Bristow, G.F. Rip Van Winkle

Cast of Characters:
Rip Van Winkle - a farmer in the Catskill Mountains - Bass
Dame Van Winkle - Rip's wife - Contralto
Alice Van Winkle - Rip's daughter - Soprano
Edward Gardinier - a Captain in the Continental Army - Tenor
Herman Van Slaus - son of the village Burgomaster - Baritone

Plot Synopsis:

Act I:
Time: 1763; Setting: a village in the Catskill Mountains; woods
Rip Van Winkle, a hen-pecked husband, signs a contract with Diedrich Van Slause, the Burgomaster, agreeing that his daughter and fortune (meaning his farm) shall go to Diedrich's son Herman as marriage dowry unless Rip annuls the contract within 20 years and a day. That same day, after a fight with his wife, he goes hunting in a storm and comes upon a group of spirits in a glen. Rip drinks with them and falls into his famous 20-year sleep.

Act II:
Time: 1783, just after the Revolutionary War; Setting: same village; an army camp
Meanwhile, Alice, Rip's now-full-grown daughter, love Edward, a Captain in the Continental Army. When Herman presses his claim on her, she runs away to join Edward's (and her brother's) battalion as a vivandiere (food provisioner). Herman follows secretly, intending to kill Edward, but is caught and almost slain by Edward's loyal troops.

Act III:
Time: 1783, 20 years to-the-day from when Rip fell asleep;
Setting: woods; same village
Rip wakes up, goes home, and is distraught that no-one knows him and that all of his friends (and his wife) are dead. When he introduces himself as a loyal subject of King George, the villagers try to attack him, but Alice, who doesn't recognize him, protects him. When Herman presents the contract in court the next day, Rip realizes that it is his to annul, and he does so by ripping it up. He is reunited with his son and daughter, and blesses her marriage to Edward. Everyone rejoices.

Bristow, G. F. Rip Van Winkle

Scena. (Act II)

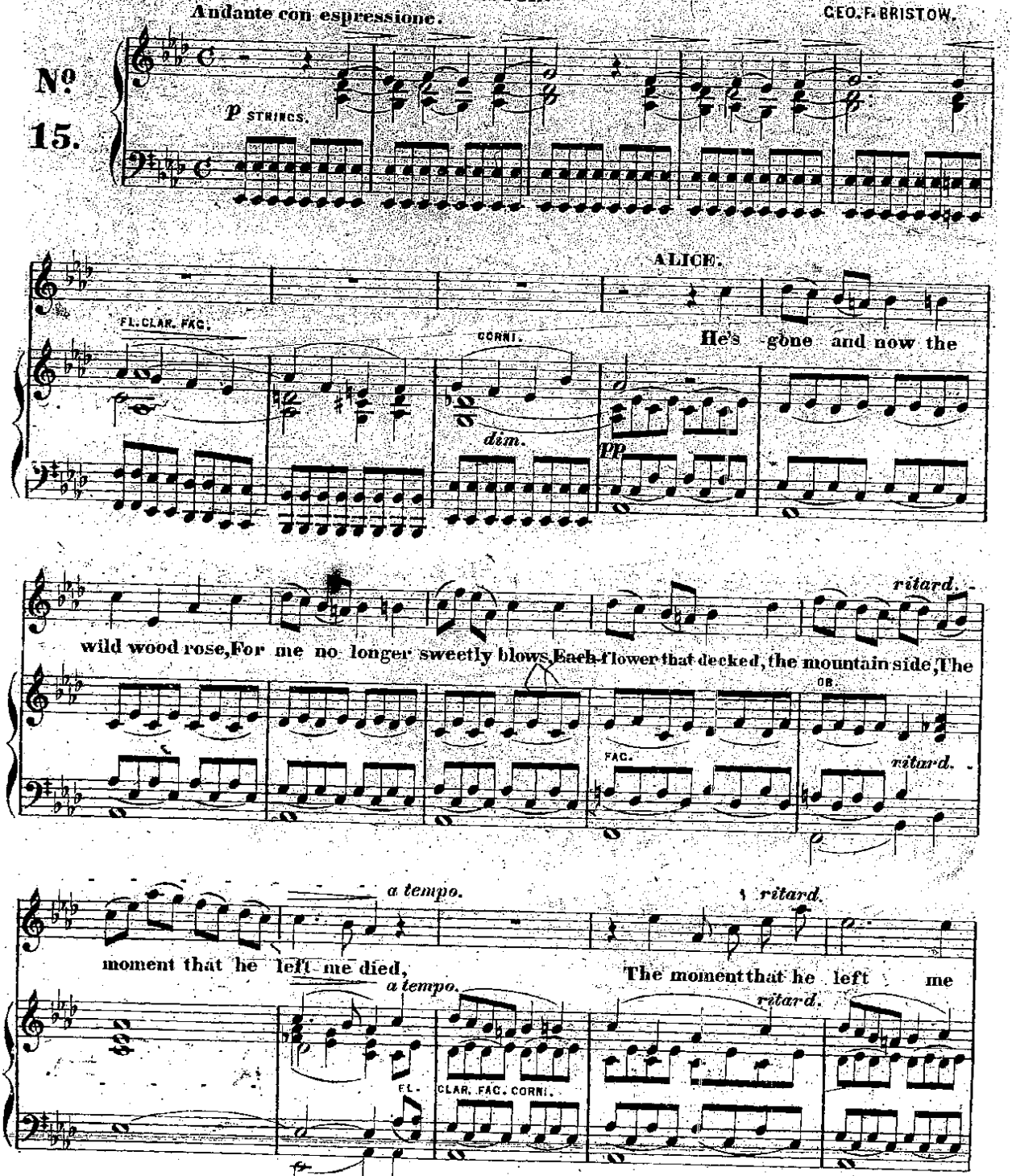
He's gone and now the wild wood rose.

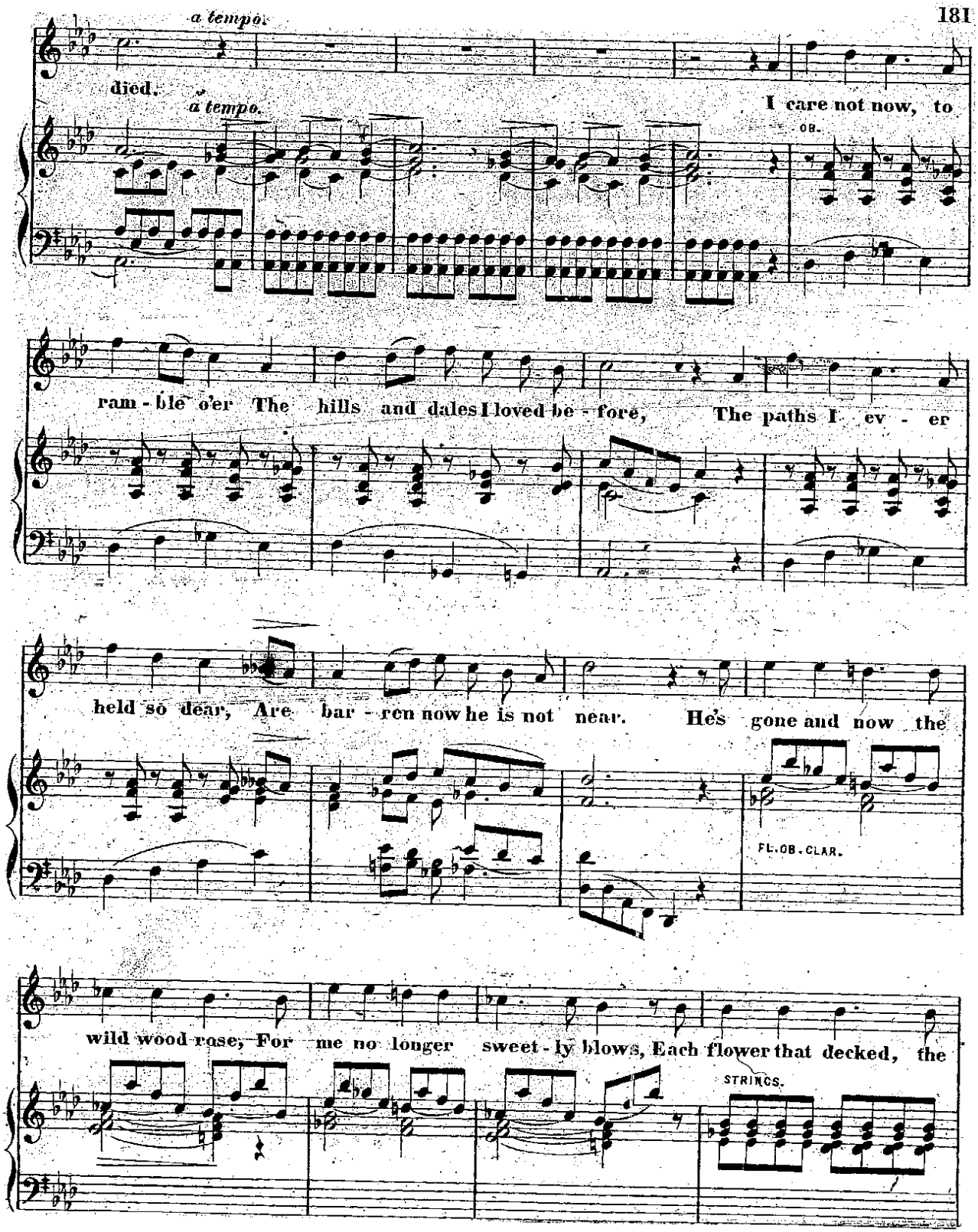
ALICE.

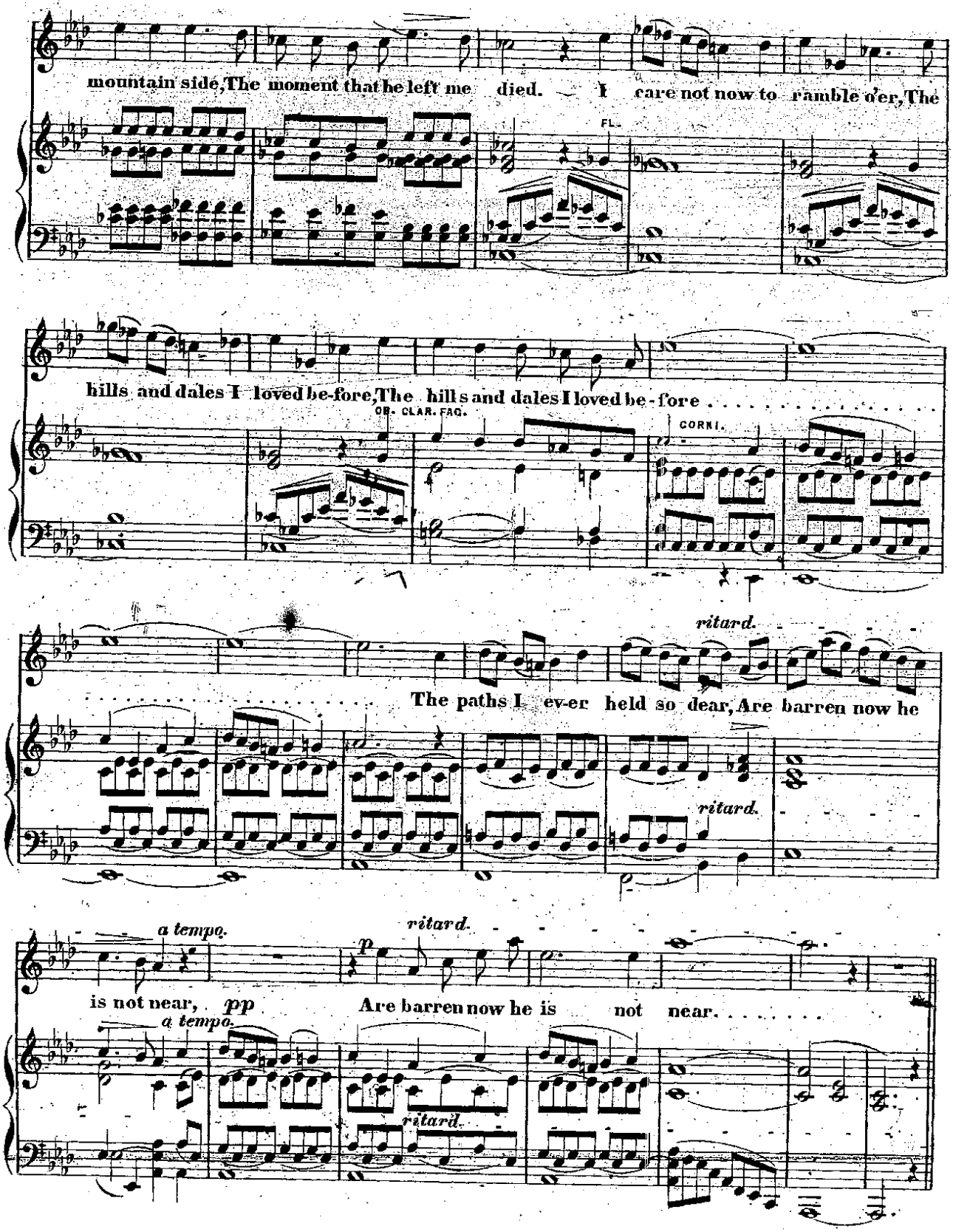
Andante con espressione.

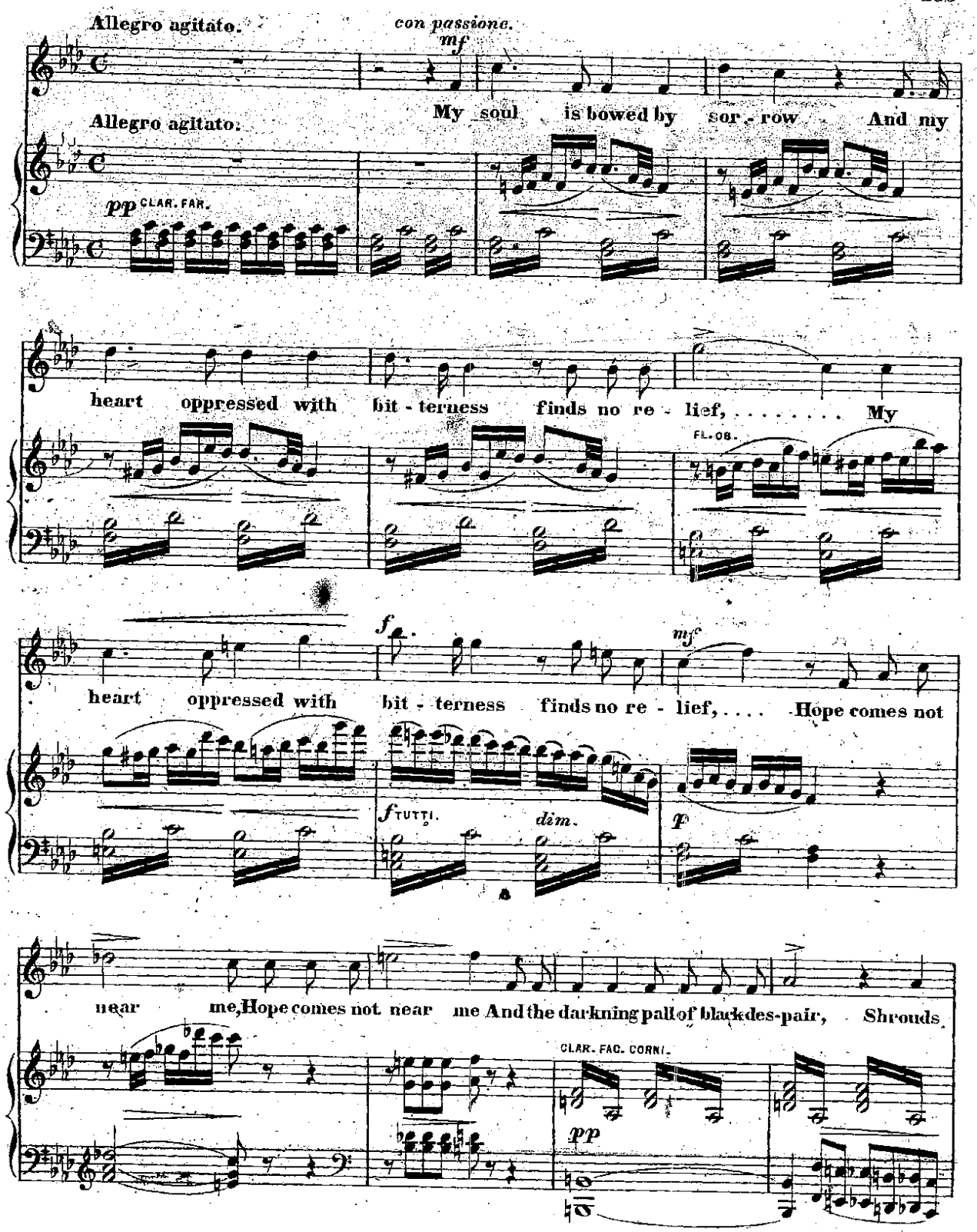
GEO. F. BRISTOW.

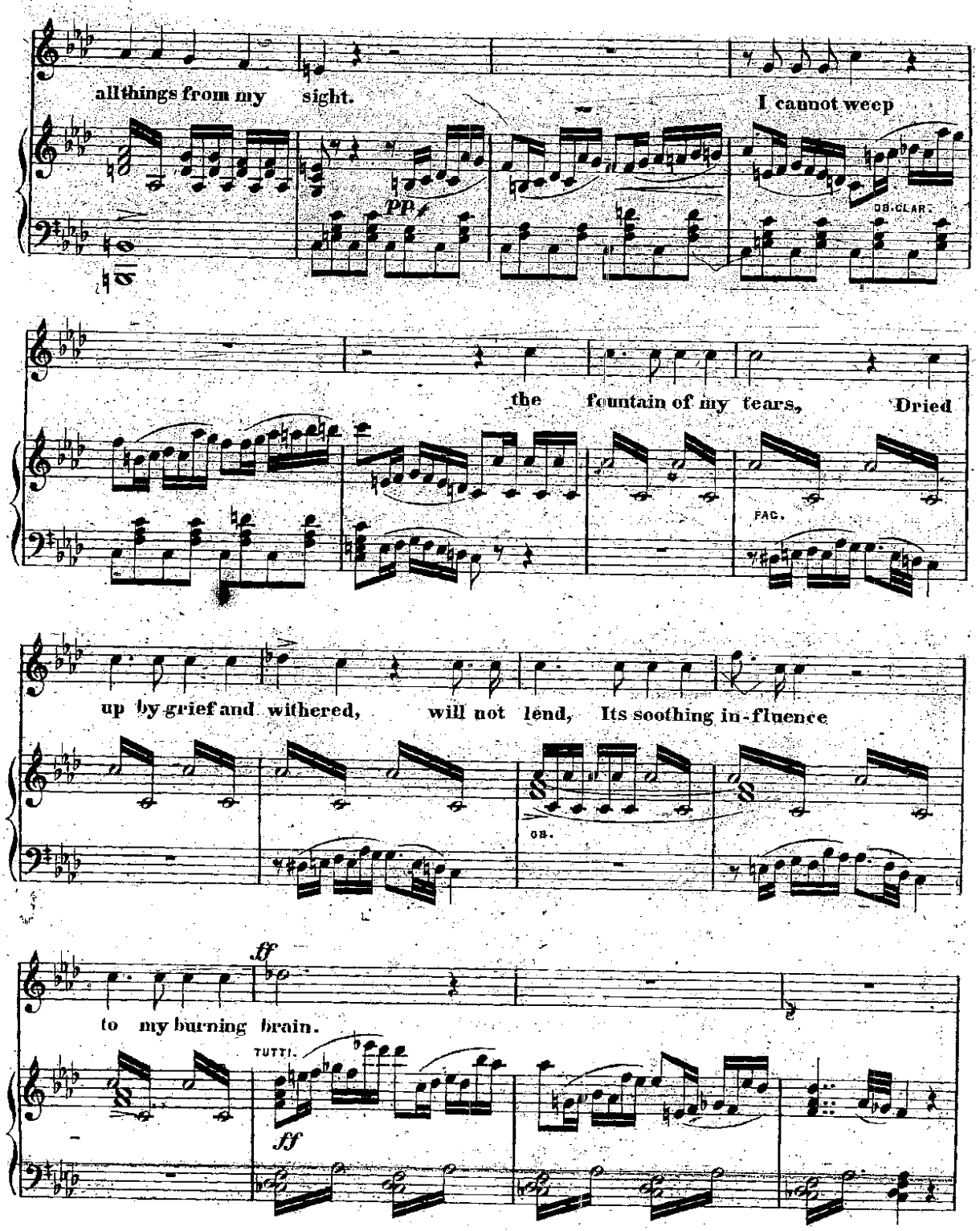
No. 15.

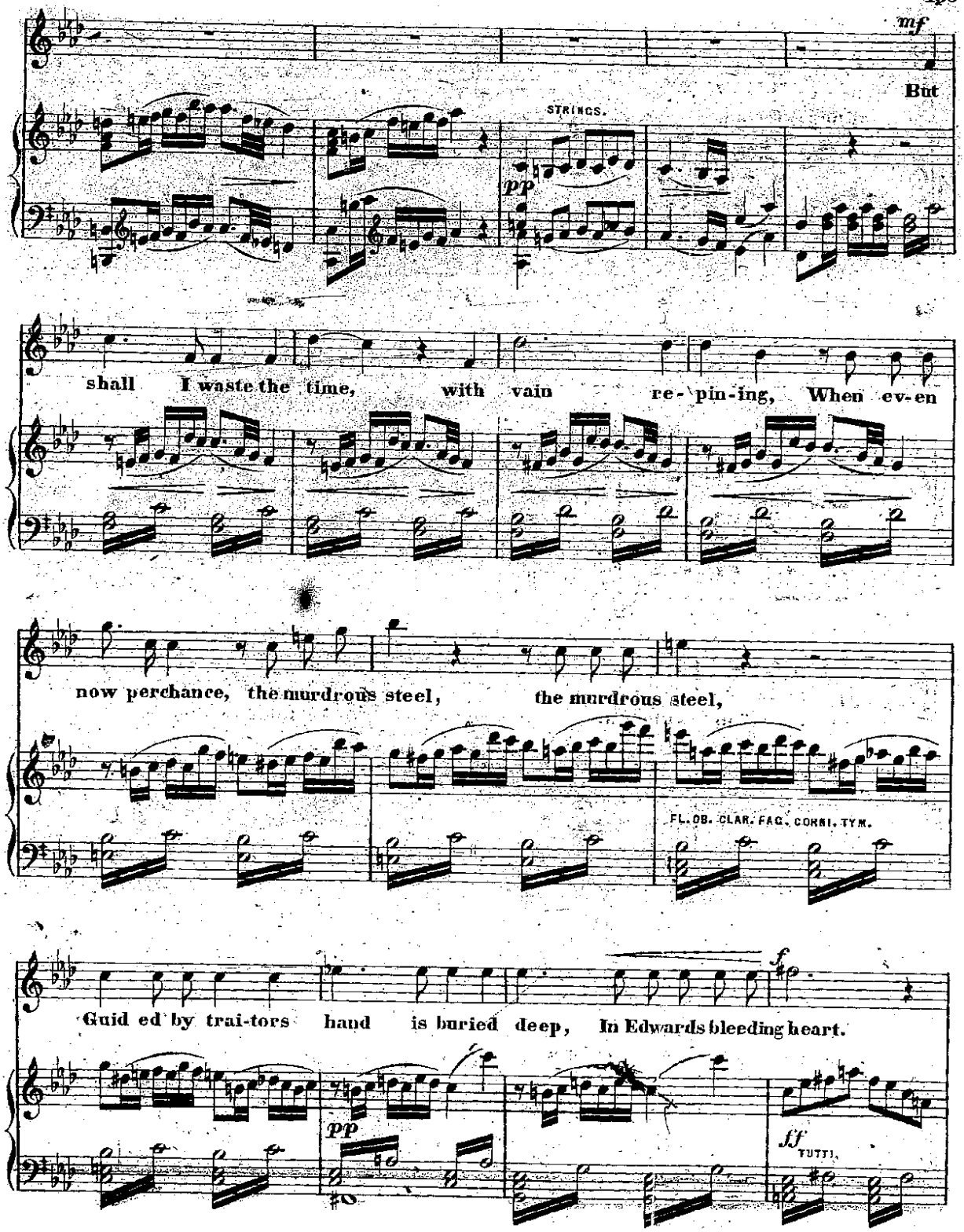


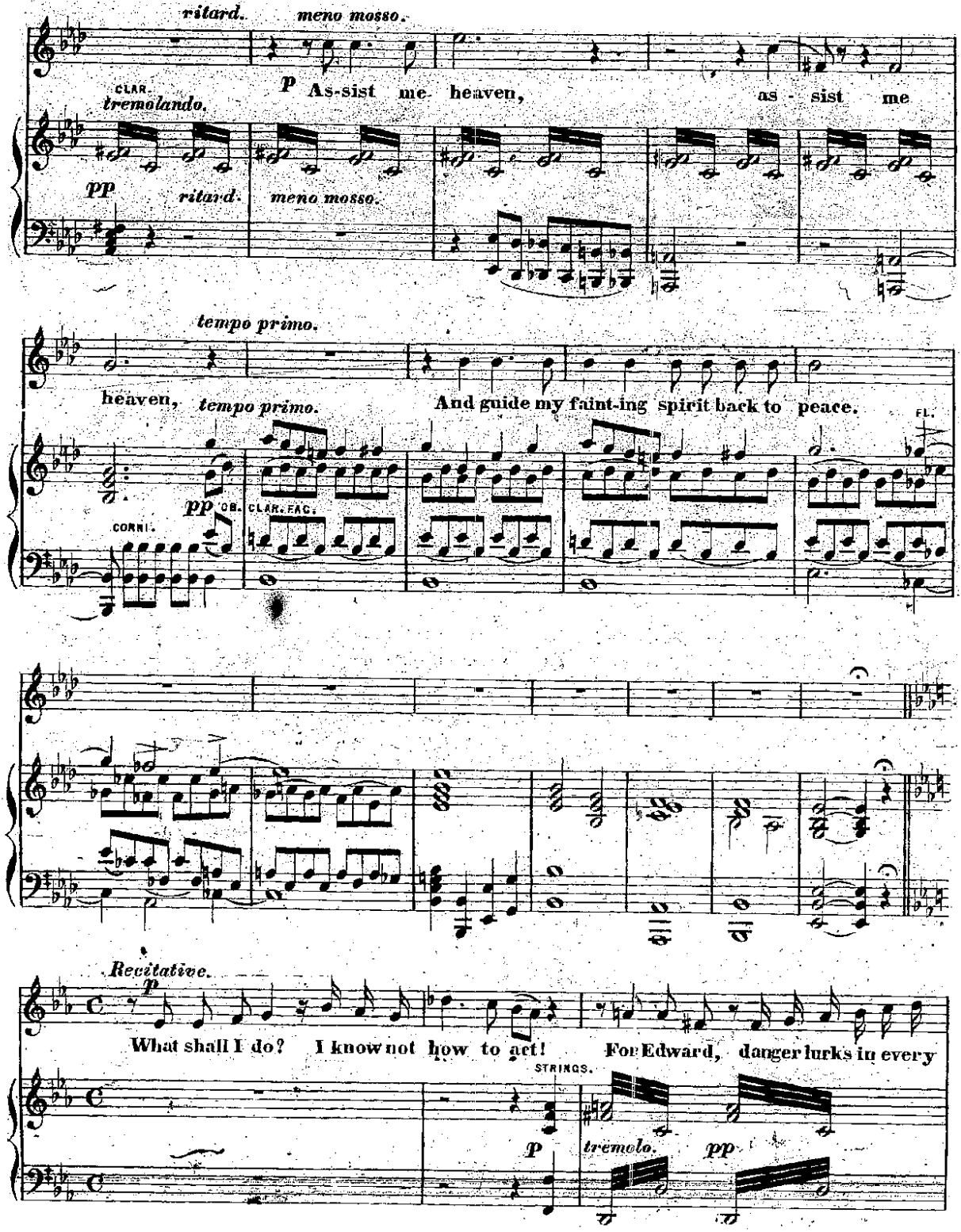

a tempo.
died.
a tempo.
I care not now, to
OB.
ram - ble o'er The hills and dales I loved be - fore, The paths I ev - er
held so dear, Are bar - ren now he is not near. He's gone and now the
FL. OB. CLAR.
wild wood rose, For me no longer sweet - ly blows, Each flower that decked, the
STRINGS.

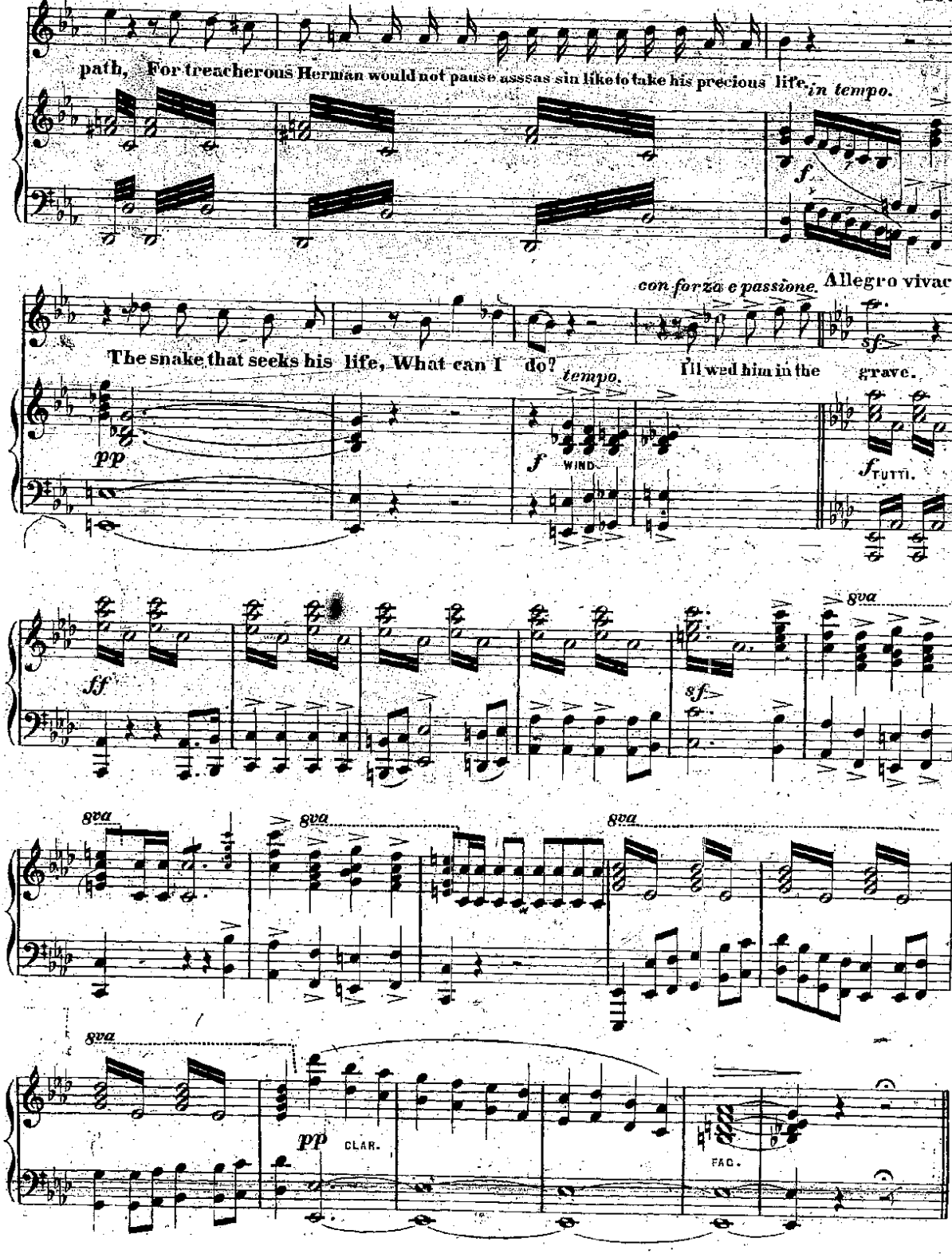

mountain side, The moment that he left me died. I care not now to ramble o'er, The
FL.
hills and dales I loved be-fore, The hills and dales I loved be-fore
OB. CLAR. FAG.
CORNI.
ritard.
The paths I ev-er held so dear, Are barren now he
ritard.
a tempo.
ritard.
p
is not near, pp Are barren now he is not near.
a tempo.
ritard.

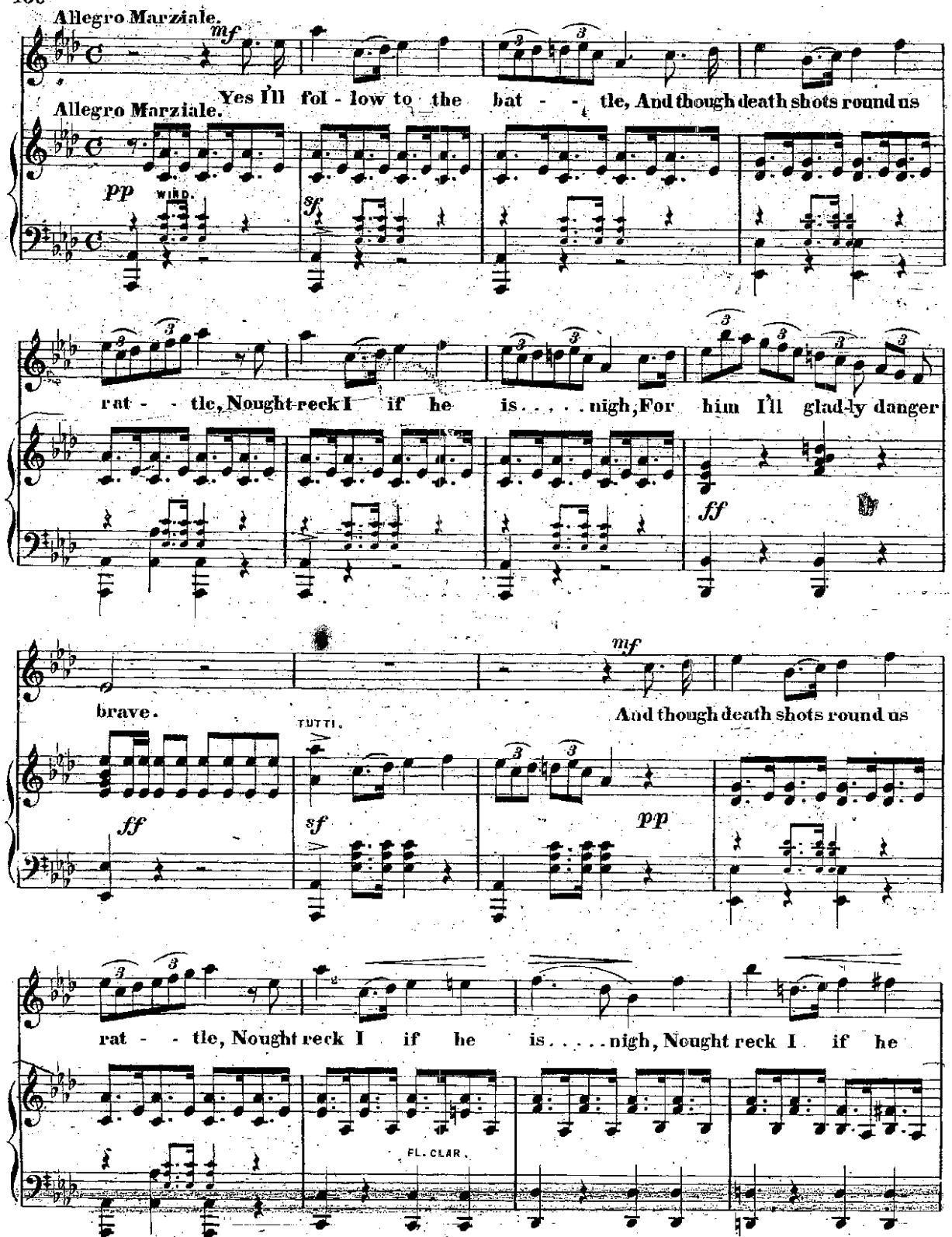

Allegro agitato.
con passione.
mf
My soul is bowed by sor - row And my
Allegro agitato.
pp CLAR. FAR.
heart oppressed with bit - terness finds no re - lief, ... My
FL. OB.
heart oppressed with bit - terness finds no re - lief, ... Hope comes not
f
myf
f TUTTI.
dim.
p
near me, Hope comes not near me And the darkning pall of blackdes-pair, Shrouds
CLAR. FAG. CORNI.
pp

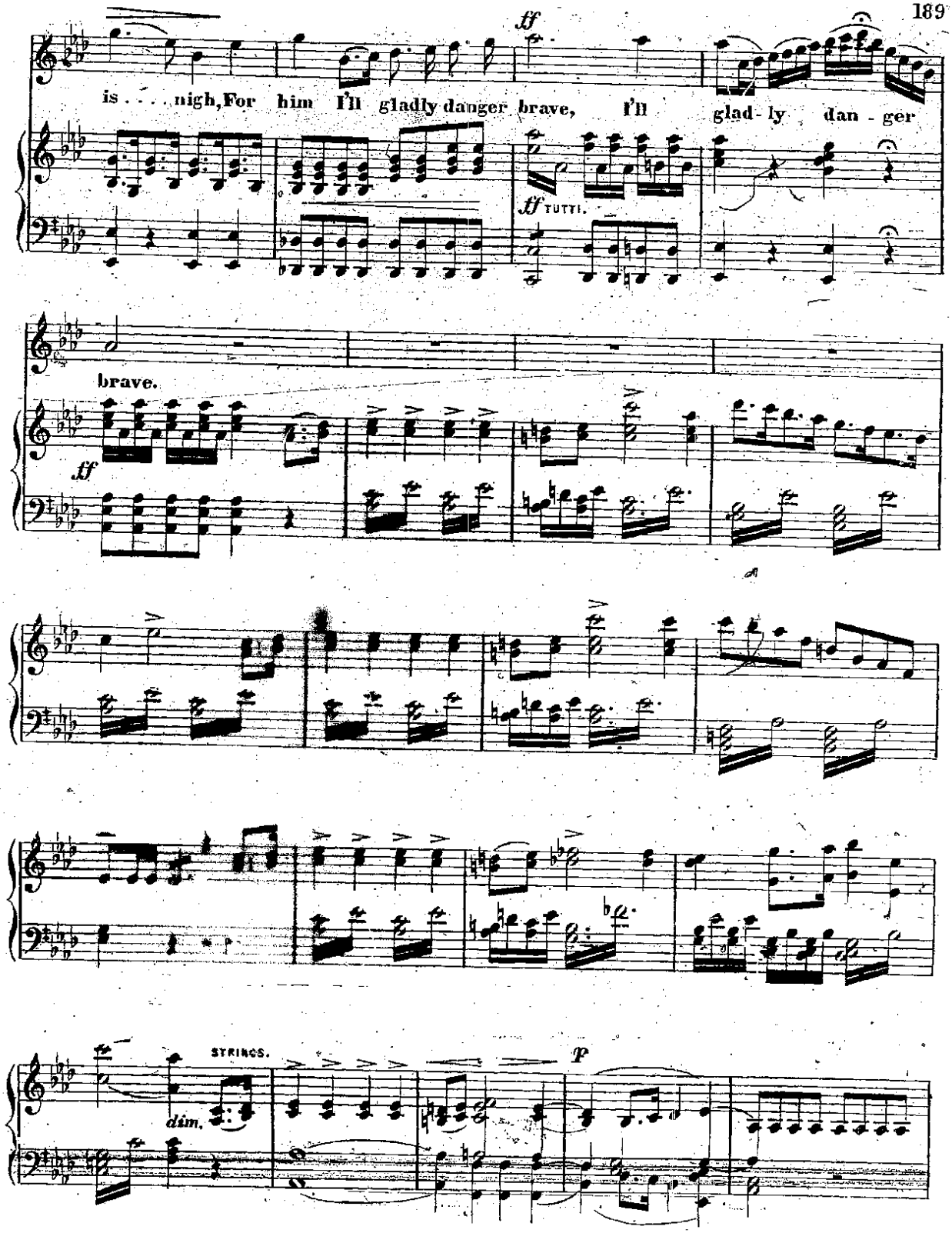

allthings from my sight.
I cannot weep
pp
OB. CLAR.
the fountain of my tears, Dried
FAG.
up by grief and withered, will not lend, Its soothing in-fluence
OB.
ff
to my burning brain.
TUTTI.
ff

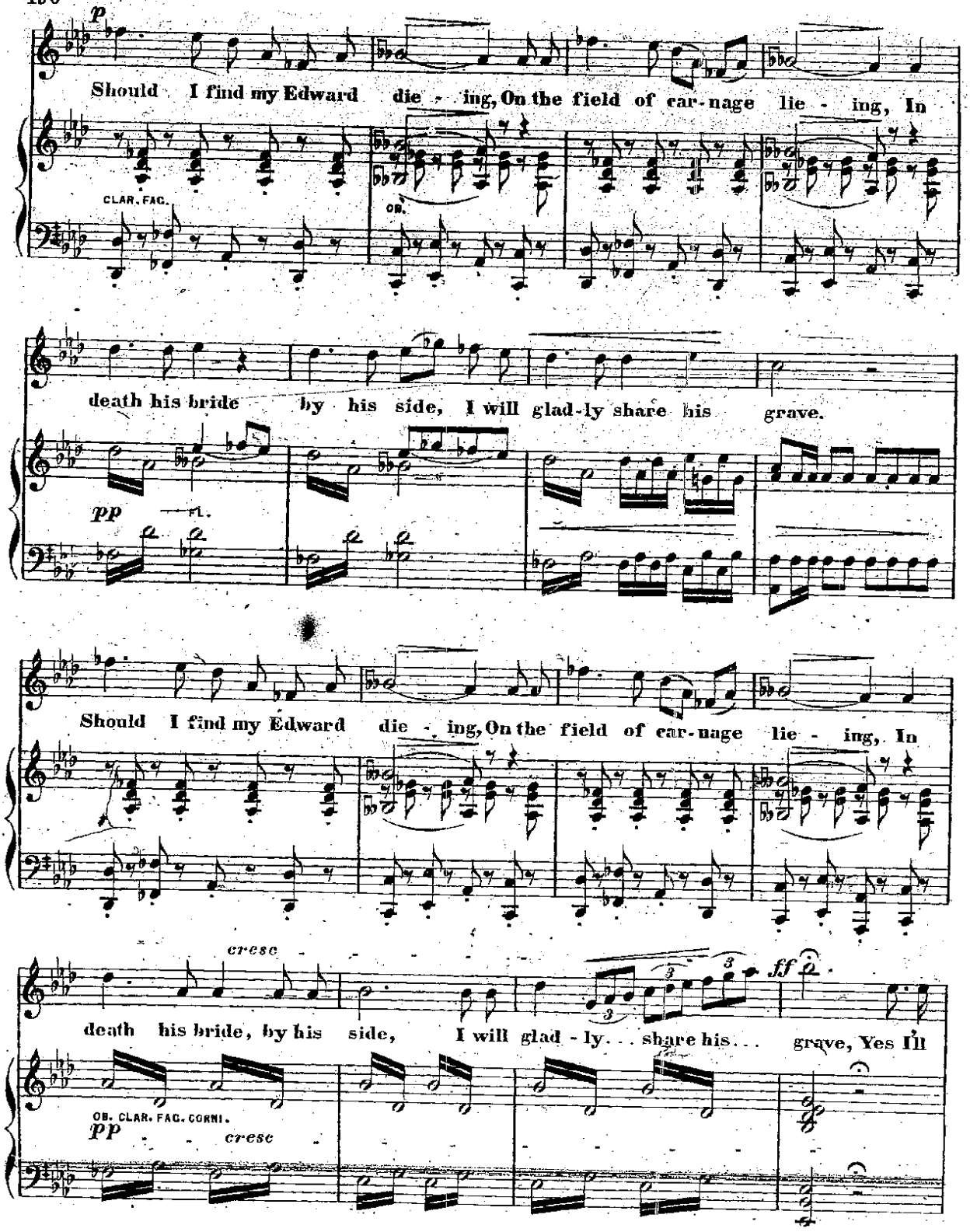

mf
But
STRINGS.
pp
shall I waste the time, with vain re-pin-ing, When ev-en
now perchance, the murdrous steel, the murdrous steel,
FL. OB. CLAR. FAG. CORNI. TYM.
f
Guid ed by trai-tors hand is buried deep, In Edwards bleeding heart.
pp
ff
TUTTI.

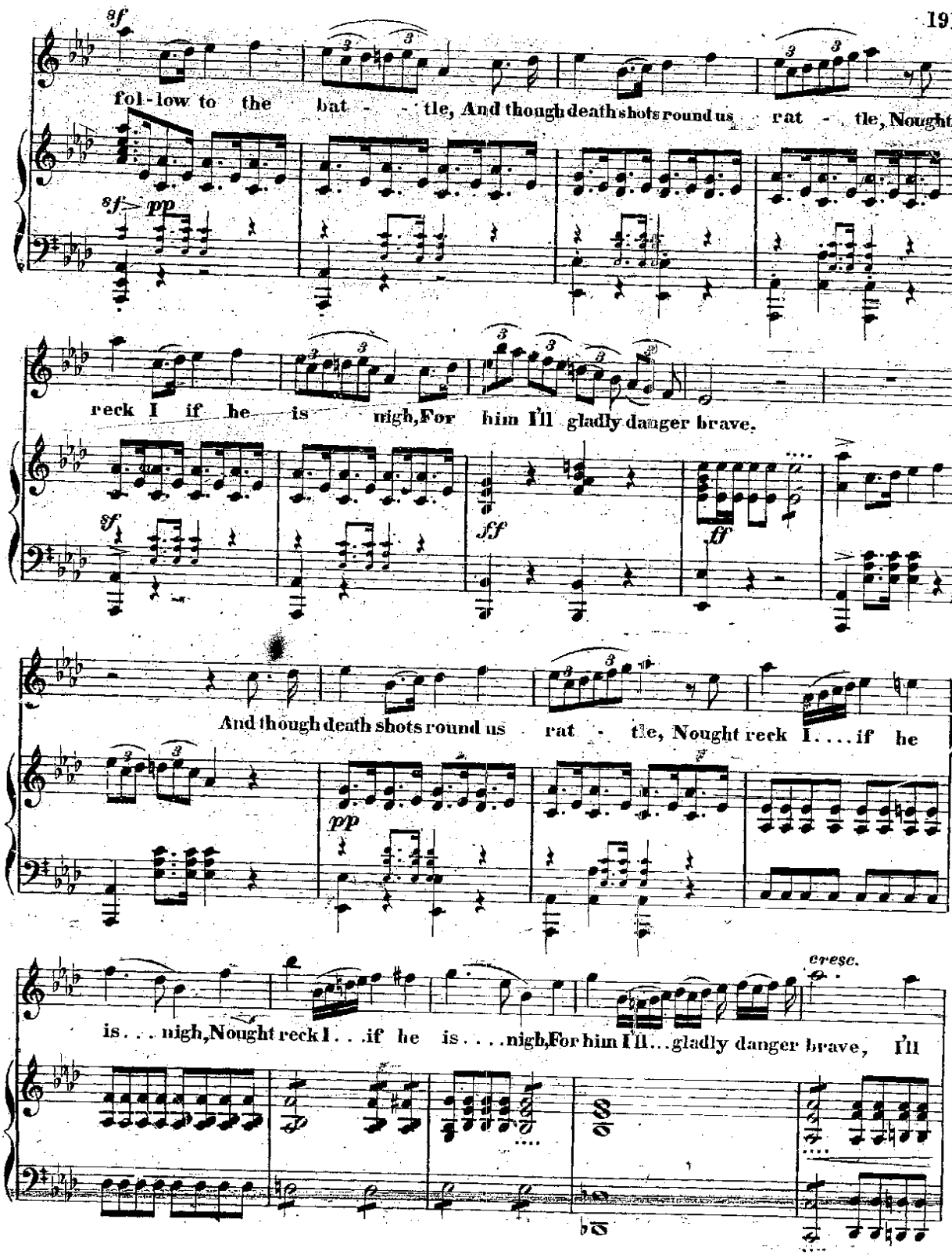

ritard.
meno mosso.
CLAR.
tremolando.
p As-sist me heaven, as - sist me
pp
ritard.
meno mosso.
tempo primo.
heaven, tempo primo.
And guide my faint-ing spirit back to peace.
FL.
pp OB. CLAR. FAG.
CORNI.
Recitative.
p
What shall I do? I know not how to act! For Edward, danger lurks in every
STRINGS.
p
tremolo.
pp

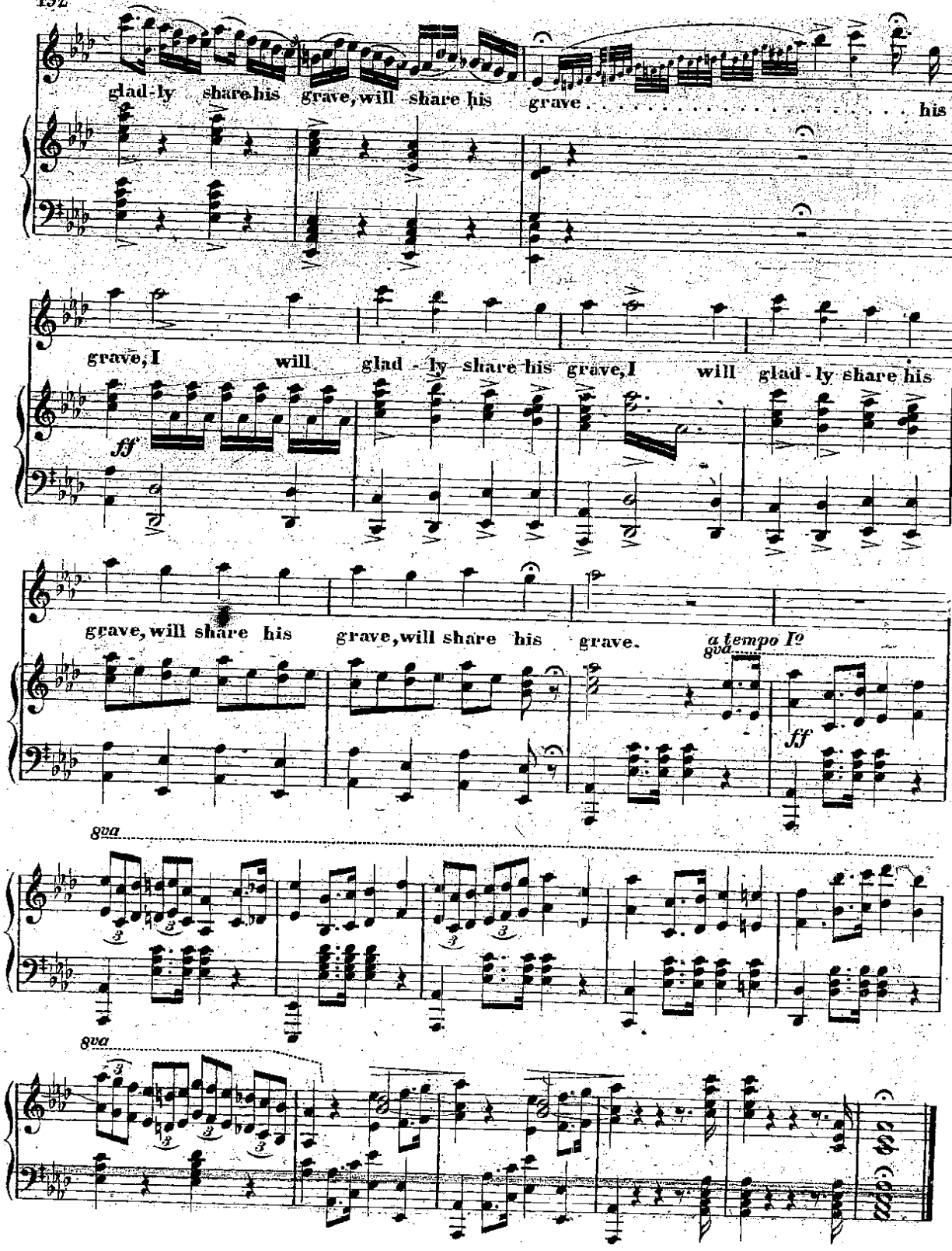

path, For treacherous Herman would not pause asssas sin like to take his precious life.
in tempo.
f
con forza e passione.
Allegro vivace.
The snake that seeks his life, What can I do?
tempo.
I'll wed him in the grave.
pp
f
WIND.
sf
TUTTI.
ff
8va
sf
pp
CLAR.
FAG.


Allegro Marziale.
mf
Yes I'll fol - low to the bat - - tle, And though death shots round us
Allegro Marziale.
pp
WIND.
sf
rat - - tle, Nought reck I if he is . . . . . nigh, For him I'll glad-ly danger
ff
mf
brave.
And though death shots round us
TUTTI.
ff
sf
pp
rat - - tle, Nought reck I if he is . . . . . nigh, Nought reck I if he
FL. CLAR.


ff
is . . . . nigh, For him I'll gladly danger brave, I'll glad - ly dan - ger
ff TUTTI.
brave.
ff
STRINGS.
dim.
p


p
Should I find my Edward die - ing, On the field of car-nage lie - ing, In
CLAR. FAG.
OB.
death his bride by his side, I will glad-ly share his grave.
pp
Should I find my Edward die - ing, On the field of car-nage lie - ing, In
cresc
death his bride, by his side, I will glad - ly . . . share his . . . grave, Yes I'll
ff
OB. CLAR. FAG. CORNI.
pp cresc


sf
fol-low to the bat - - tle, And though death shots round us rat - tle, Nought
sf pp
reck I if he is nigh, For him I'll gladly danger brave.
sf
ff
ff
And though death shots round us rat - tle, Nought reck I.... if he
pp
cresc.
is... nigh, Nought reck I... if he is.... nigh, For him I'll... gladly danger brave, I'll


glad-ly share his grave, will share his grave . . . . . his
grave, I will glad-ly share his grave, I will glad-ly share his
ff
grave, will share his grave, will share his grave.
a tempo Iº
8va
ff
8va
8va