MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

OPERA

IN FOUR ACTS

FOUNDED ON

Shakespere's Comedy

THE WORDS WRITTEN

by

JULIAN STURGIS

THE MUSIC COMPOSED

by

CHARLES VILLIERS STANFORD.

(OP. 76.)

Price 5/- net

BOOSEY & Co
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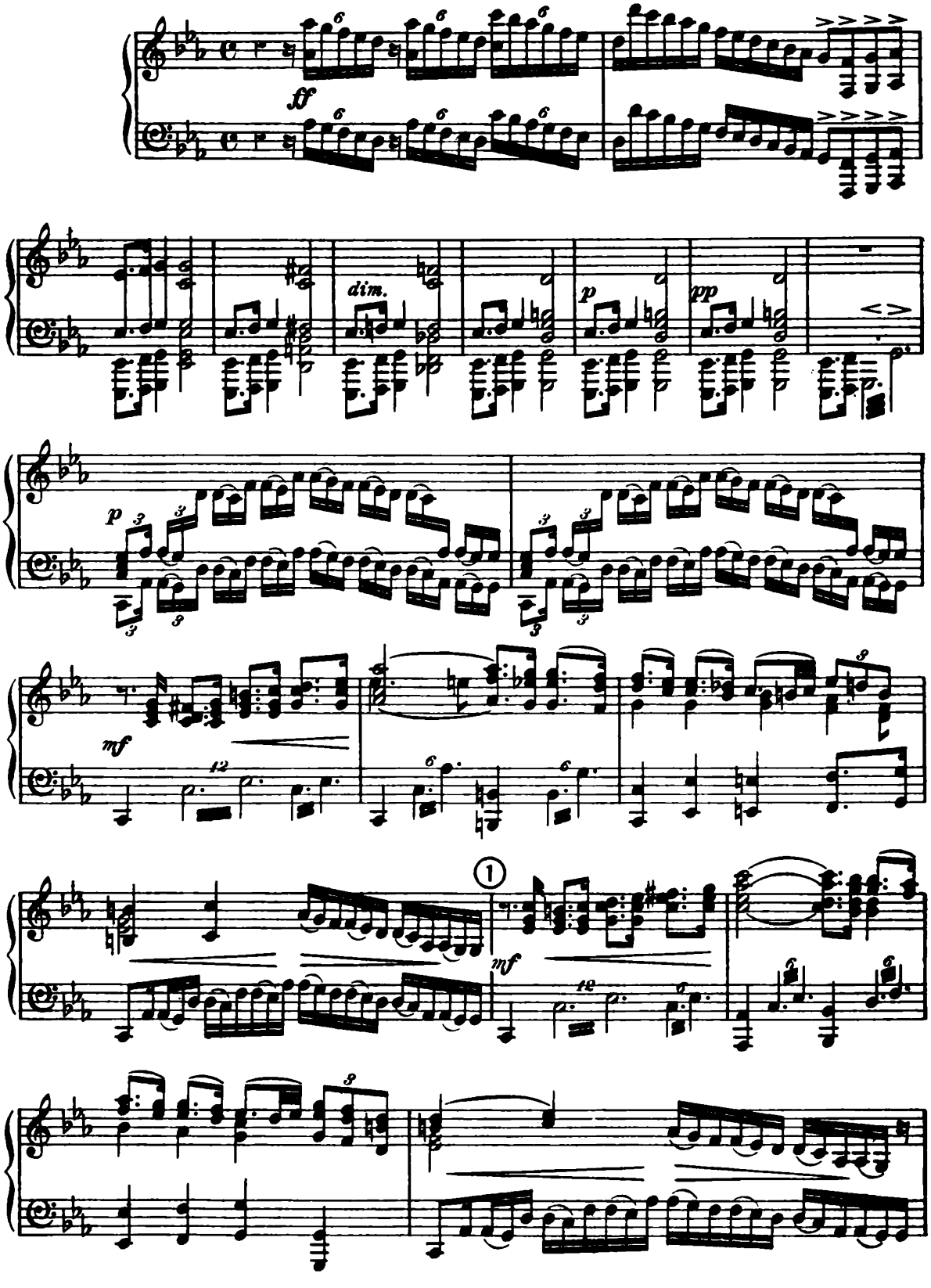
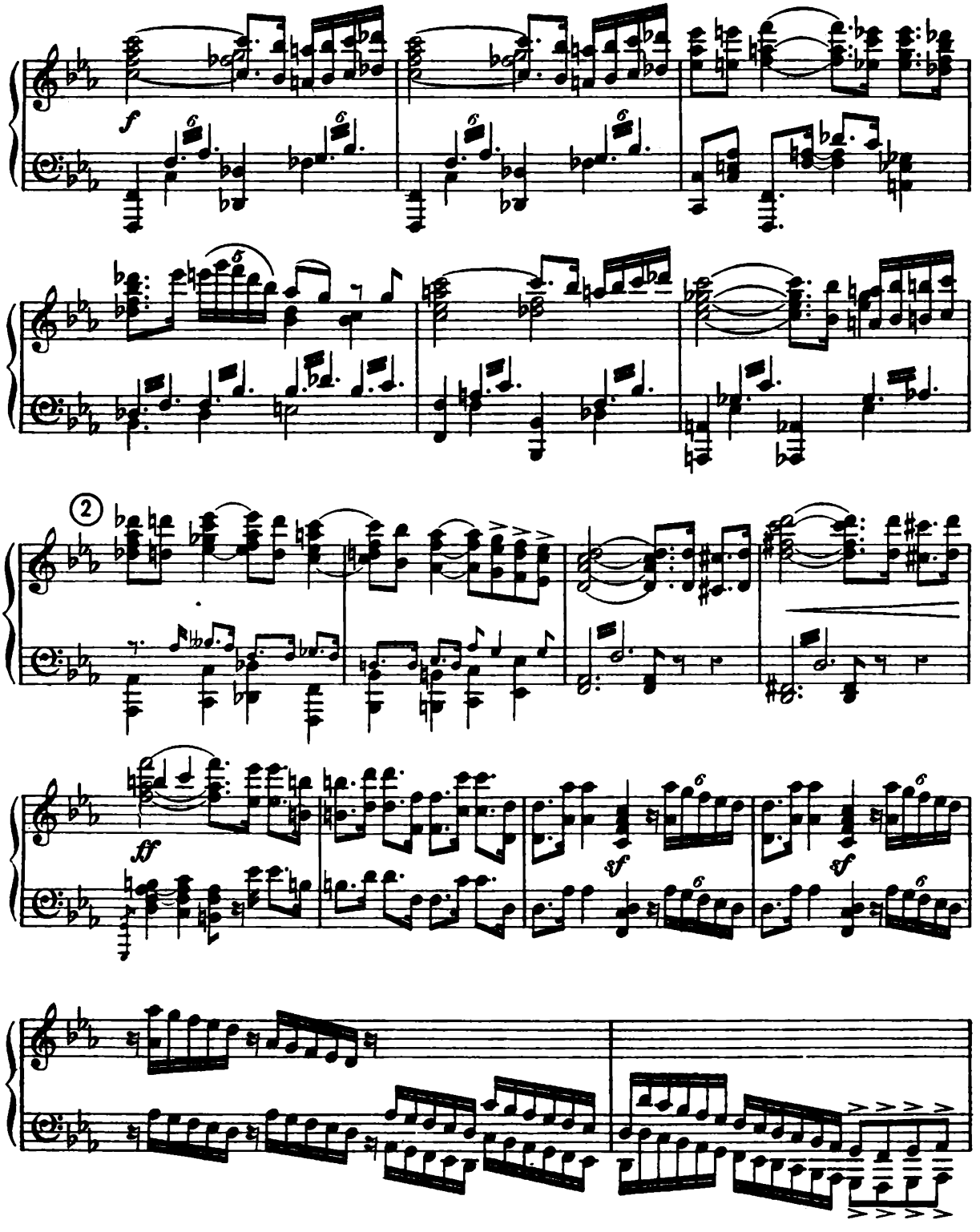
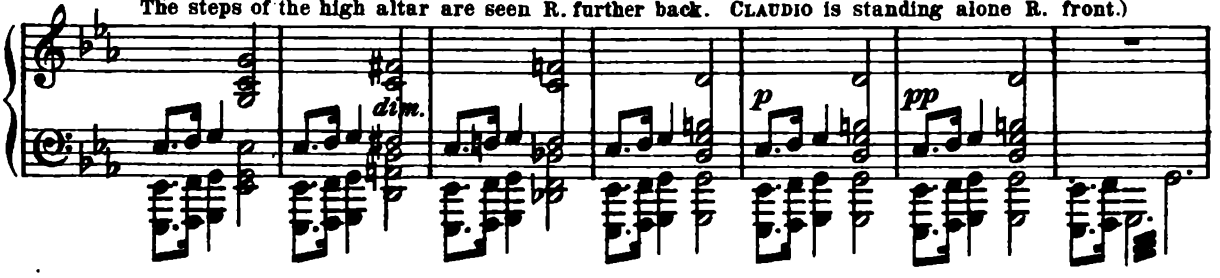
Act III.

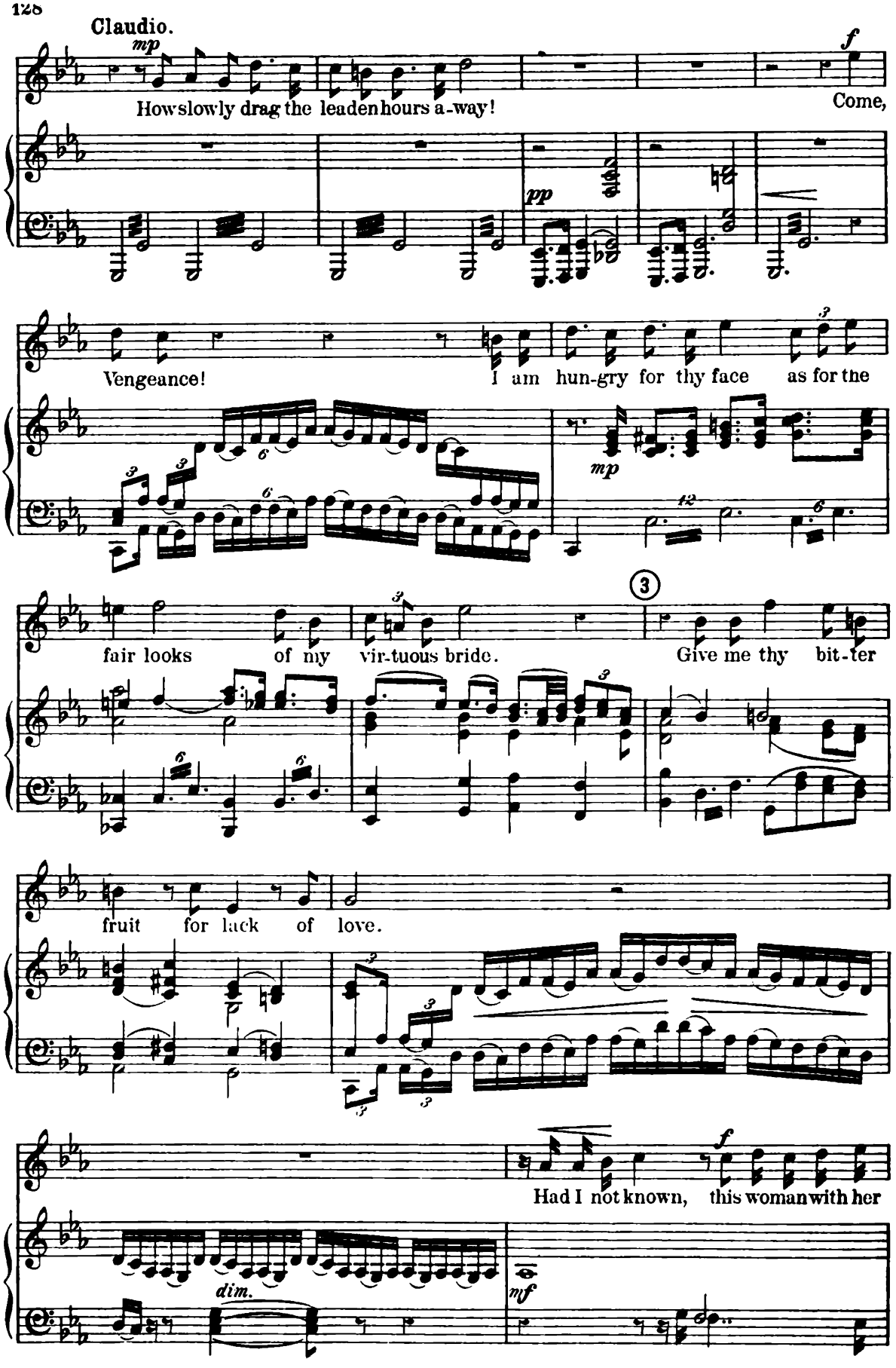
Allegro molto moderato, ma con fuoco.

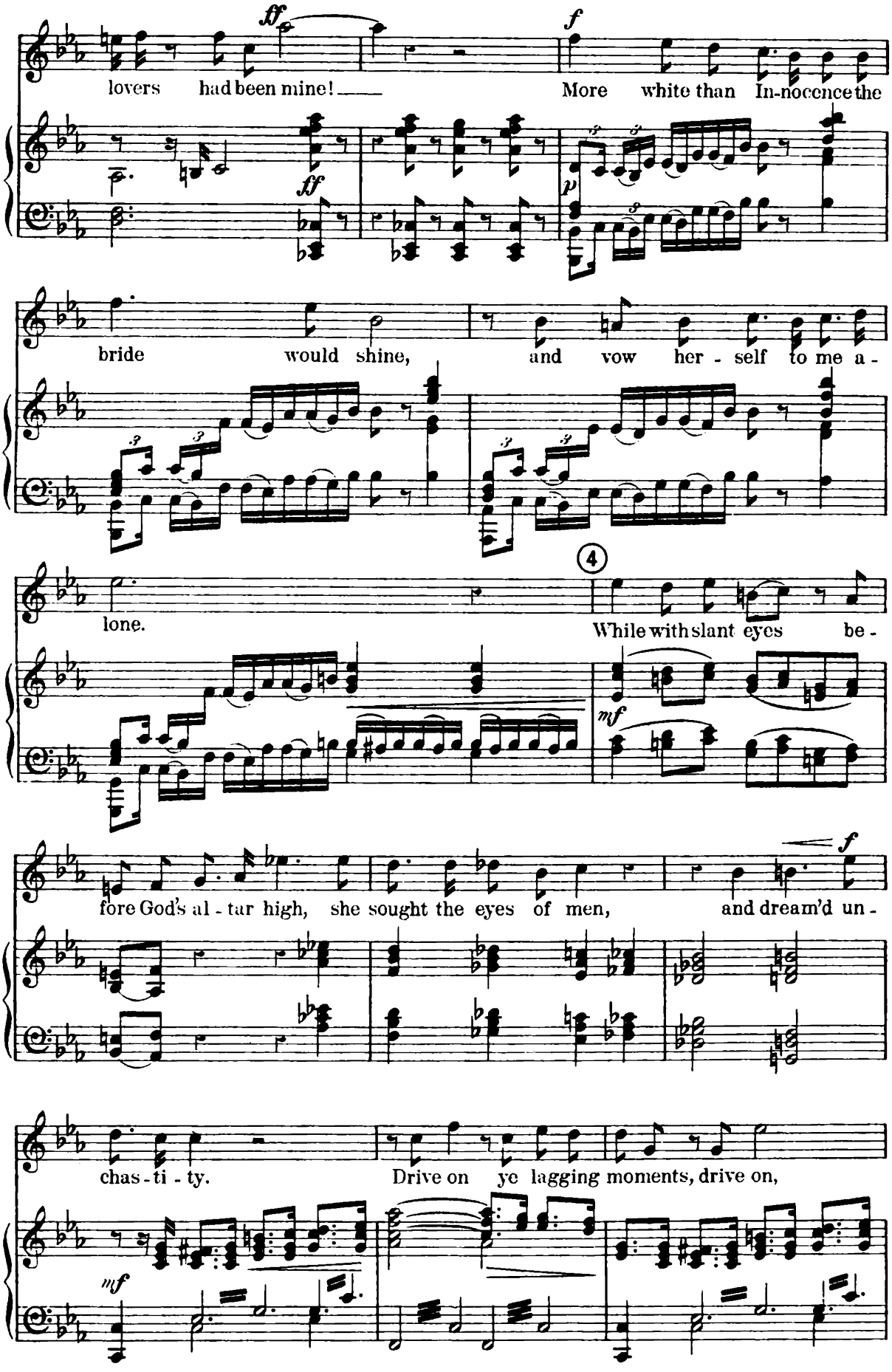


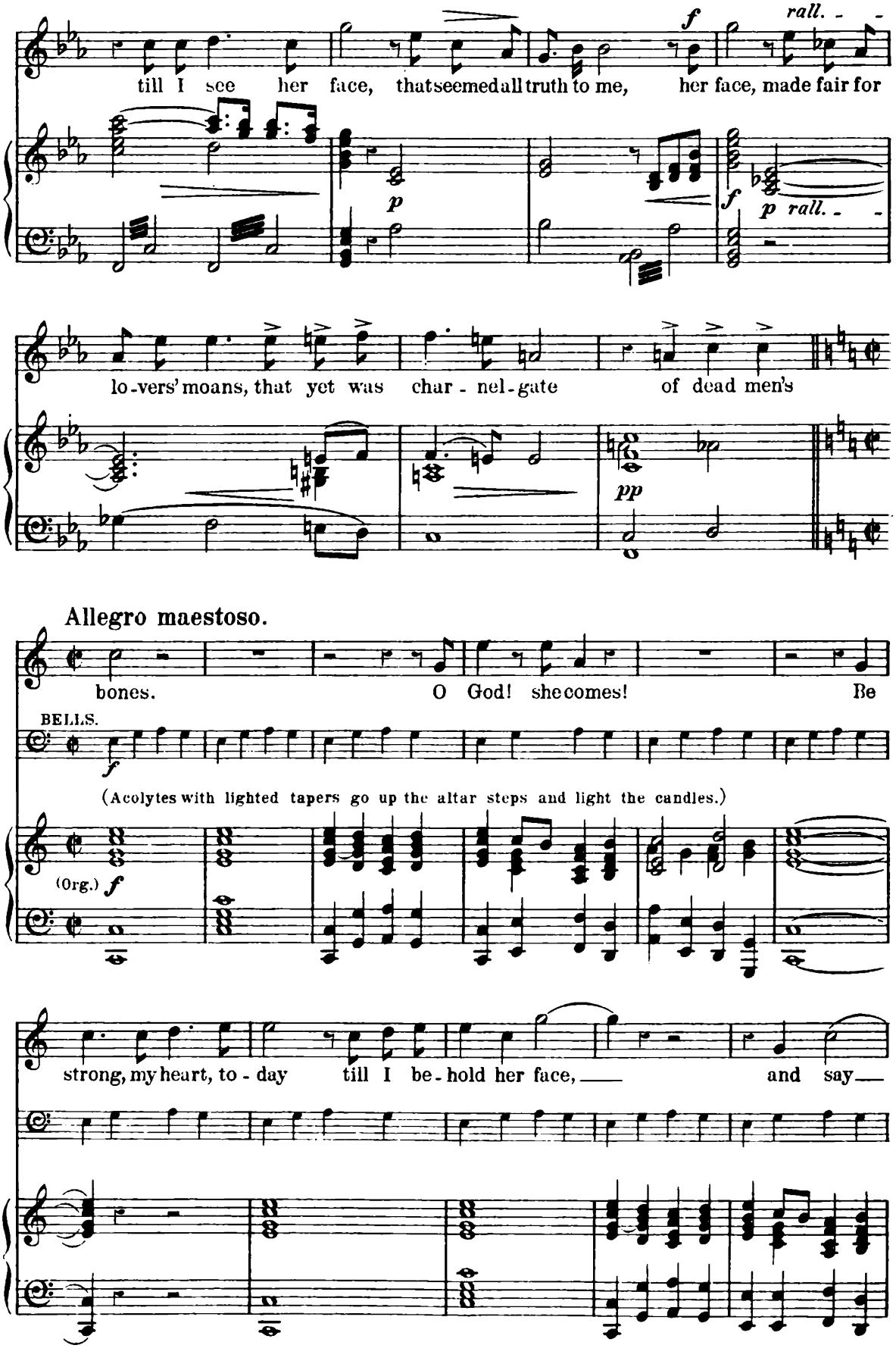


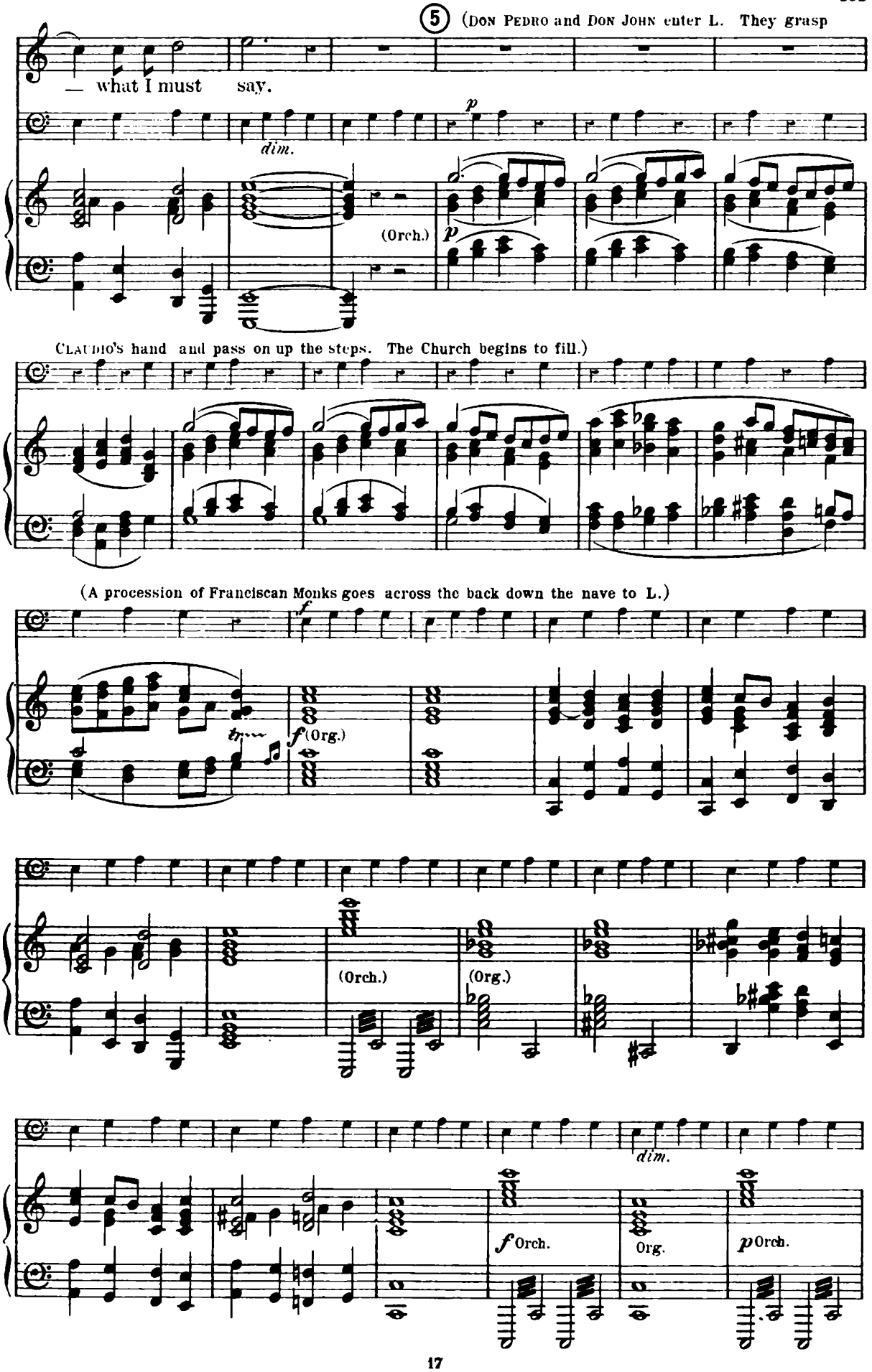
(The Curtain rises. The Church at Messina. The front of the stage is the north transept. The steps of the high altar are seen R. further back. CLAUDIO is standing alone R. front.)




Claudio.
mp
How slowly drag the leaden hours a-way!
f
Come,
pp
Vengeance!
I am hun-gry for thy face as for the
mp
fair looks of my vir-tuous bride.
Give me thy bit-ter
fruit for lack of love.
Had I not known, this woman with her
f
dim.
mf


lovers had been mine!
More white than In-nocence the
bride would shine, and vow her - self to me a -
lone.
While with slant eyes be -
fore God's al - tar high, she sought the eyes of men, and dream'd un -
chas - ti - ty.
Drive on ye lagging moments, drive on,


till I see her face, that seemed all truth to me, her face, made fair for
rall.
lo-vers' moans, that yet was char-nel-gate of dead men's
Allegro maestoso.
bones. O God! she comes! Be
BELLS.
(Acolytes with lighted tapers go up the altar steps and light the candles.)
(Org.)
strong, my heart, to-day till I be-hold her face, and say


5
(Don Pedro and Don John enter L. They grasp
— what I must say.
dim.
p
(Orch.)
p
Claudio's hand and pass on up the steps. The Church begins to fill.)
(A procession of Franciscan Monks goes across the back down the nave to L.)
f
tr
f (Org.)
(Orch.)
(Org.)
dim.
f Orch.
Org.
p Orch.