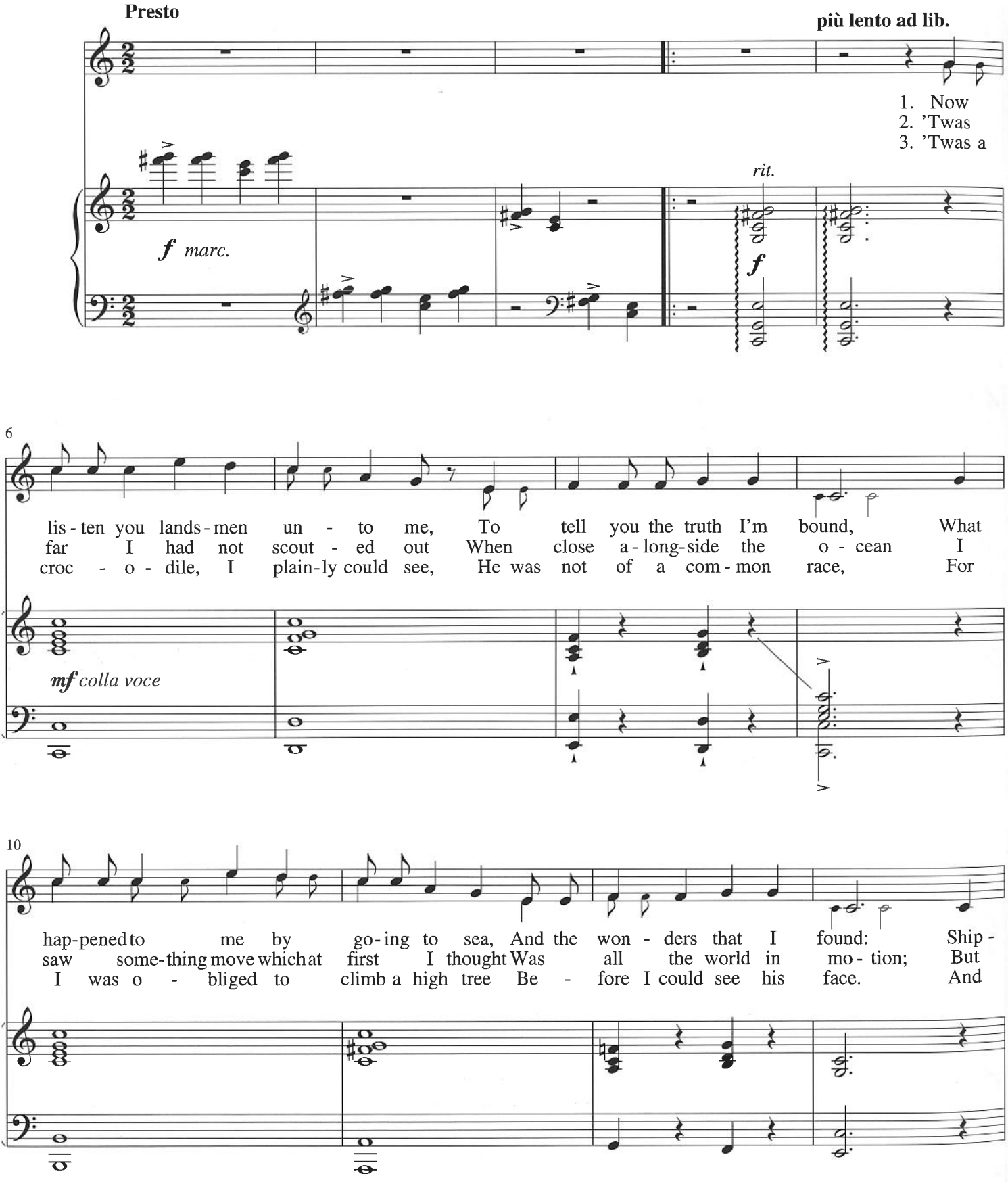The Crocodile

from English County Songs
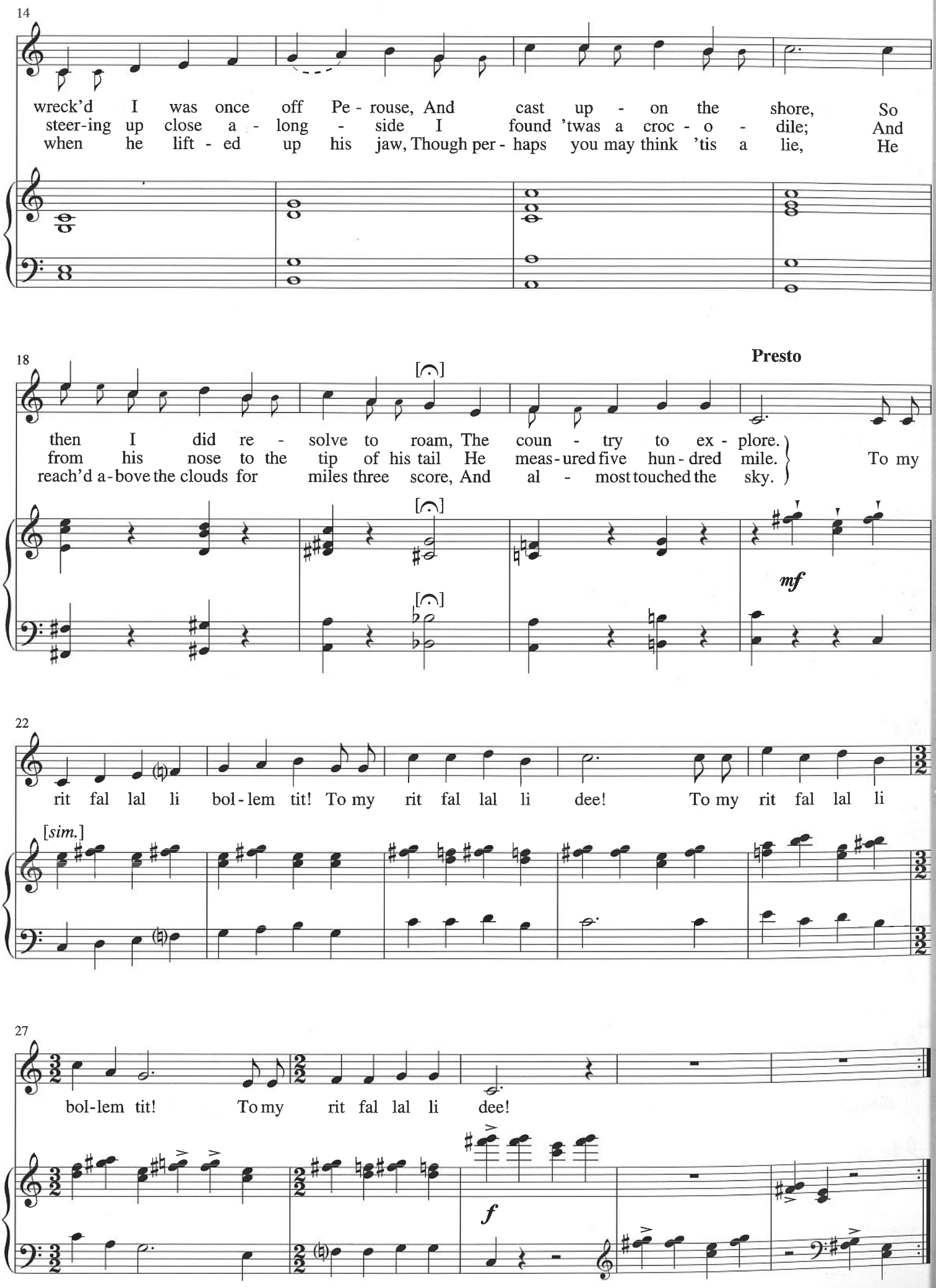
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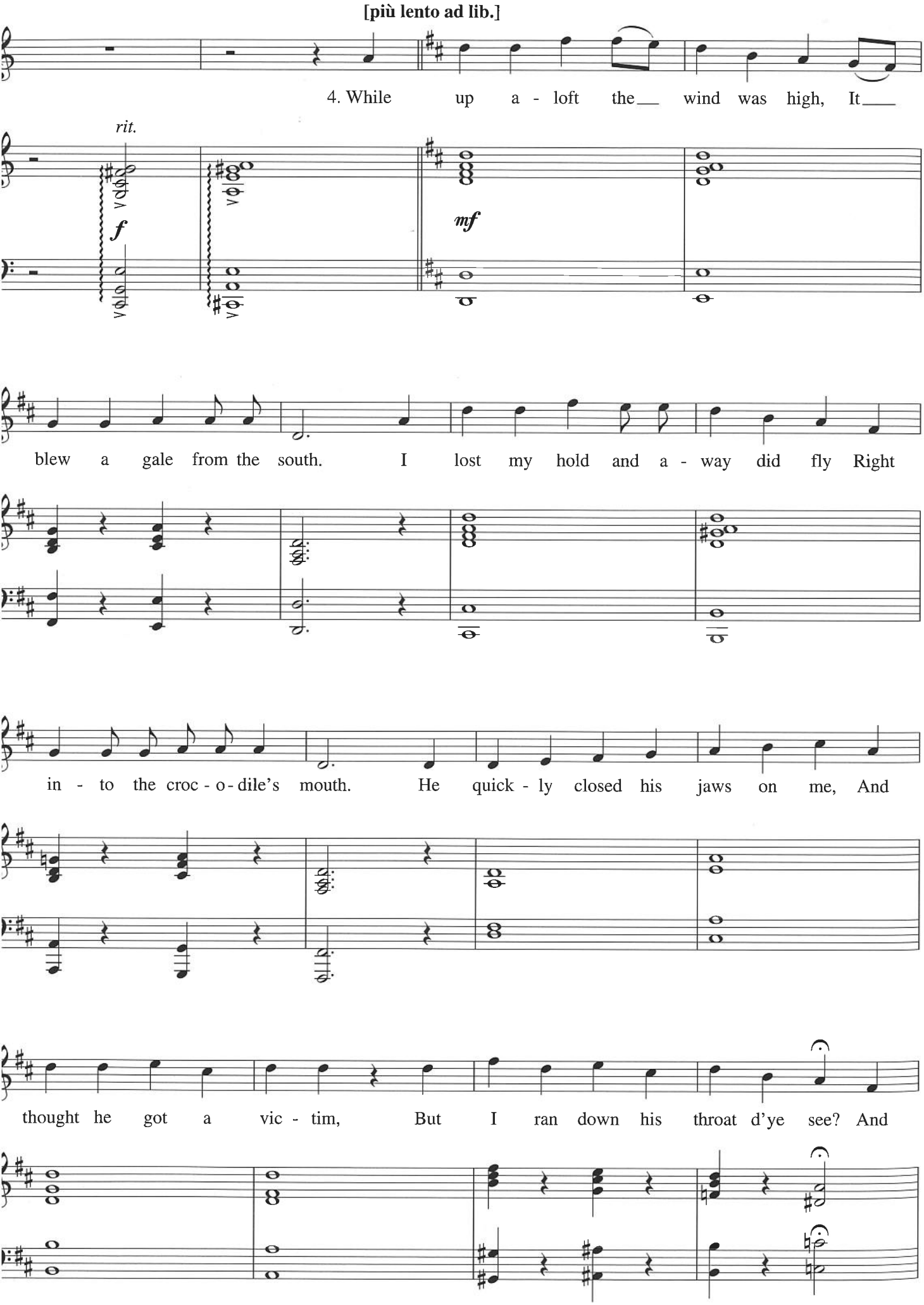
Words and melody collected by
L. BROADWOOD and J. A. FULLER MAITLAND

Arranged by
BENJAMIN BRITTEN



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14
wreck'd I was once off Pe - rouse, And cast up - on the shore, So
steer-ing up close a - long - side I found 'twas a croc - o - dile; And
when he lift - ed up his jaw, Though per - haps you may think 'tis a lie, He
18
Presto
then I did re - solve to roam, The coun - try to ex - plore.
from his nose to the tip of his tail He meas-ured five hun-dred mile.
reach'd a-bove the clouds for miles three score, And al - most touched the sky.
To my
mf
22
rit fal lal li bol-lem tit! To my rit fal lal li dee! To my rit fal lal li
[sim.]
27
bol-lem tit! To my rit fal lal li dee!
f


[più lento ad lib.]
4. While up a - loft the wind was high, It
rit.
f
mf
blew a gale from the south. I lost my hold and a - way did fly Right
in - to the croc - o - dile's mouth. He quick - ly closed his jaws on me, And
thought he got a vic - tim, But I ran down his throat d'ye see? And

48 **[Presto]**

that's the way I tricked him. To my rit fal lal li bol - lem tit! To my

[sim.]

mf

52

rit fal lal li dee! To my rit fal lal li bol - lem tit! To my

56

rit fal lal li dee!

8va

f
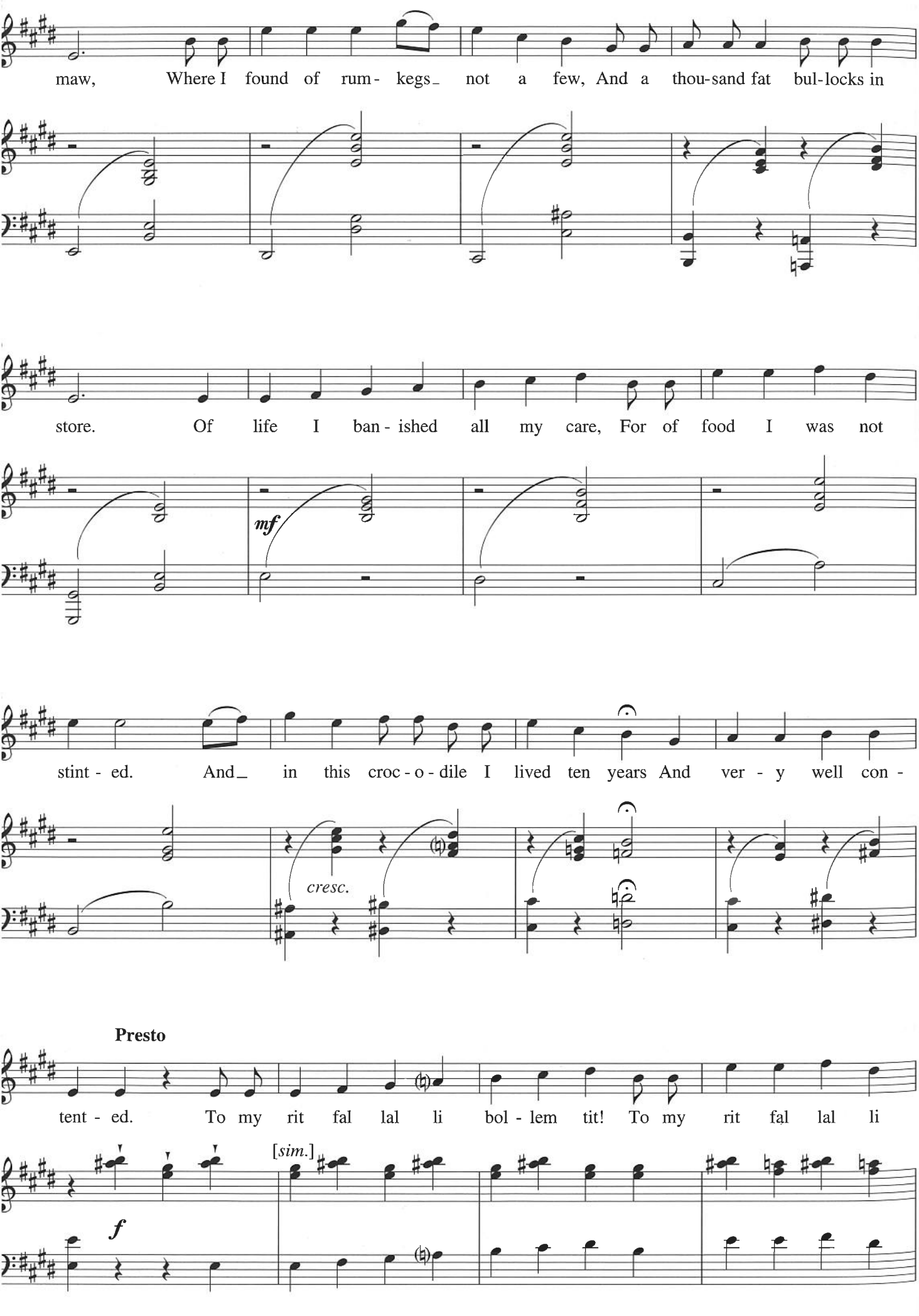
[rit.]
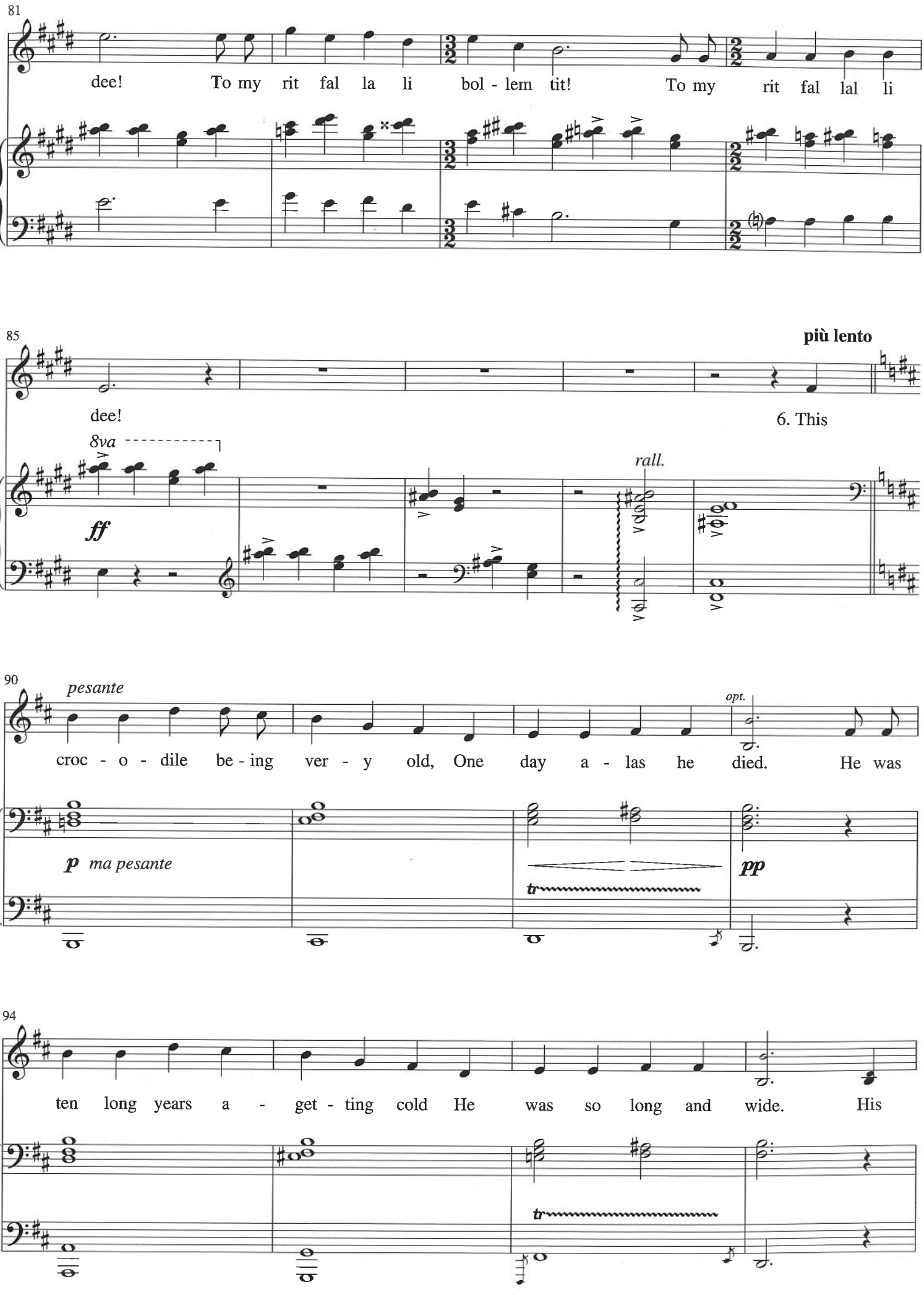
61 **più lento ad lib.**
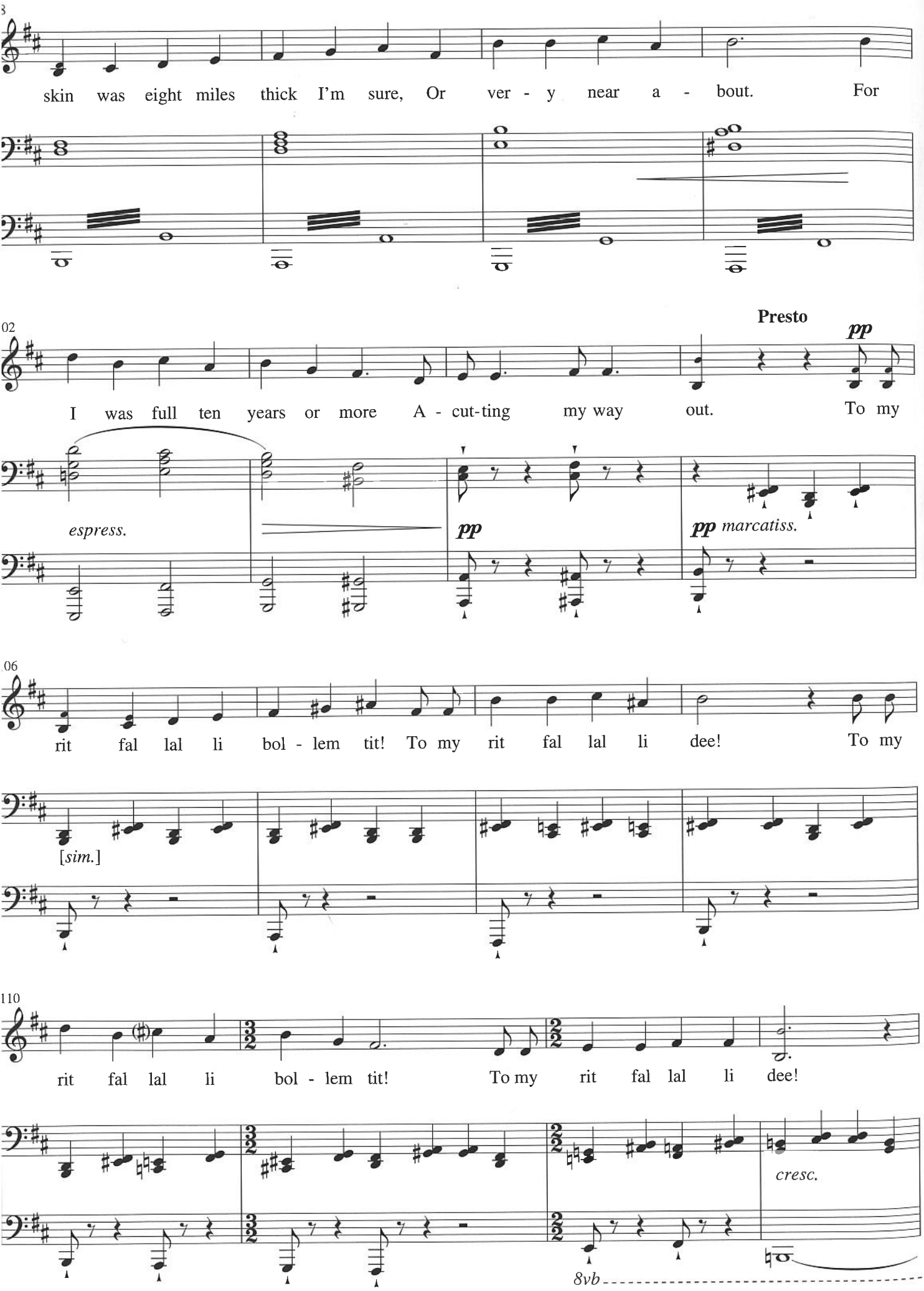
5. I tra - velled on for a month or two, Till I got in - to his
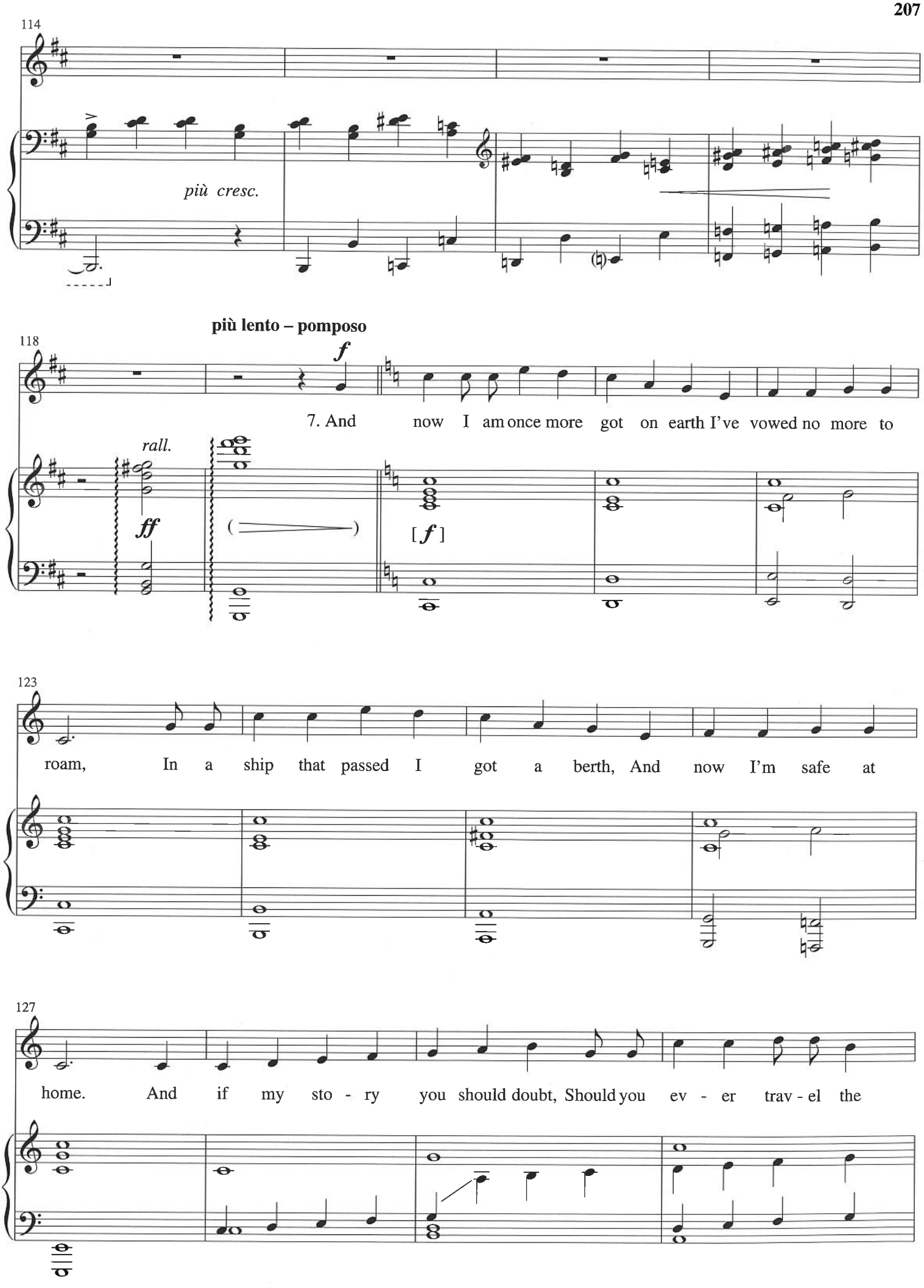
8va
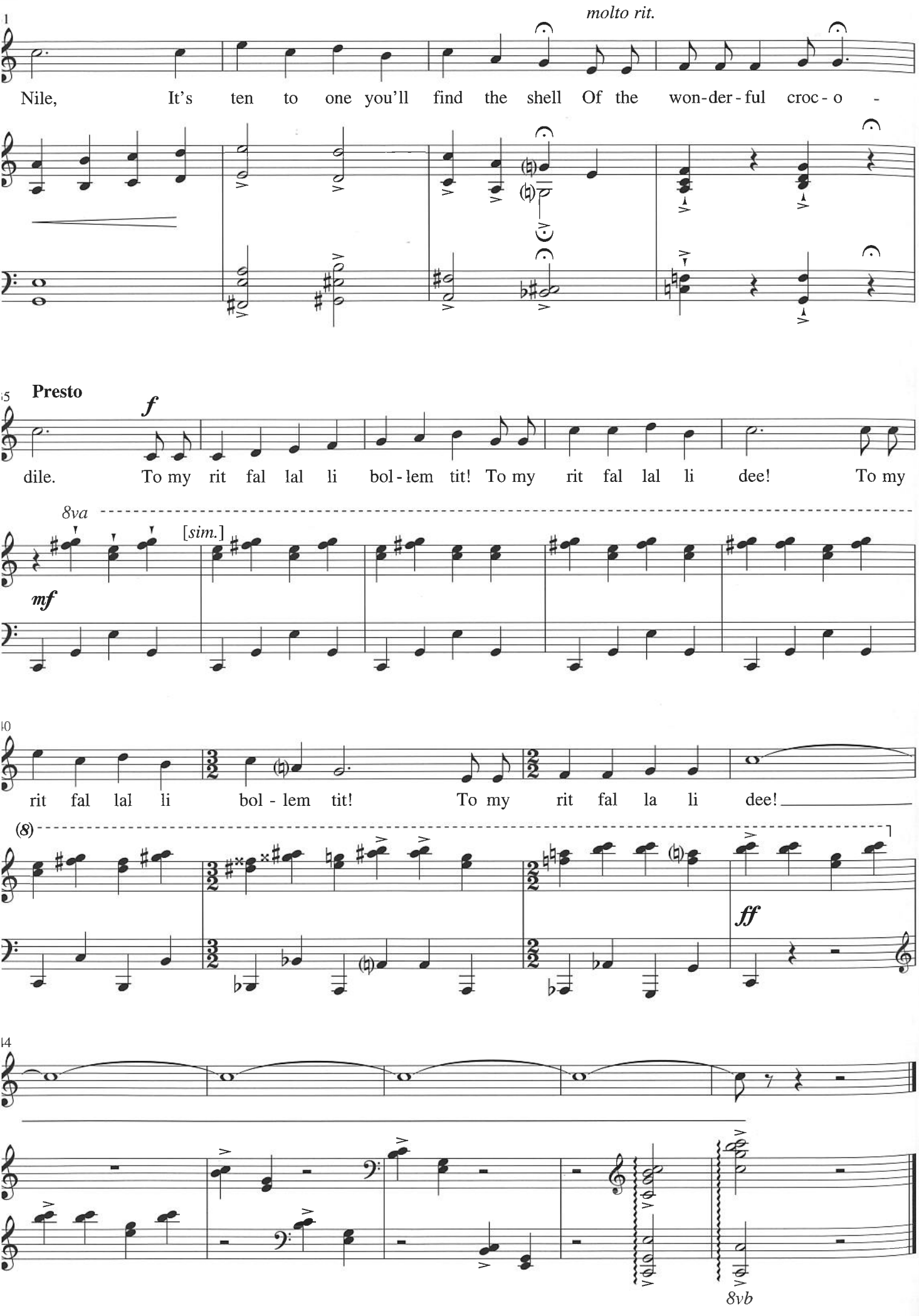
f


maw, Where I found of rum - kegs_ not a few, And a thou-sand fat bul-locks in
store. Of life I ban - ished all my care, For of food I was not
mf
stint - ed. And_ in this croc - o - dile I lived ten years And ver - y well con -
cresc.
Presto
tent - ed. To my rit fal lal li bol - lem tit! To my rit fal lal li
[sim.]
f


81
dee! To my rit fal la li bol - lem tit! To my rit fal lal li
85
più lento
dee!
6. This
8va
ff
rall.
90
pesante
croc - o - dile be - ing ver - y old, One day a - las he died. He was
opt.
p ma pesante
tr
pp
94
ten long years a - get - ting cold He was so long and wide. His
tr


skin was eight miles thick I'm sure, Or ver - y near a - bout. For
Presto
pp
I was full ten years or more A - cut-ting my way out. To my
espress.
pp
pp marcatiss.
rit fal lal li bol - lem tit! To my rit fal lal li dee! To my
[sim.]
rit fal lal li bol - lem tit! To my rit fal lal li dee!
cresc.
8vb


114
più cresc.
più lento – pomposo
118
f
7. And now I am once more got on earth I've vowed no more to
rall.
ff
[f]
123
roam, In a ship that passed I got a berth, And now I'm safe at
127
home. And if my sto - ry you should doubt, Should you ev - er trav - el the


molto rit.
Nile, It's ten to one you'll find the shell Of the won-der-ful croc-o -
Presto
f
dile. To my rit fal lal li bol-lem tit! To my rit fal lal li dee! To my
8va
[sim.]
mf
rit fal lal li bol-lem tit! To my rit fal la li dee!
(8)
ff
8vb