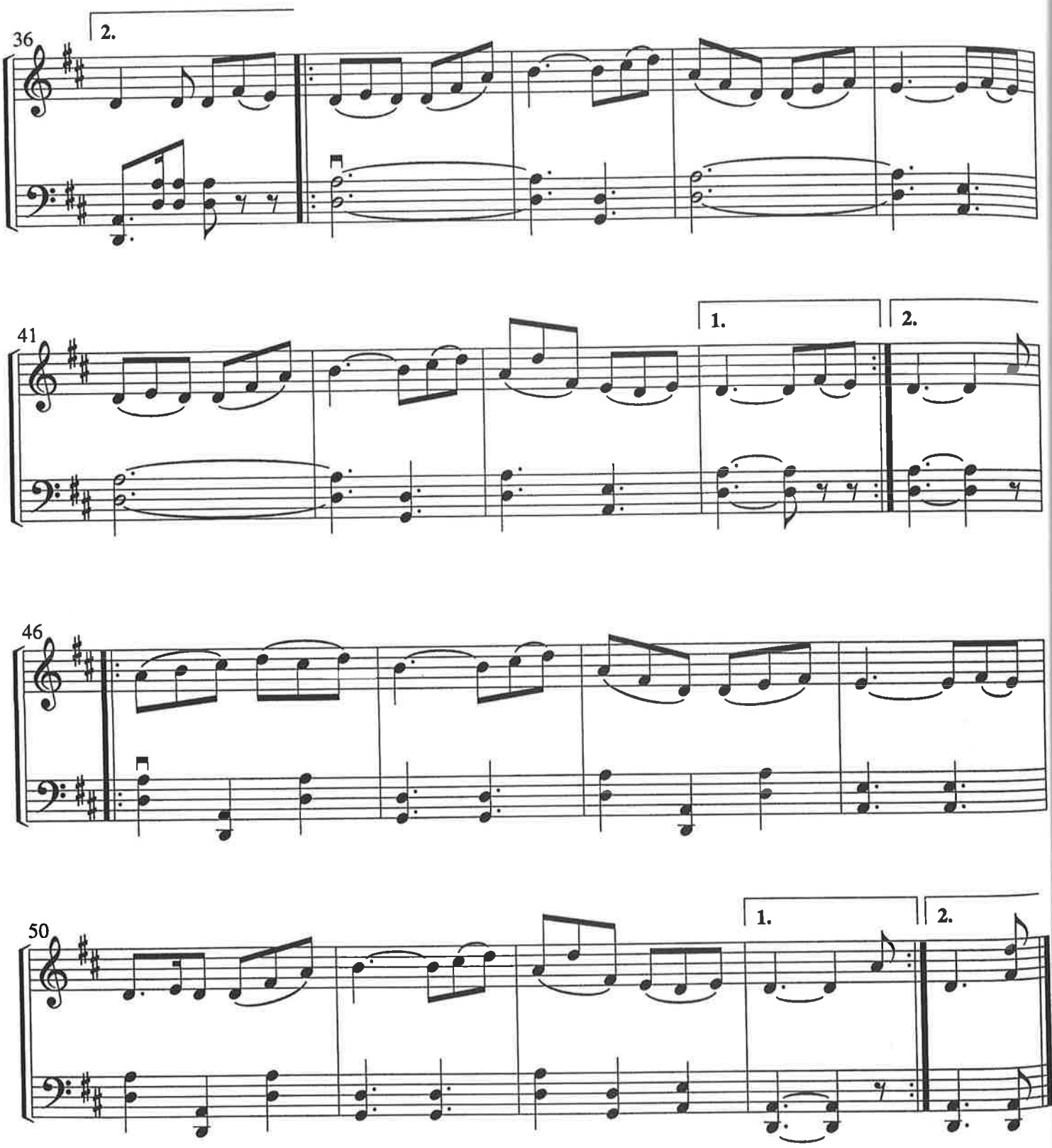
The Hundred Pipers



The Hundred Pipers



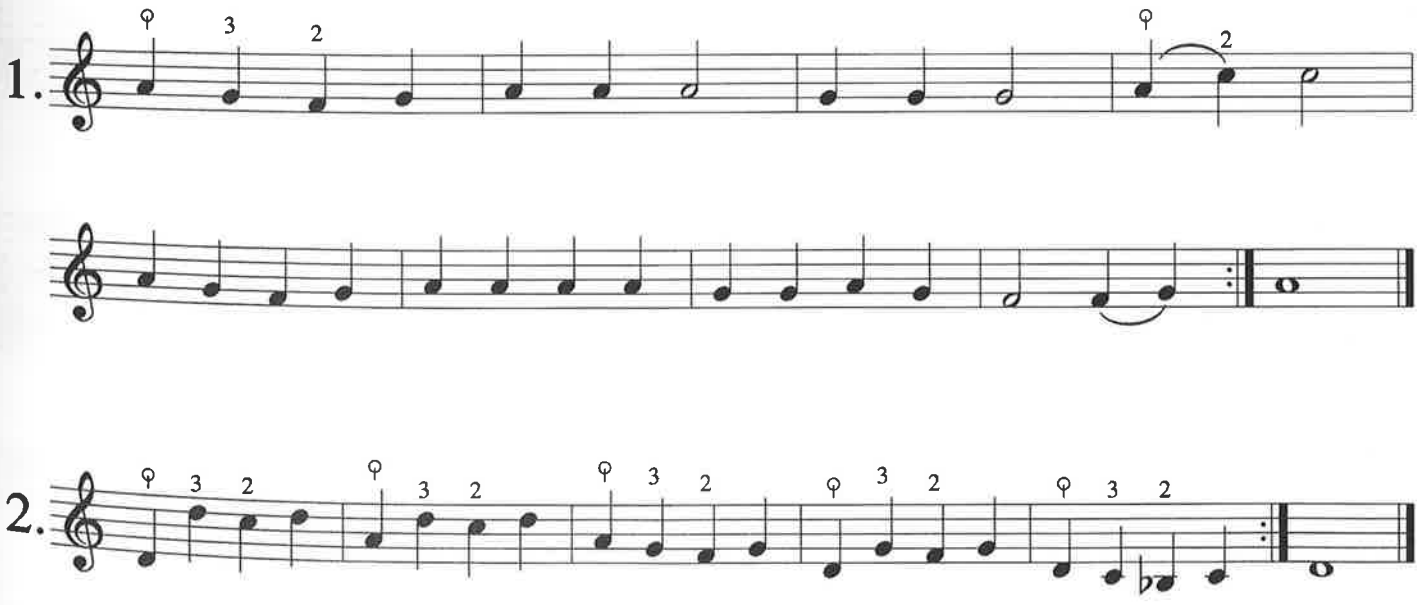
The Hundred Pipers



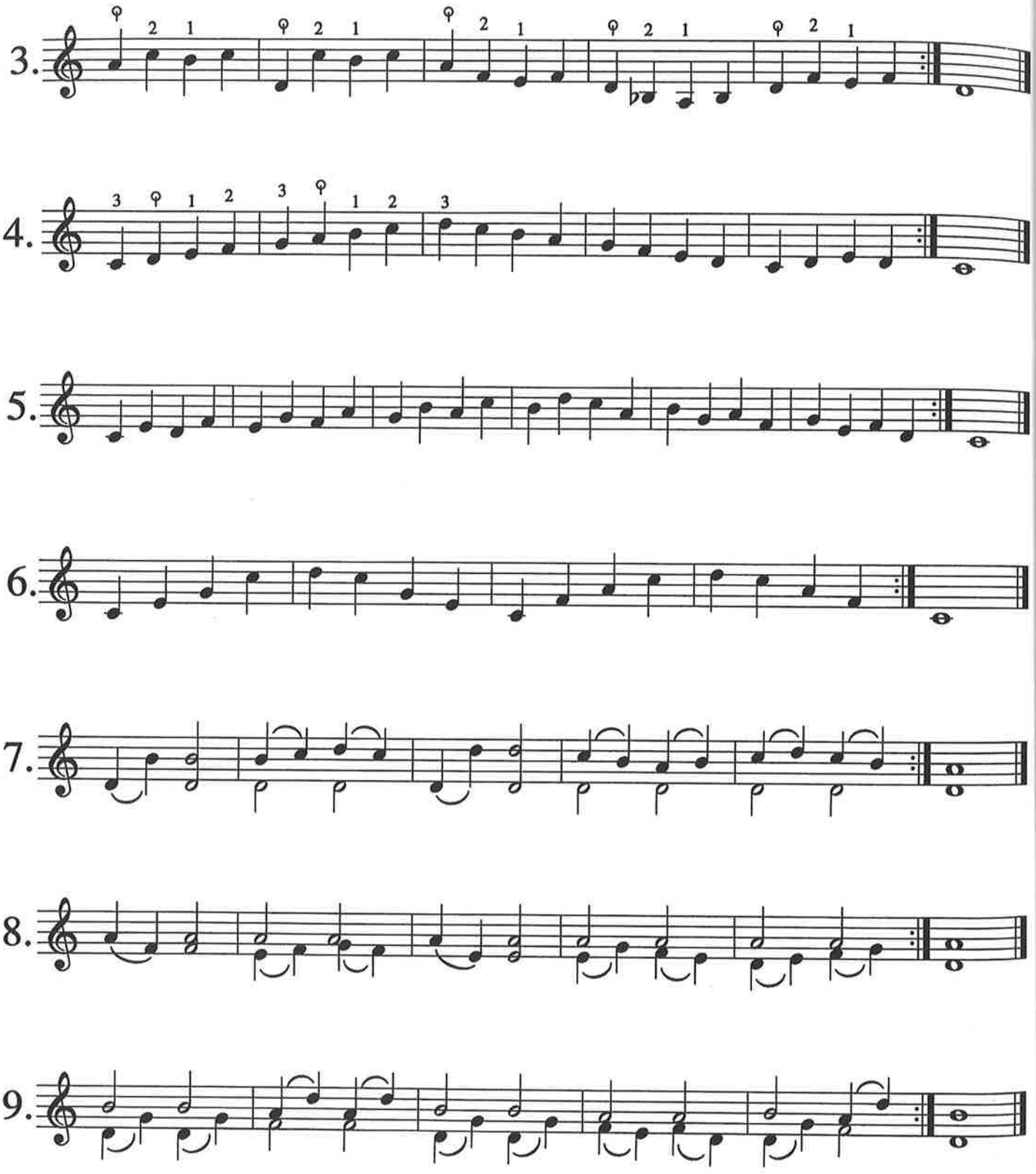
Thumb Position Pattern II

half step between 1st and 2nd fingers

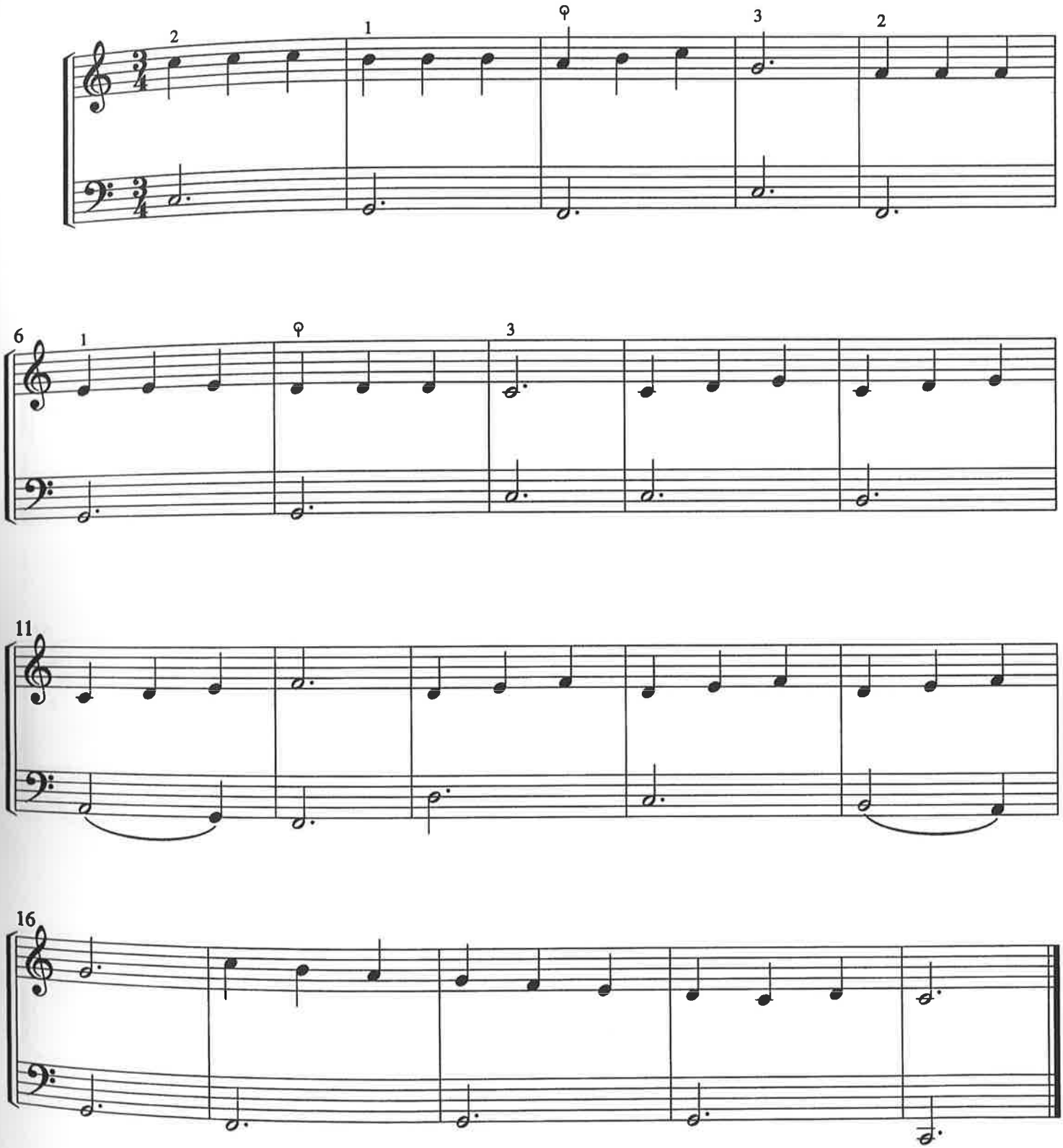
Daily Warm-ups



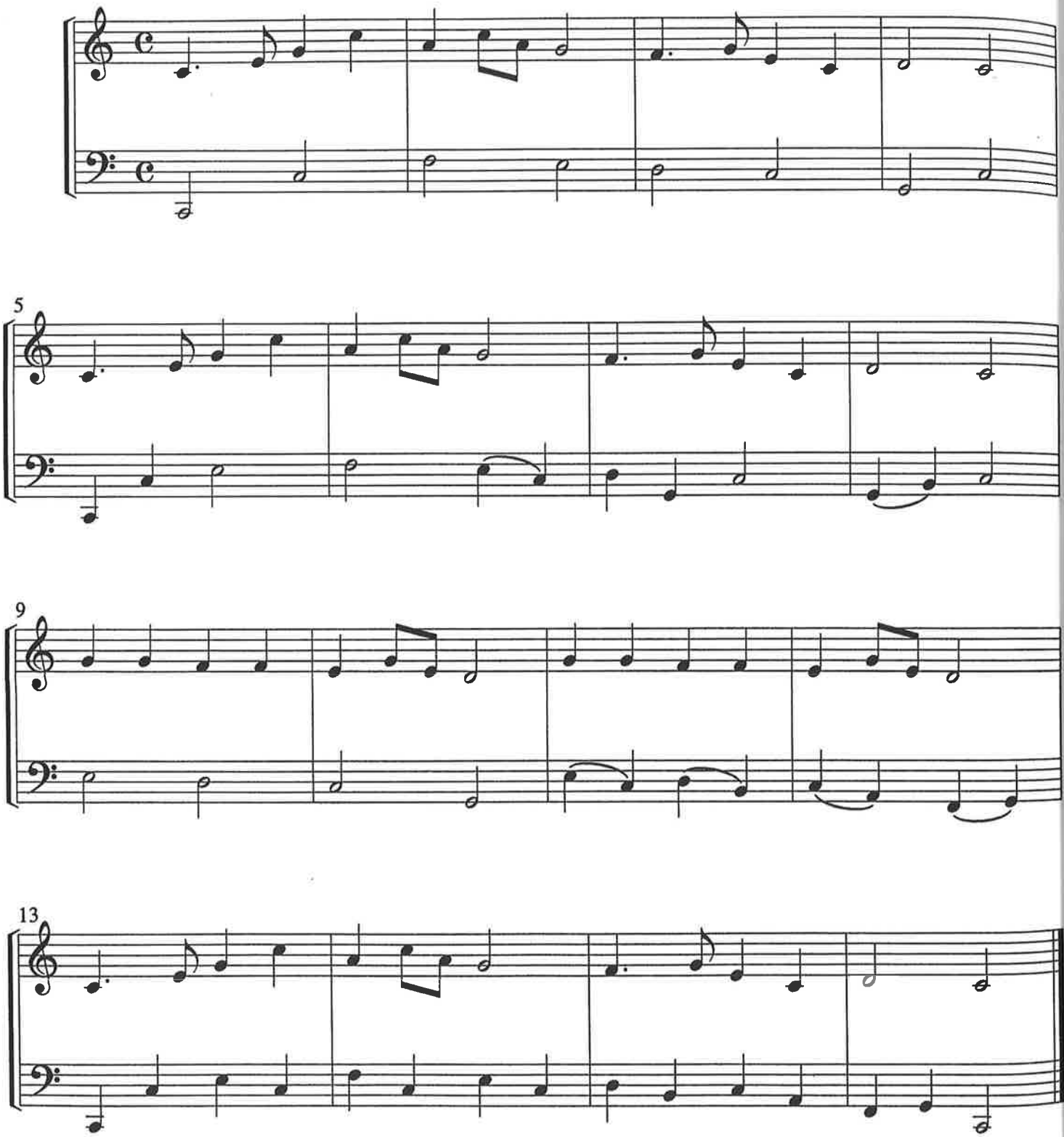
Thumb Position Pattern II -- Daily Warm-ups (continued)



French Folk Song

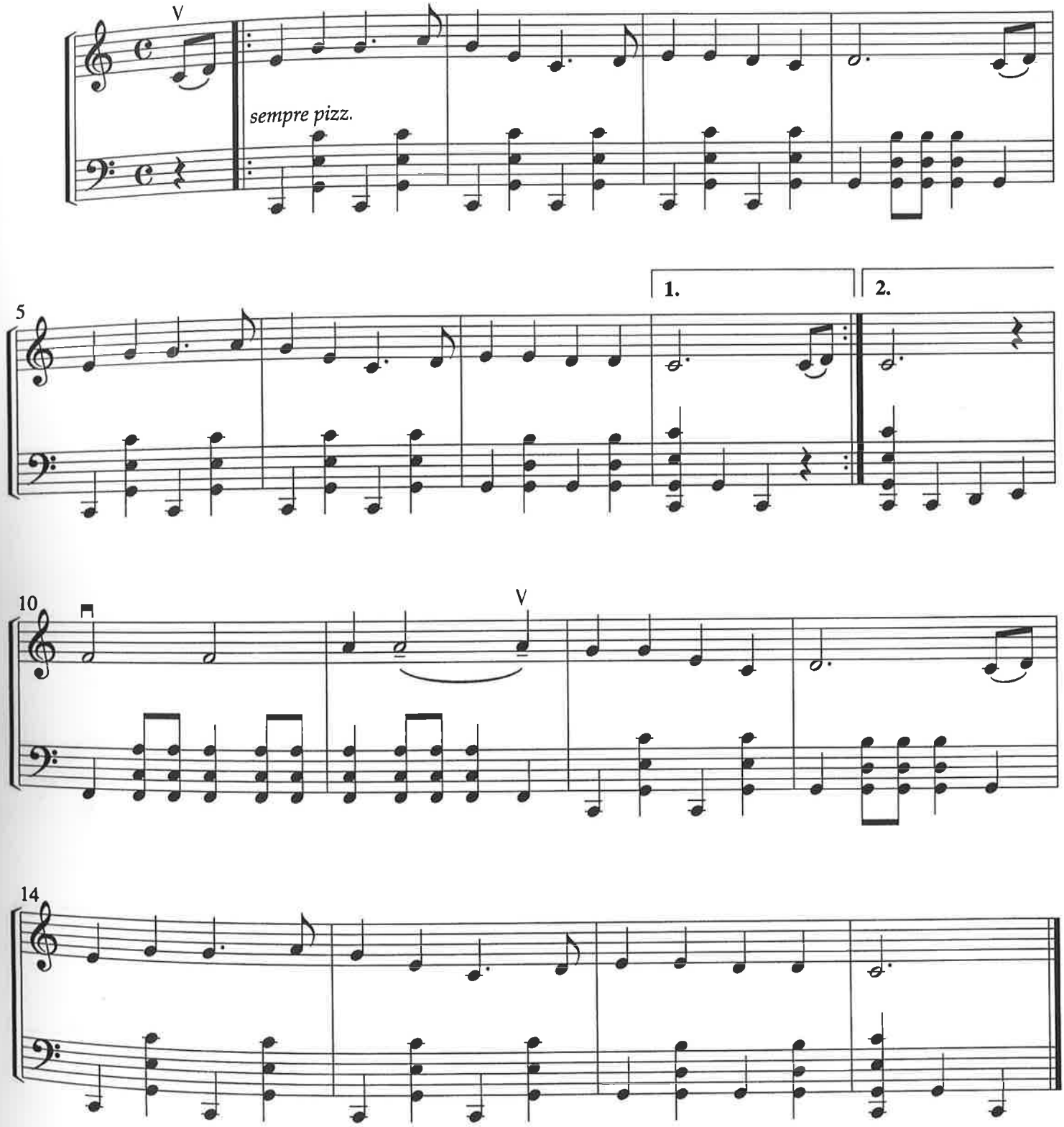


May Song
(Alle Vögel Sind Schon Da)



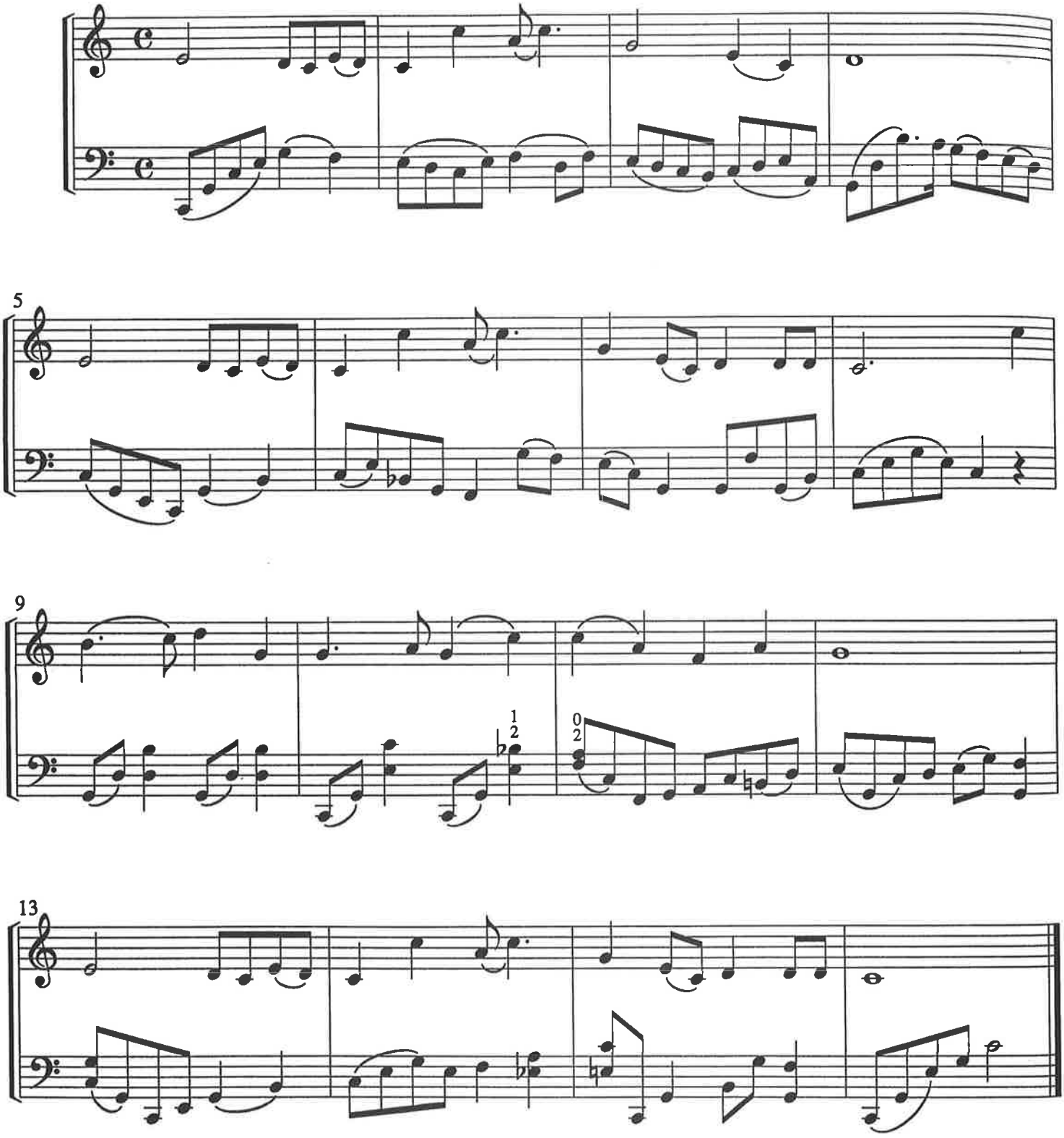
Oh Susannah

Stephen Foster

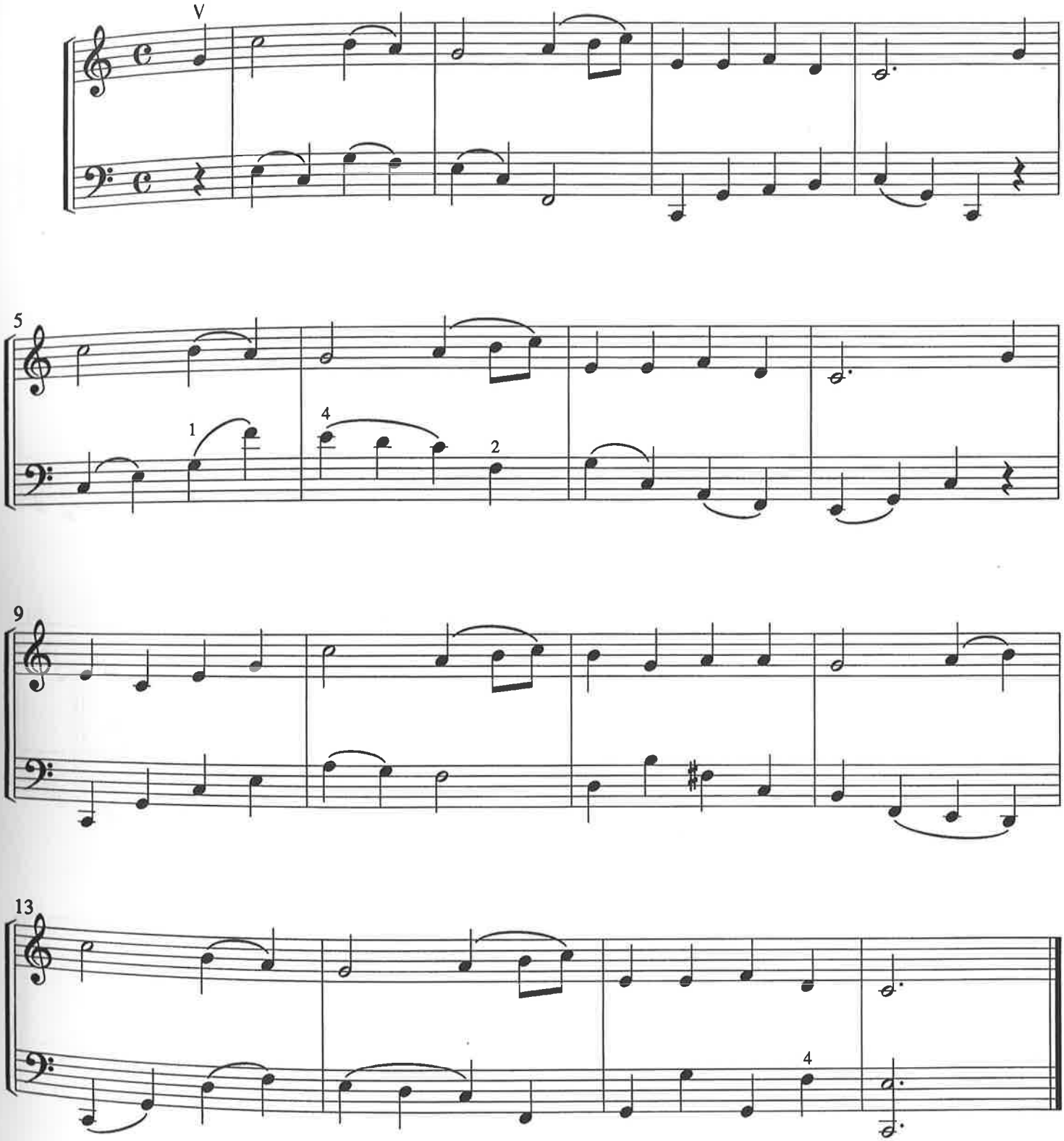


Old Folks at Home

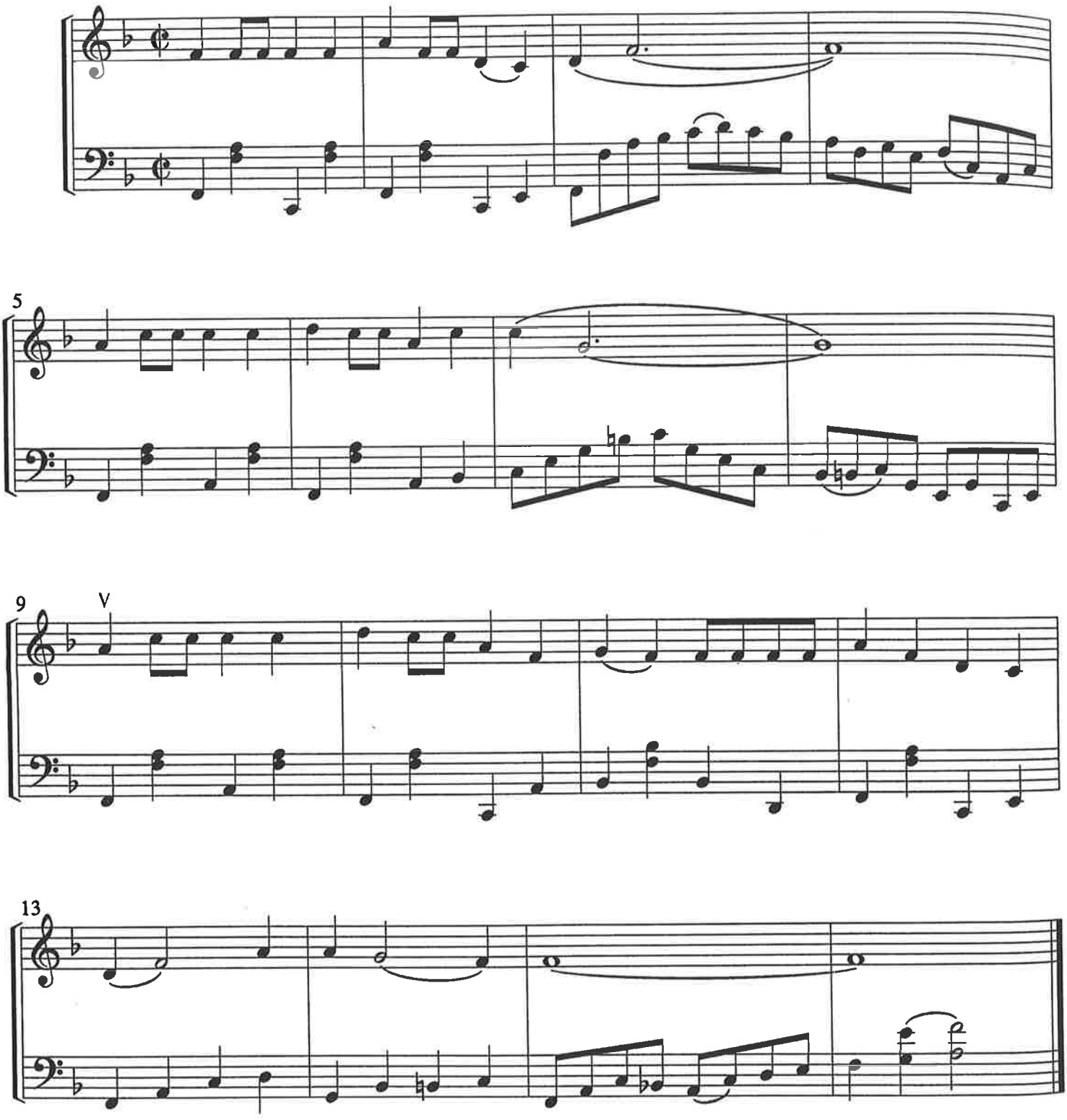
Stephen Foster



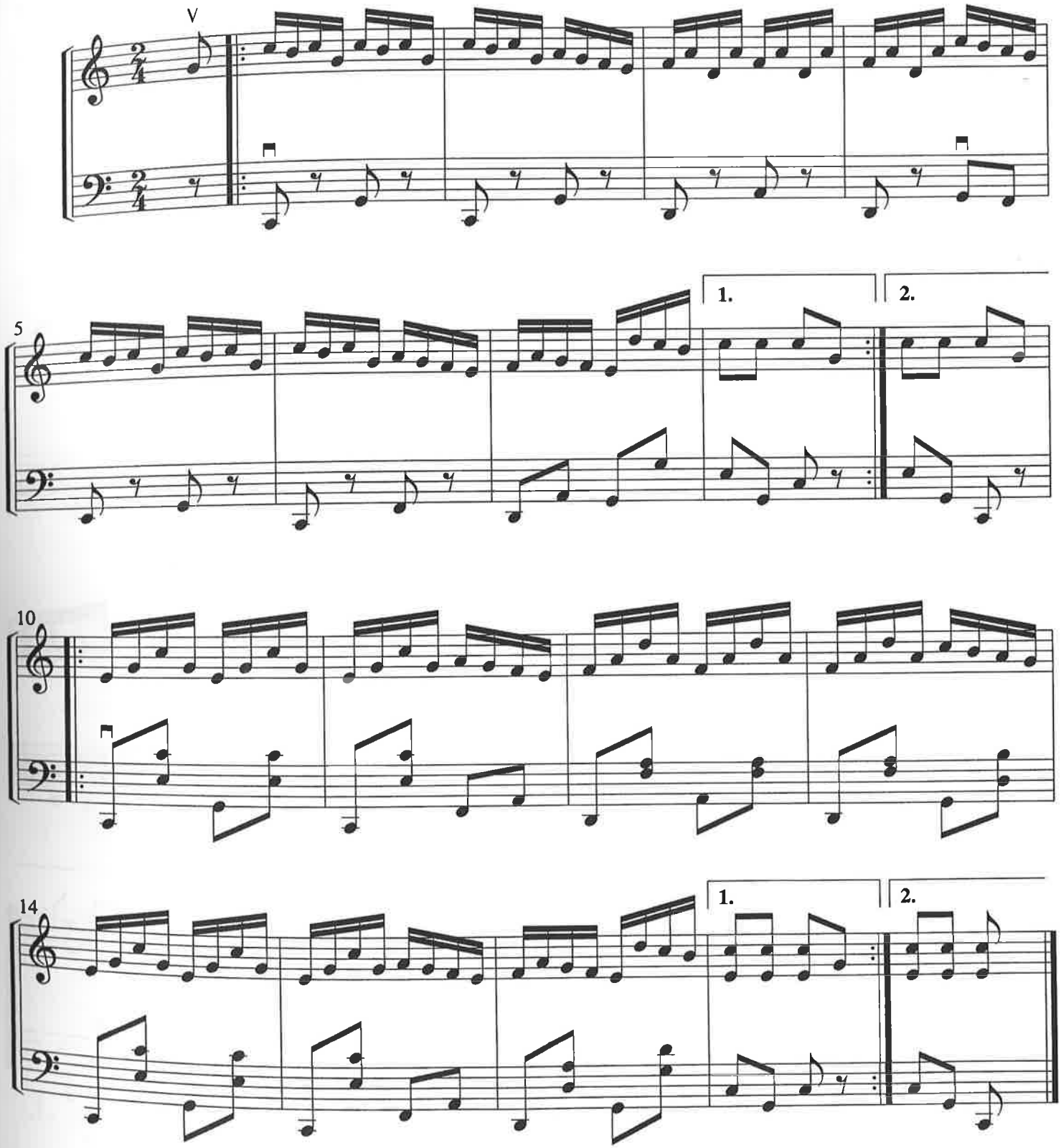
The Blue Bells of Scotland



Crawdad

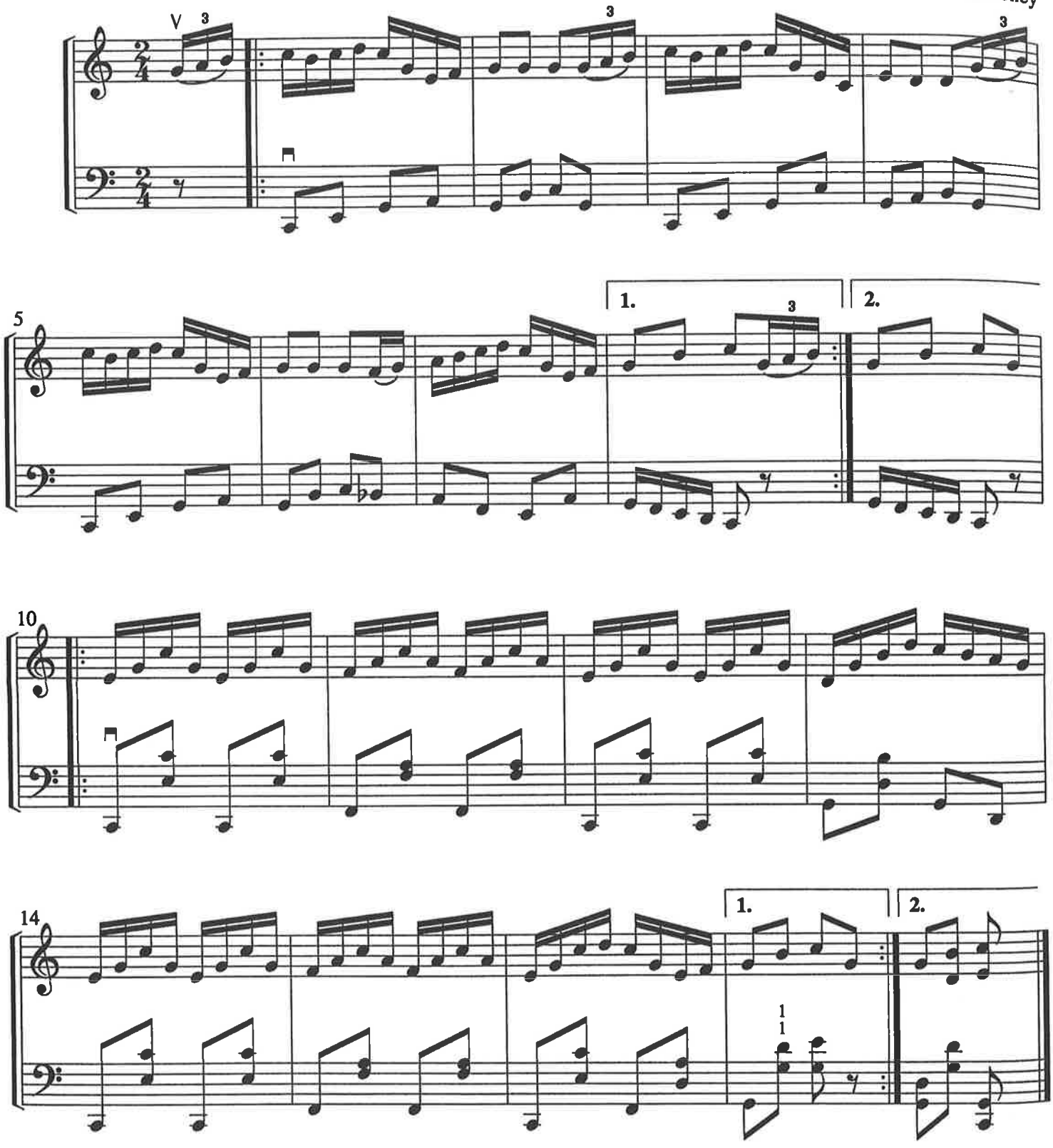


The Devil's Dream



The California Traveller

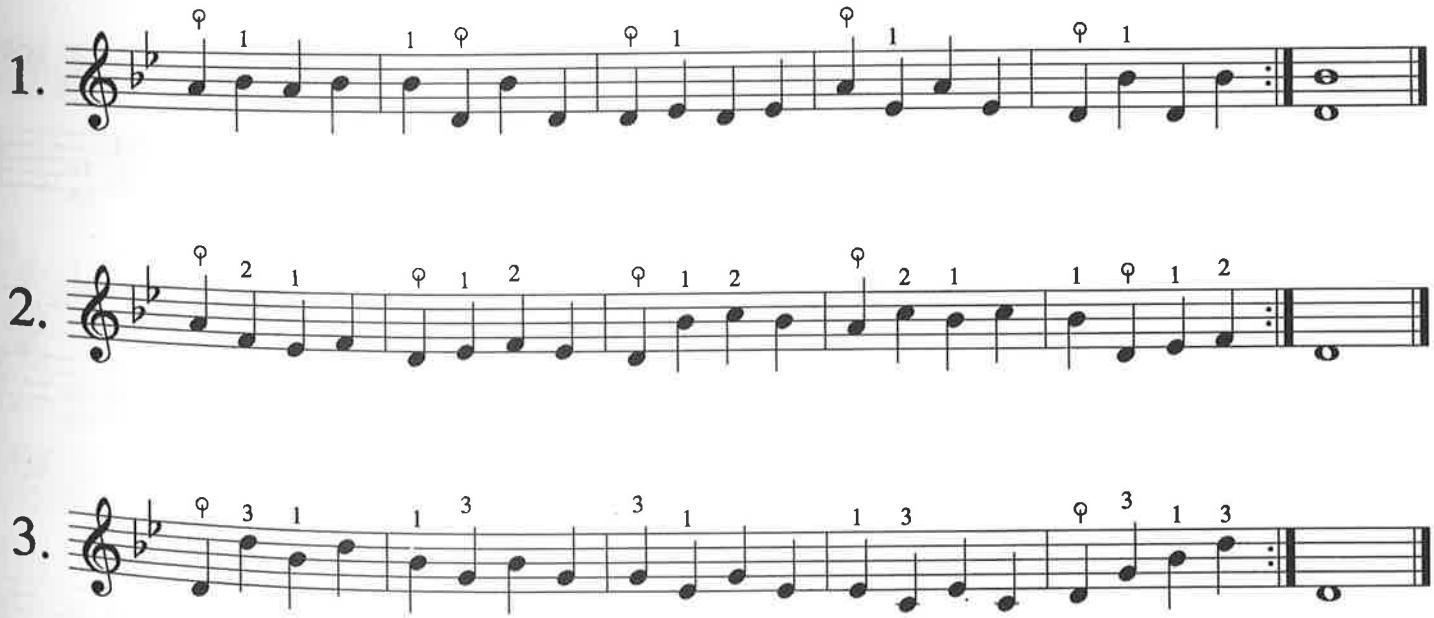
Rick Mooney



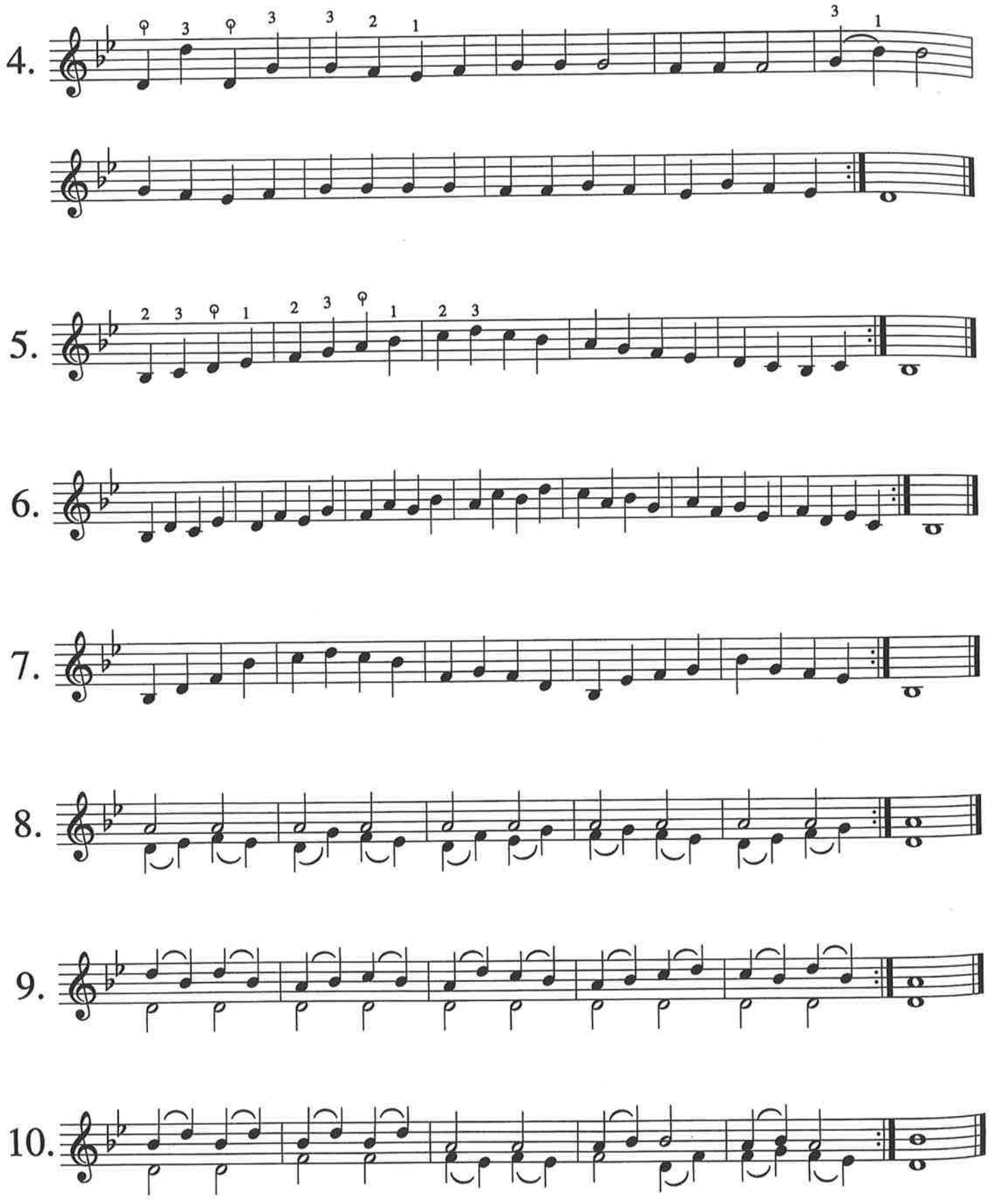
Thumb Position Pattern III

half step between thumb and 1st finger

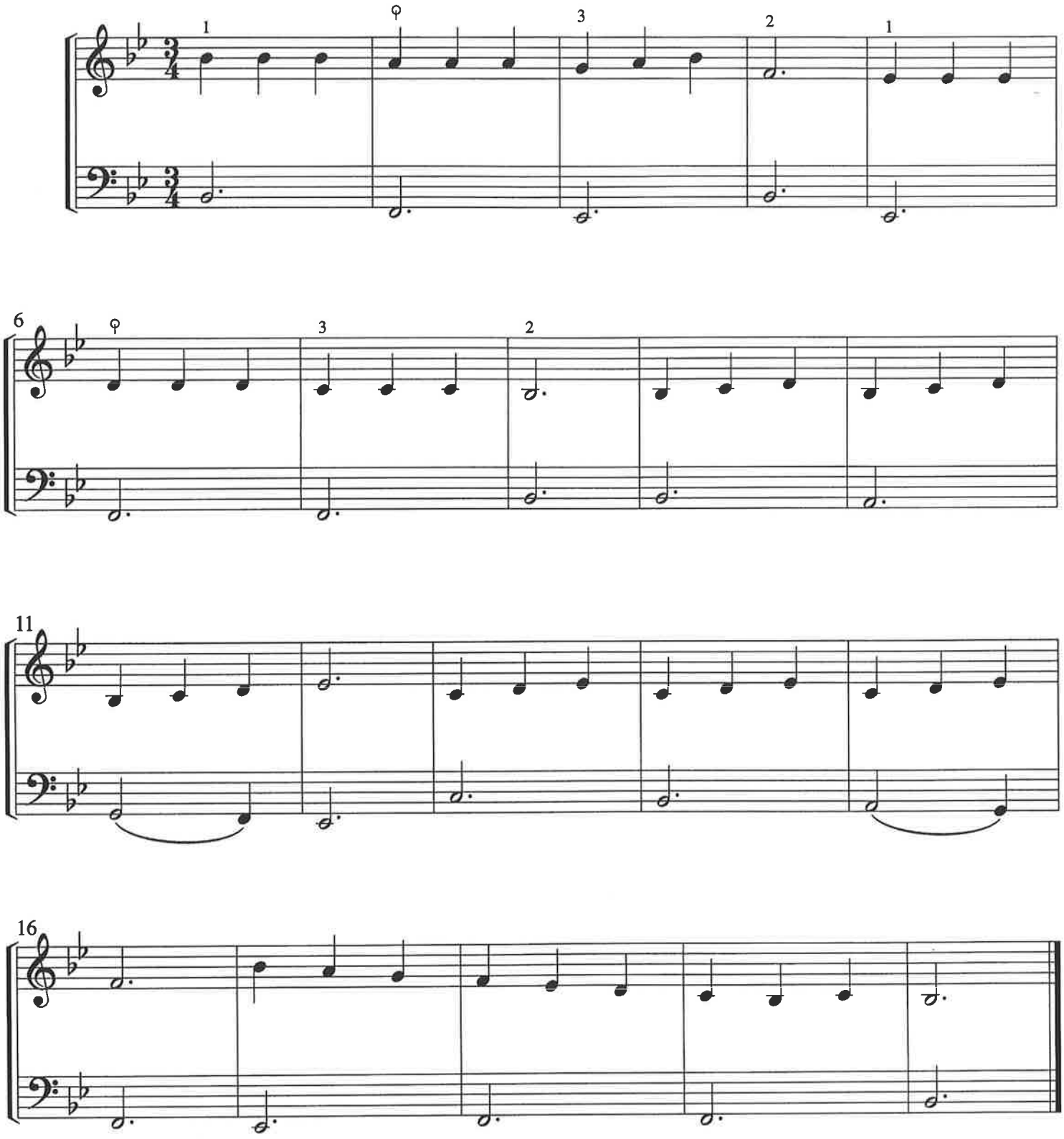
Daily Warm-ups



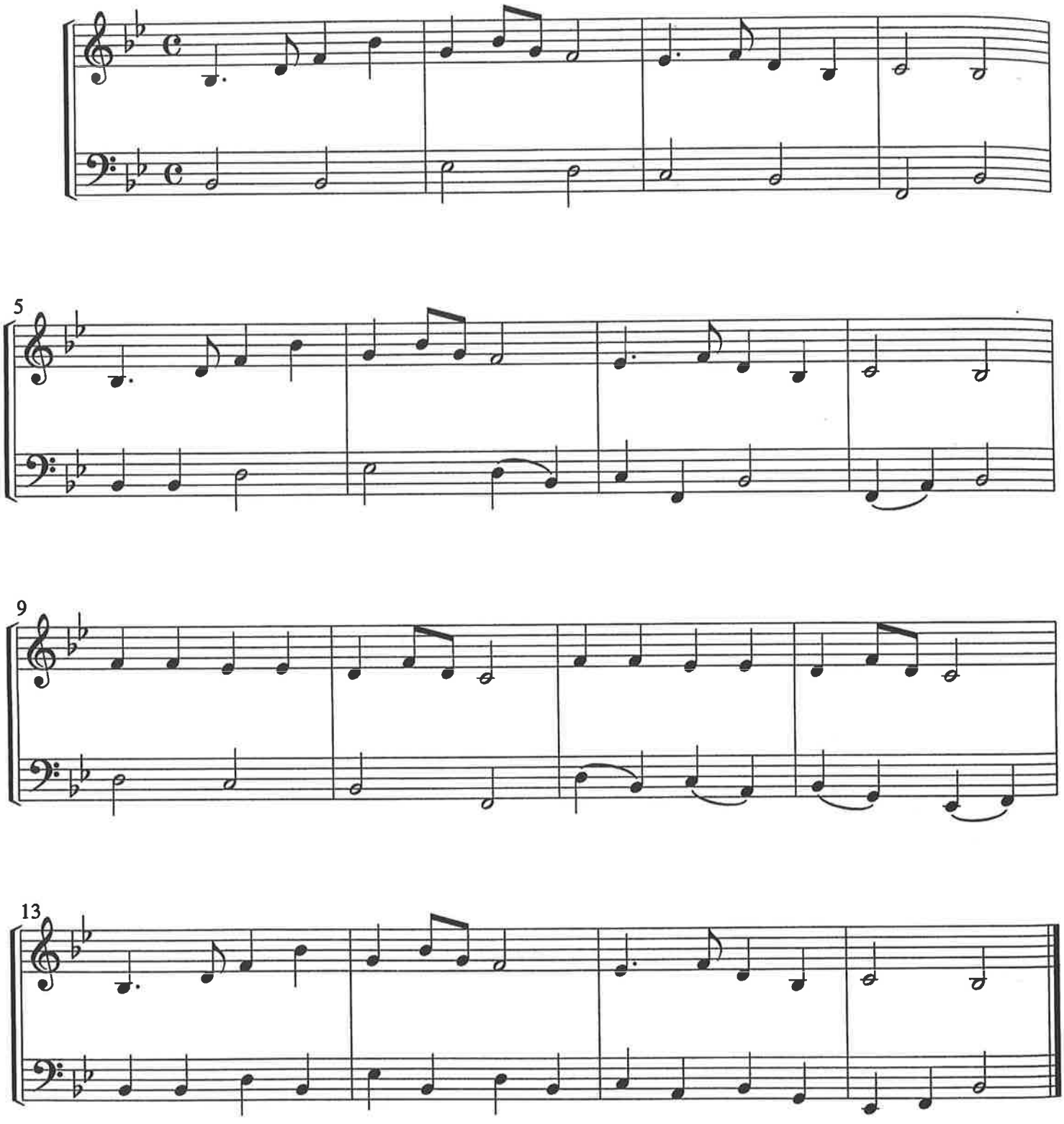
Thumb Position Pattern III -- Daily Warm-ups (continued)



French Folk Song

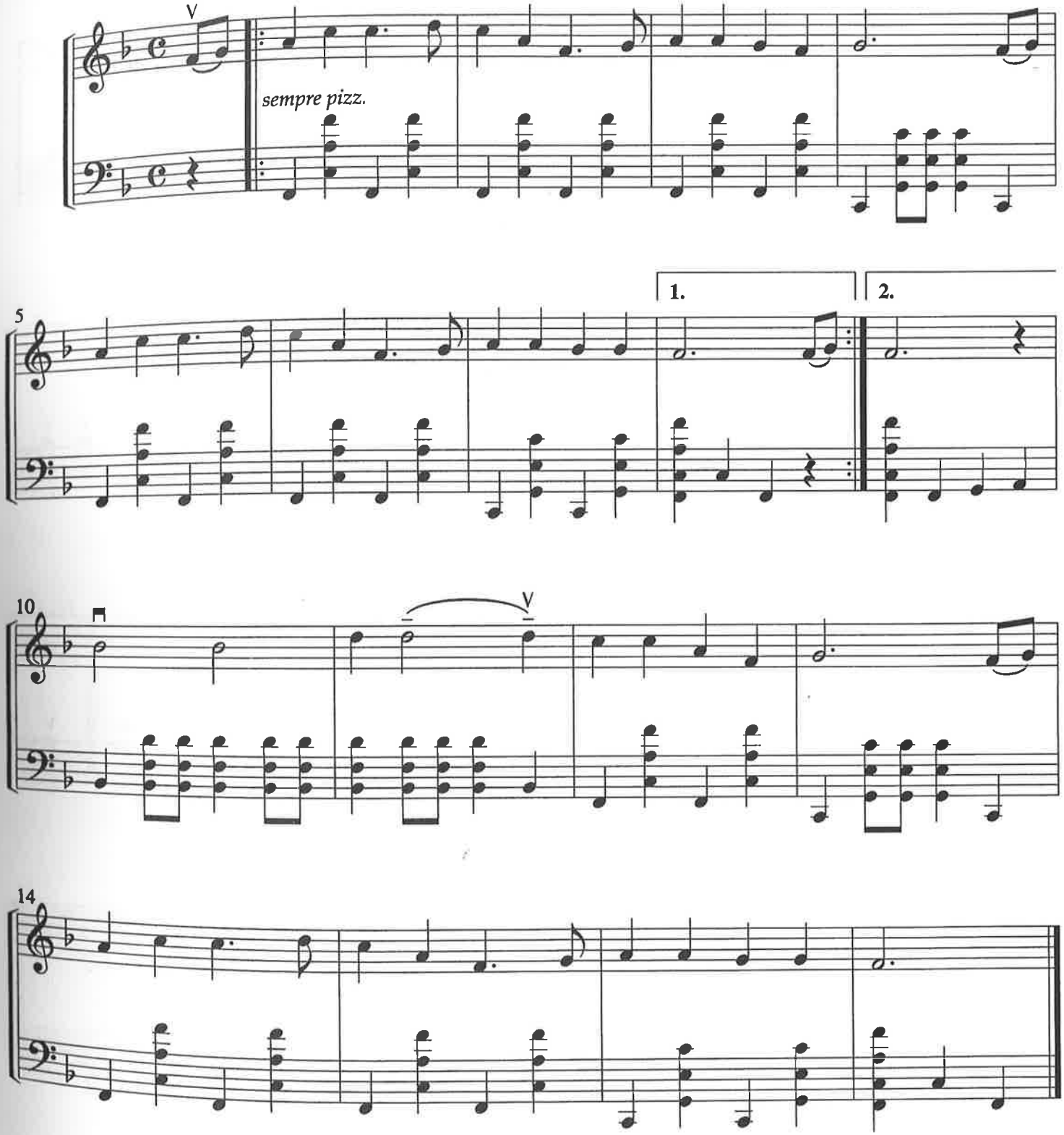


May Song
(Alle Vögel Sind Schon Da)

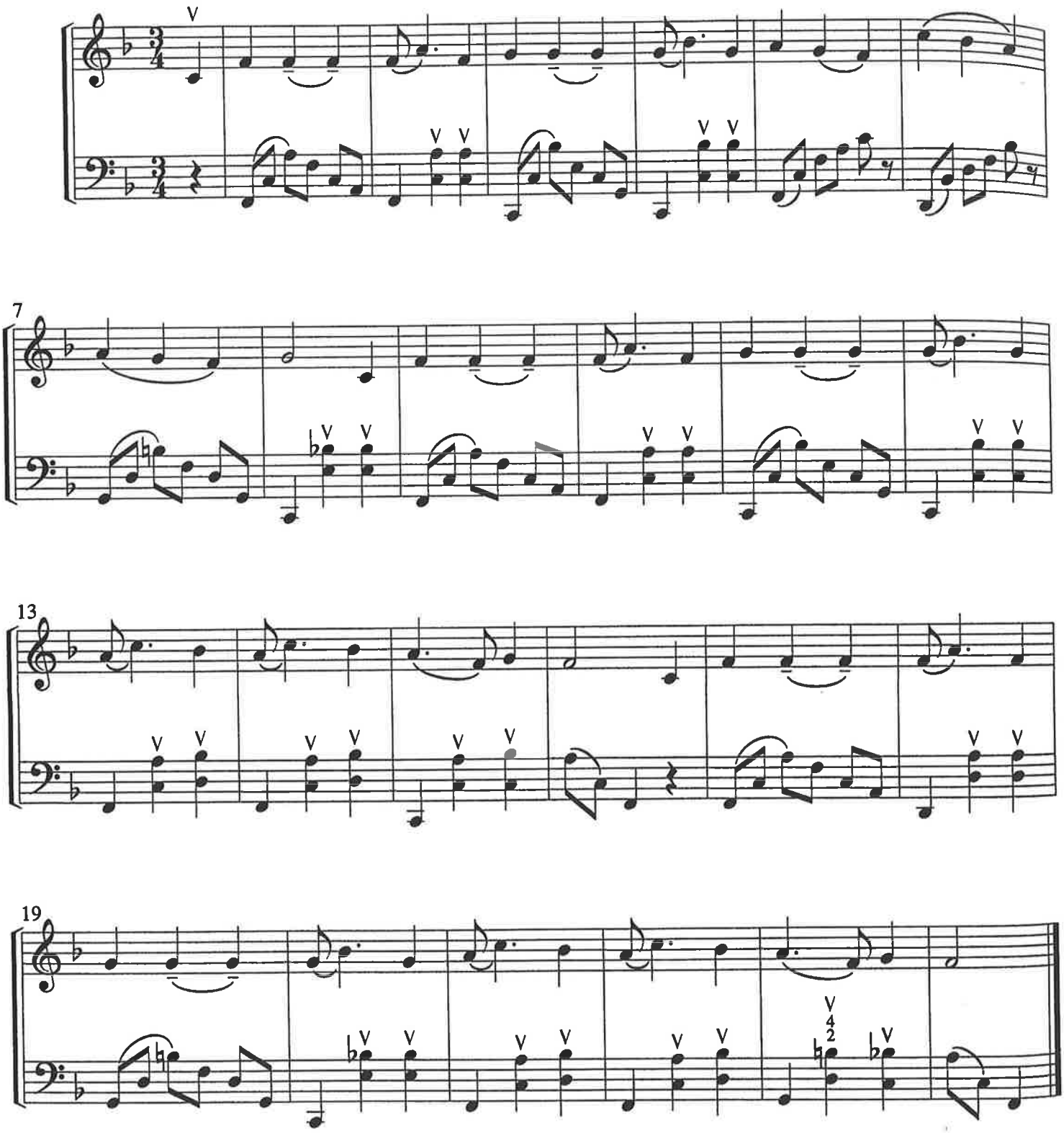


Oh Susannah

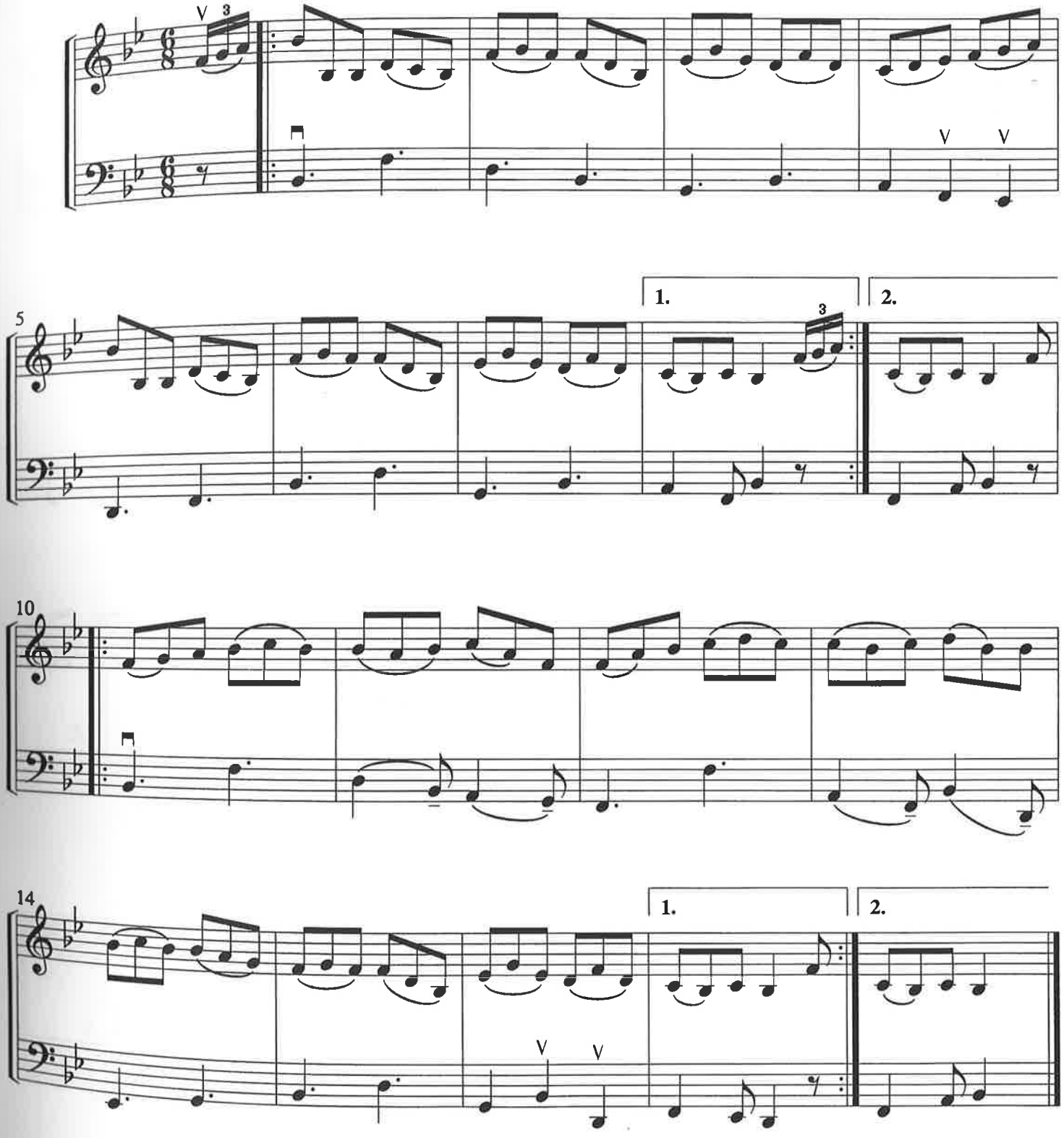
Stephen Foster



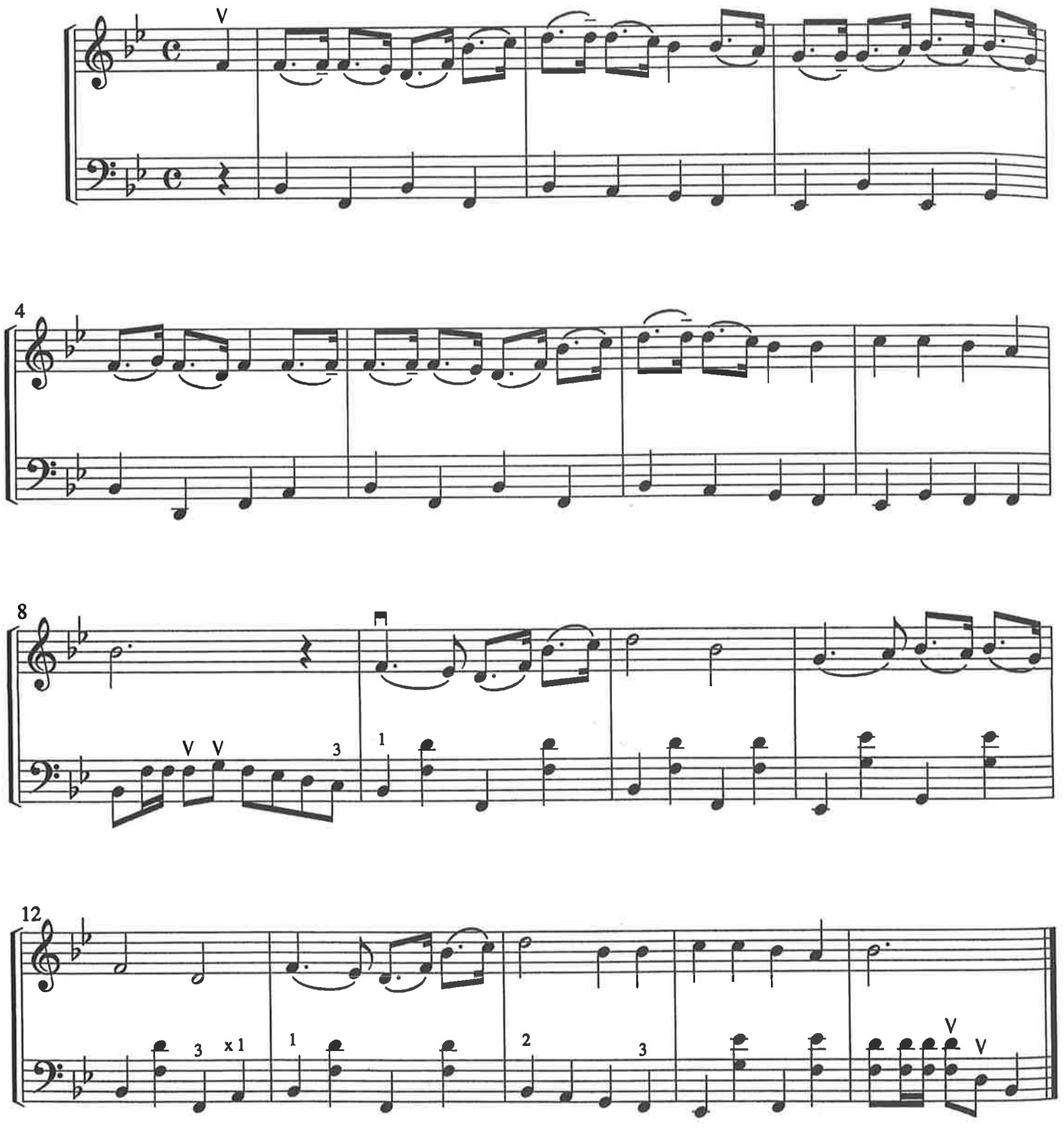
Cockles and Mussels



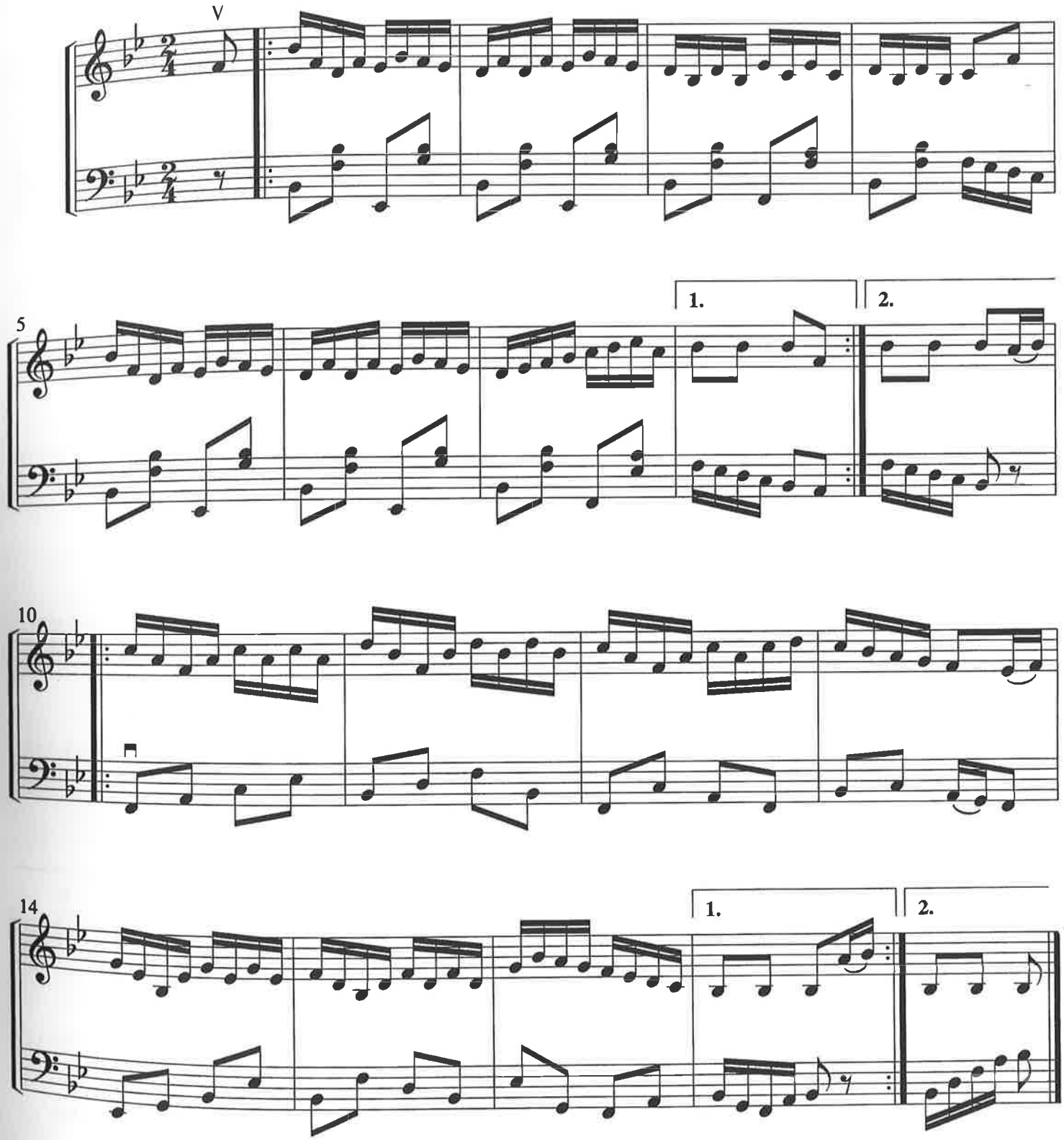
Larry O'Gaff



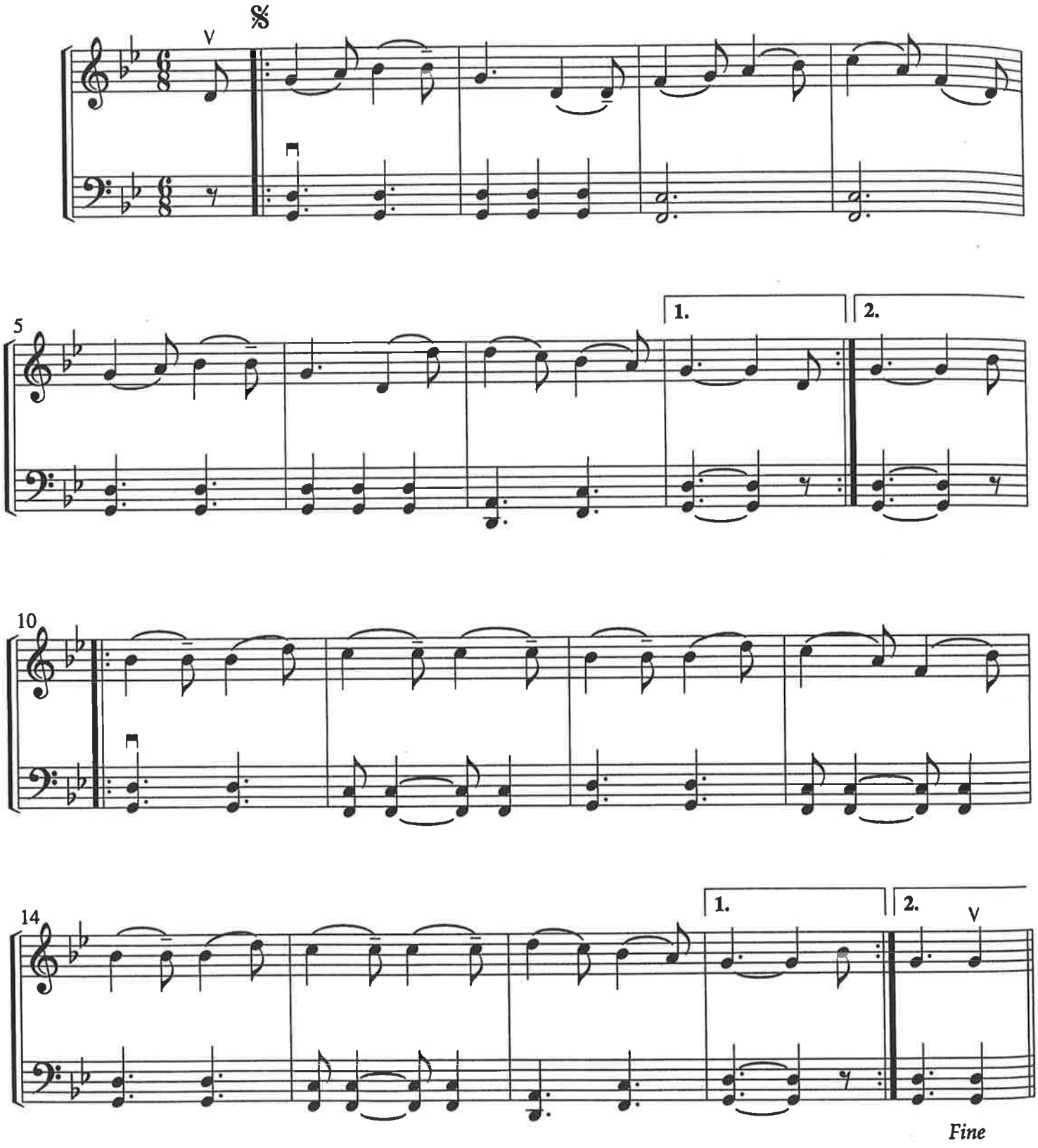
Battle Hymn of the Republic



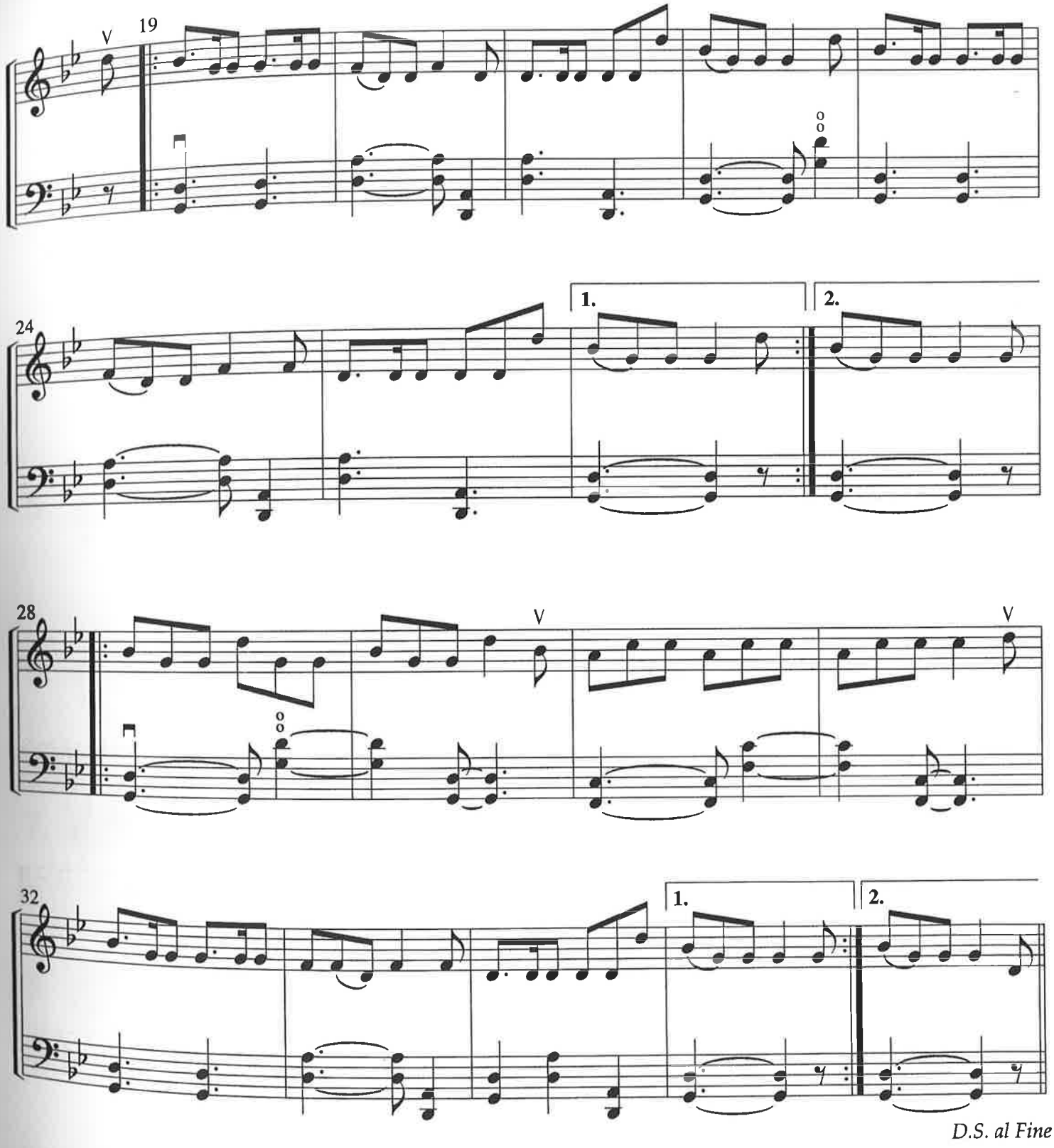
Fisher's Hornpipe



The Piper of Dundee



The Piper of Dundee

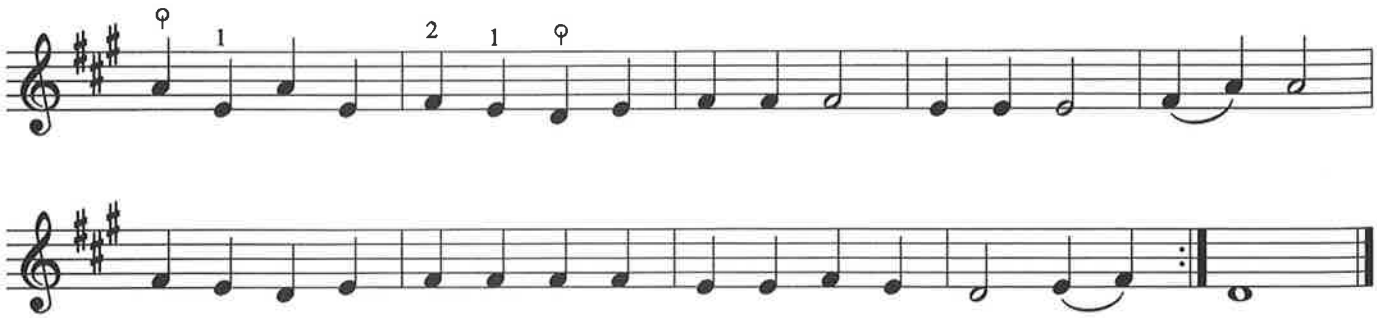


Thumb Position Pattern IV

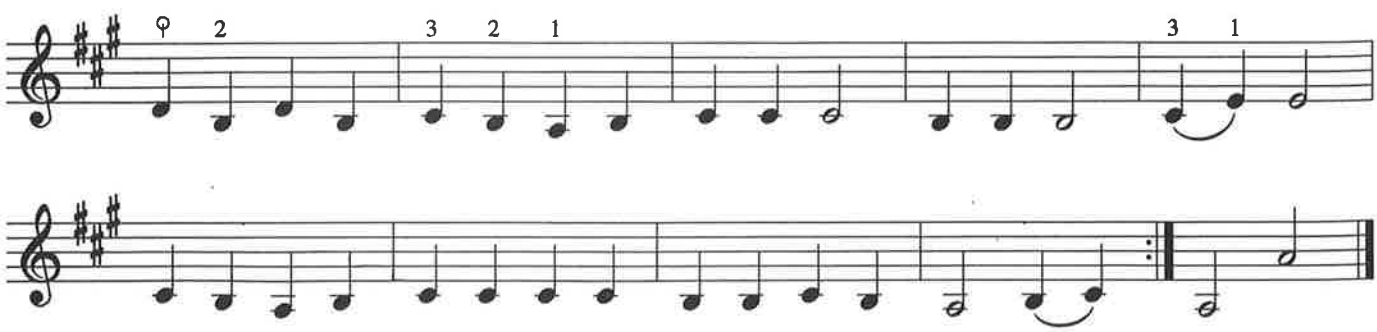
no half steps

Daily Warm-ups

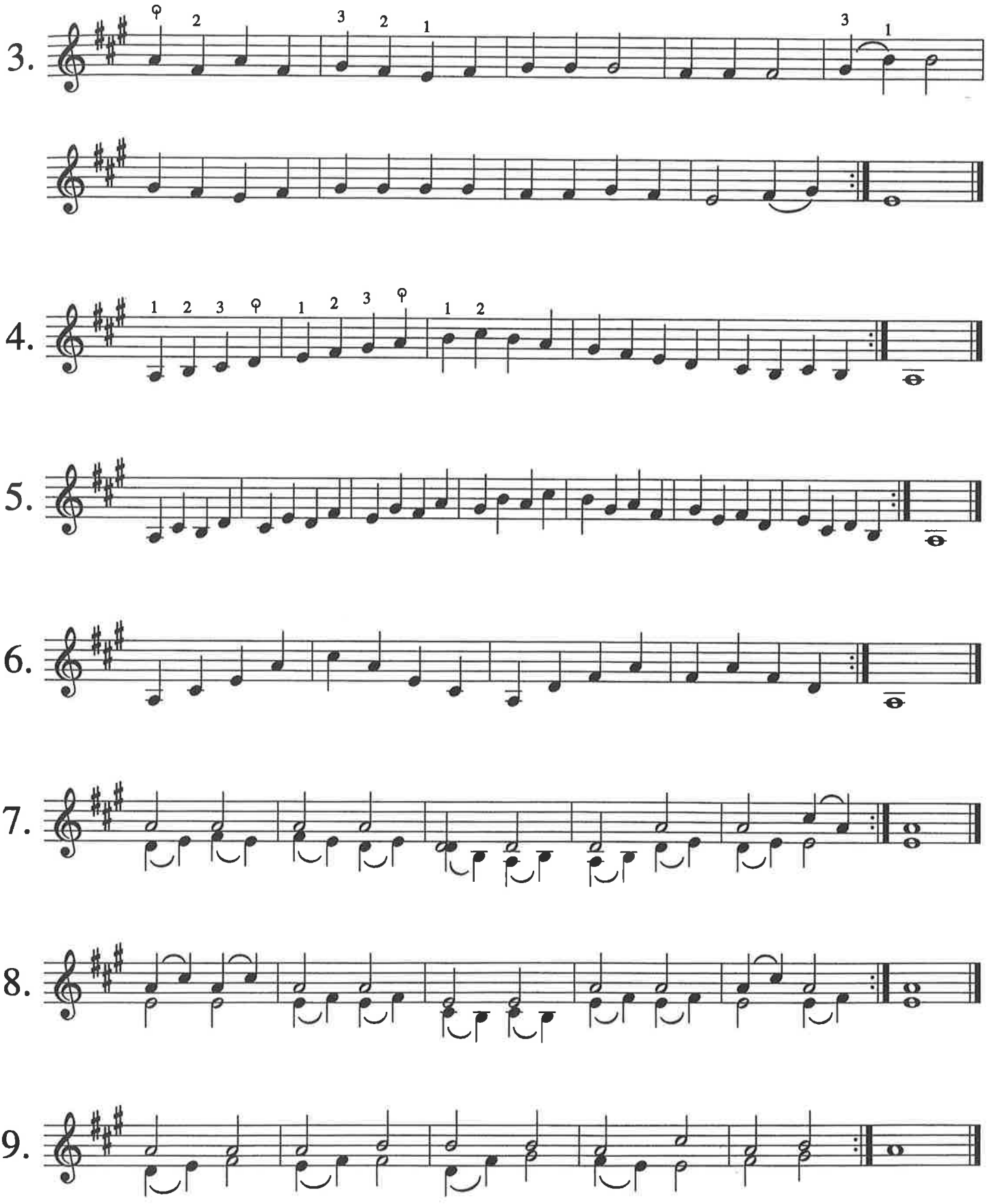
1.



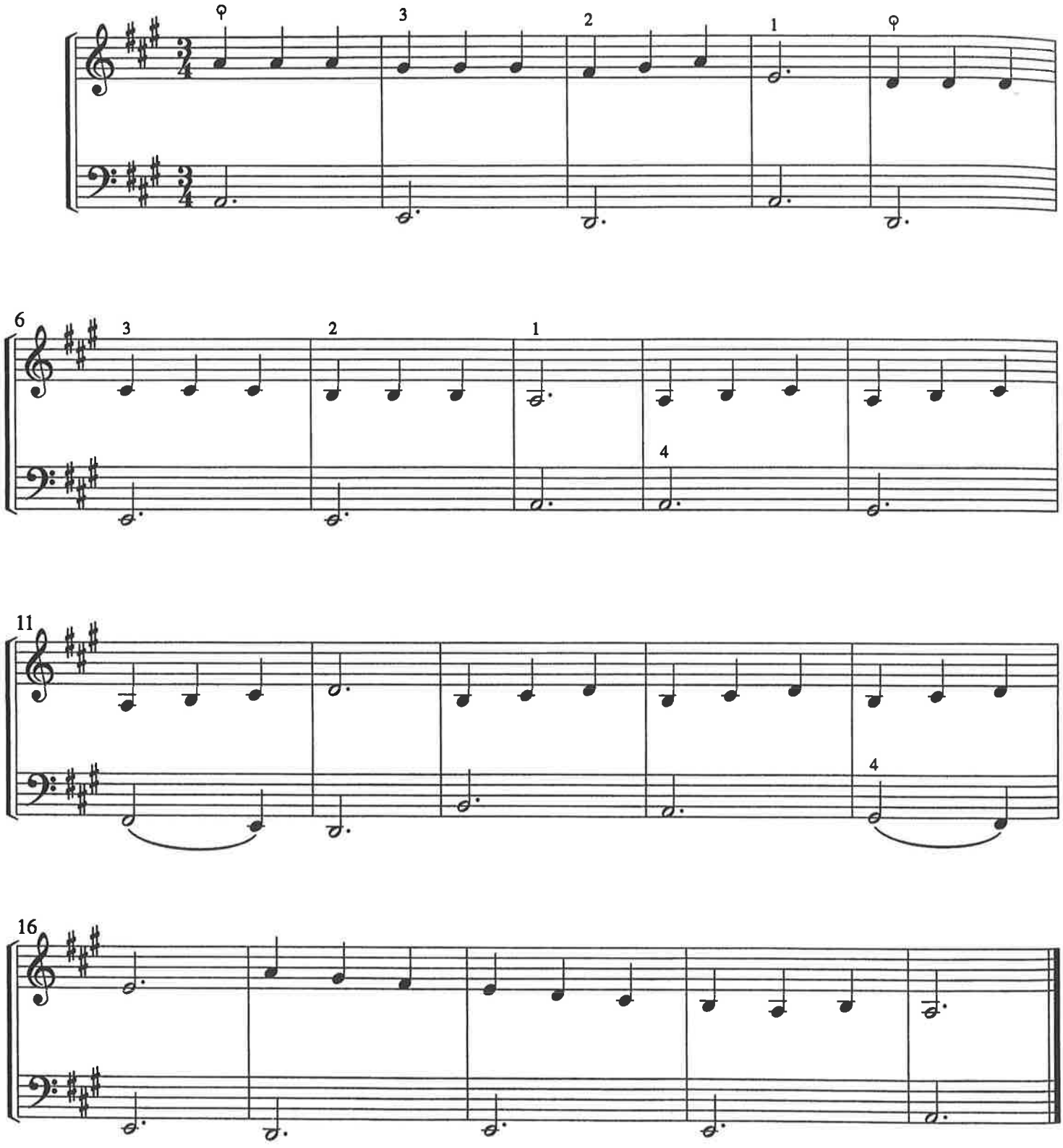
2.



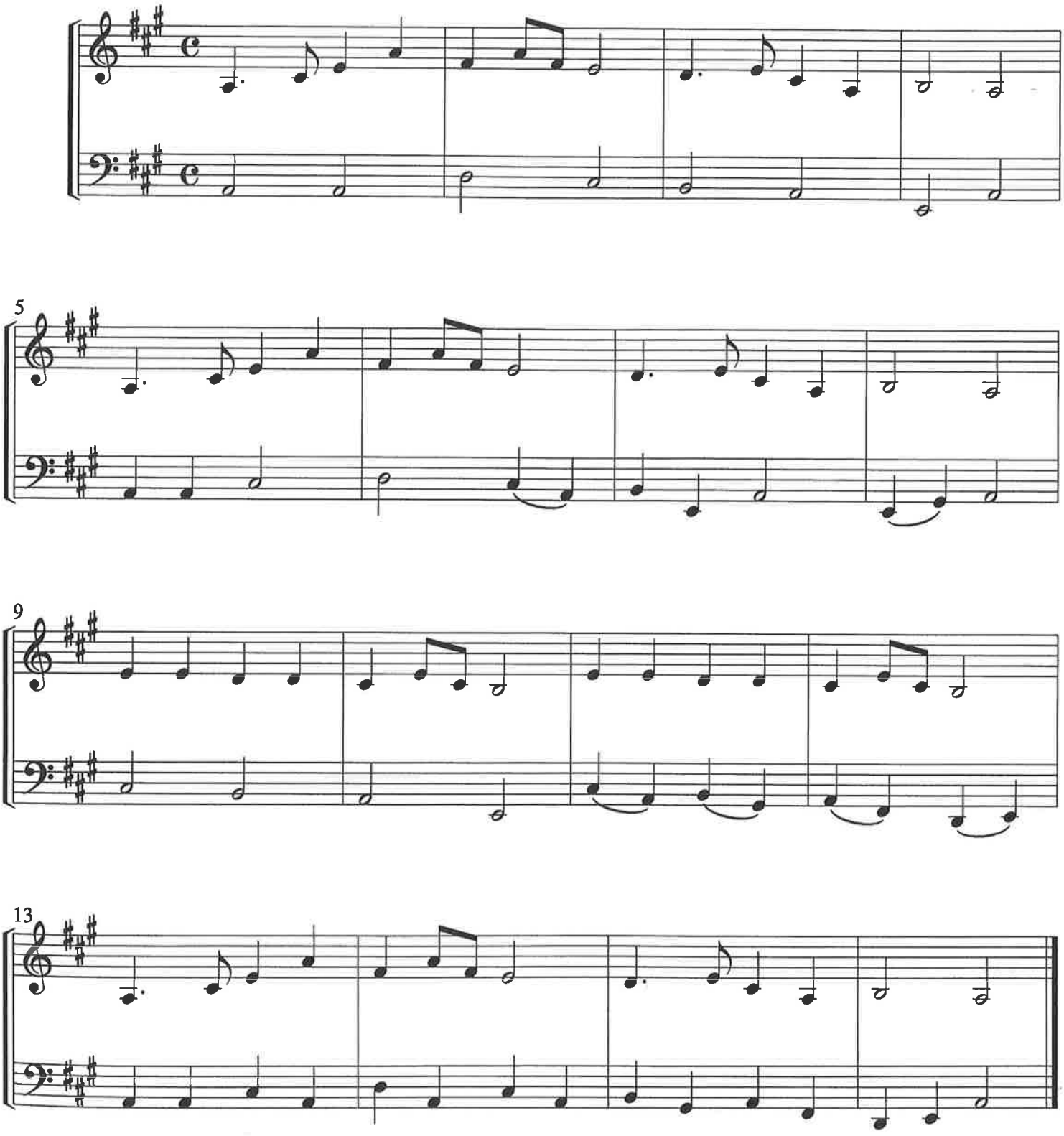
Thumb Position Pattern IV -- Daily Warm-ups (continued)



French Folk Song

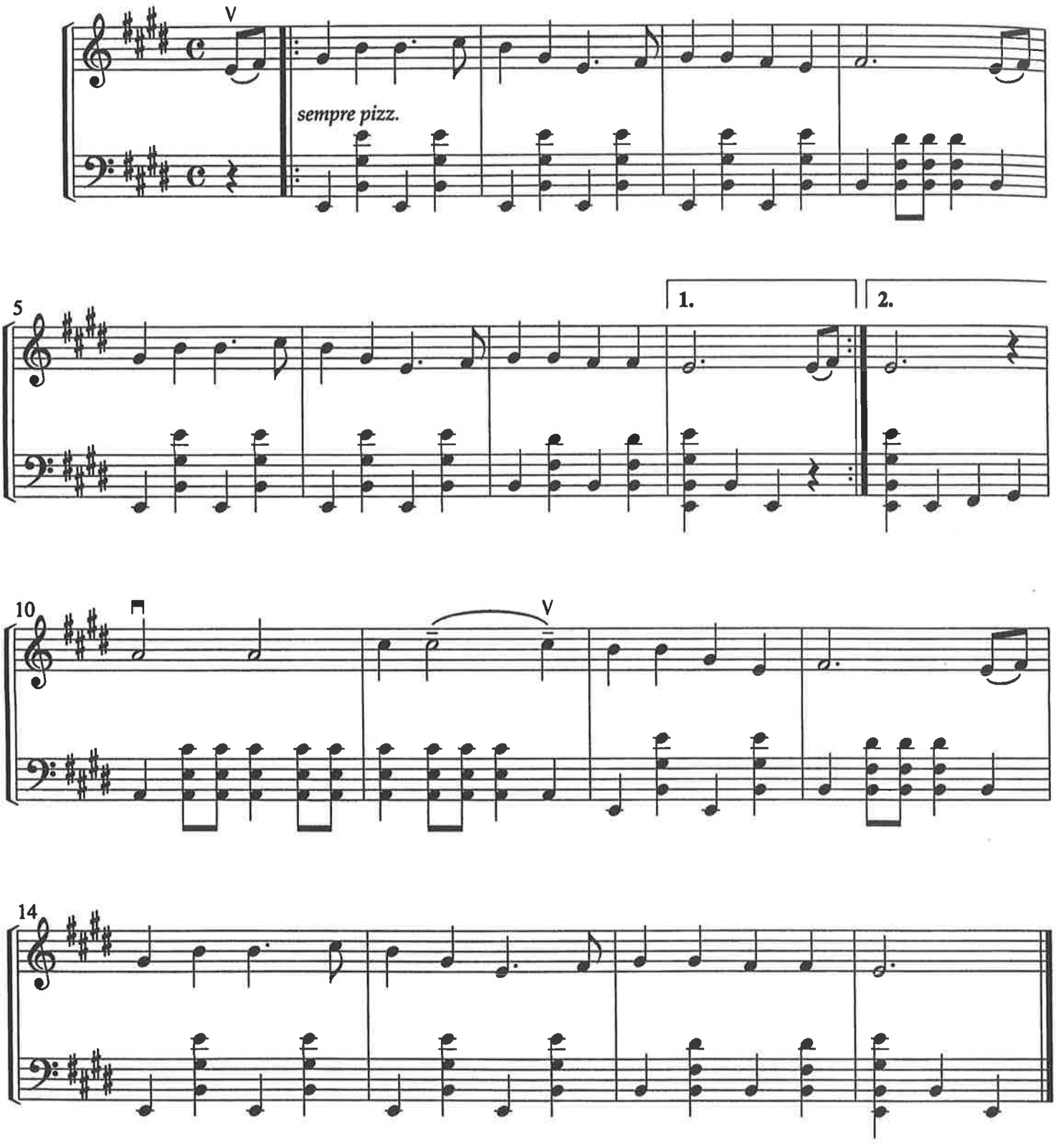


May Song
(Alle Vögel Sind Schon Da)

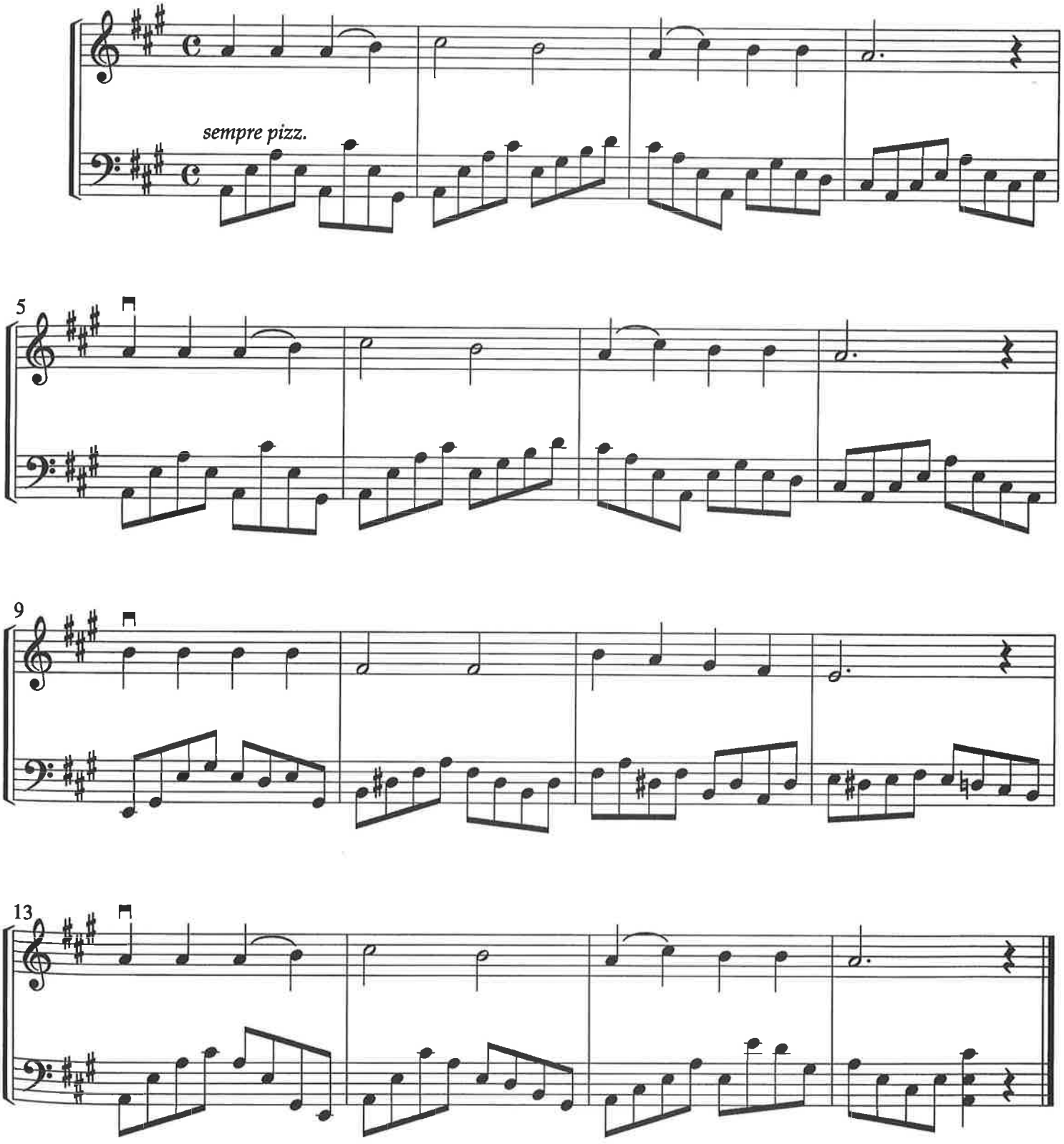


Oh Susannah

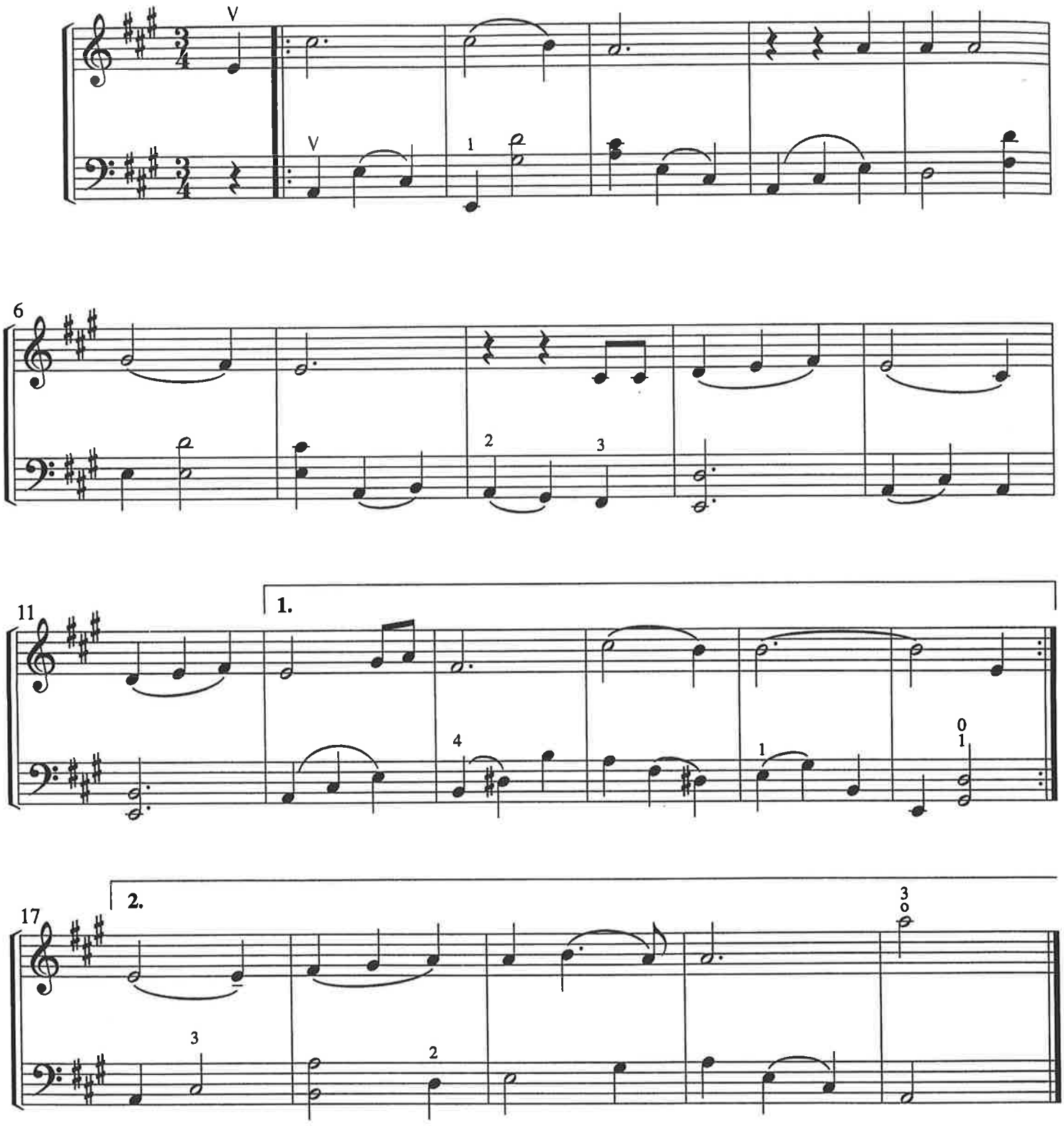
Stephen Foster



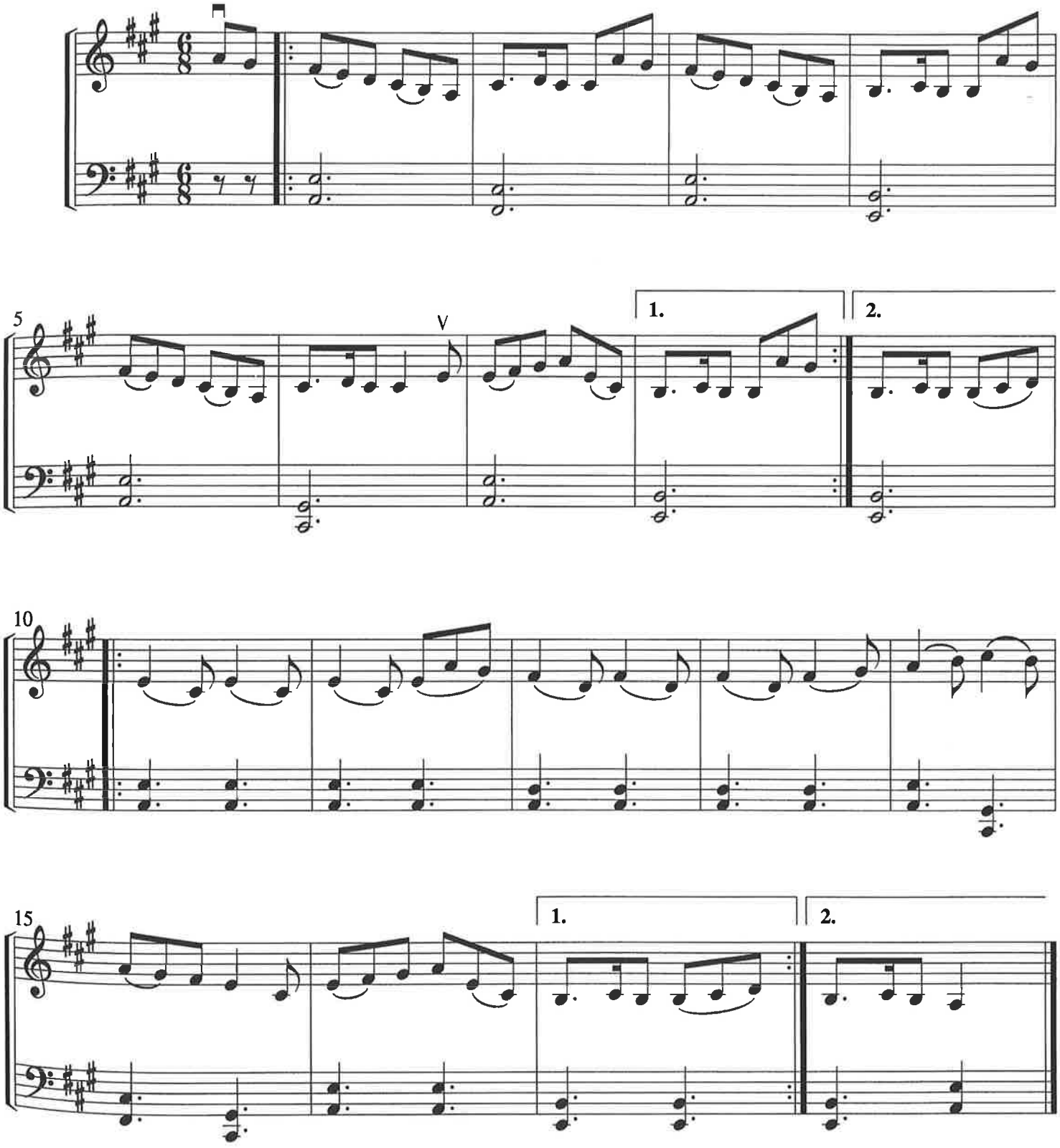
Clair de Lune



My Wild Irish Rose

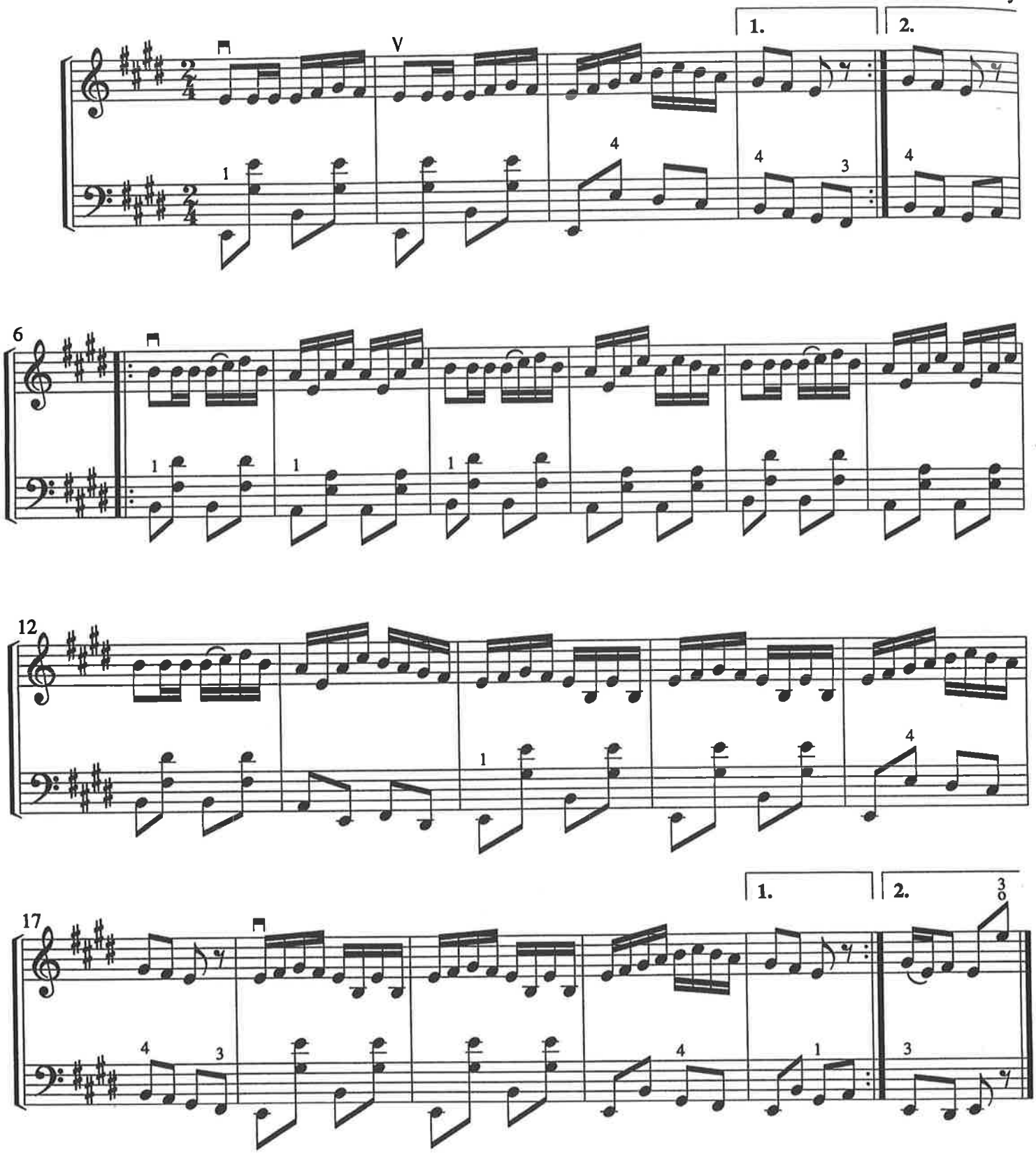


Garry Owen



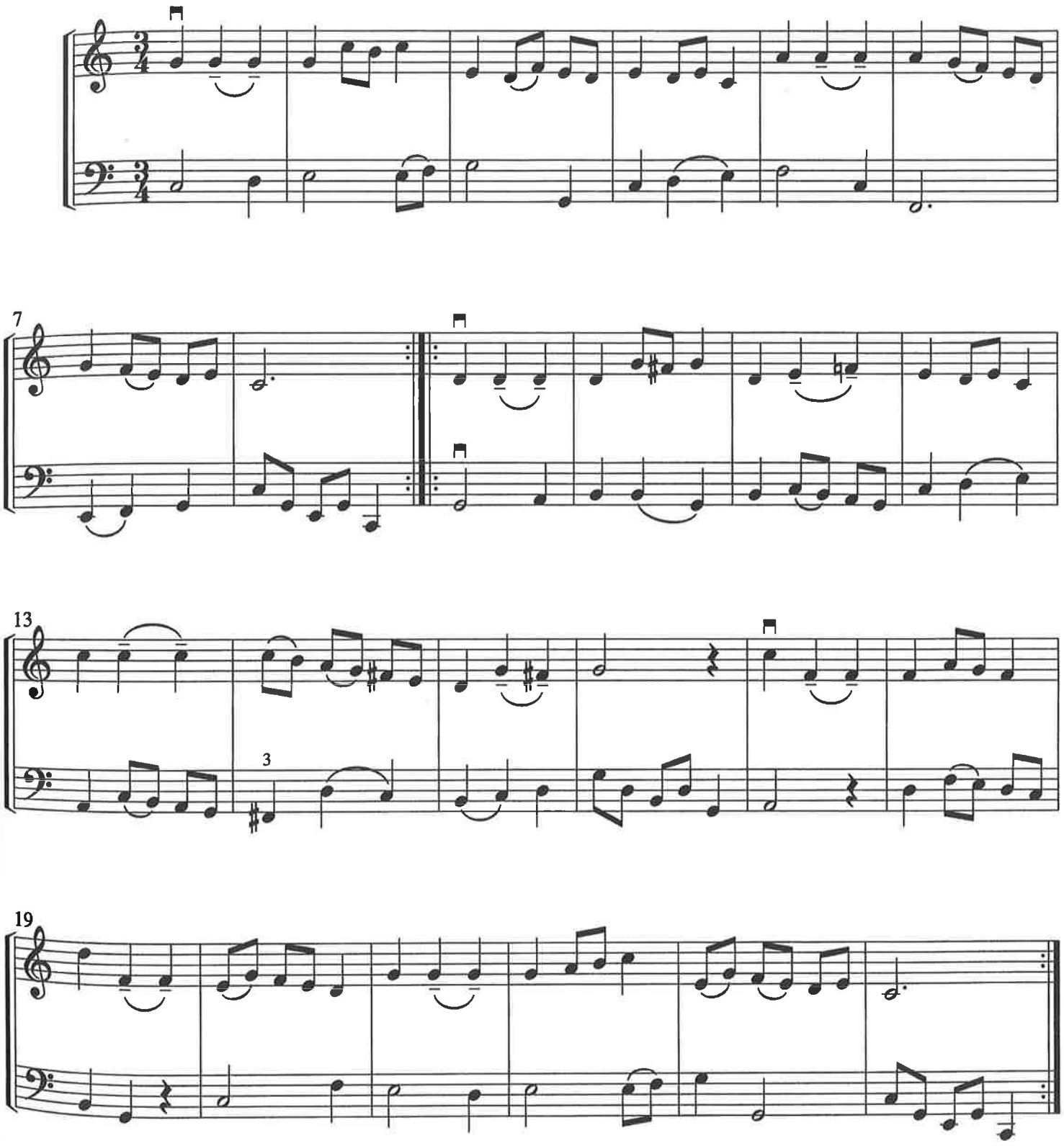
Eat My Dust

Rick Mooney



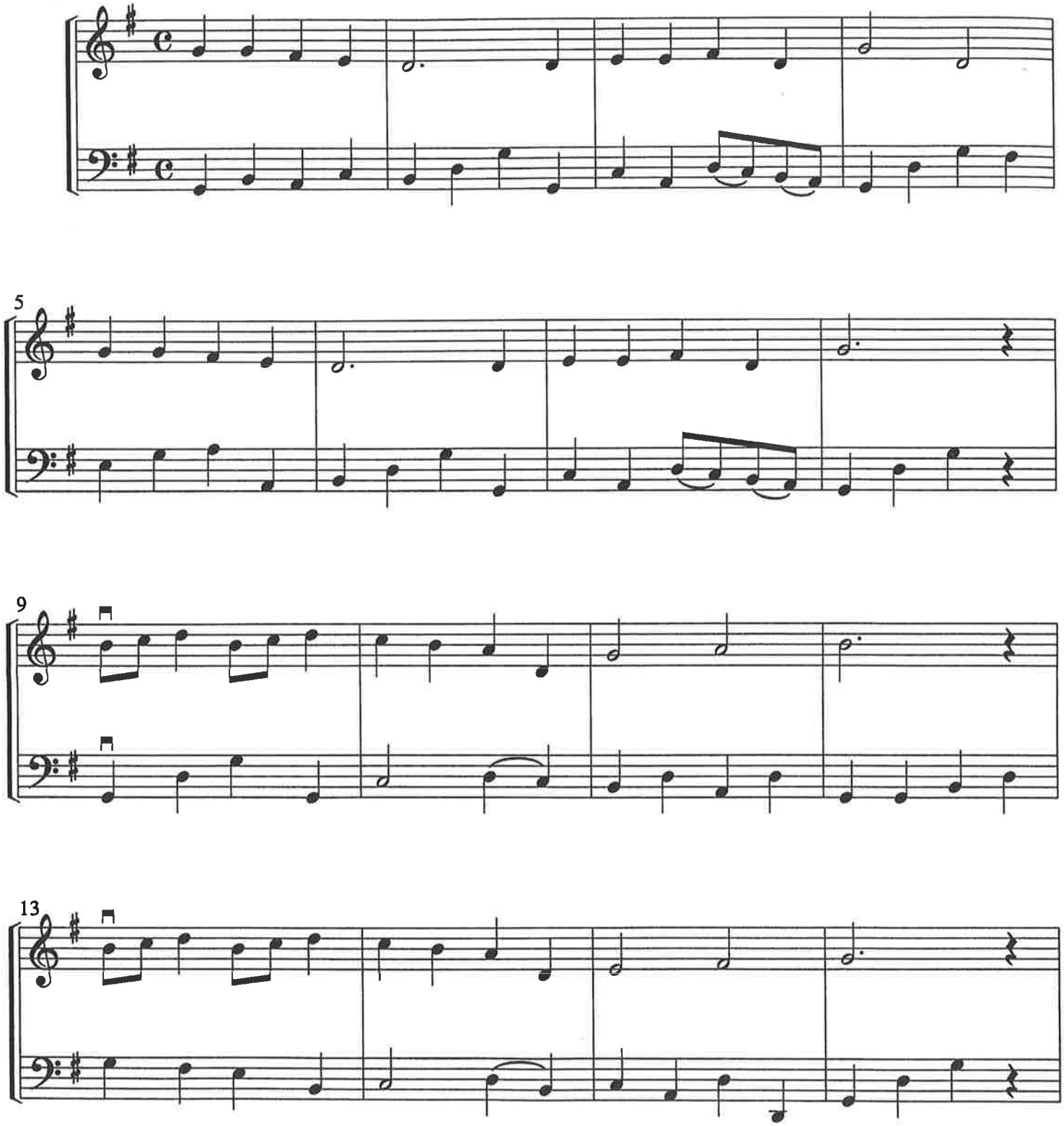
Minuet

J. S. Bach

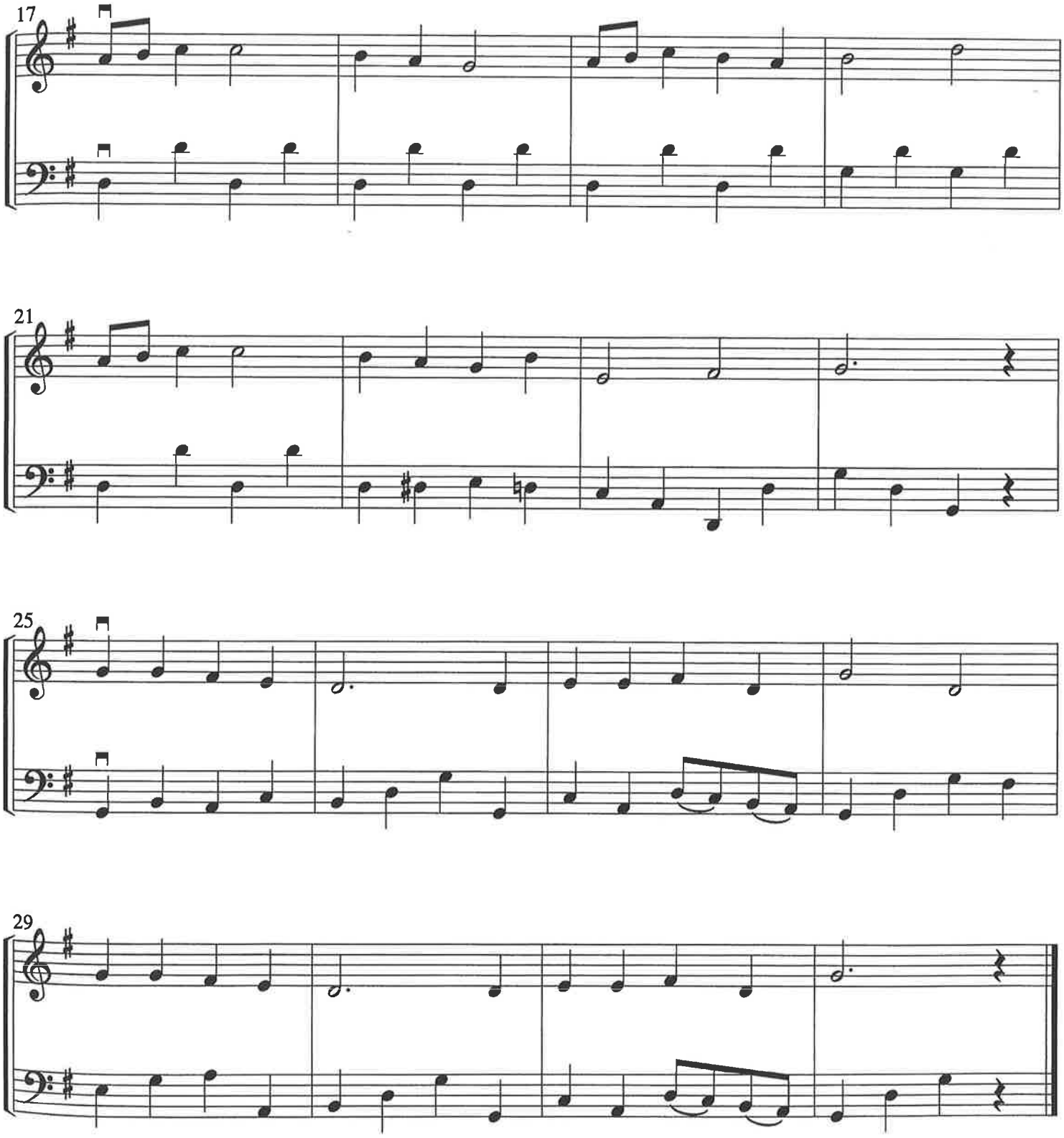


Rigadoon

Henry Purcell

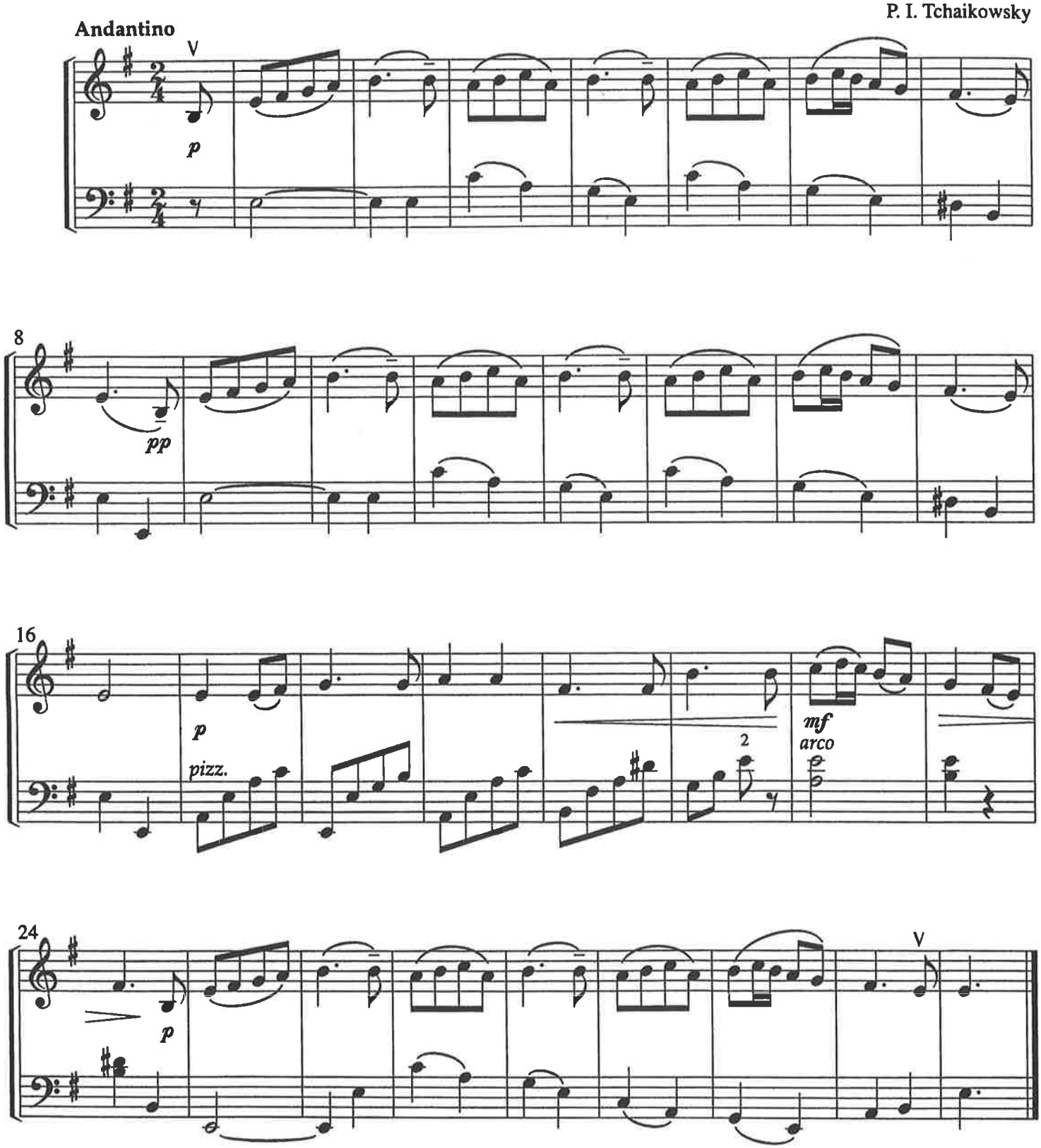


Rigadoon



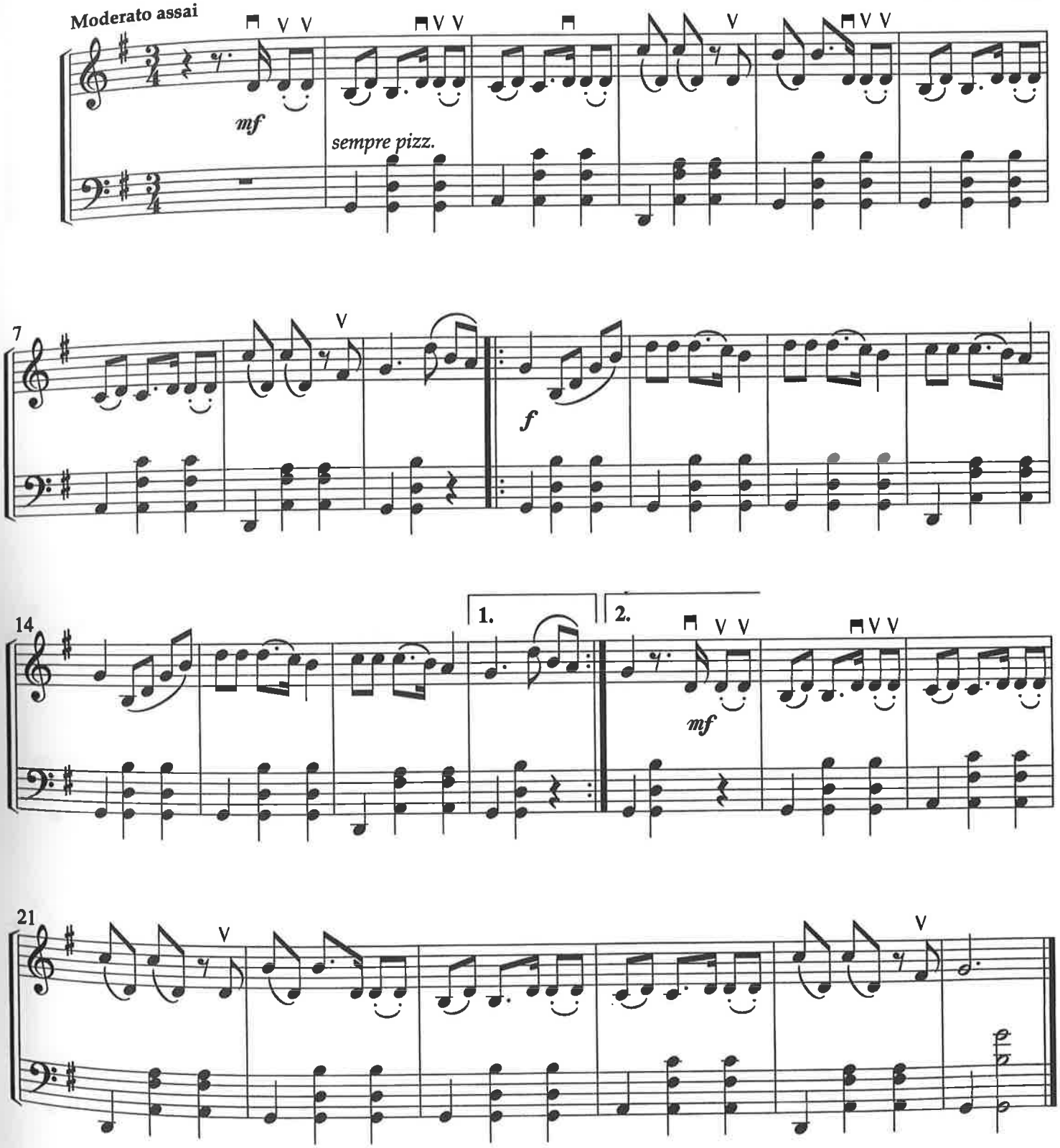
Old French Song

P. I. Tchaikowsky

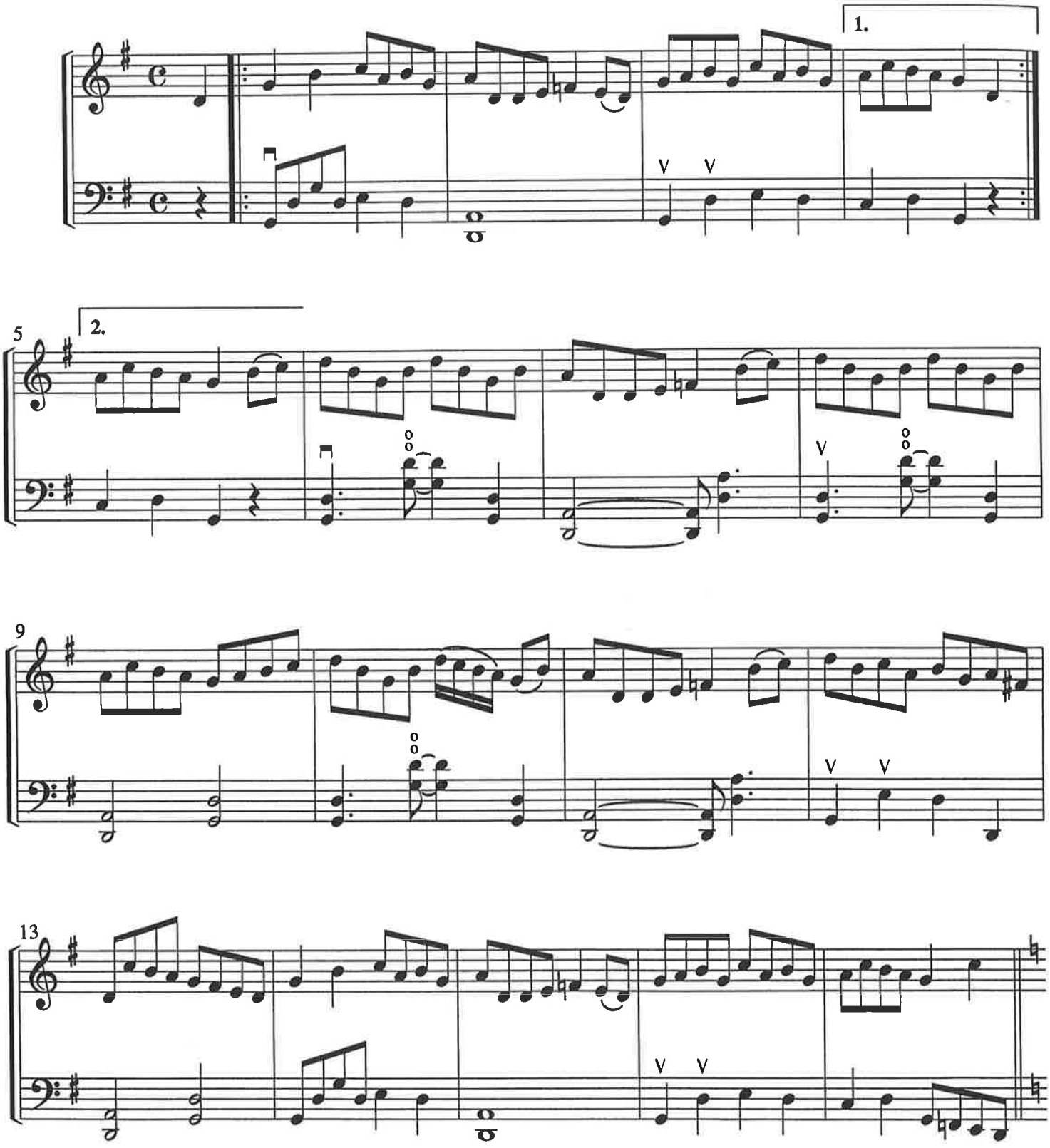


German Dance

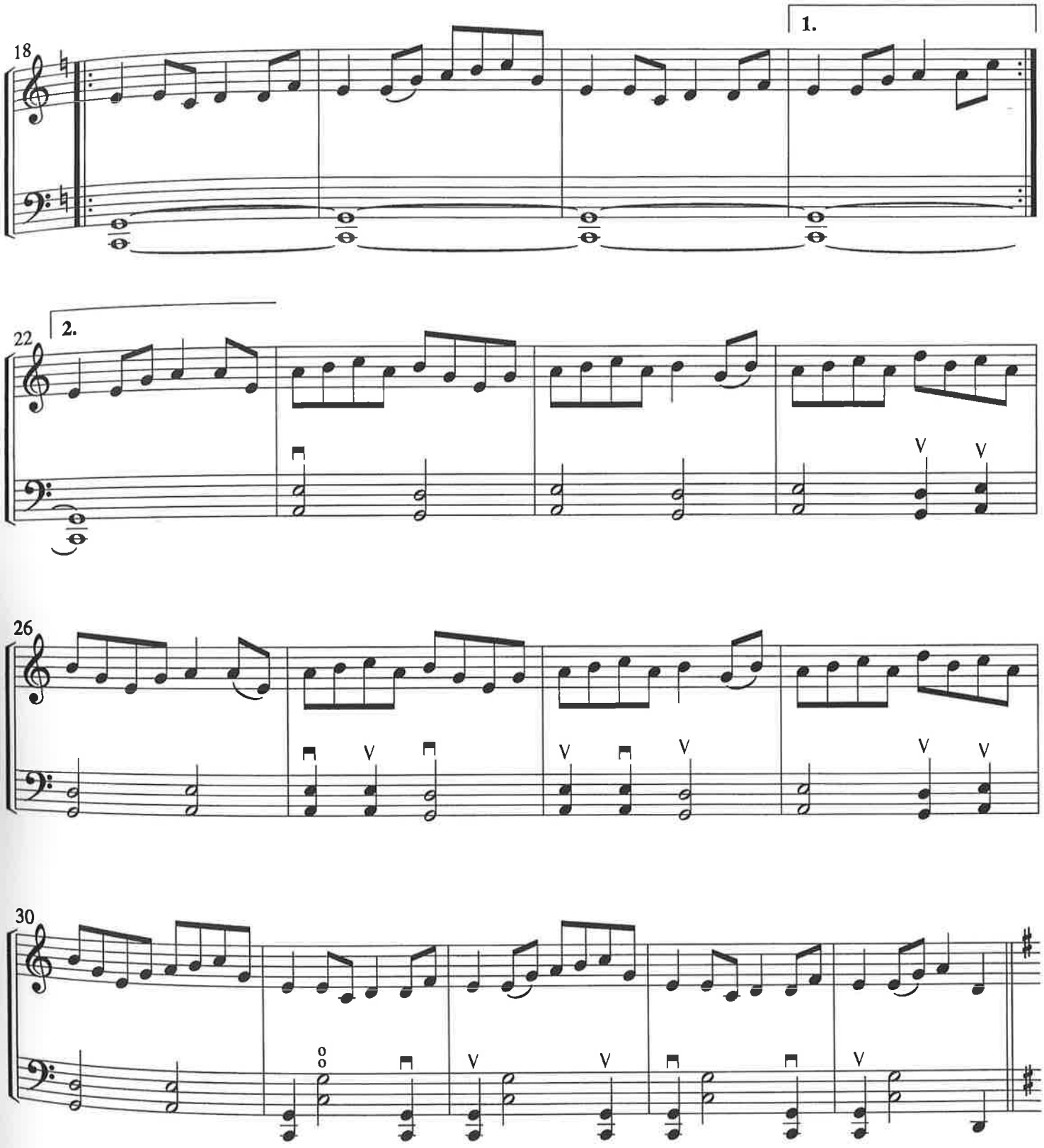
P. I. Tchaikowsky



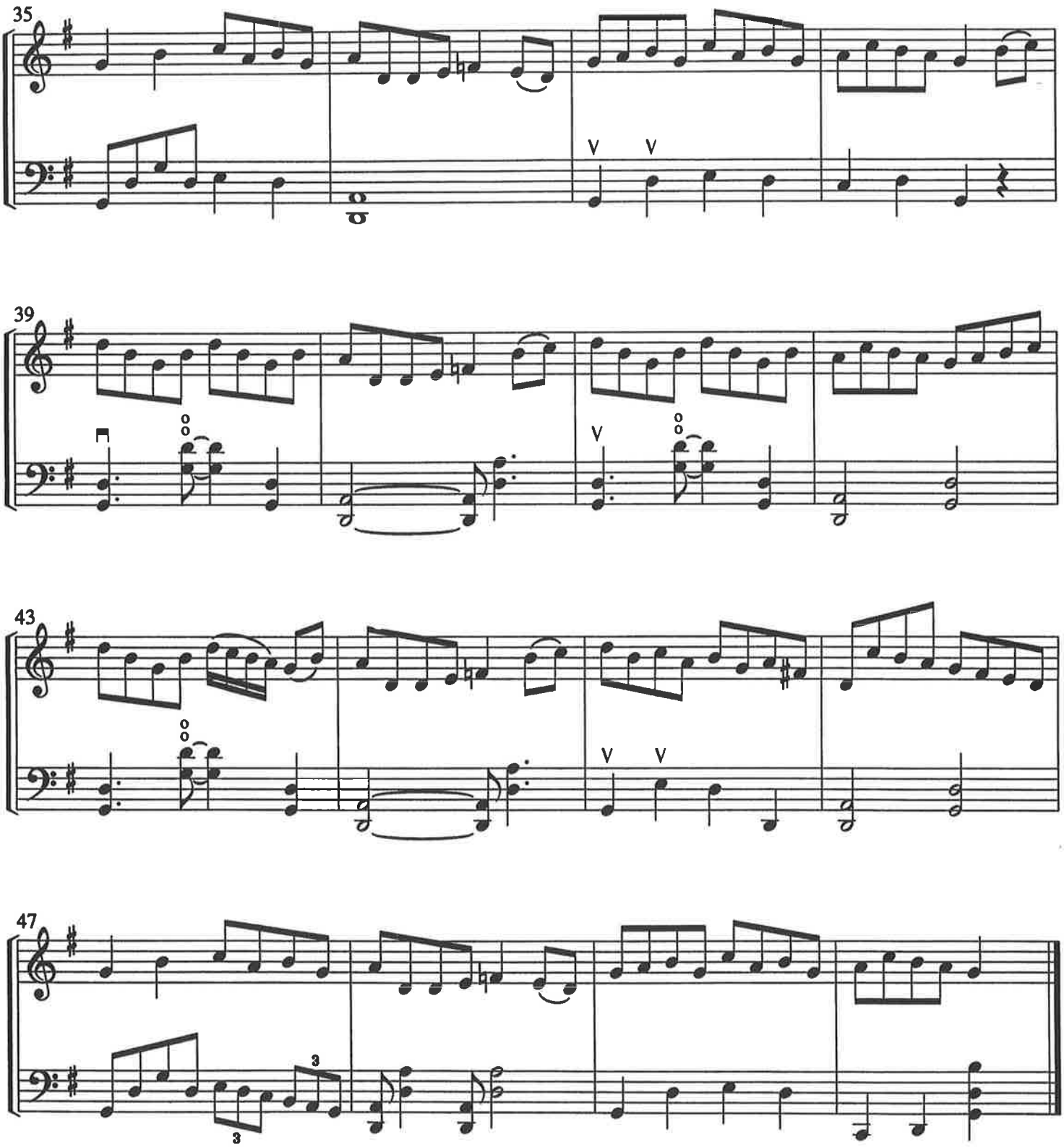
Highland Hoedown



Highland Hoedown



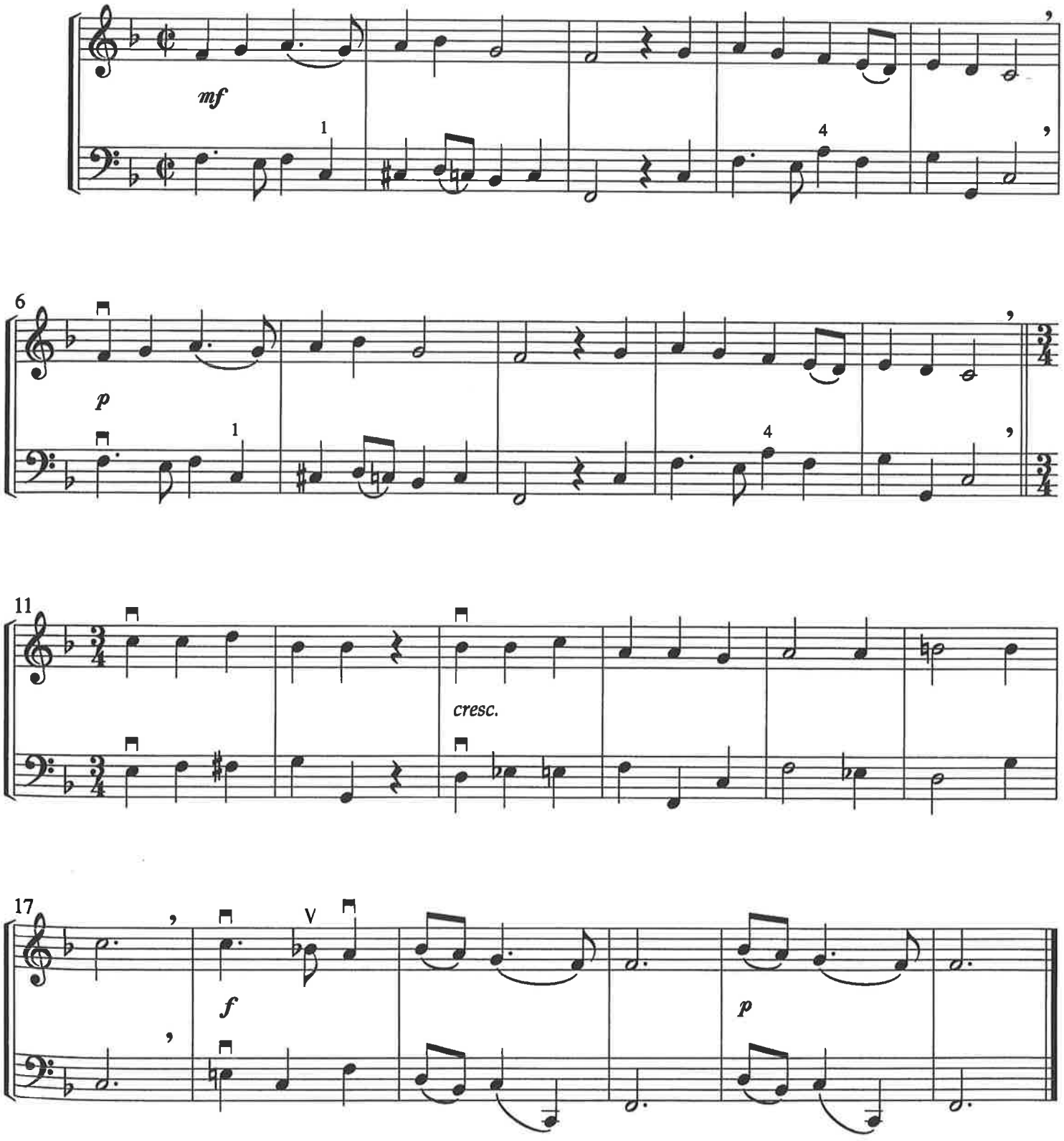
Highland Hoedown



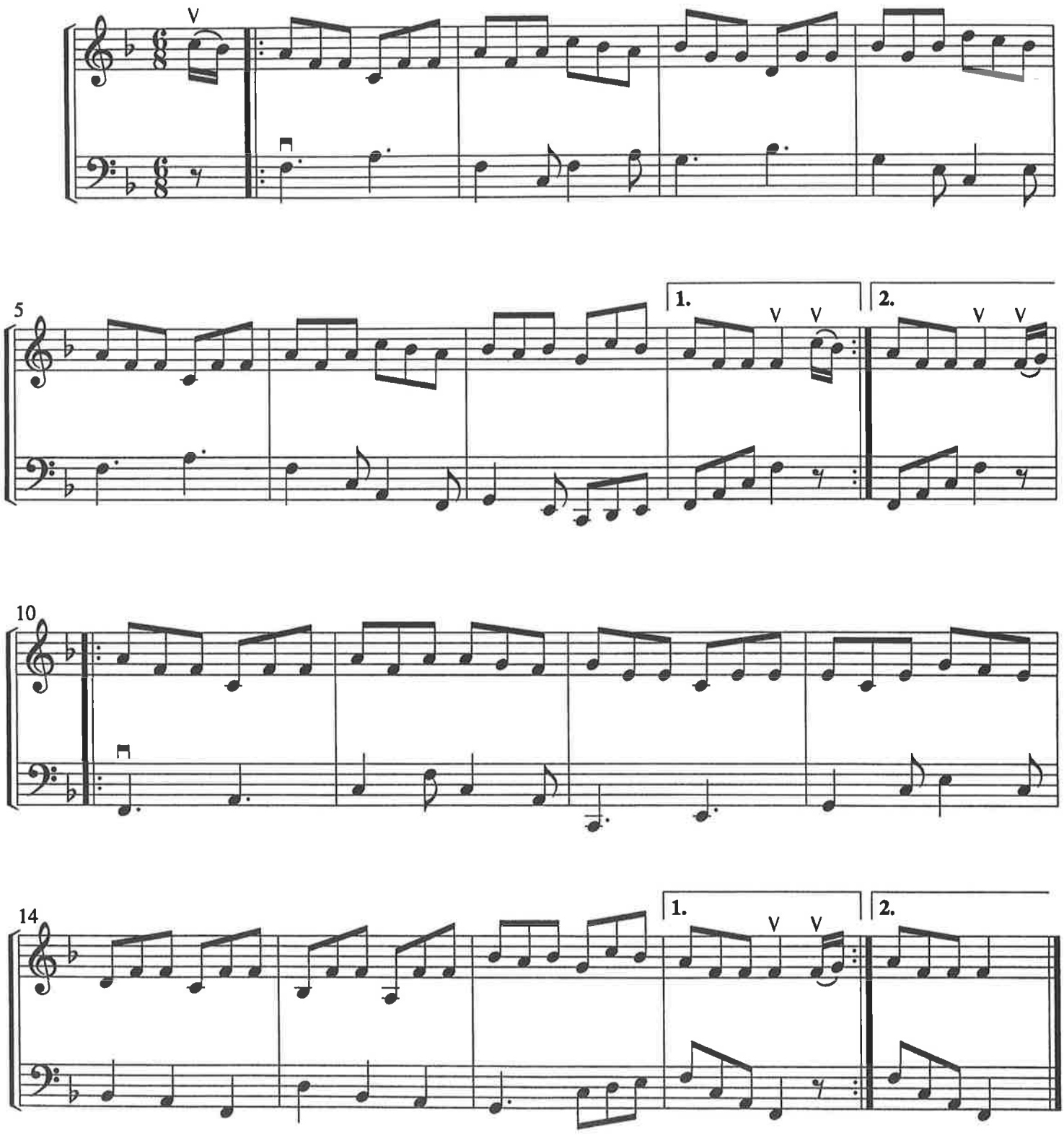
Chorale

Brich Entzwei, Mein Armes Herze

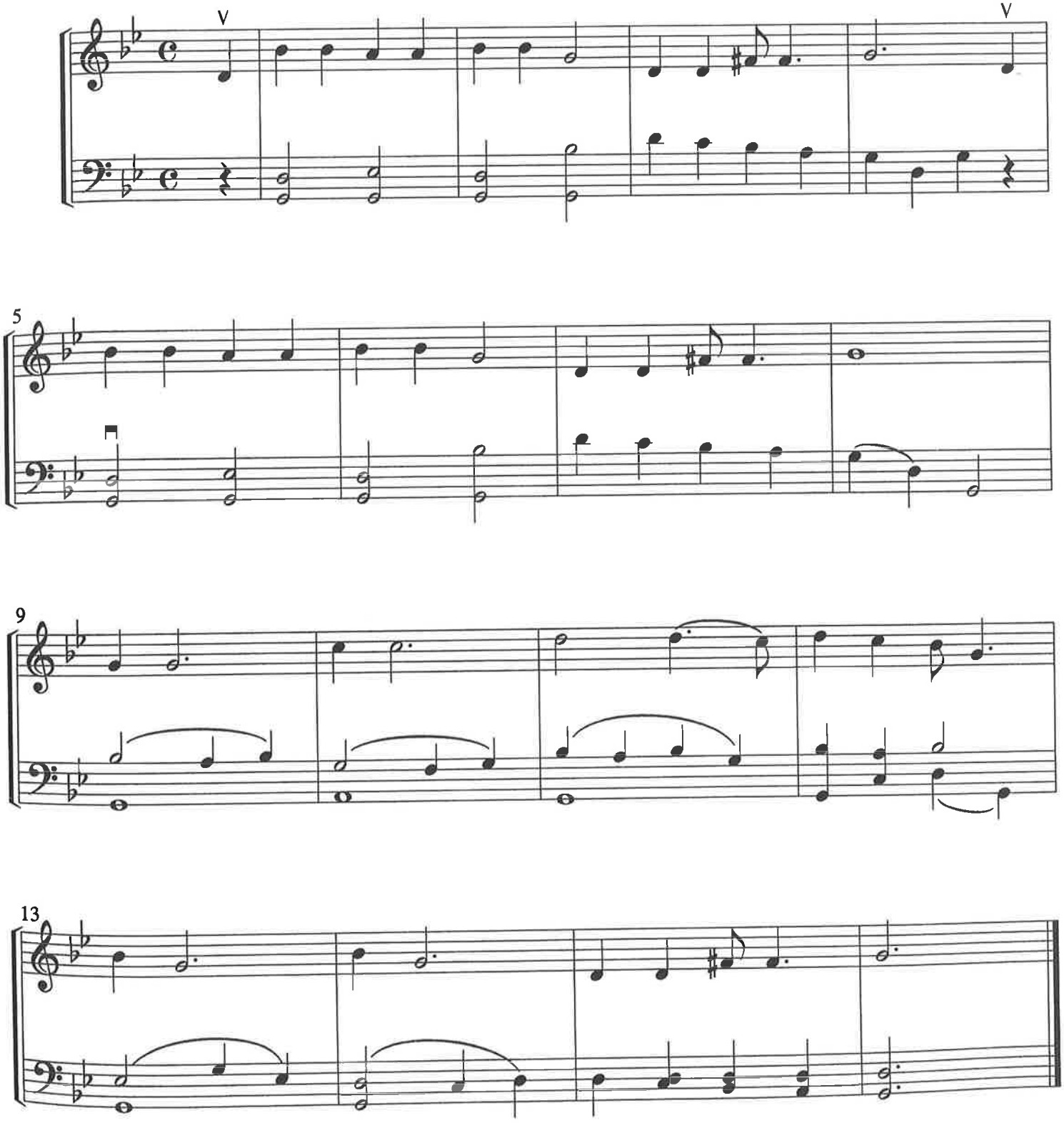
J. S. Bach



The Irish Washerwoman



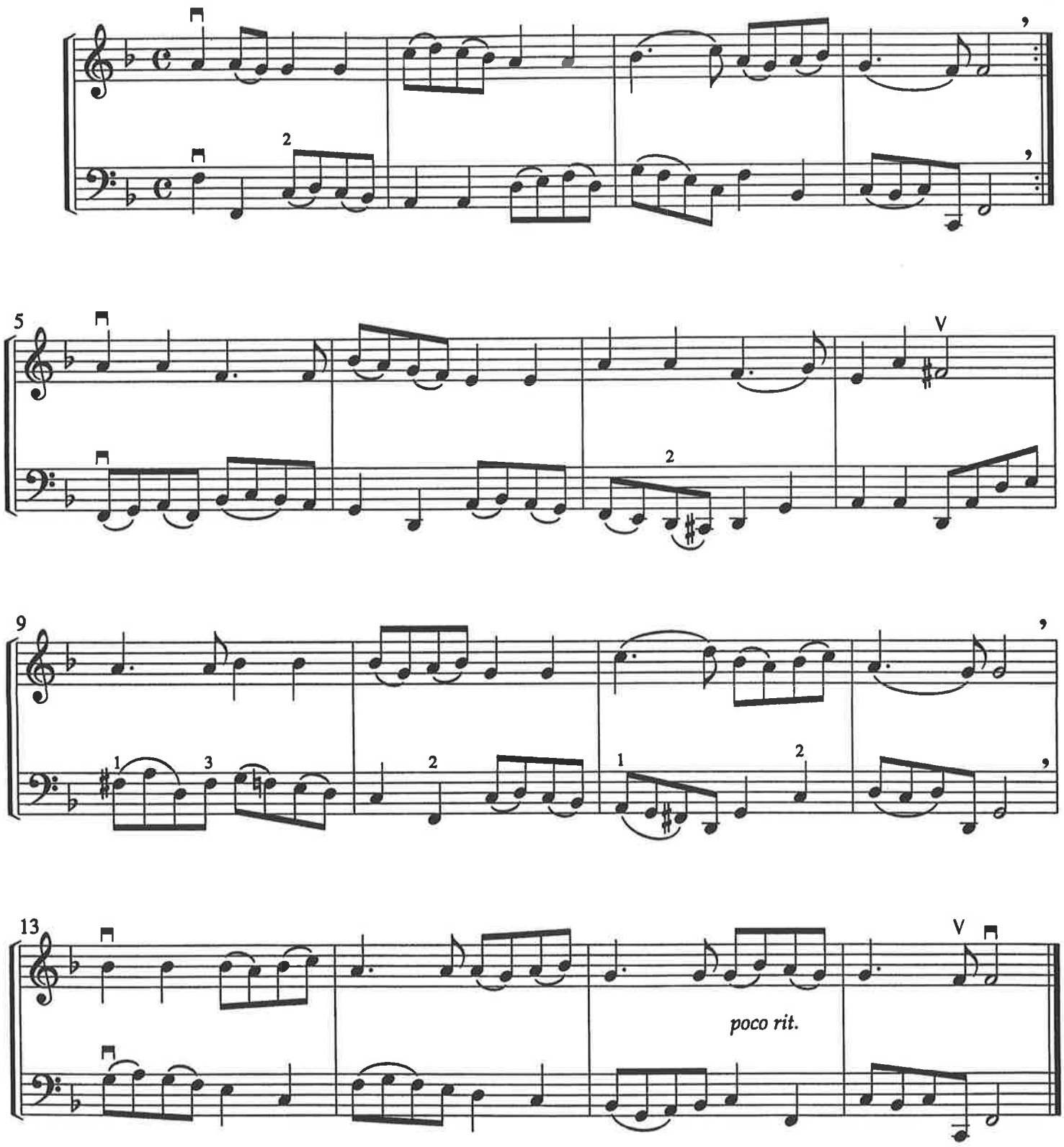
Go Down, Moses



Chorale

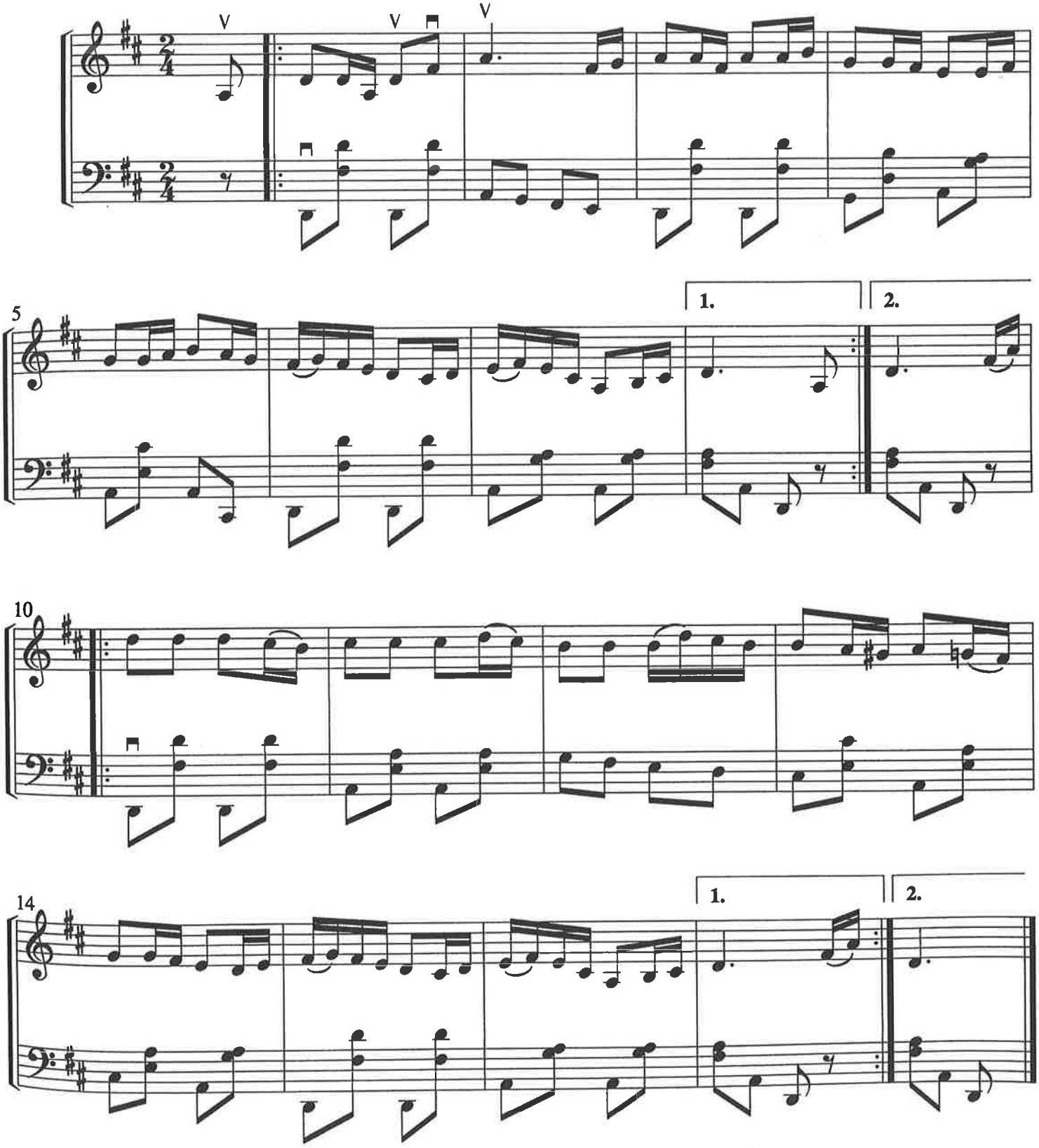
Gott, Wie Gross Ist Deine Güte

J. S. Bach



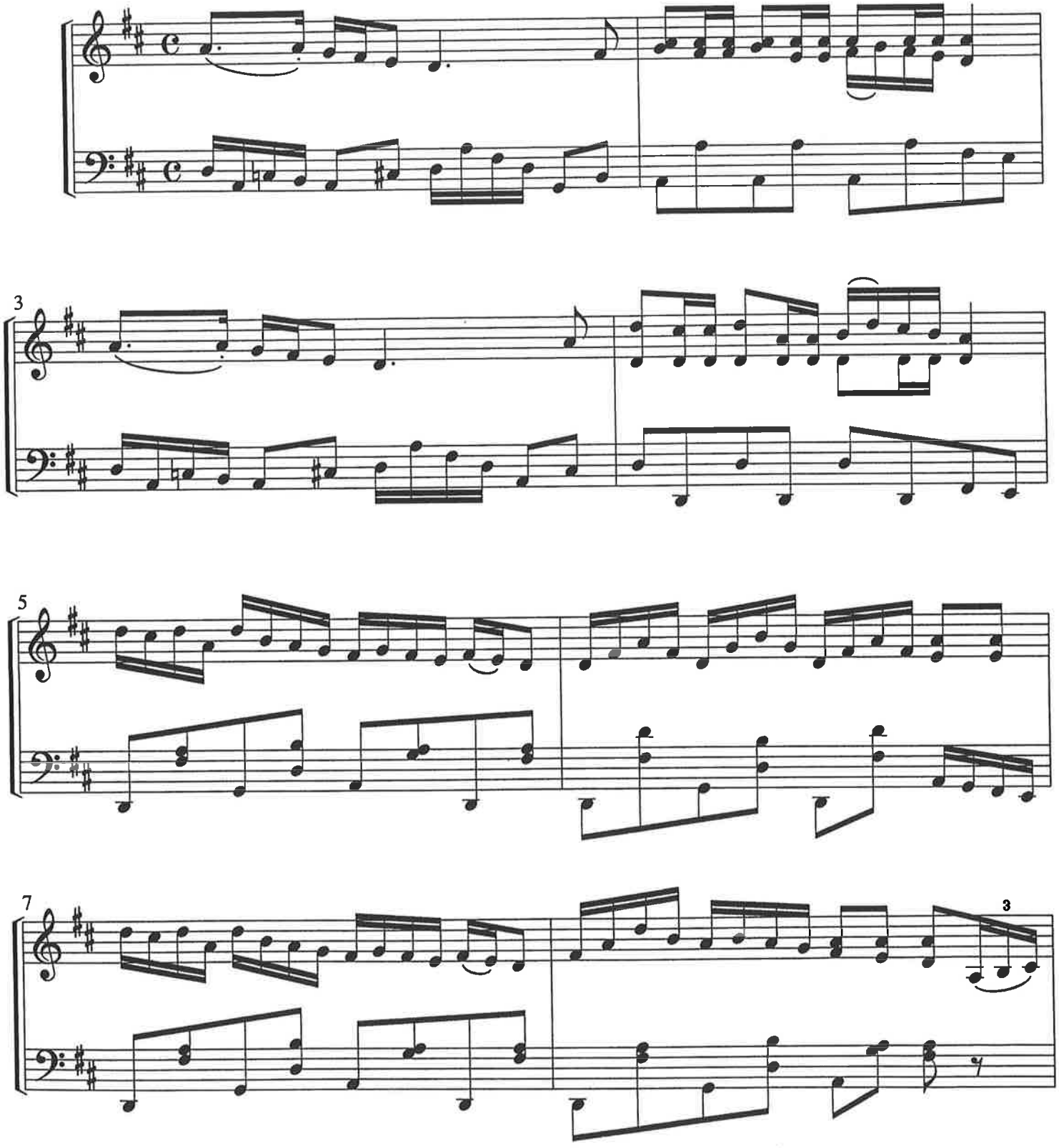
Walking Music from Appelbo

(Gånglåt Från Äppelbo)

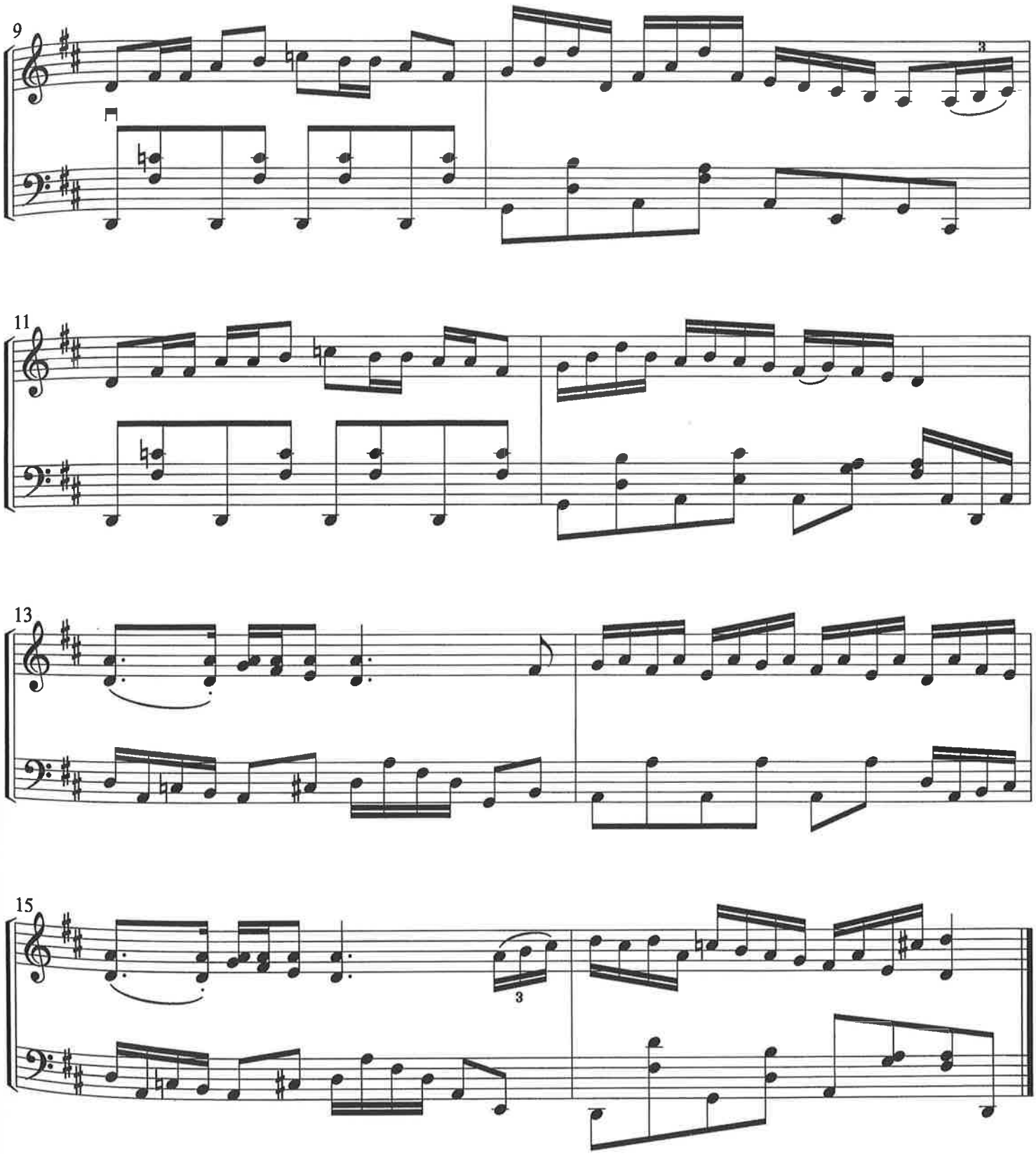


The Coyote's Bark

Rick Mooney



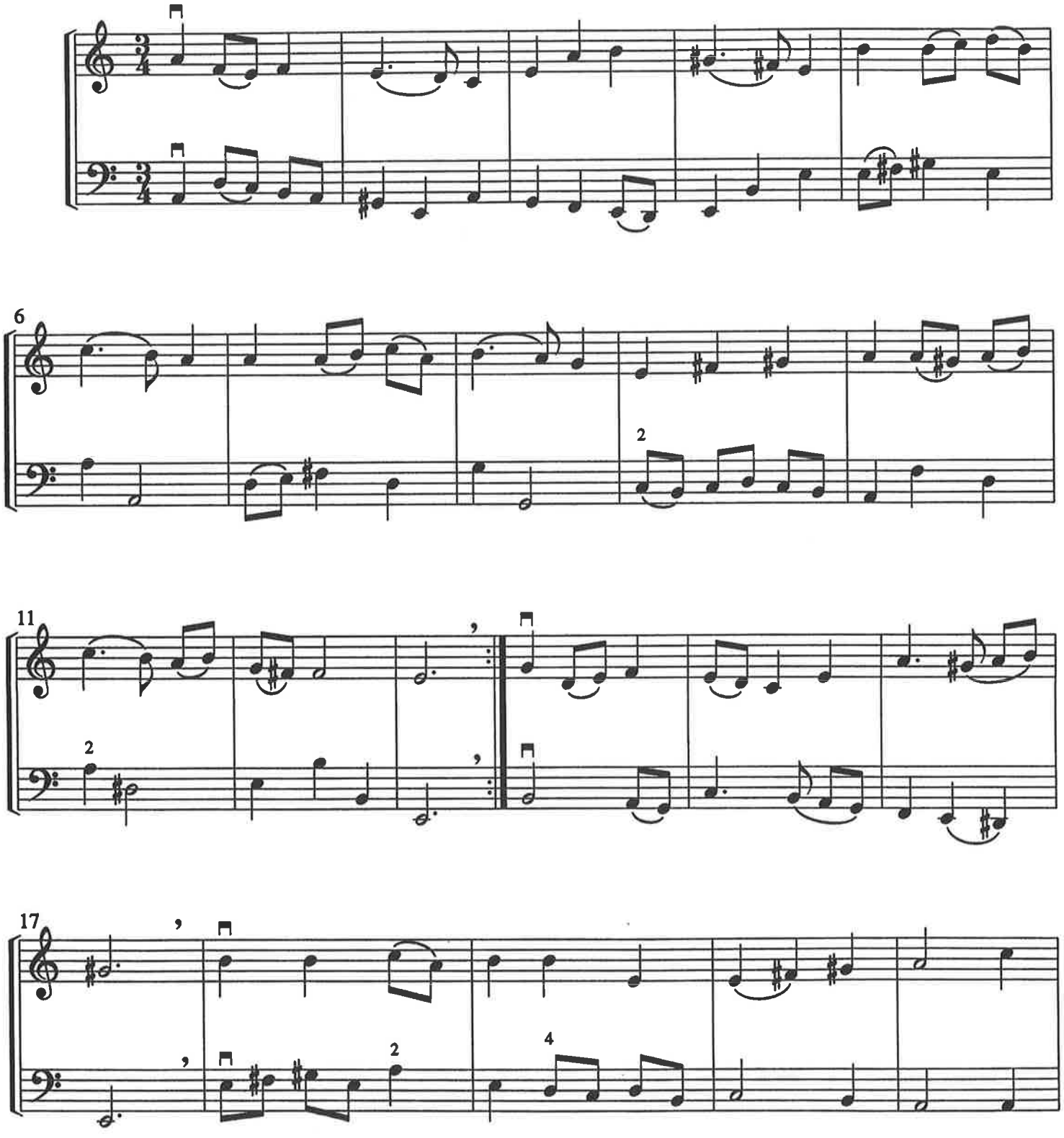
The Coyote's Bark



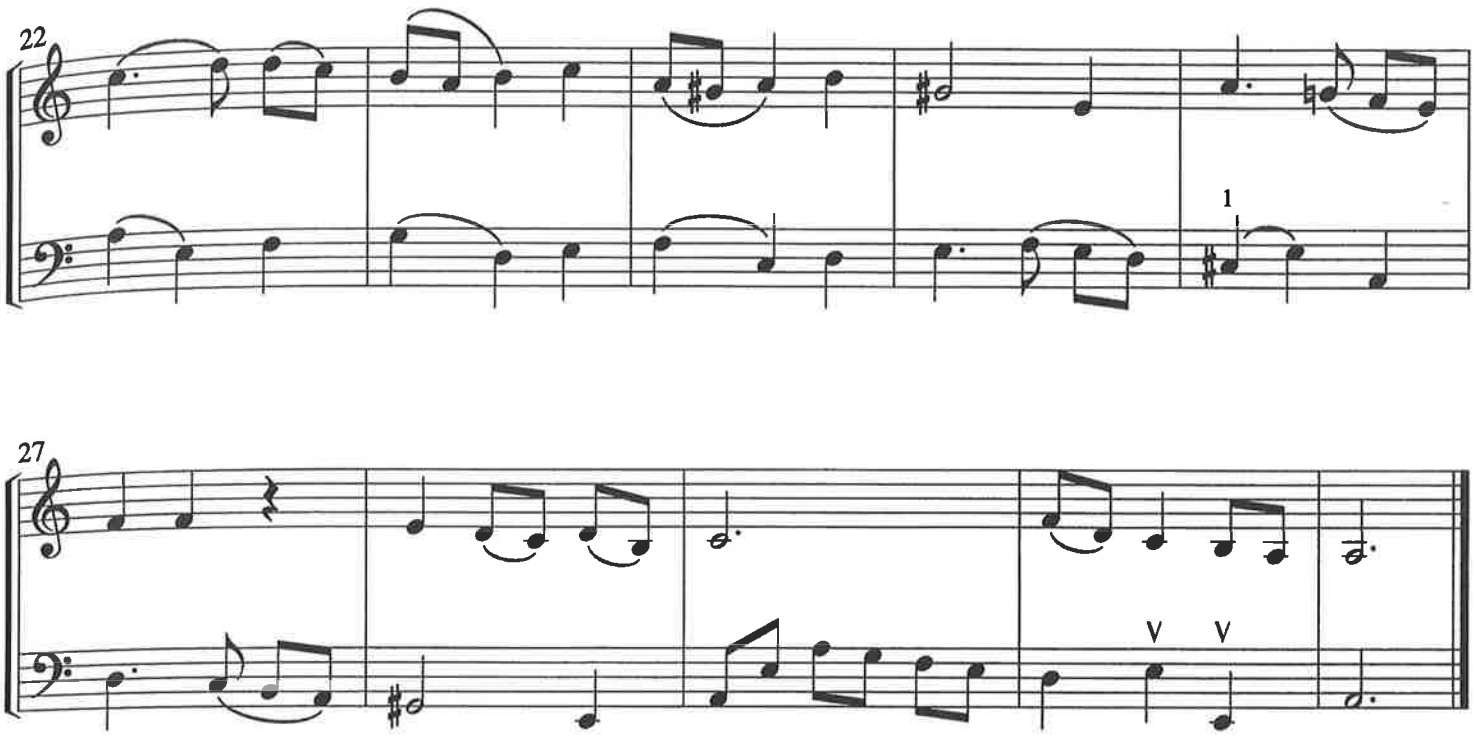
Chorale

Die Bittre Leidenszeit

J. S. Bach



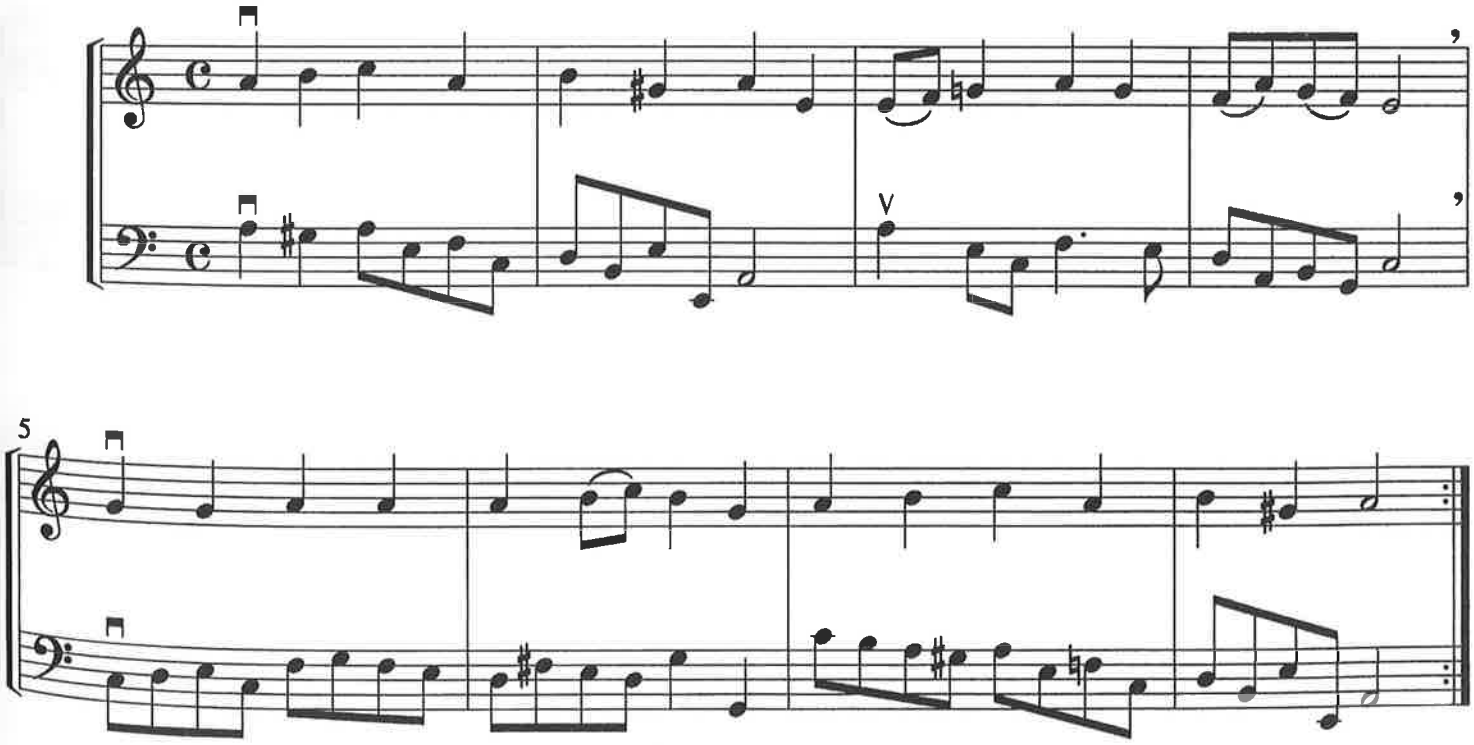
Die Bittre Leidenszeit



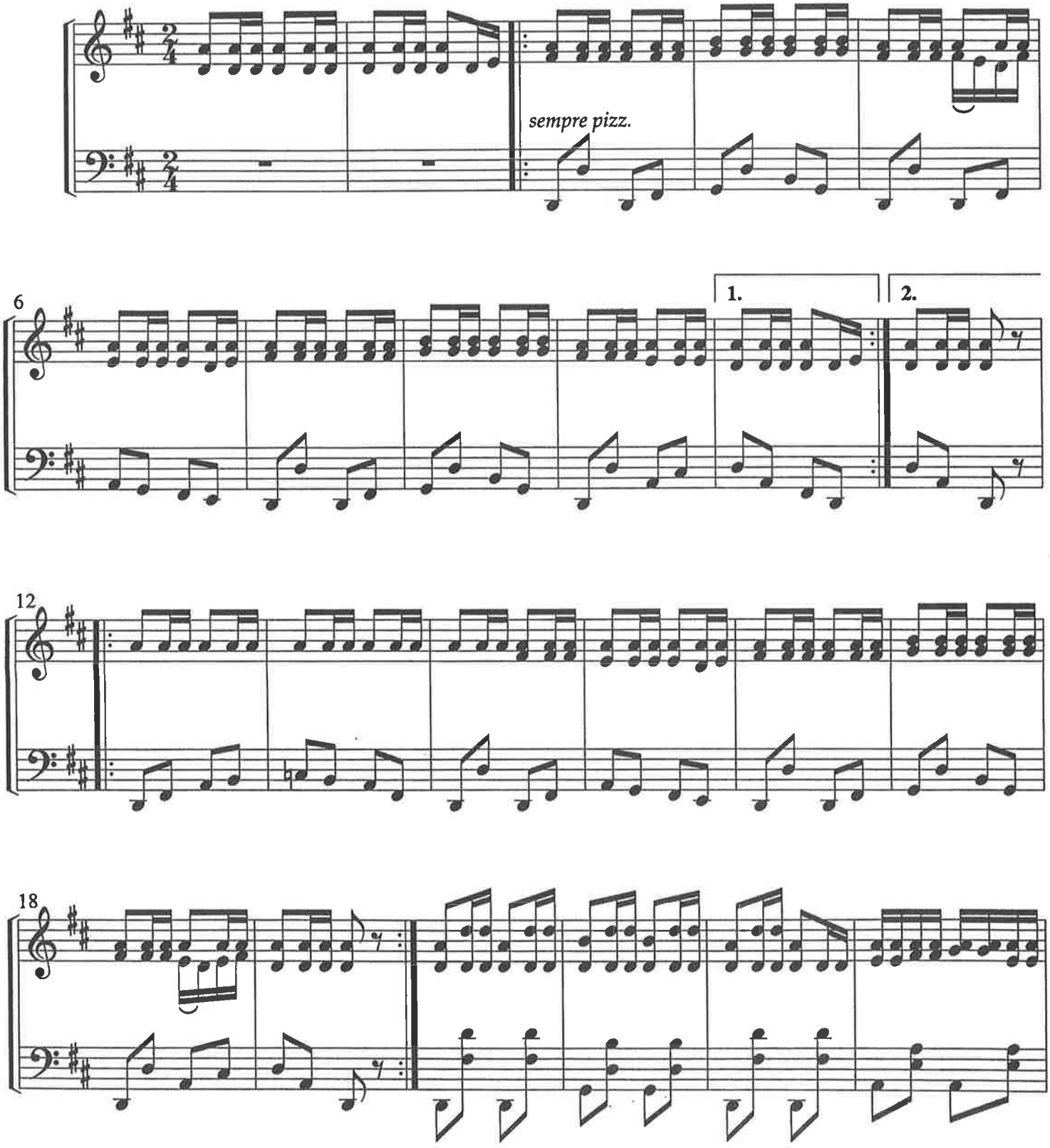
Chorale

Jesu, Deine Liebeswunden

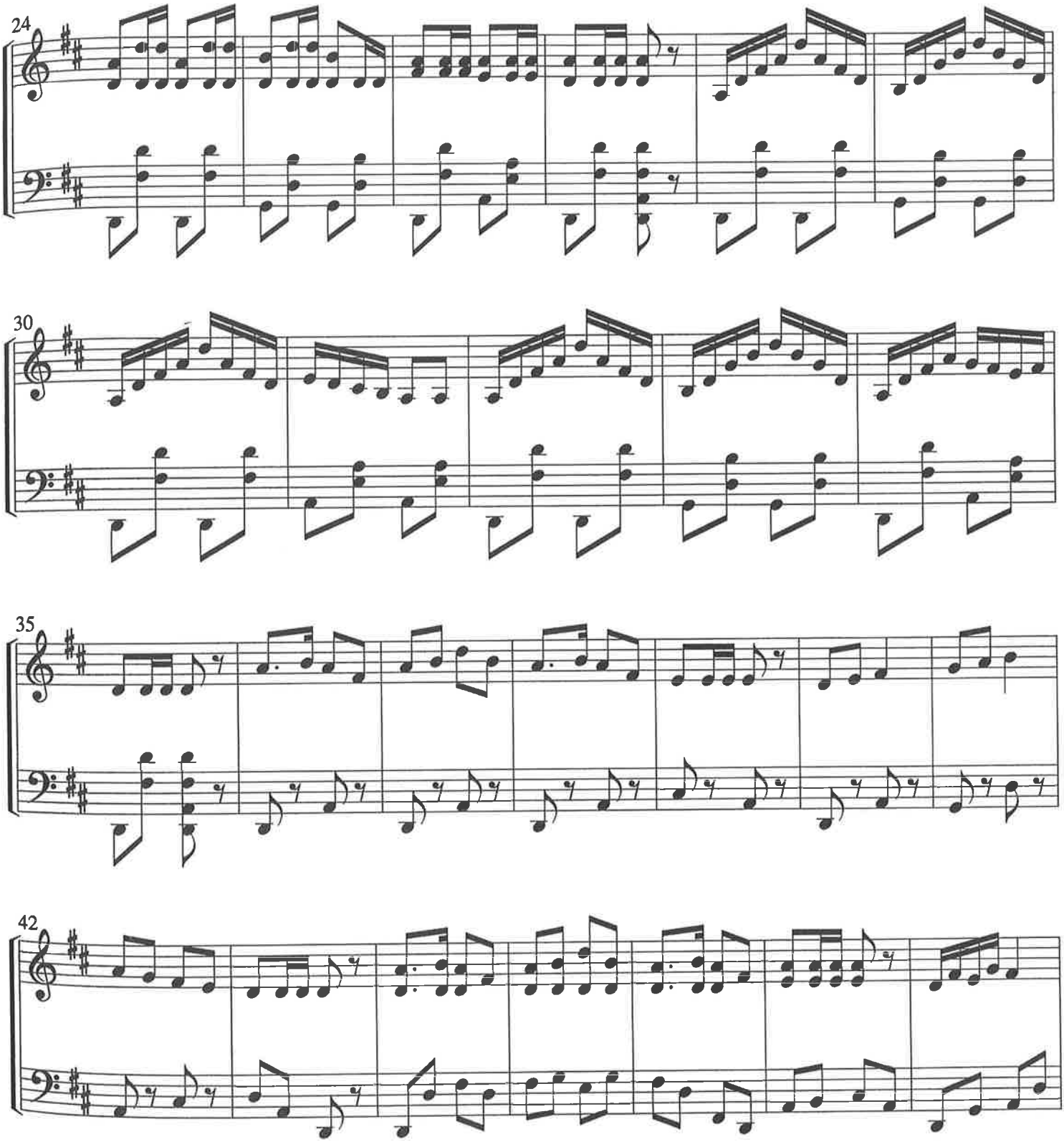
J. S. Bach



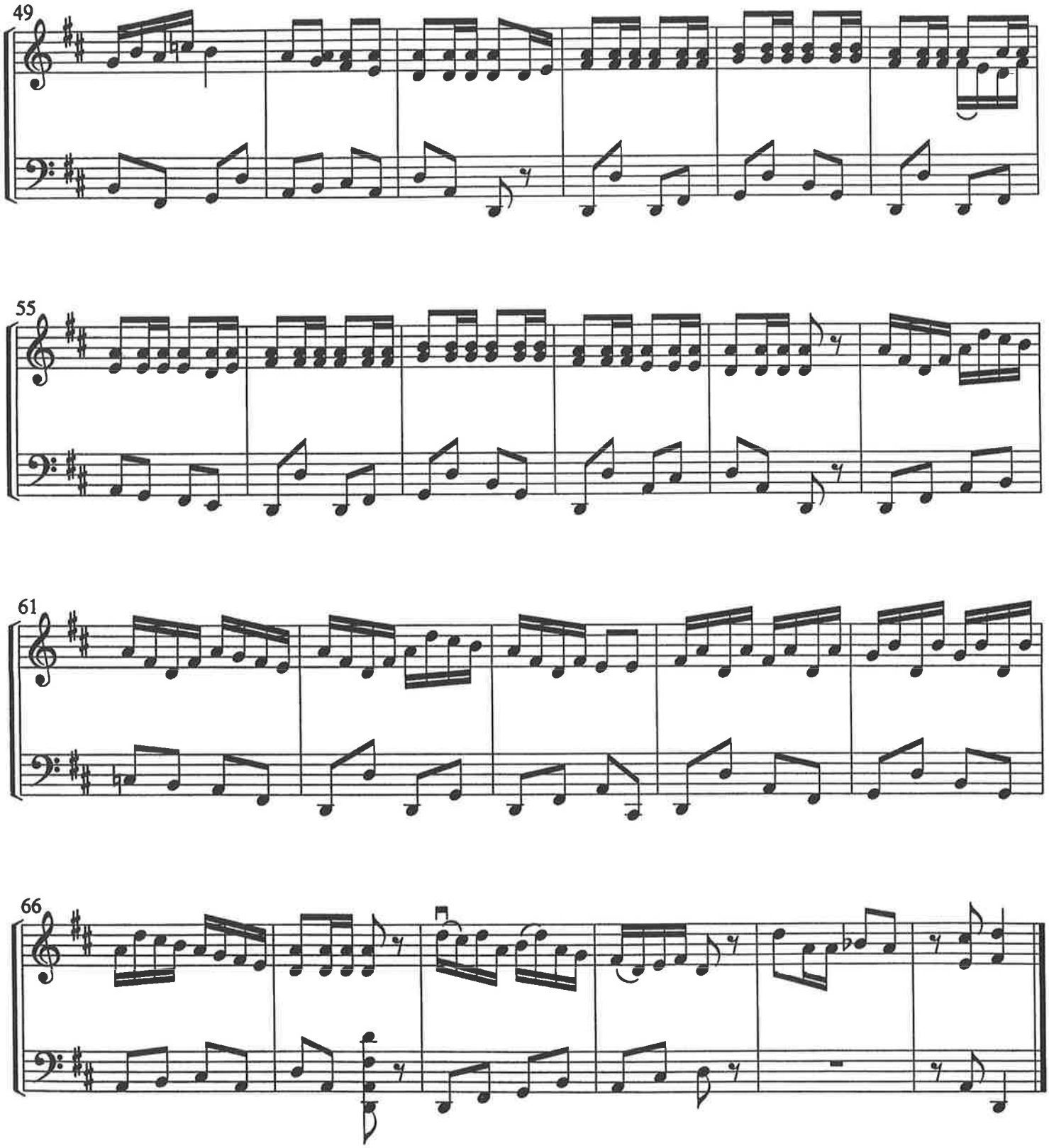
Boil Them Cabbage Down



Boil Them Cabbage Down



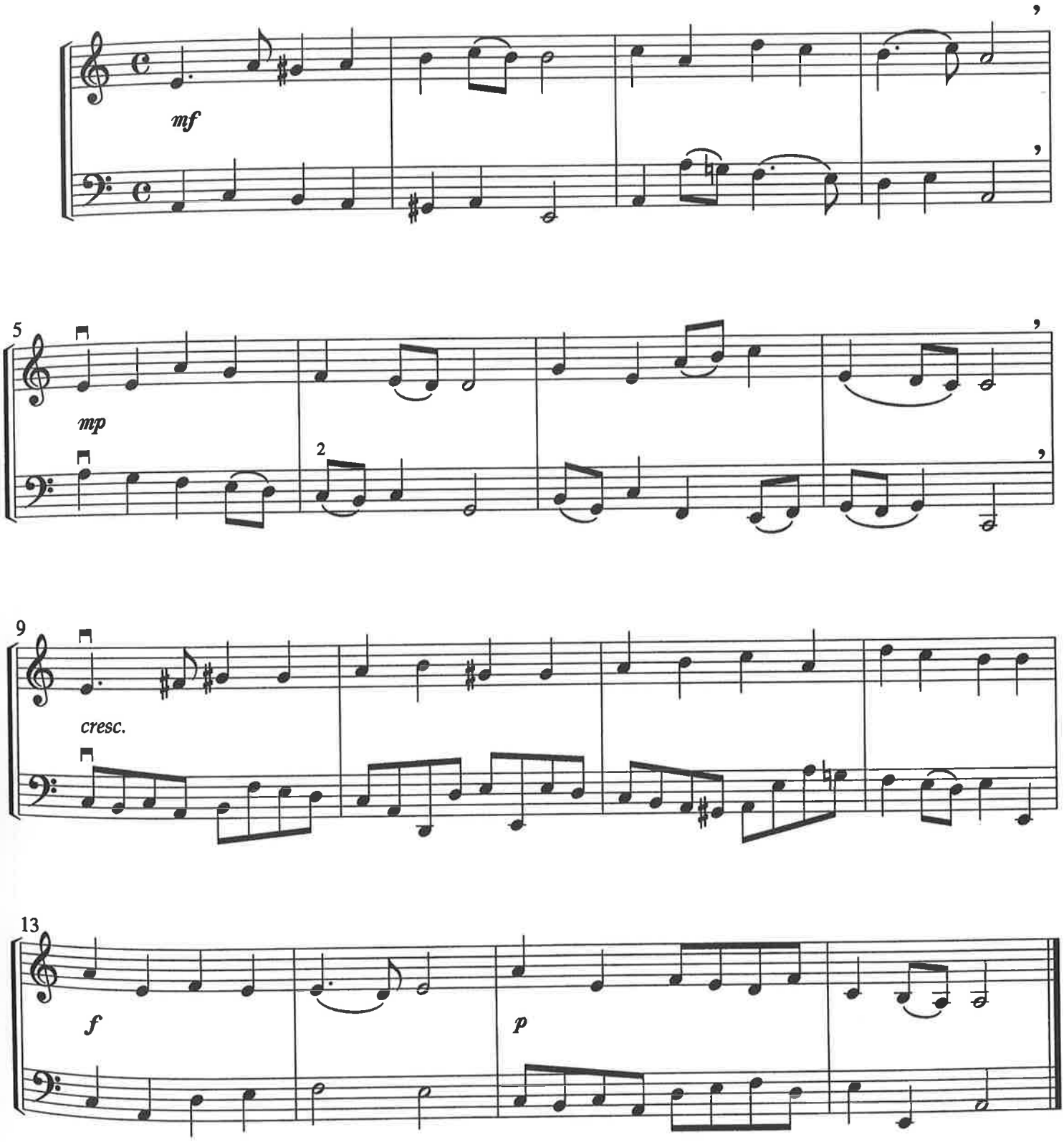
Boil Them Cabbage Down



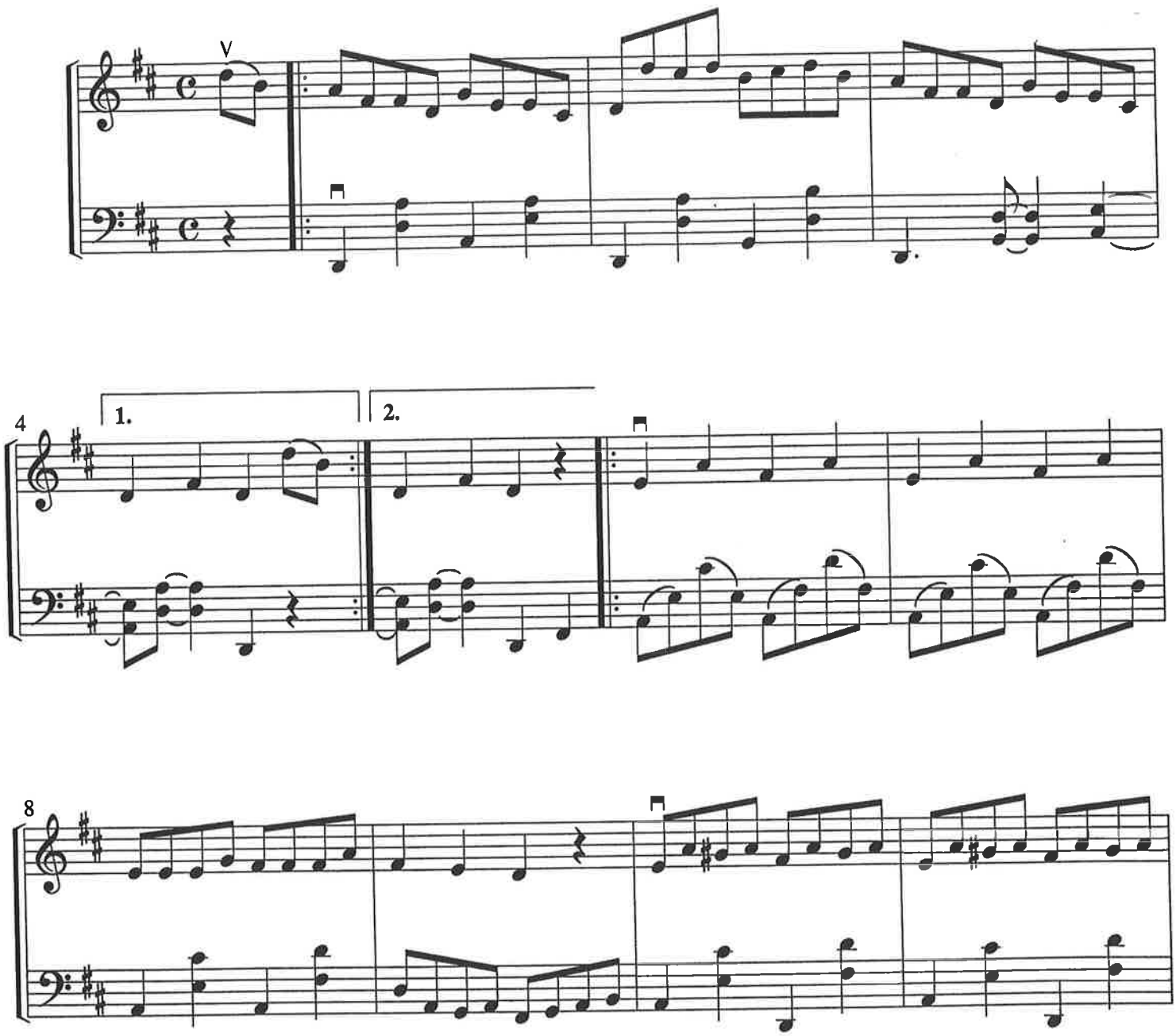
Chorale

Jesu, Jesu, Du Bist Mein

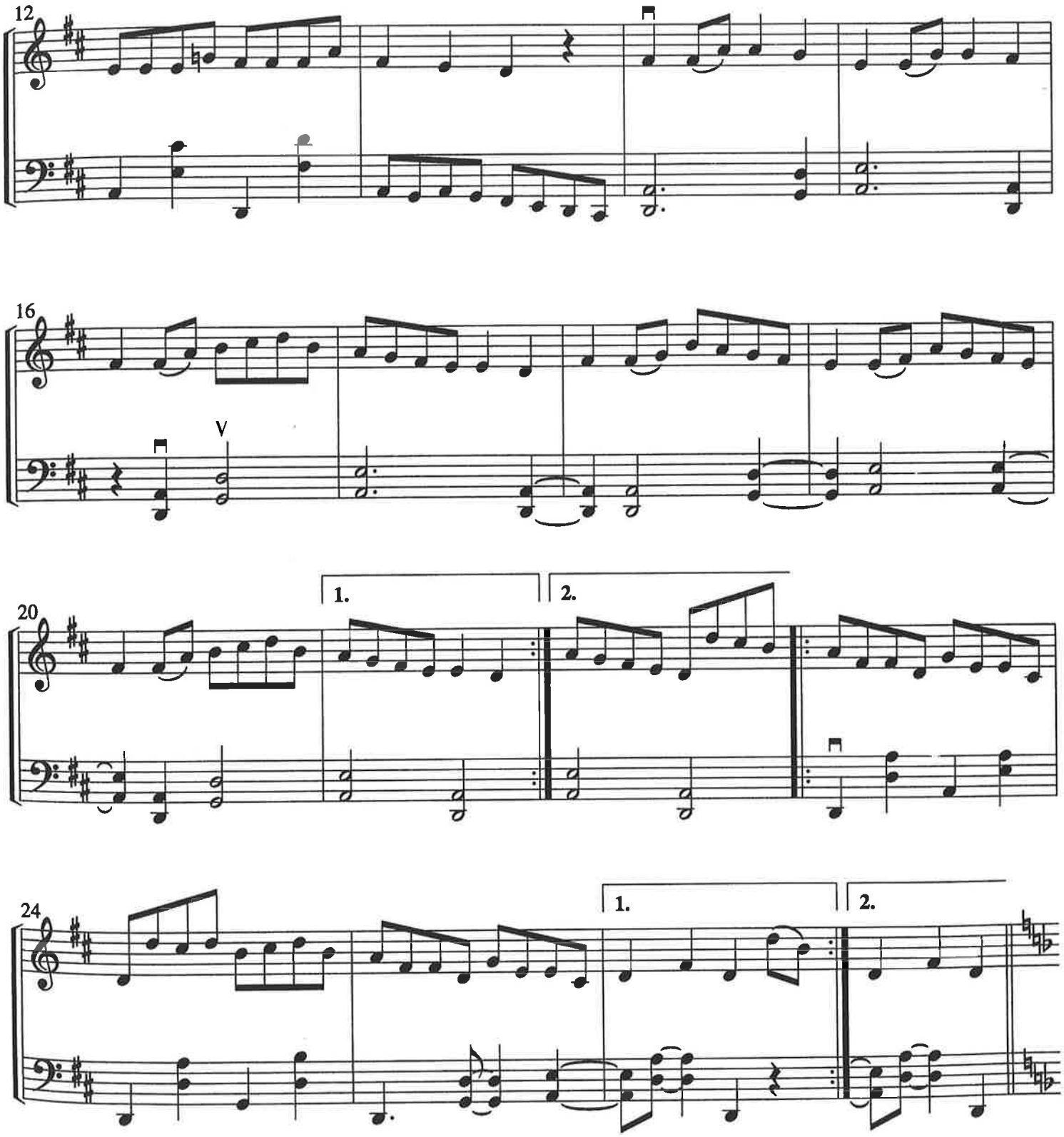
J. S. Bach



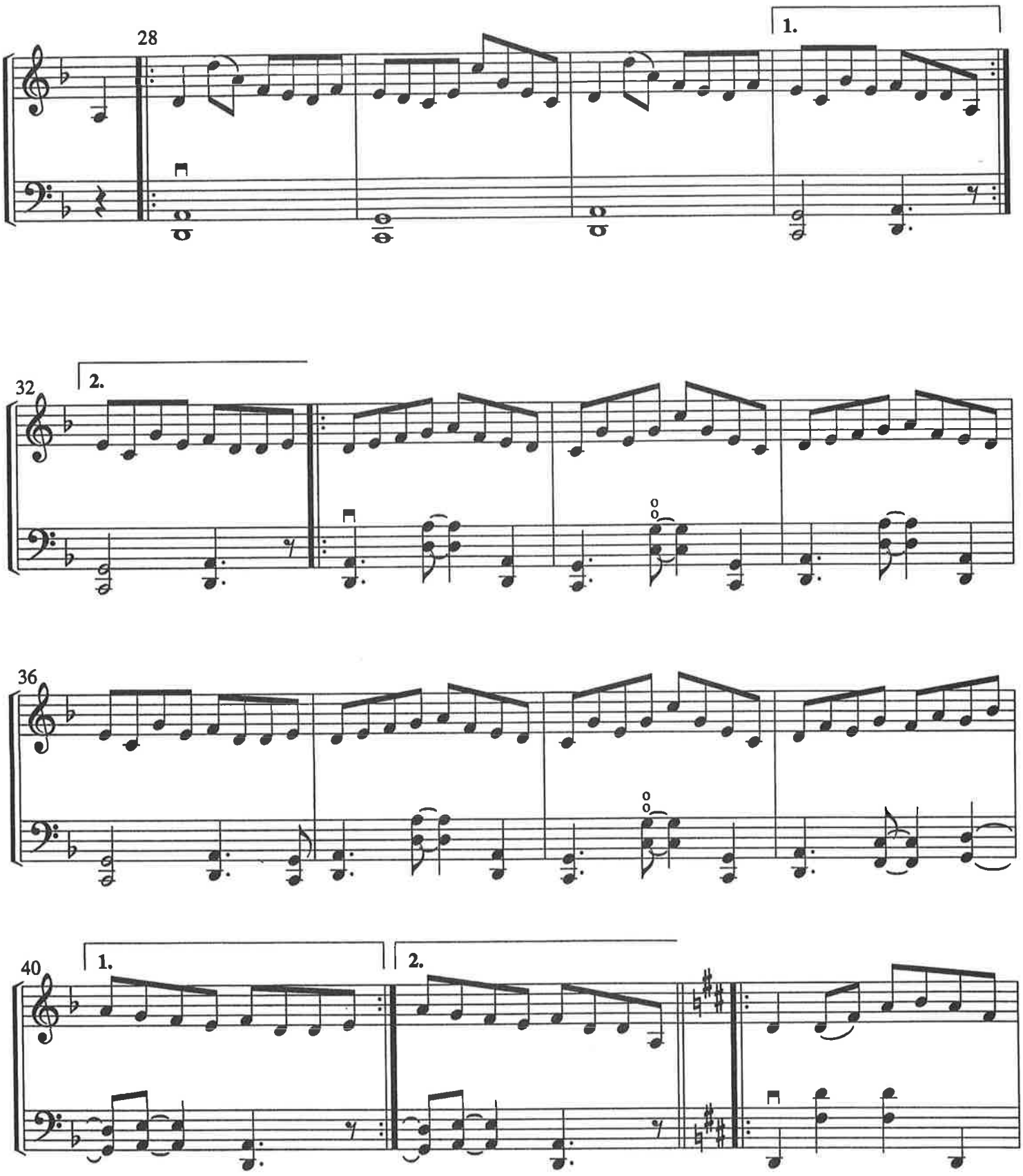
The Triumph



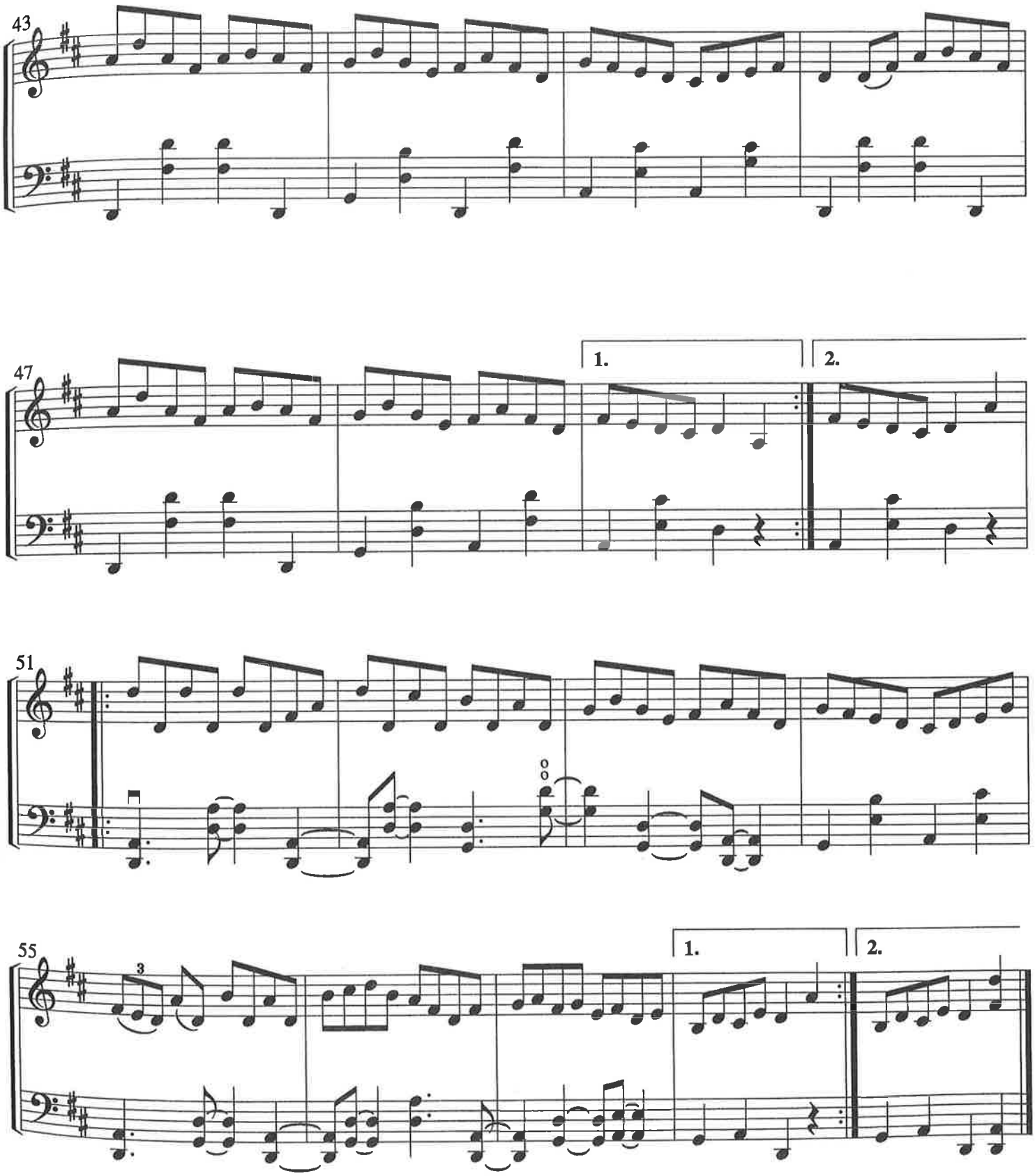
The Triumph



The Triumph

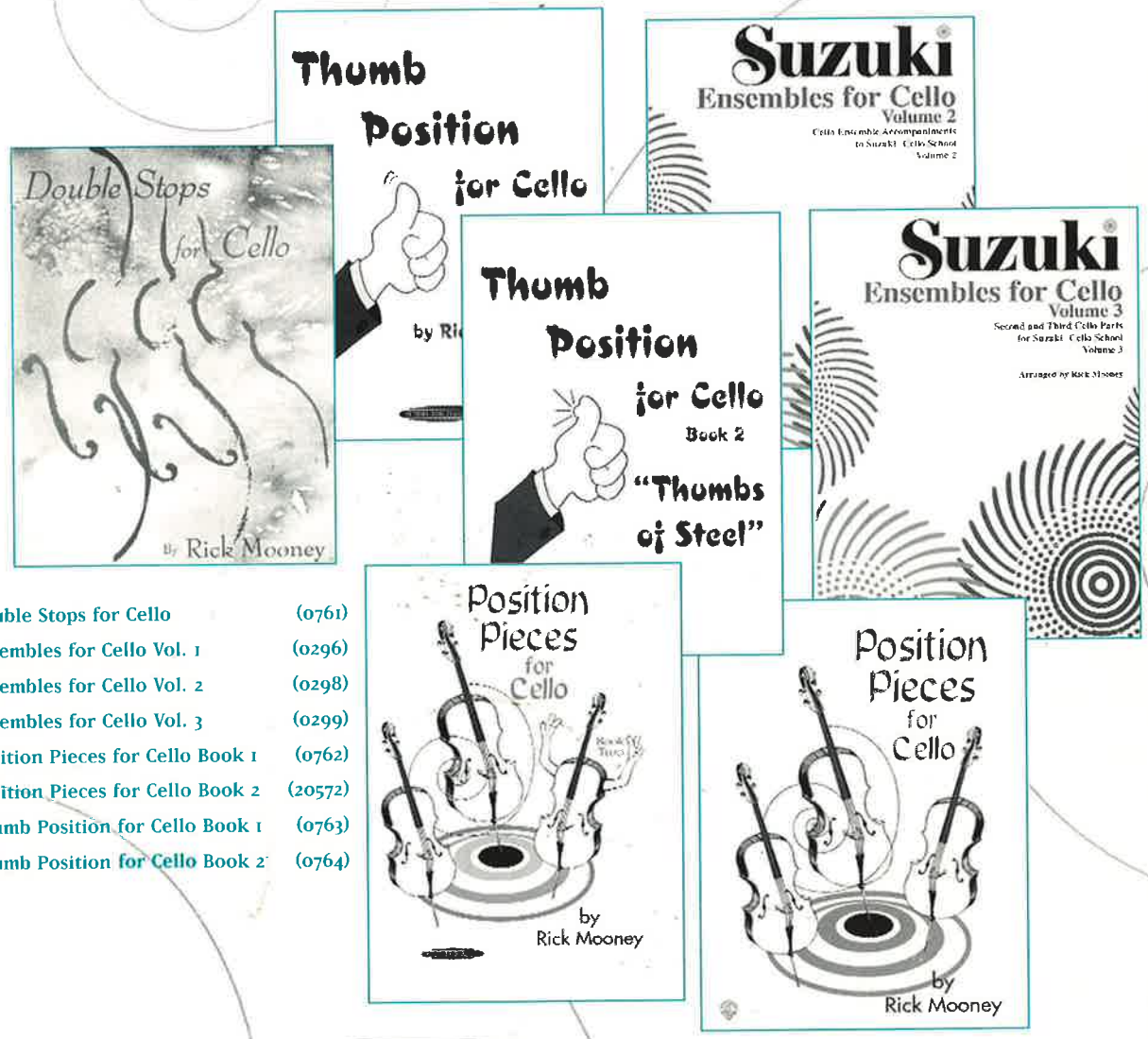


The Triumph



ISBN 0-874387-763-6

Other Publications by Rick Mooney:



Double Stops for Cello	(0761)
Ensembles for Cello Vol. 1	(0296)
Ensembles for Cello Vol. 2	(0298)
Ensembles for Cello Vol. 3	(0299)
Position Pieces for Cello Book 1	(0762)
Position Pieces for Cello Book 2	(20572)
Thumb Position for Cello Book 1	(0763)
Thumb Position for Cello Book 2	(0764)

SUMMY-BIRCHARD INC.

Printed in USA AD2106A 11/03

Alfred
SUMMY-BIRCHARD INC.
Distributed by
Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
alfred.com

$10.95
9 780000 207630
THUMB POSITION FOR CELLO
X:20763 0763
10 680 06/22/05
0.95
USA
763