Irving SCHLEIN

# Man and His World

## A Humanistic Approach

for Narrator and Piano

Based on Upton Sinclair's book, "The Cry for Justice"
An anthology of the great social protest literature of all time.

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Man lives because of his strong, physical make-up, and his knowledge of the sciences that help to perpetuate his existence. Without them he would disappear in the welter of forces that can destroy him.

In the "Cry for Justice" I have taken passaages quoted by Upton Sinclair and written incidental music to their being declaimed by a speaker.

Dedicated to Sydney Irwin -
beautiful, true militant.

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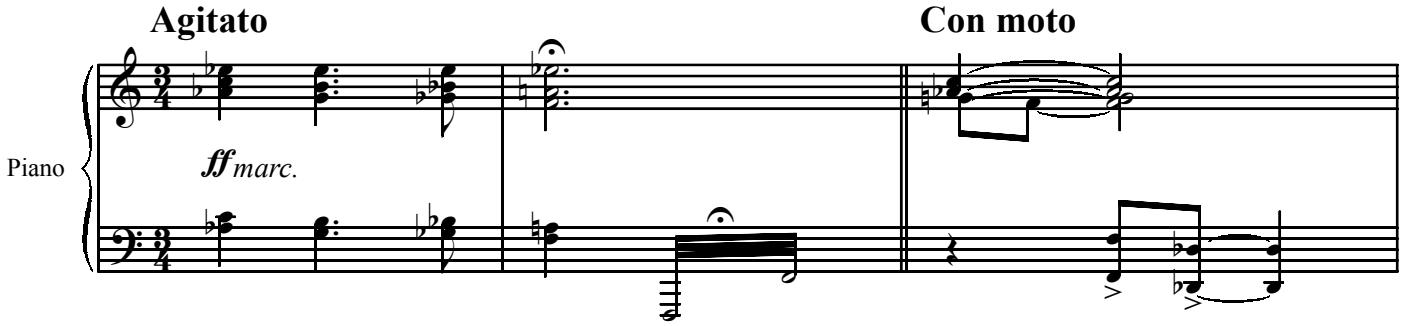
# Man and His World

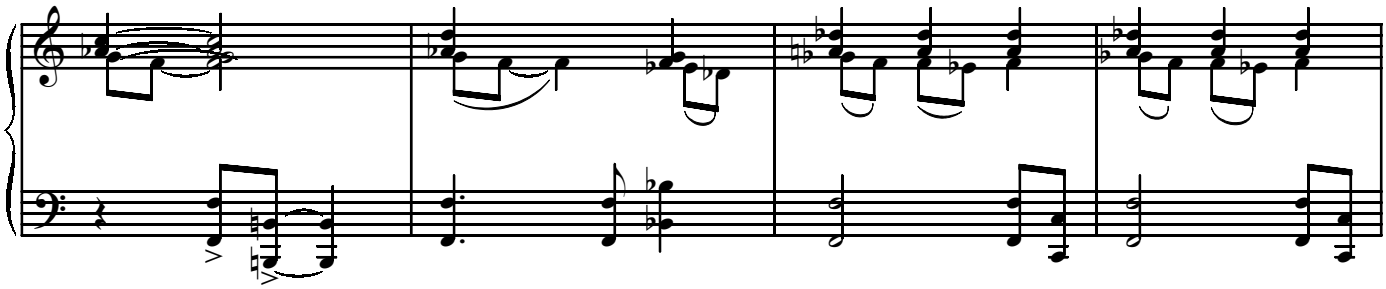
Irving SCHLEIN
(1905 - 1986)

1. Code of: **Hammurabi,** First king of the Babylonian empire (B.C. 1810–1750)

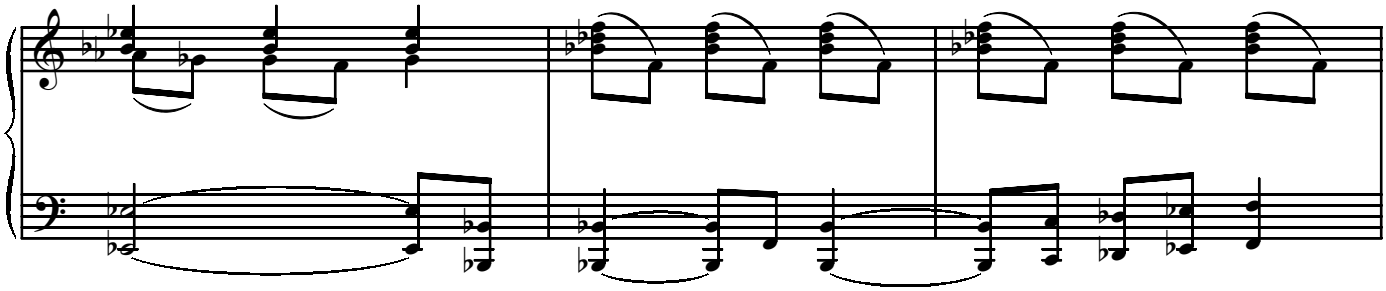
"(I was called) to cause



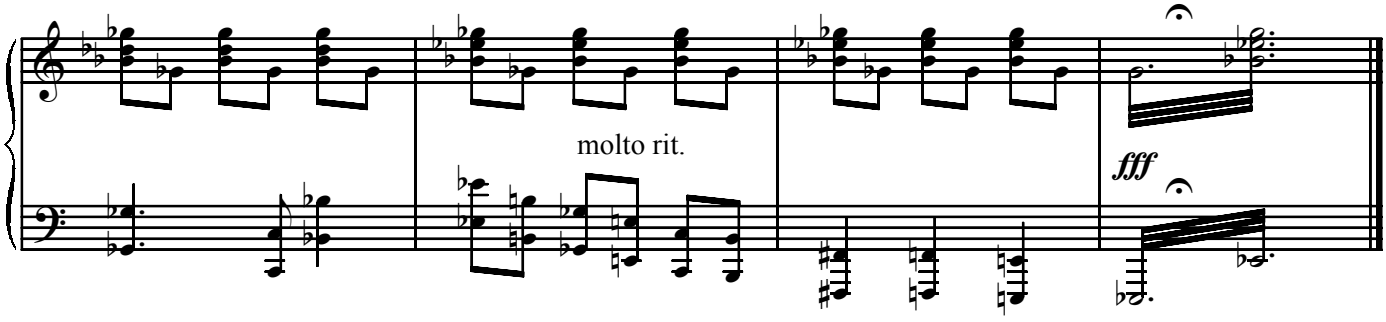

justice to prevail in the land, to destroy the wicked and evil,



to prevent the strong from oppressing the weak,

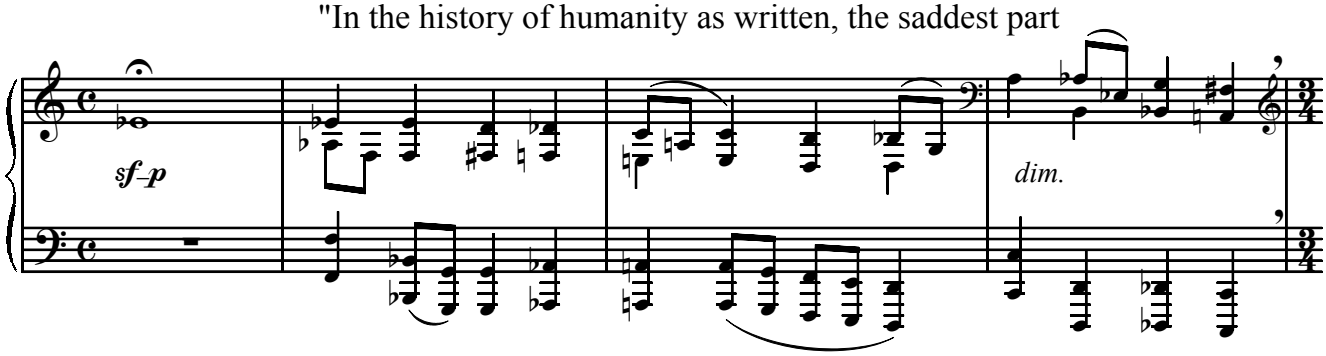


to enlighten the land and to further the welfare of the people."

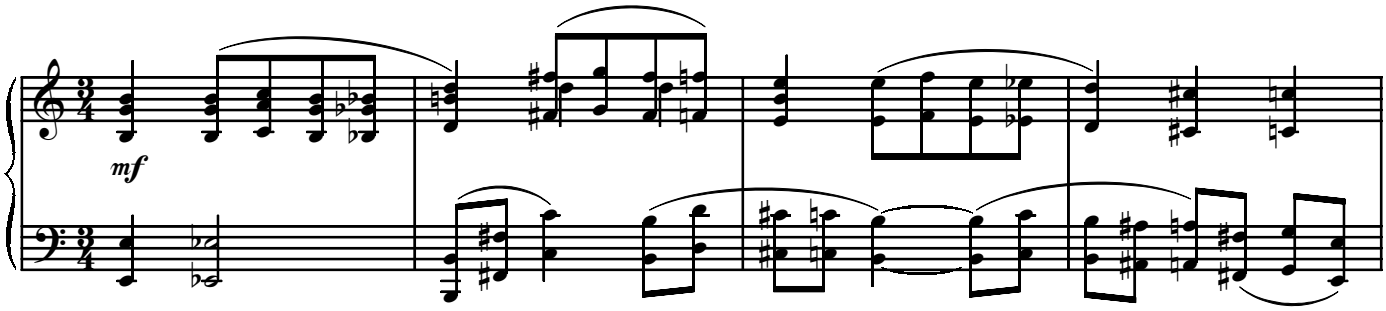


2. «The Suffering of Women» by **Herbert Spencer**, British philosopher (1829-1903)

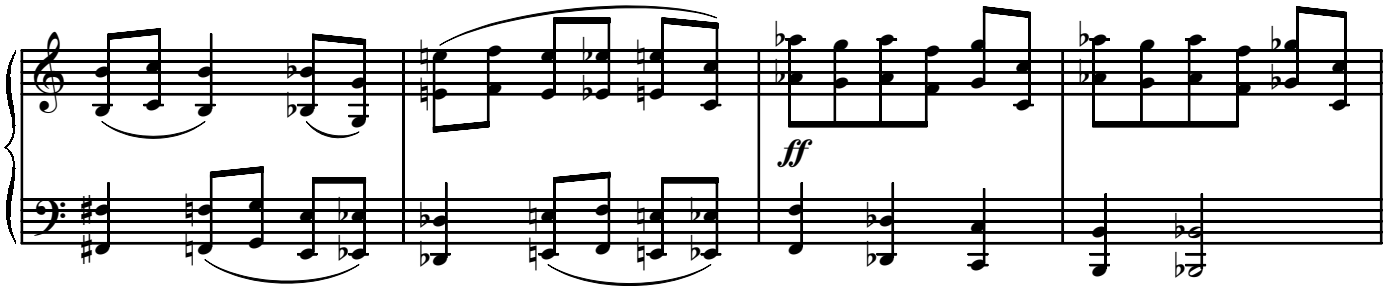
"In the history of humanity as written, the saddest part



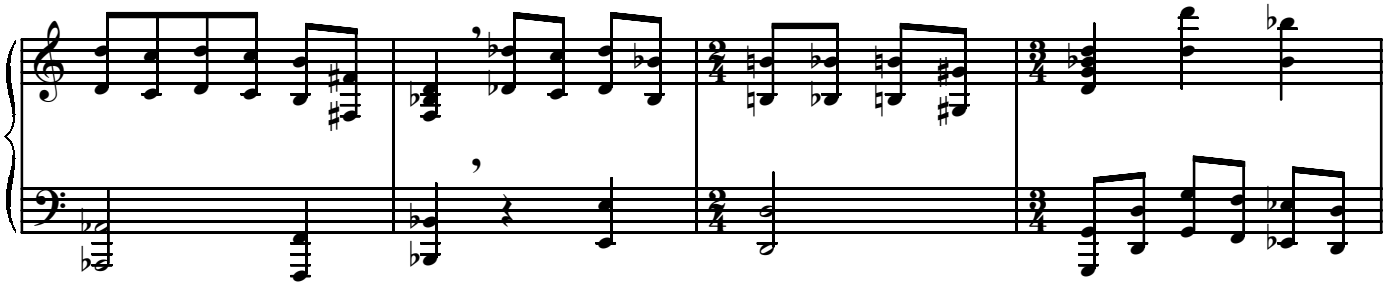

concerns the treatment of women… there have been many things



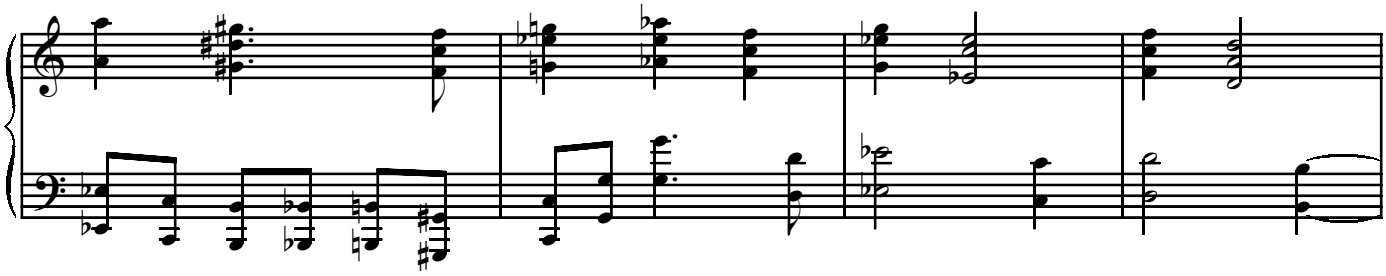

more conspicuously dreadful – cannibalism, the torturing of prisoners,



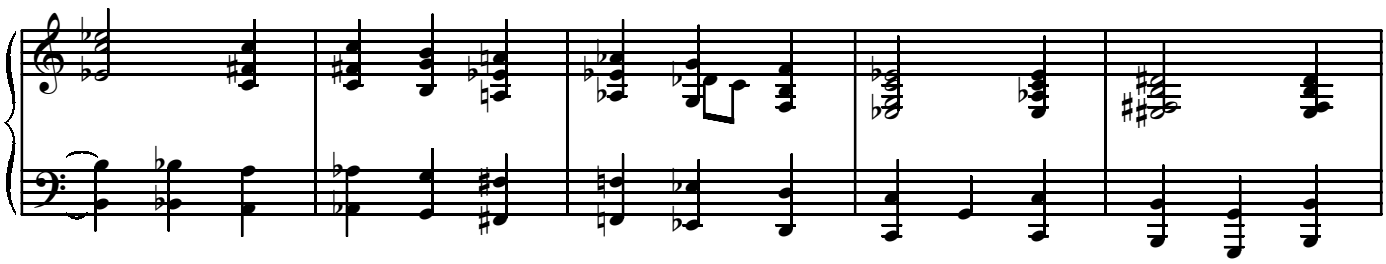

the sacrifice of victims to ghosts and gods…



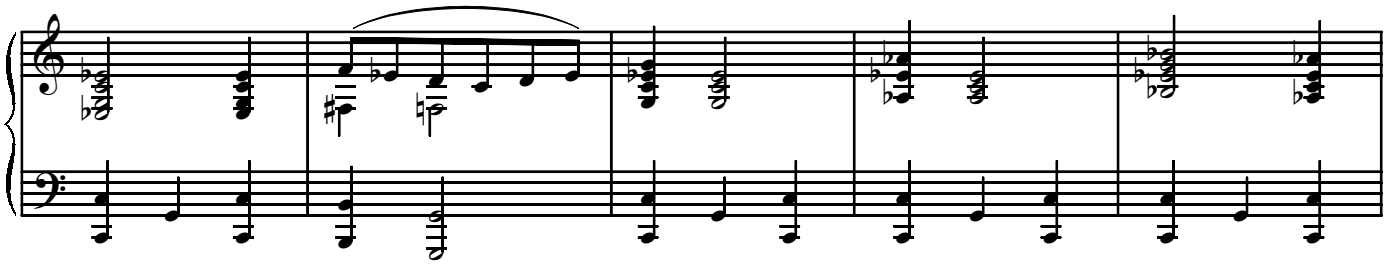
whereas the brutal treatment of women has been universal



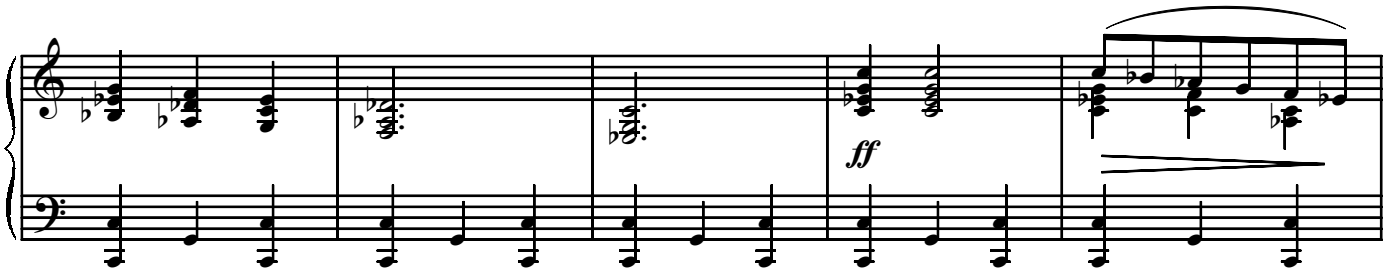
and constant… their state of subjection among the semi-civilized…the uncivilized…



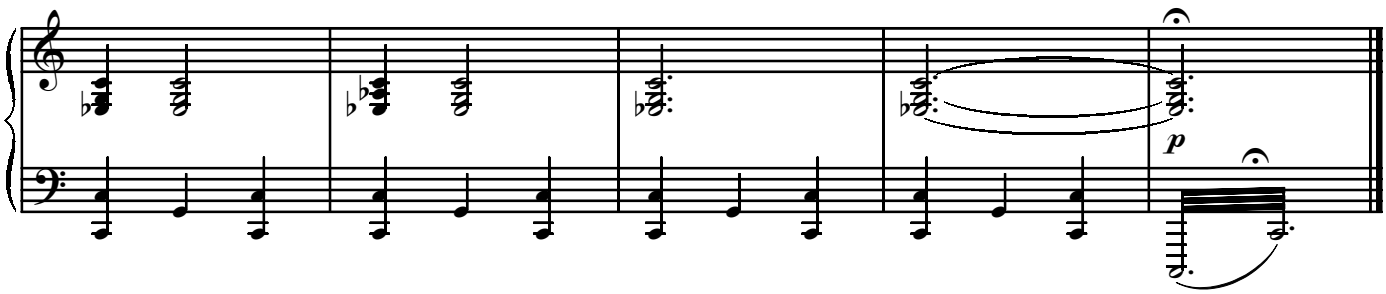
what what must have gone on among those still ruder people who roamed



over the uncultivated earth; we shall infer that the amount of suffering

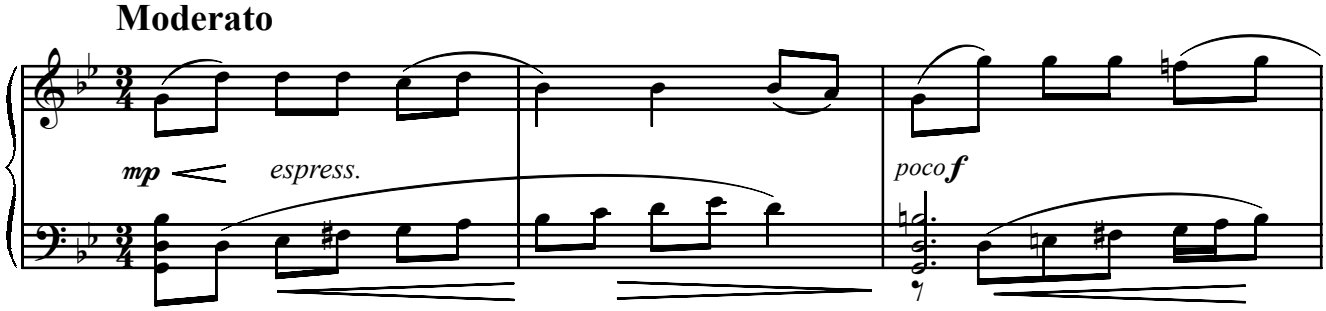



which has been and is borne by women is utterly without imagination."

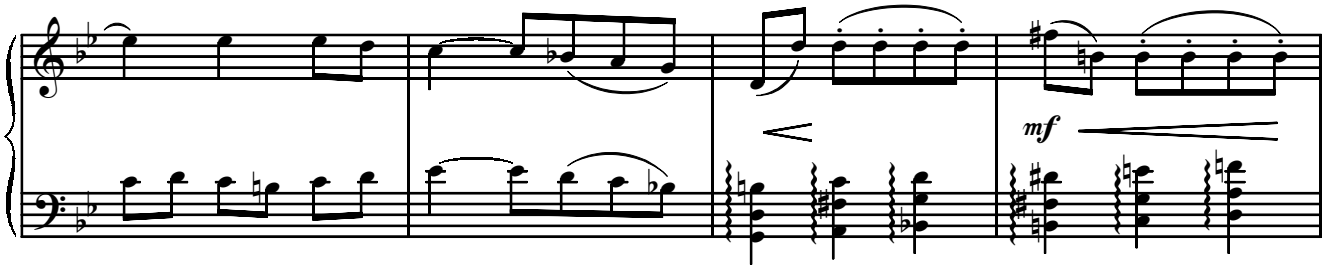


3. «Sartor Resortas» by **Thomas Carlyle**, British historian and essayist (1795-1881)

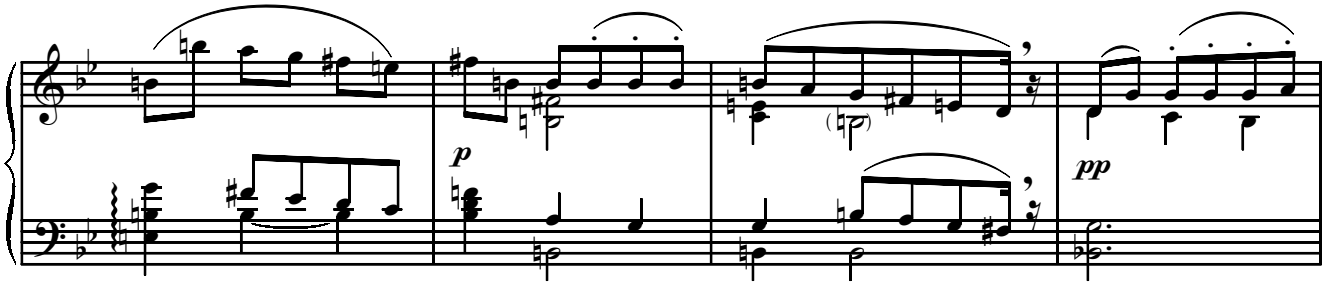
"It is not because of his toils that I lament for



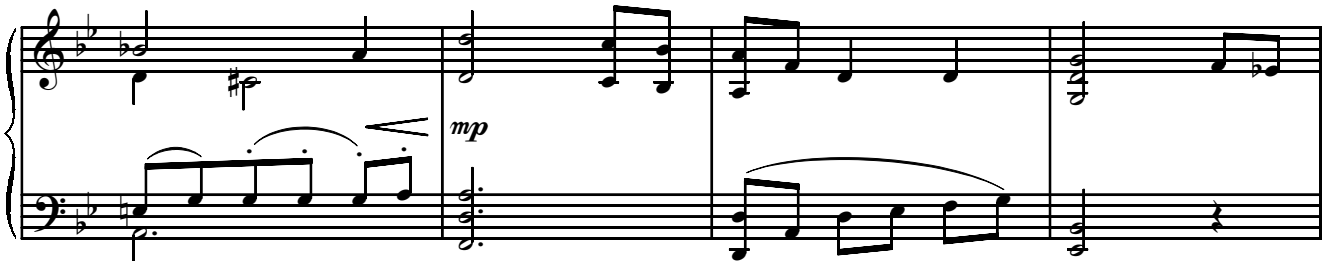

the poor; we must all toil, or steal…, which is



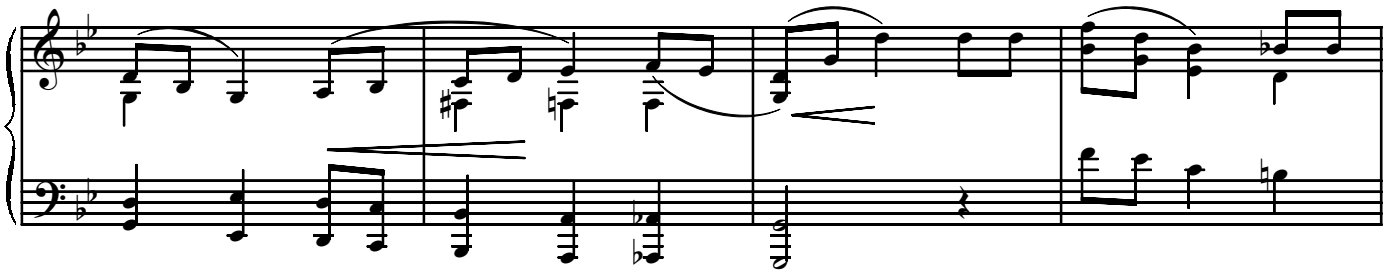

worse;… the poor is hungry and athirst;… he is



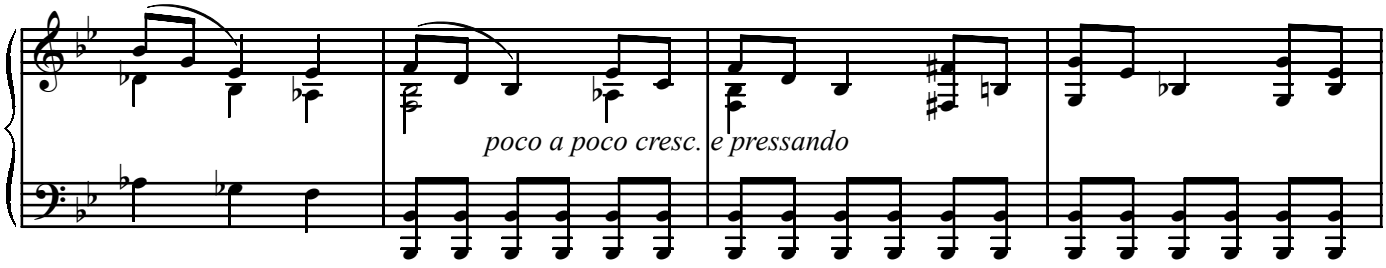

heavy-laden and weary;.. But what I do mourn over



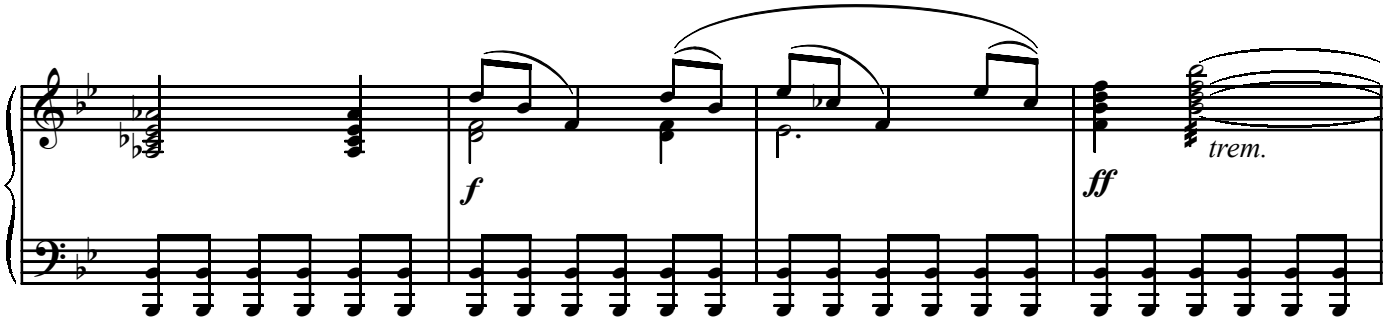
is that the lamp of his soul should go out; that no ray



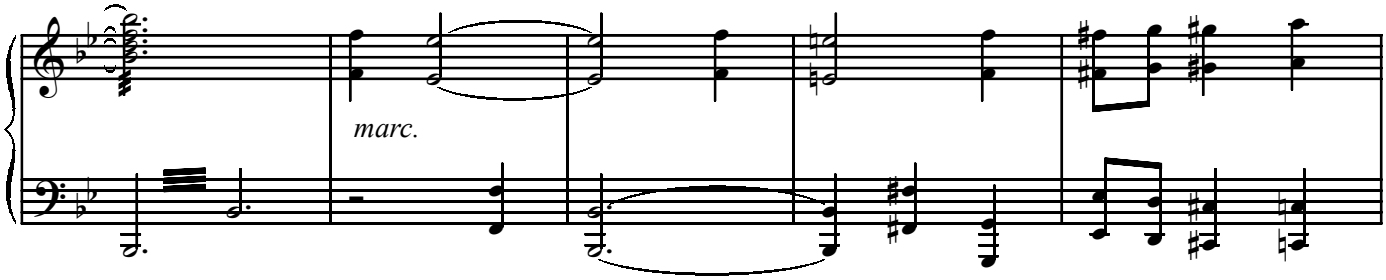
of heavenly, or even of earthly knowledge should visit him…



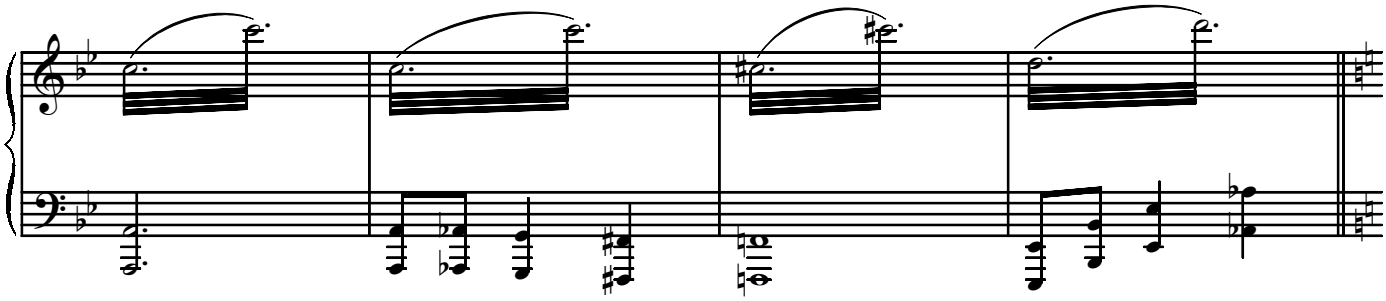

Alas, while the body stands so broad and brawny, must the



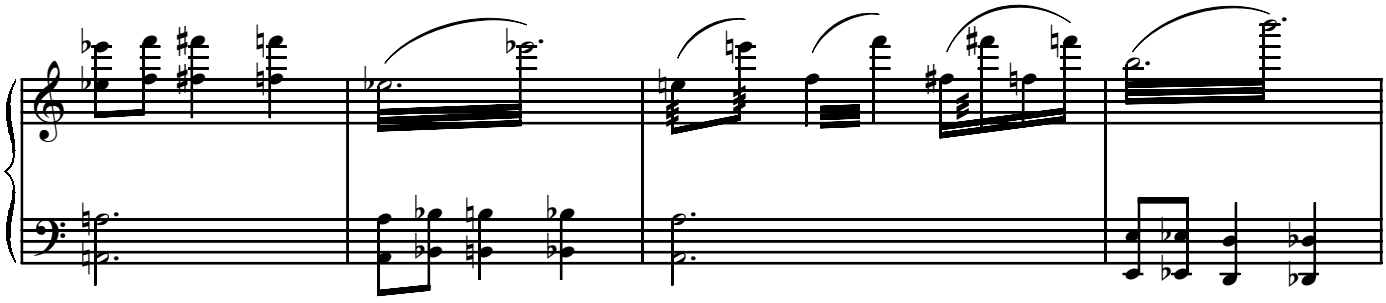

soul lie blinded, dwarfed, stupefied, almost annihilated ?...

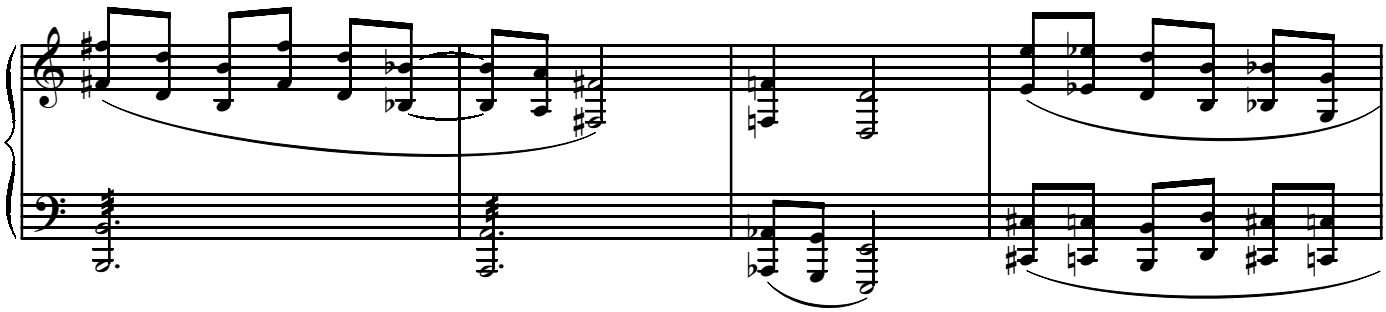


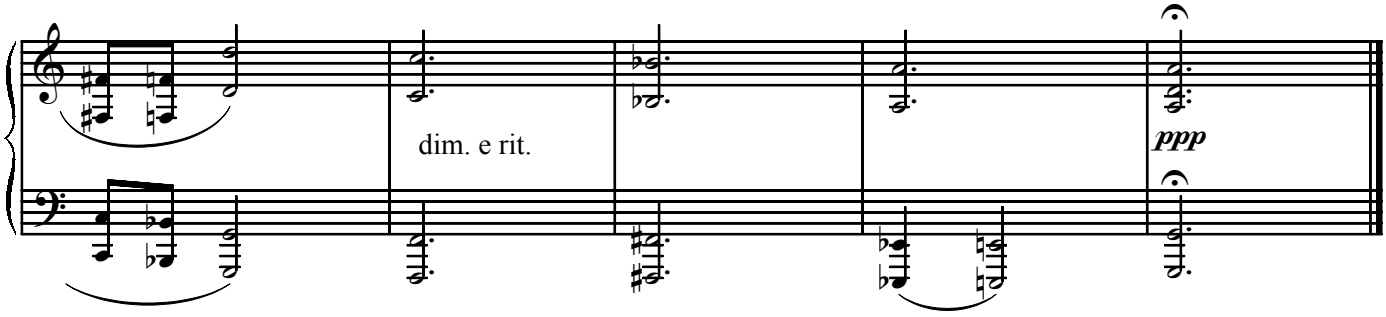
that there should one Man die ignorant who had



capacity for knowledge, this I call a Tragedy."



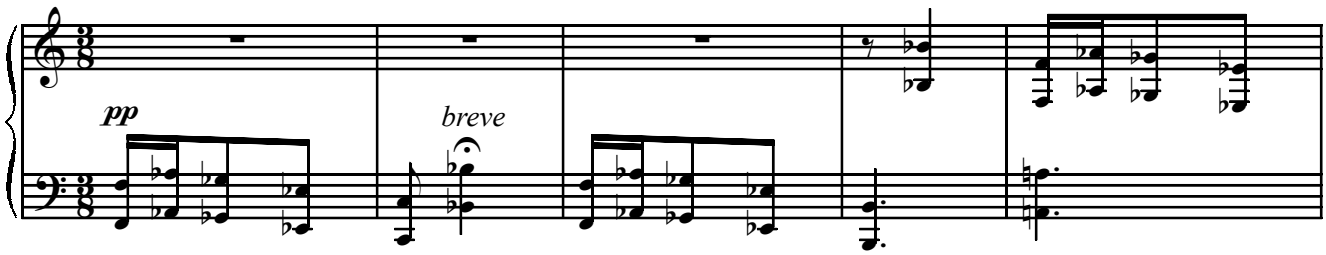




4. «The Song of the Shirt» by **Thomas Hood**, English poet and humorist (1799-1845)

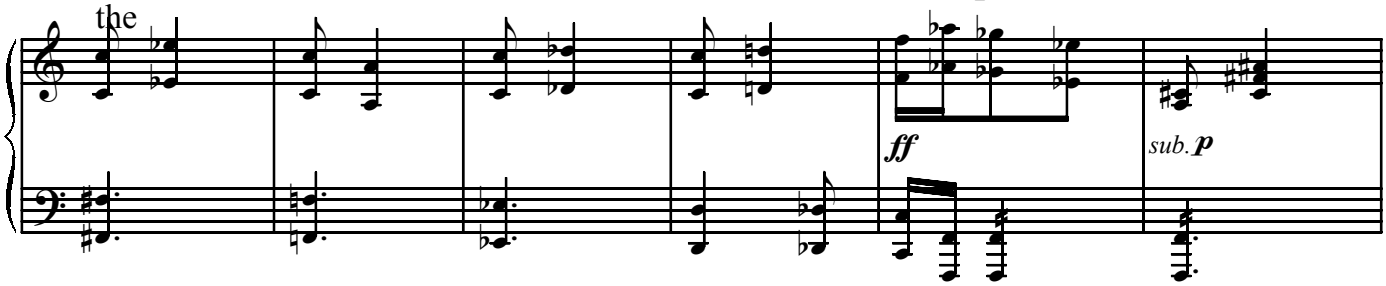
"Oh! but to breathe the breath of the owslip and

**Maestoso**

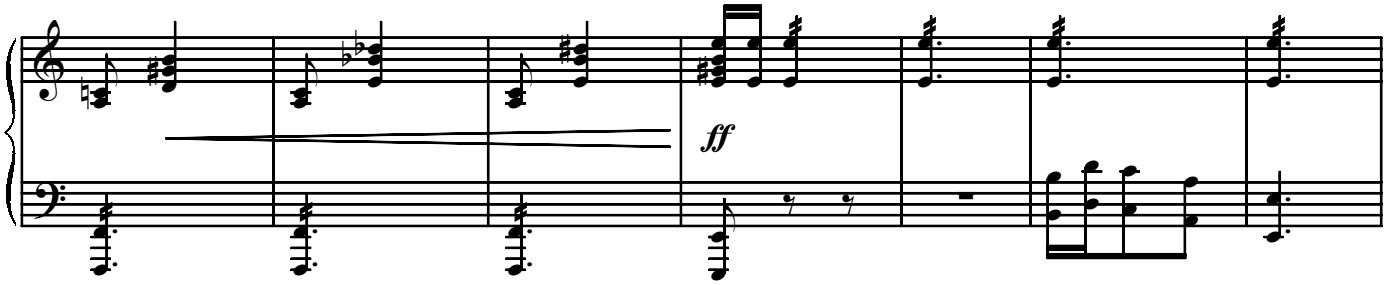



primrose sweet - with the sky above my head, and the

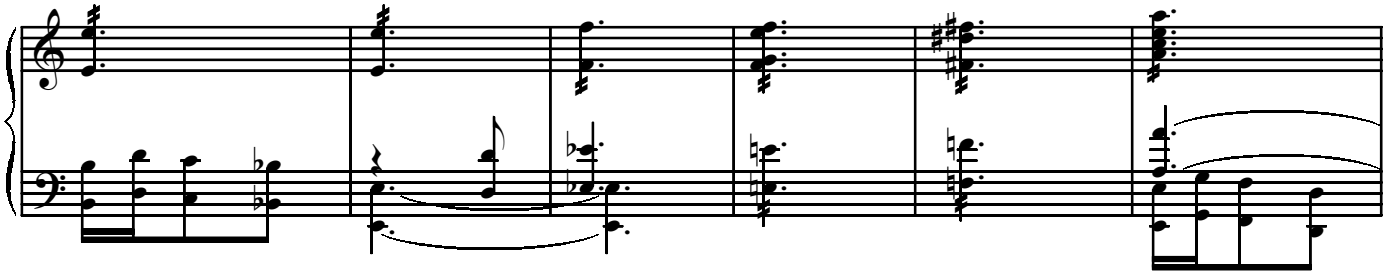
**Poco piu mosso**



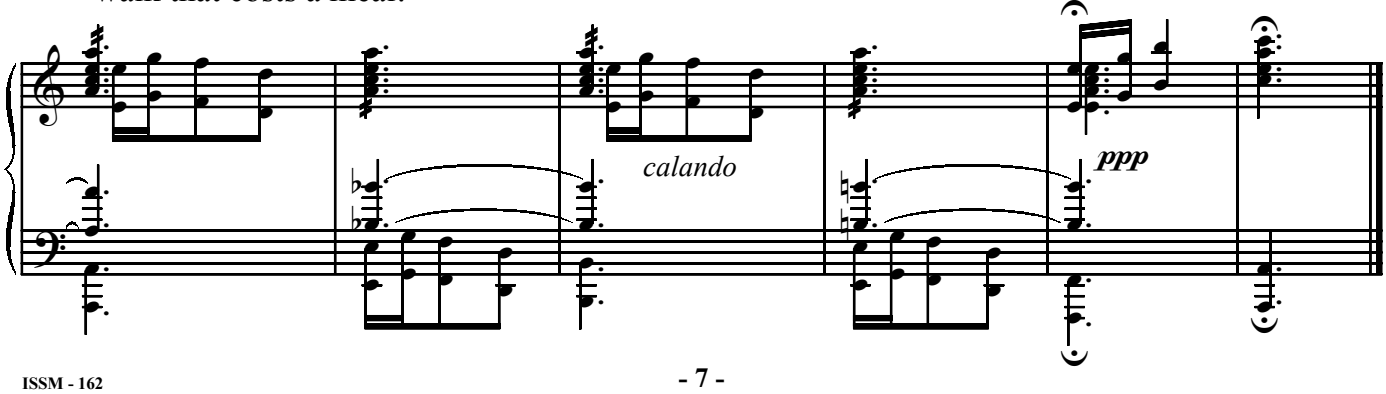

grass beneath my feet - For only one short hour to feel as



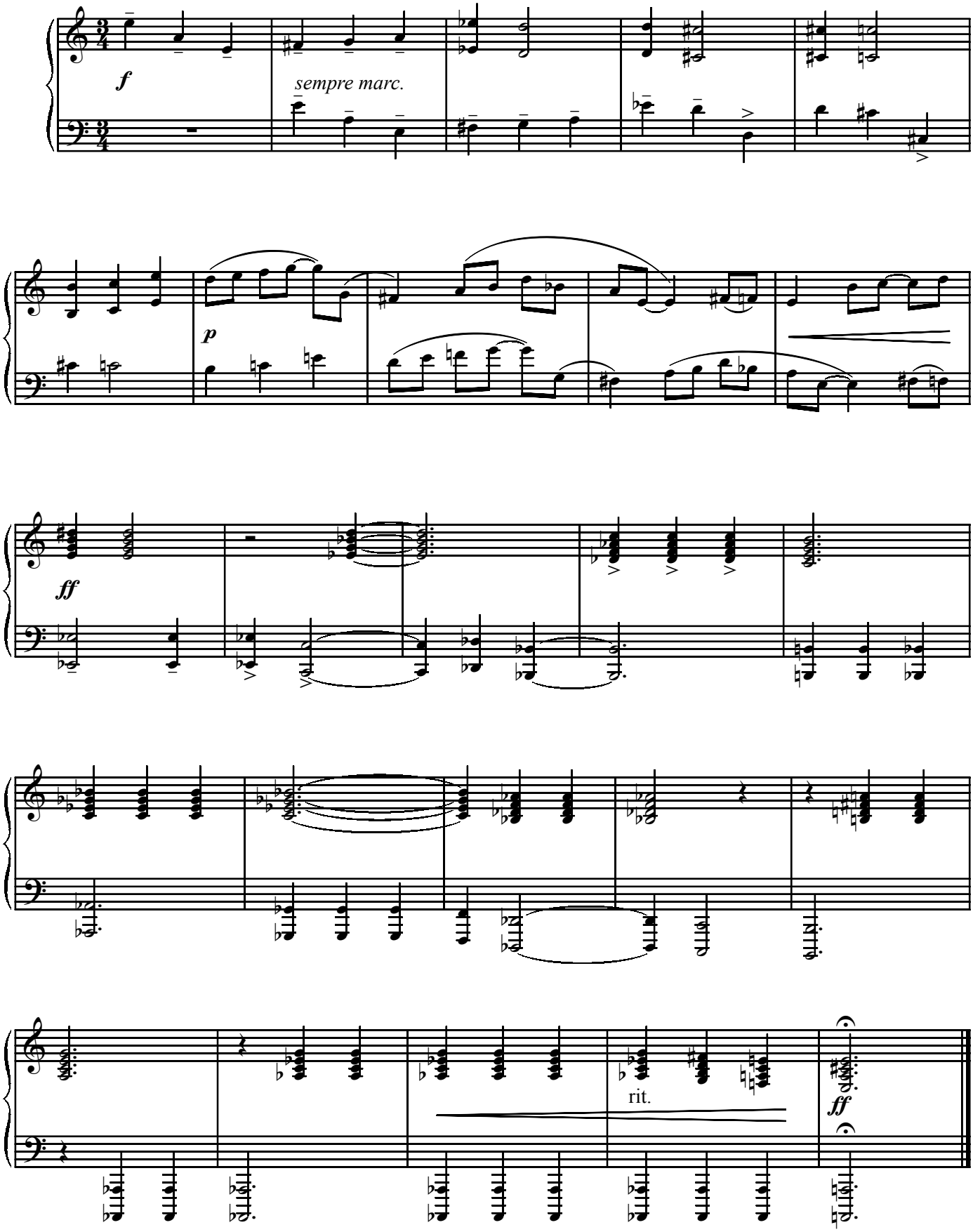

I used to feel - Before I knew the woes of want, and the



walk that costs a meal!"



5. **Eugene V. Debs**, Locomotive engineer;
Socialist Party Candidate for President of the U.S. (1855-1926)

"While there is a lower class, I am in it;
while there is a criminal element, I am of it;
and while there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

**Maestoso**