TEN HEBREW
FOLK SONGS AND FOLK DANCES

Arranged for the

PIANO

by

LAZARE SAMINSKY

Op. 22

/12145OC
06-C27

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Preface

The great research work in the field of Hebrew sacred music and folk song made during the past two decades in Russia, Poland, Galicia, Caucasia and Palestine by the Ethnographical Expedition of Baron Horatio de Guinzbourg, the Hebrew folksong society in Petrograd and the Berlin art magazine, "Ost und West," revealed amazing musical treasures hidden in the music of the Eastern Hebrew masses.

These Hebrew tunes have a distinct idiom of their own and belong to three types: 1) purely religious songs (old chants of the synagogue and cantillation of the Bible, the most ancient of Hebrew melody:) 2) domestic tunes, used in Hebrew love songs, wedding dances, lullabies etc. 3) semi religious songs (table songs of the holiday feasts, Chassidic songs, etc.) Among songs belonging to the latter type the outstanding ones are songs of the "Chassidim," adherents of a remarkable doctrine of pietism, teaching that the communion with the Almighty is to be achieved by ecstasy and not by reason.

The author of this Album had the opportunity of participating in the activities of Baron de Guinzbourg's Expedition as well as of the Petrograd Hebrew Folksong Society, and, in this way acquired a very close acquaintance with Hebrew folk music in its original form. He has exploited in this Album some of the beautiful and characteristic tunes used by the Eastern Hebrew masses in their synagogues and domestic life. He has tried to make his free treatment of these tunes as well as their pianistic dress as simple as possible, accessible to everyone, even to a child or a music lover with the slightest technical equipment.

The author is happy at the prospect of having this Album spread among the Hebrew masses and non-Hebrews as well, and trusts that it may assist in furthering sympathy among races of different psychology, the feeling which art is prone to evoke.

LAZARE SAMINSKY

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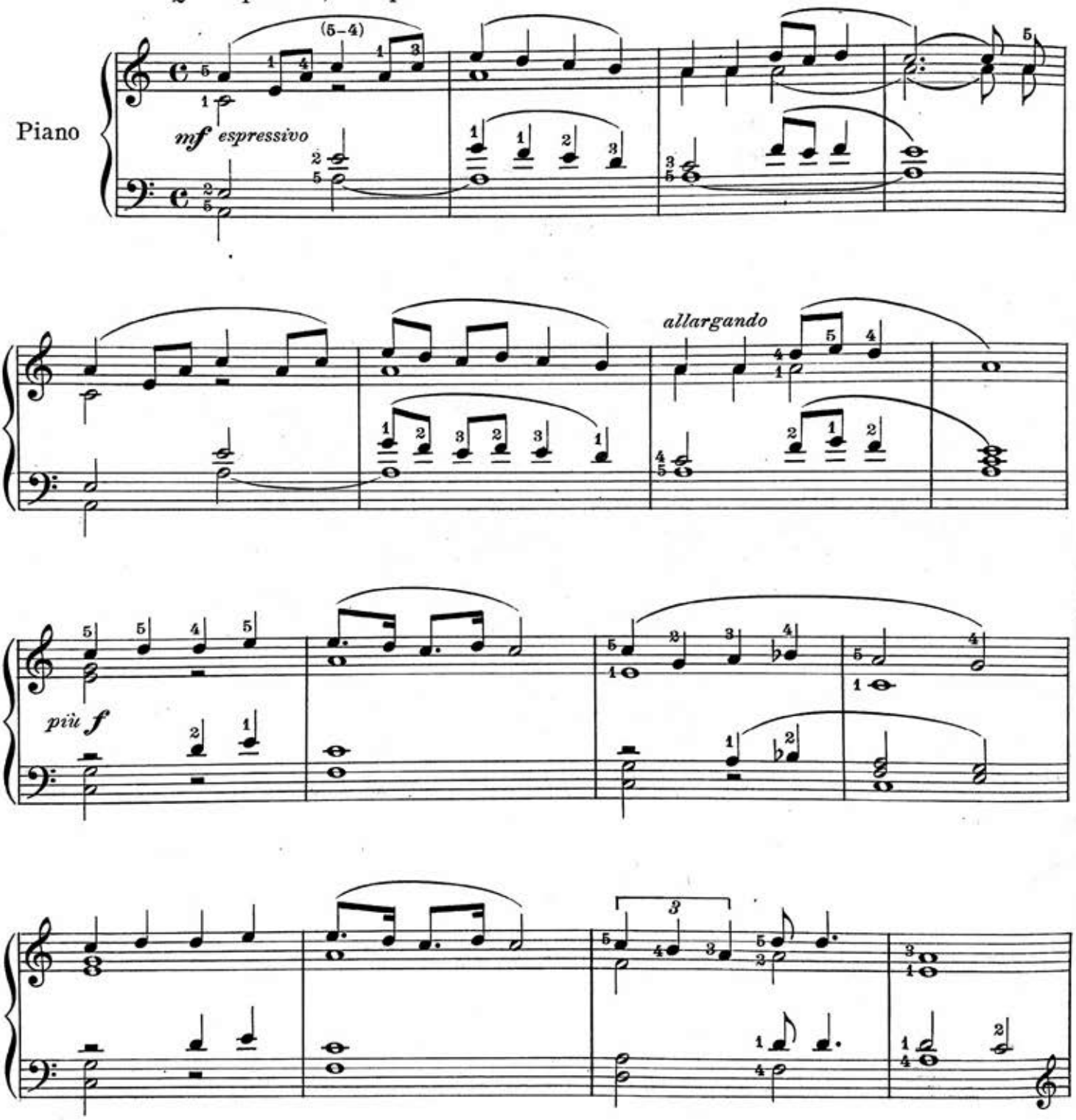
1. A Song and a Dance of the Feast

(Zur mischelej ochalnu)

LAZARE SAMINSKY, Op. 22

Quasi prelude, tranquillo



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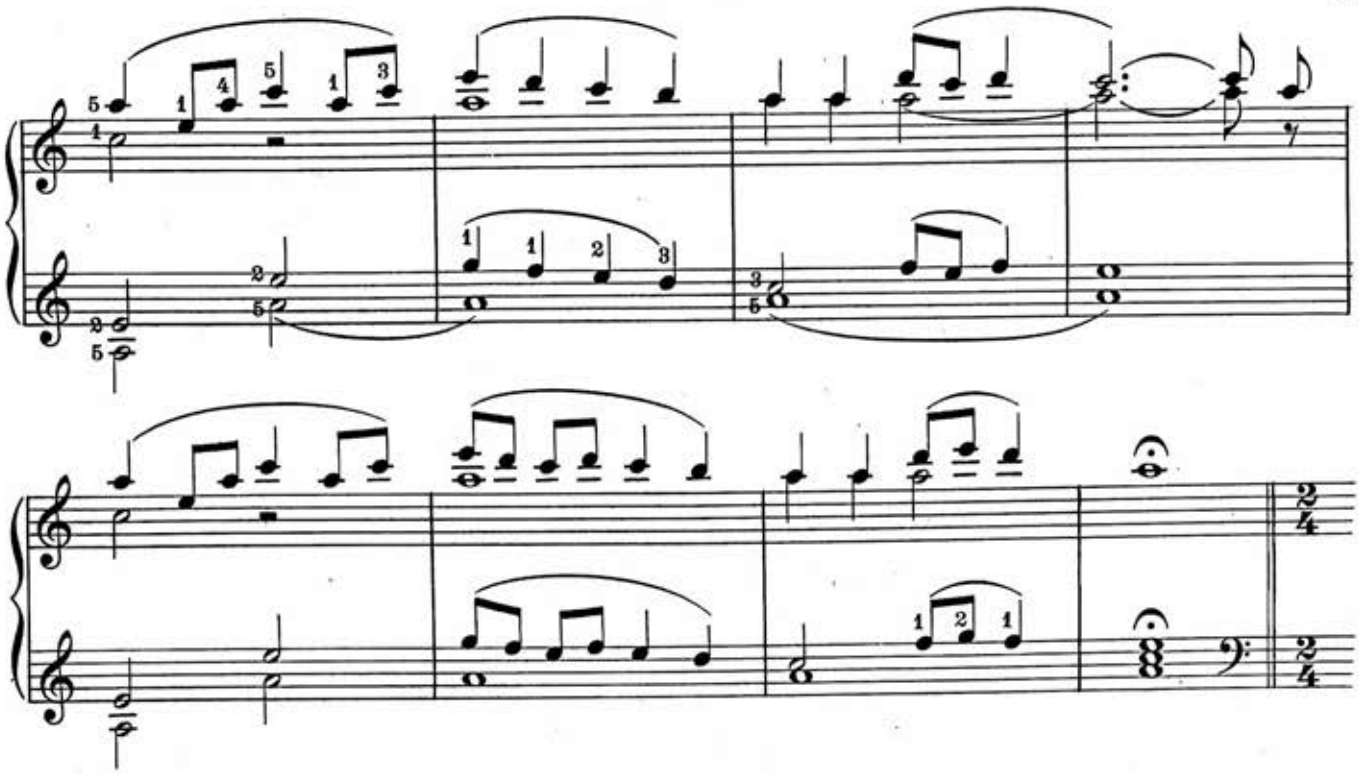
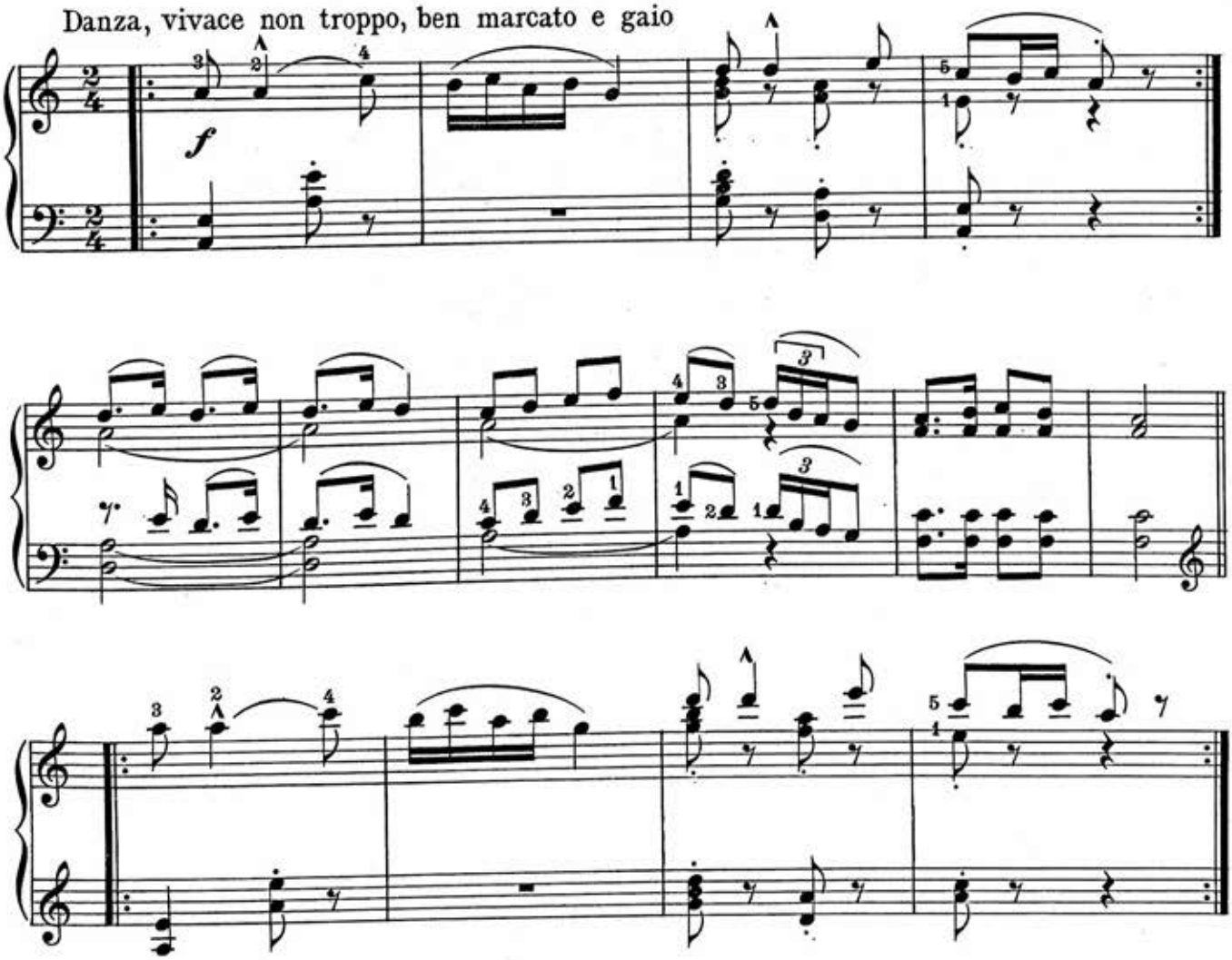
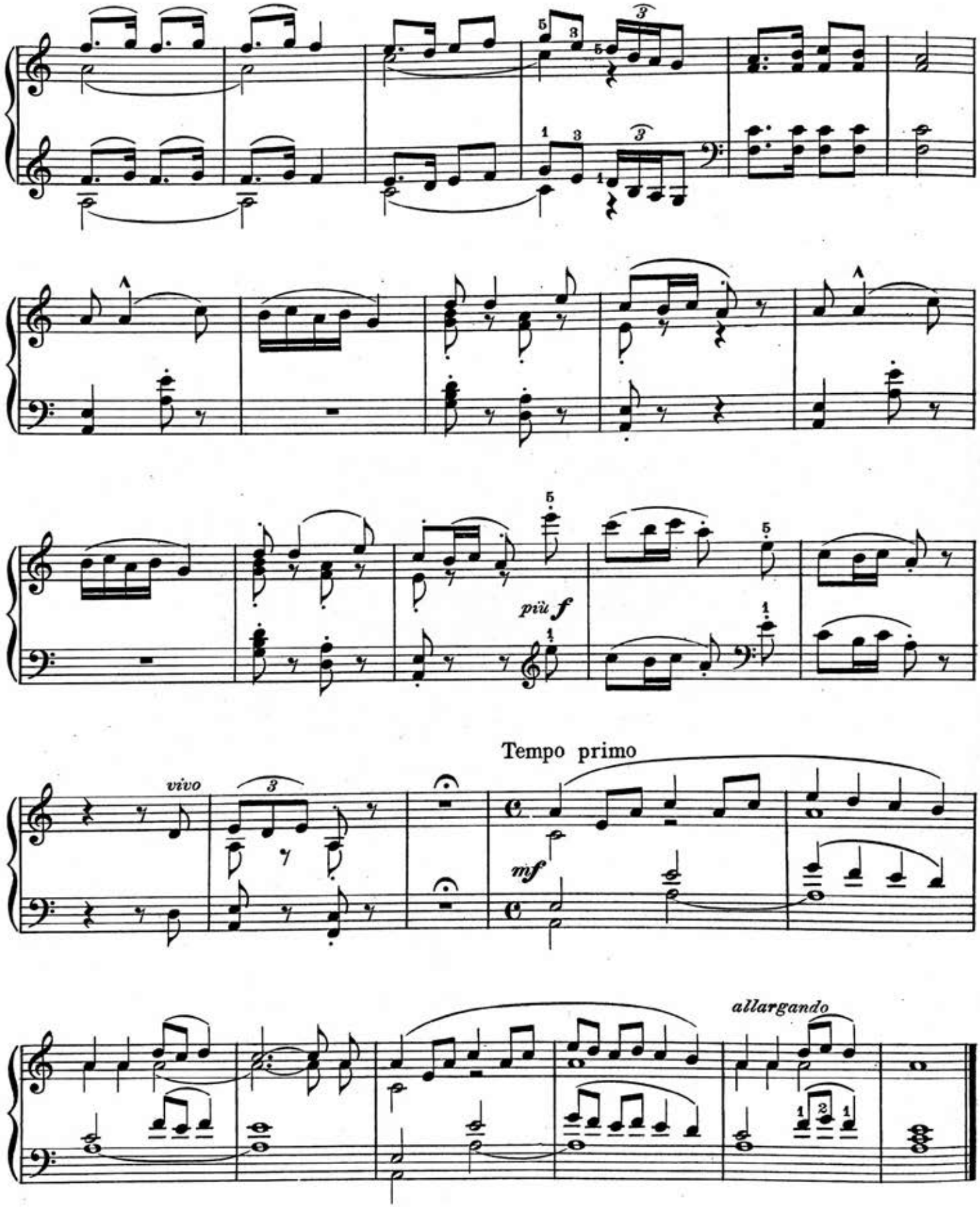


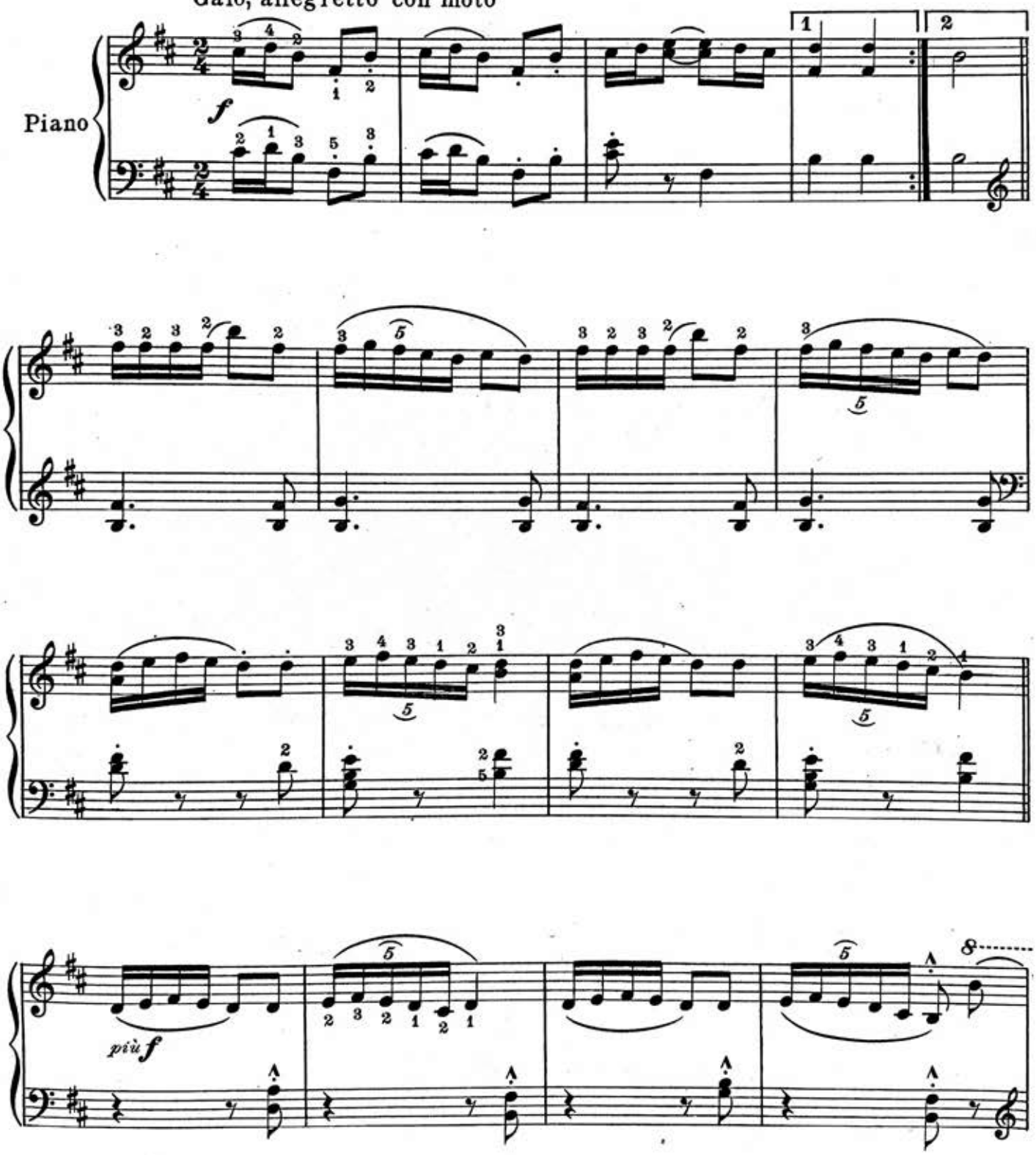
Danza, vivace non troppo, ben marcato e gaio

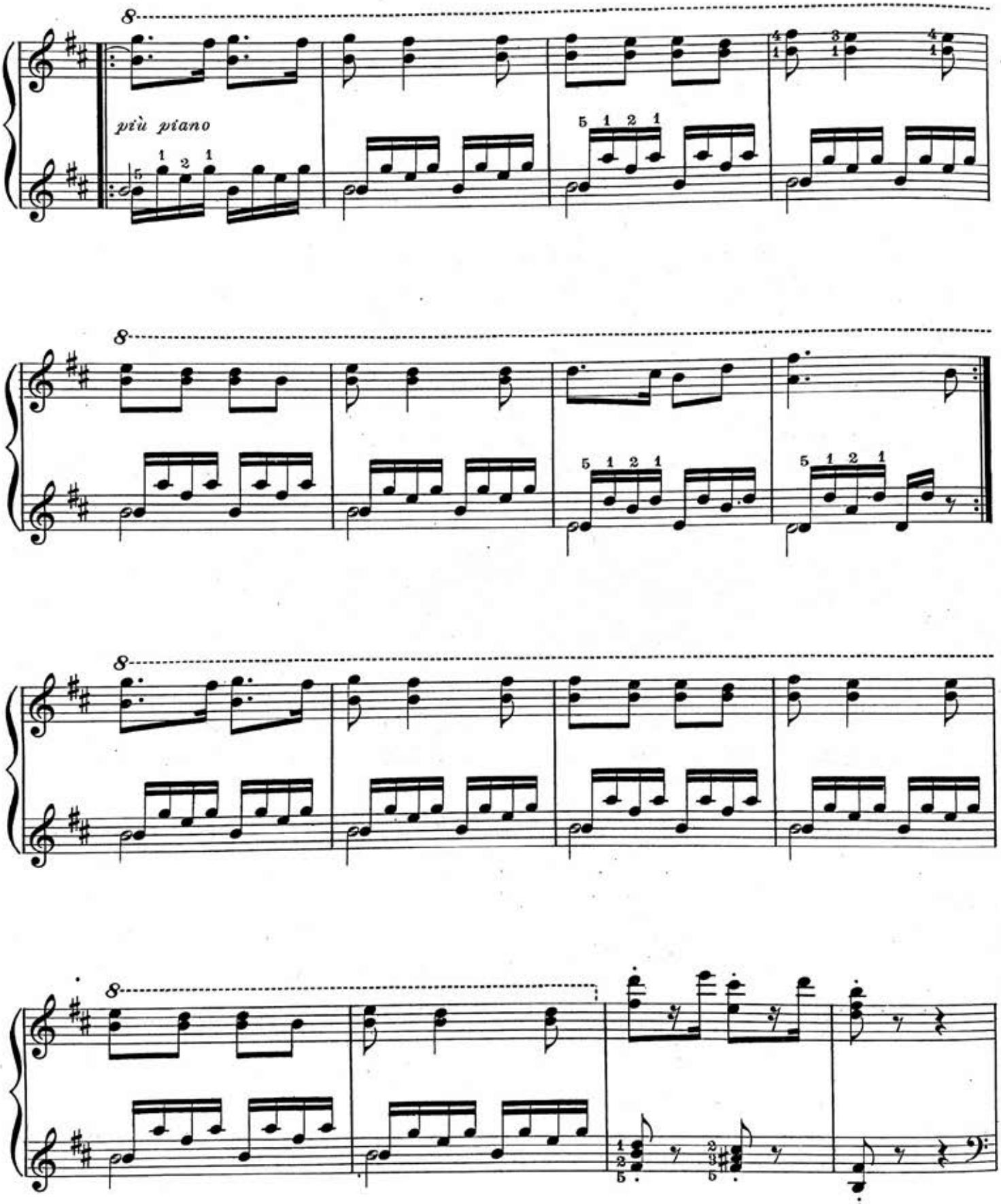


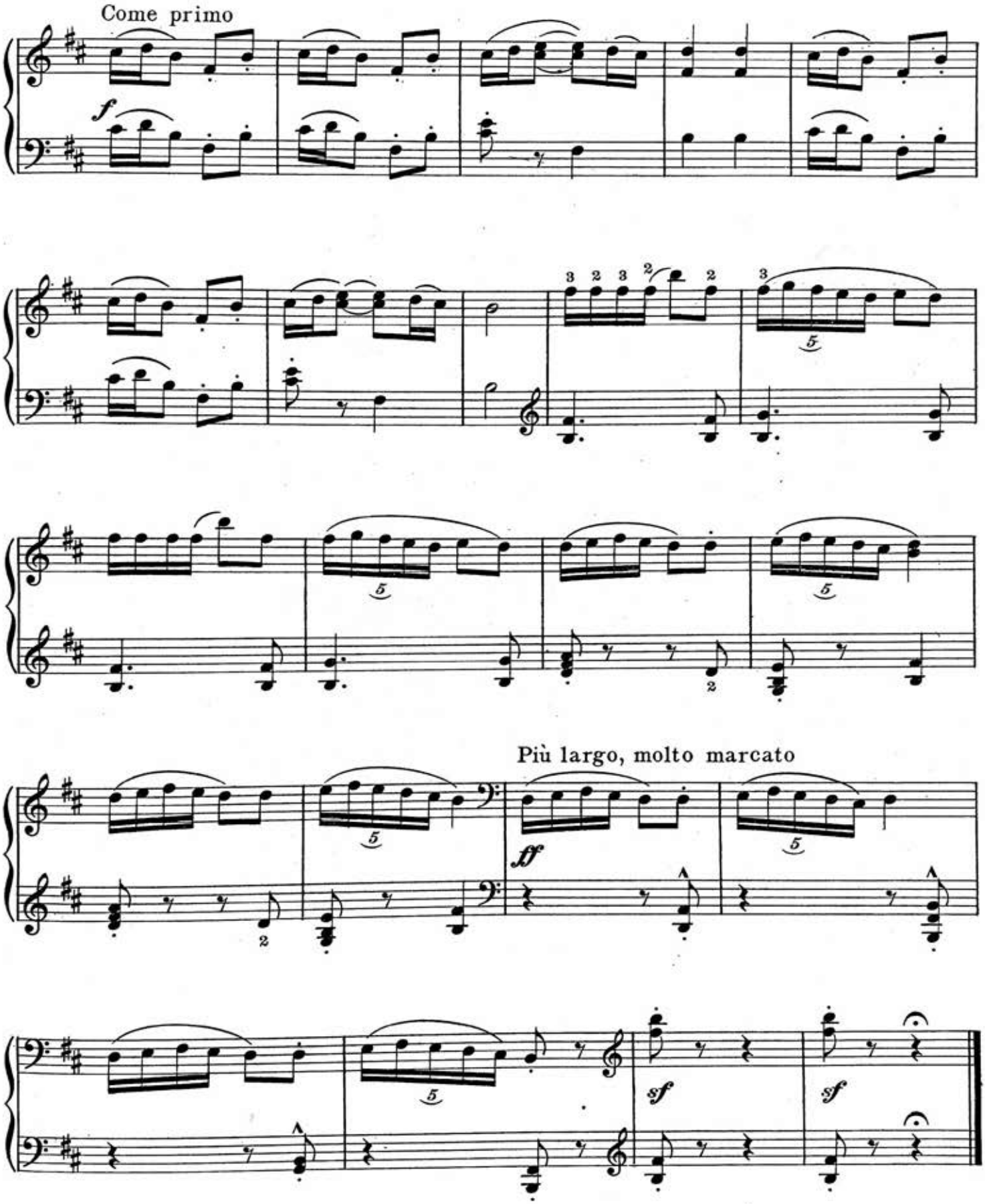

più f
Tempo primo
vivo
mf
allargando

2. Folk-dance

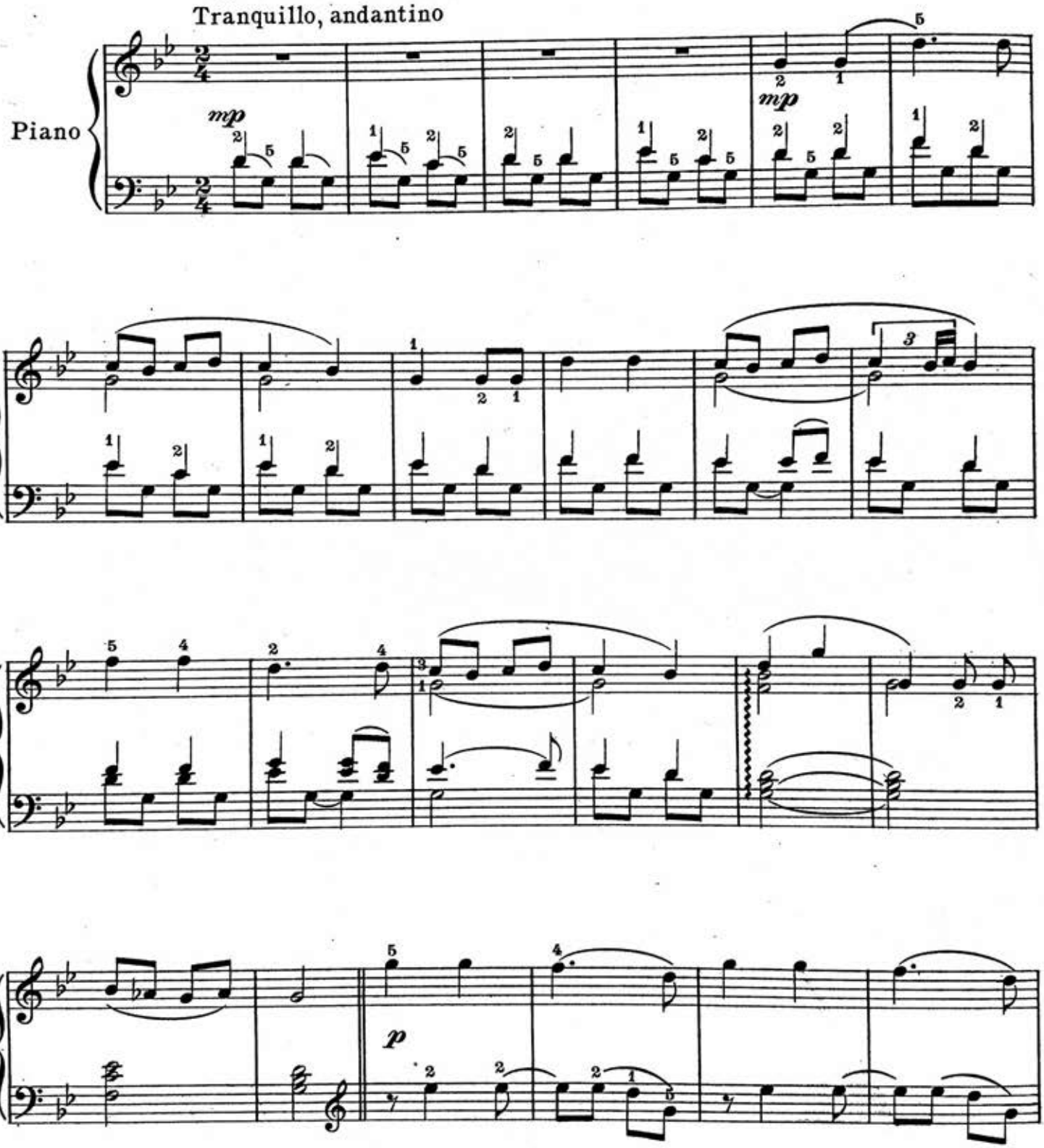
Gaio, allegretto con moto

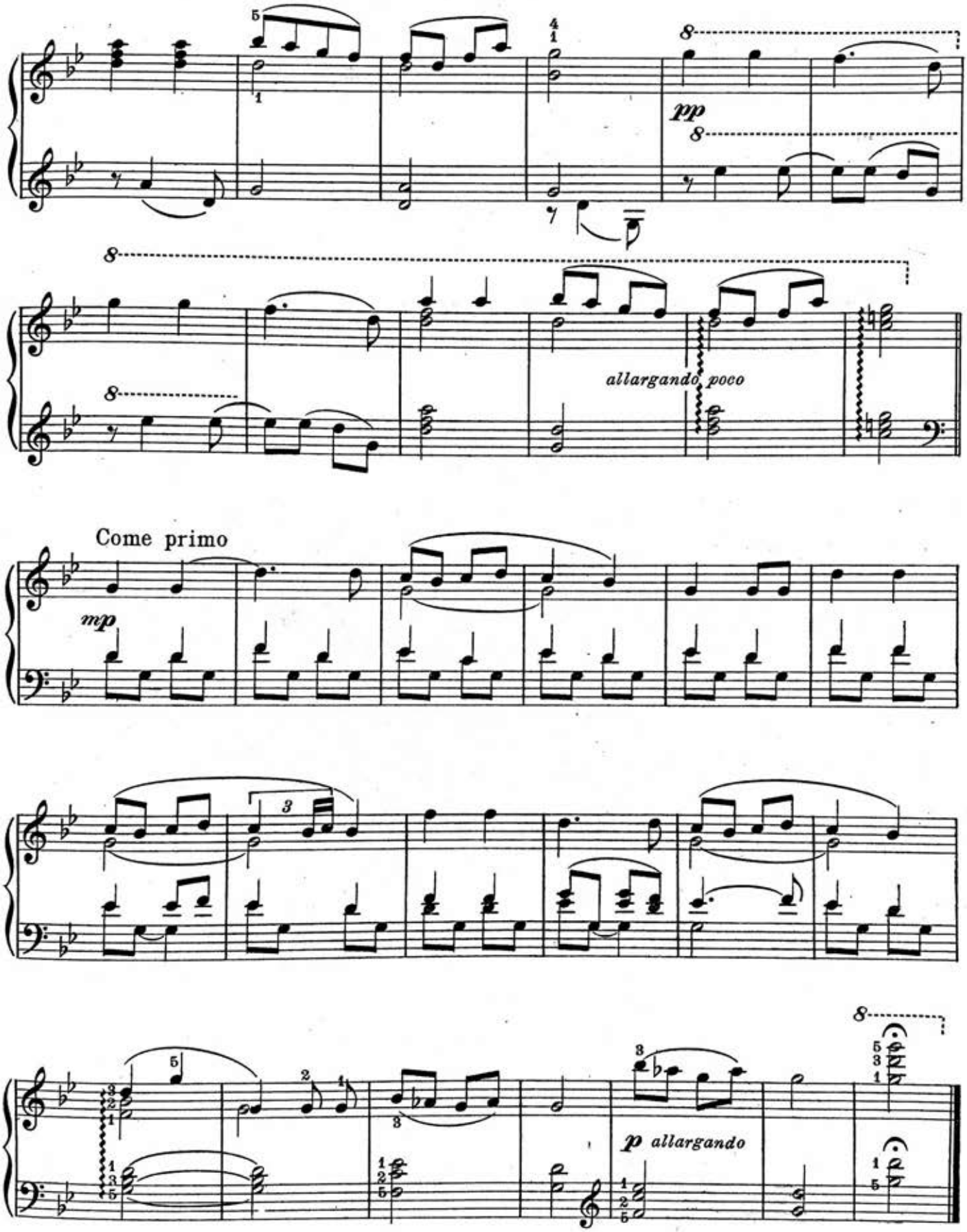



più piano


Come primo
f
3 2 3 2 2
3
5
5
5
2
Più largo, molto marcato
ff
5
2
5
5
sf
sf

3. A Lullaby




pp
allargando poco
Come primo
mp
p allargando

4. A Chassidic Religious Song

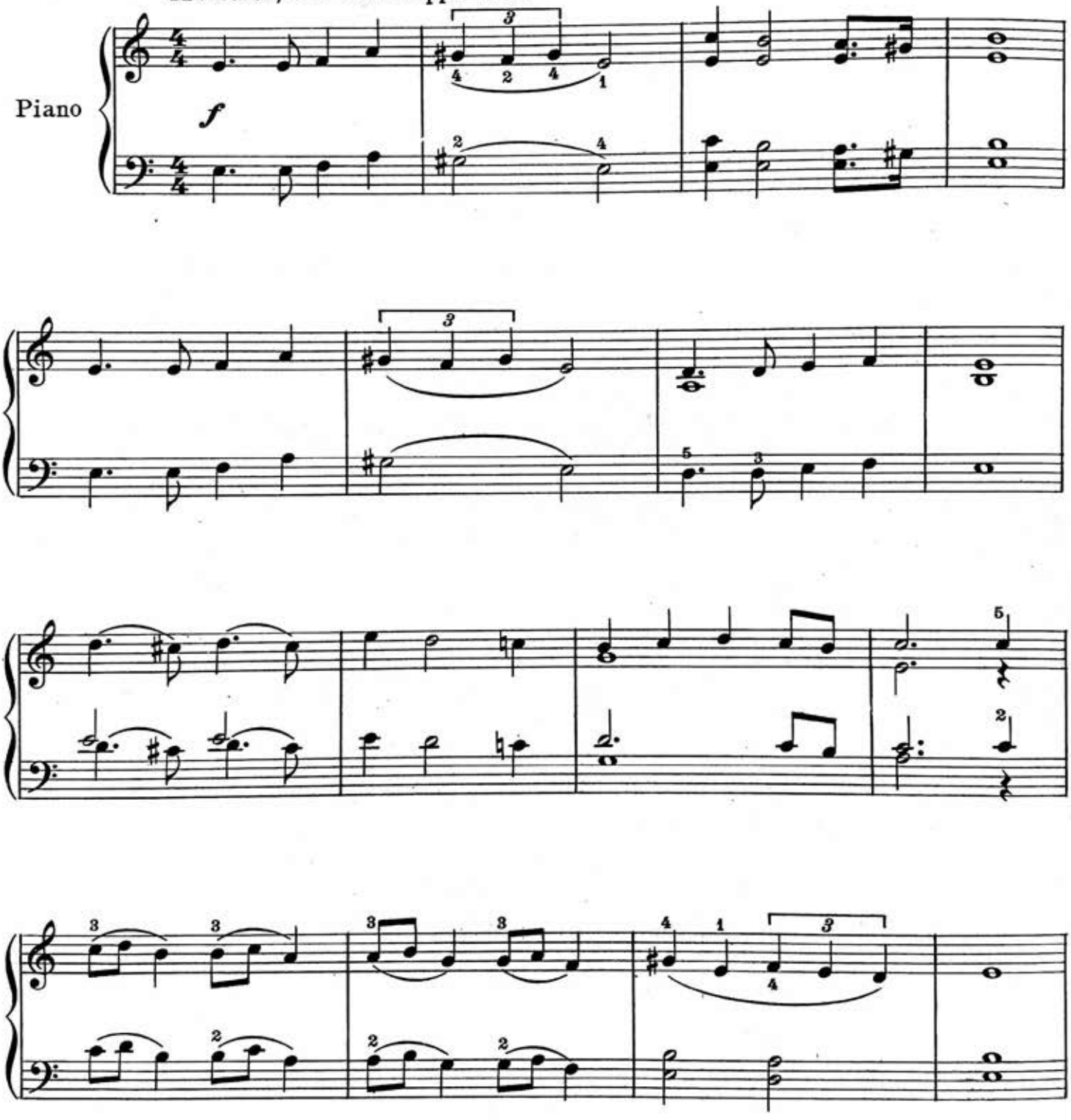
("Reb' Schmuel's Nigun")

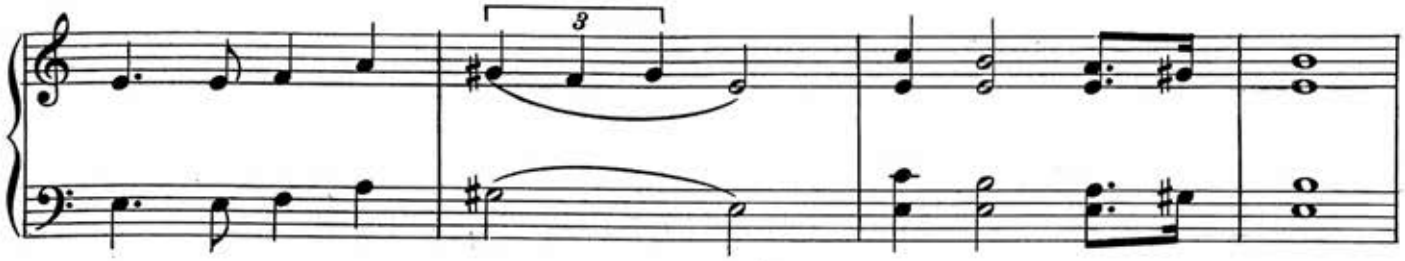
*

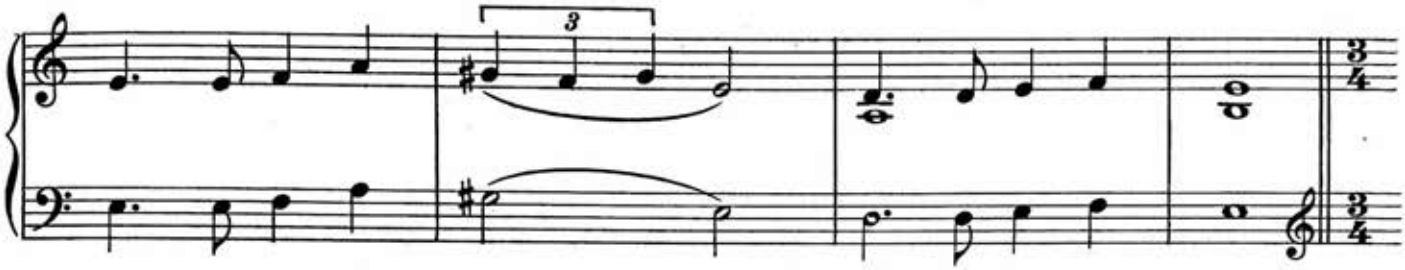
Maestoso, ma non troppo lento

Piano

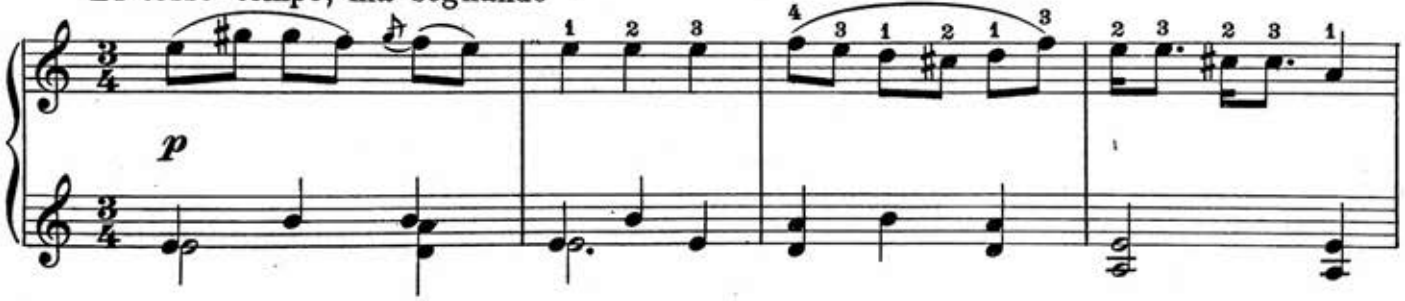
f

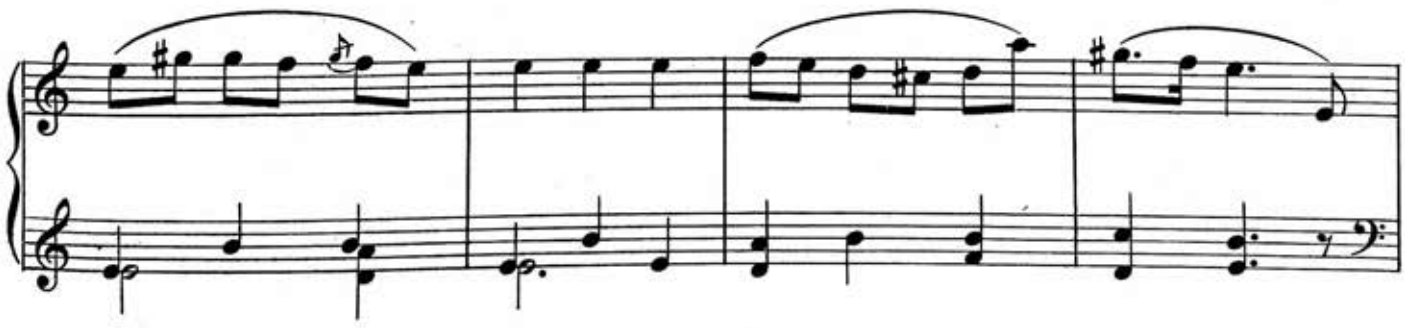


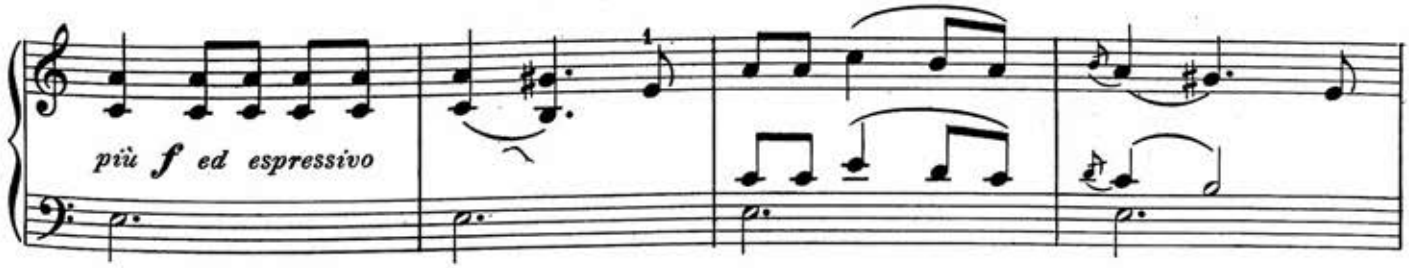


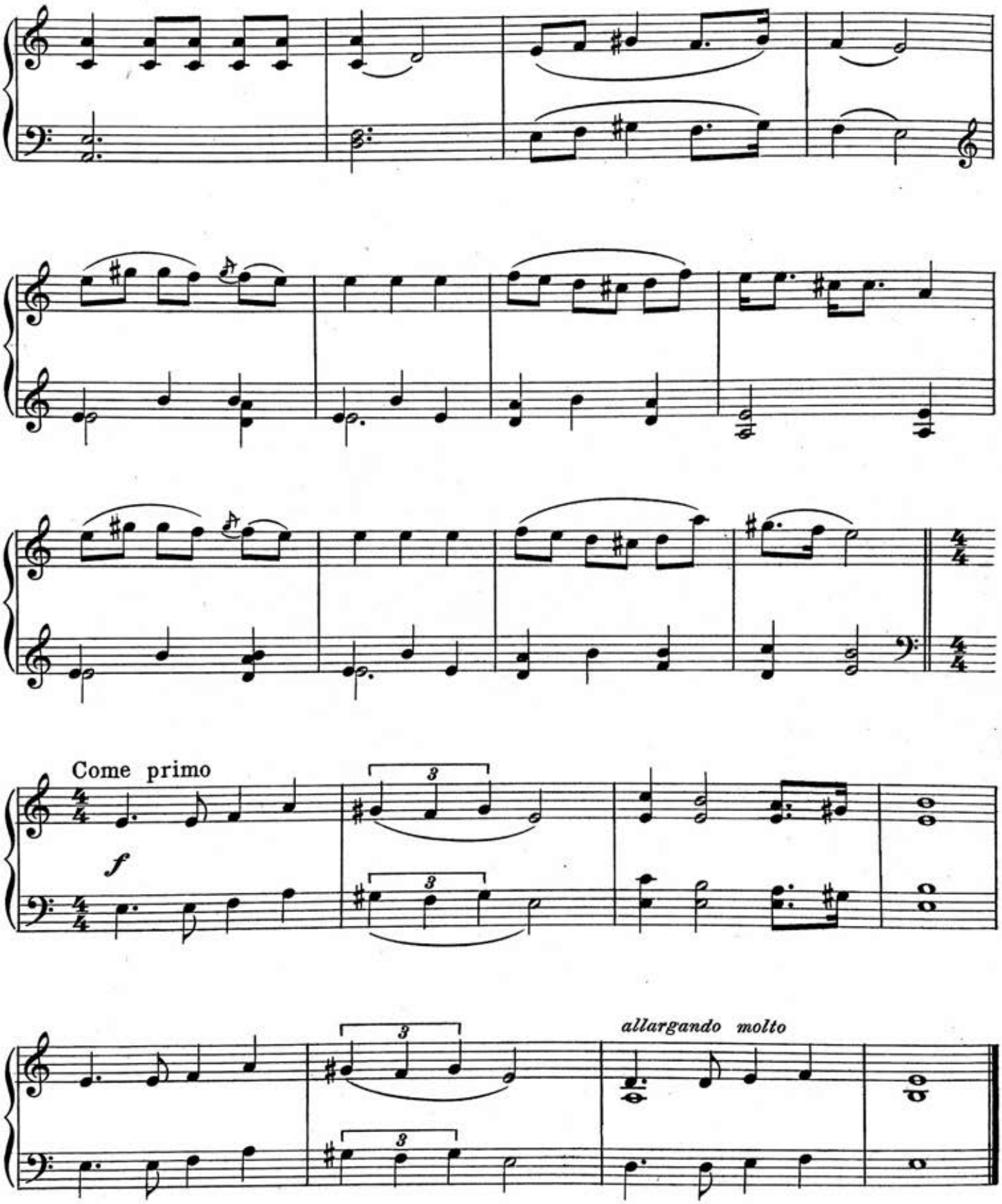


L'istesso tempo, ma sognando



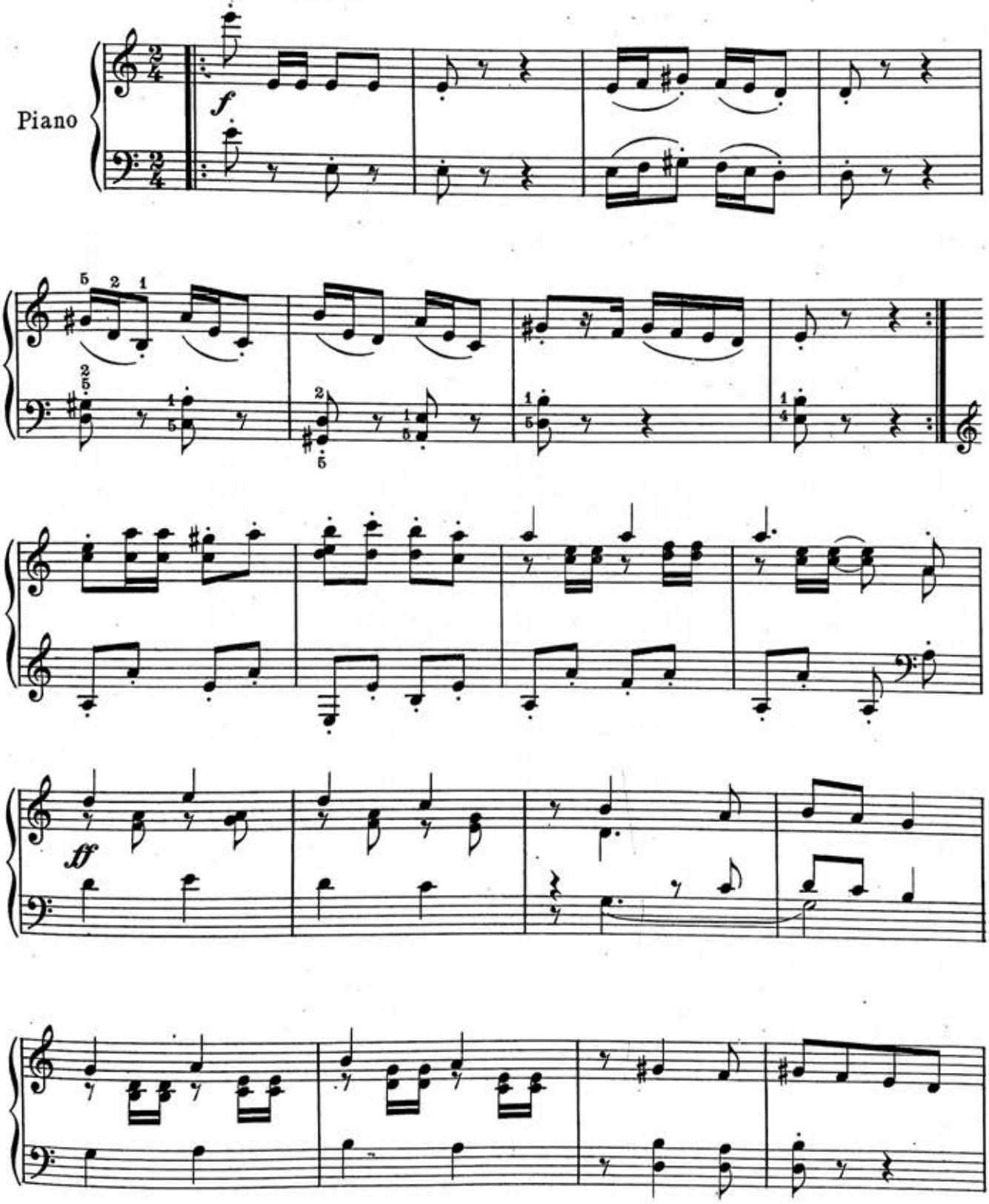


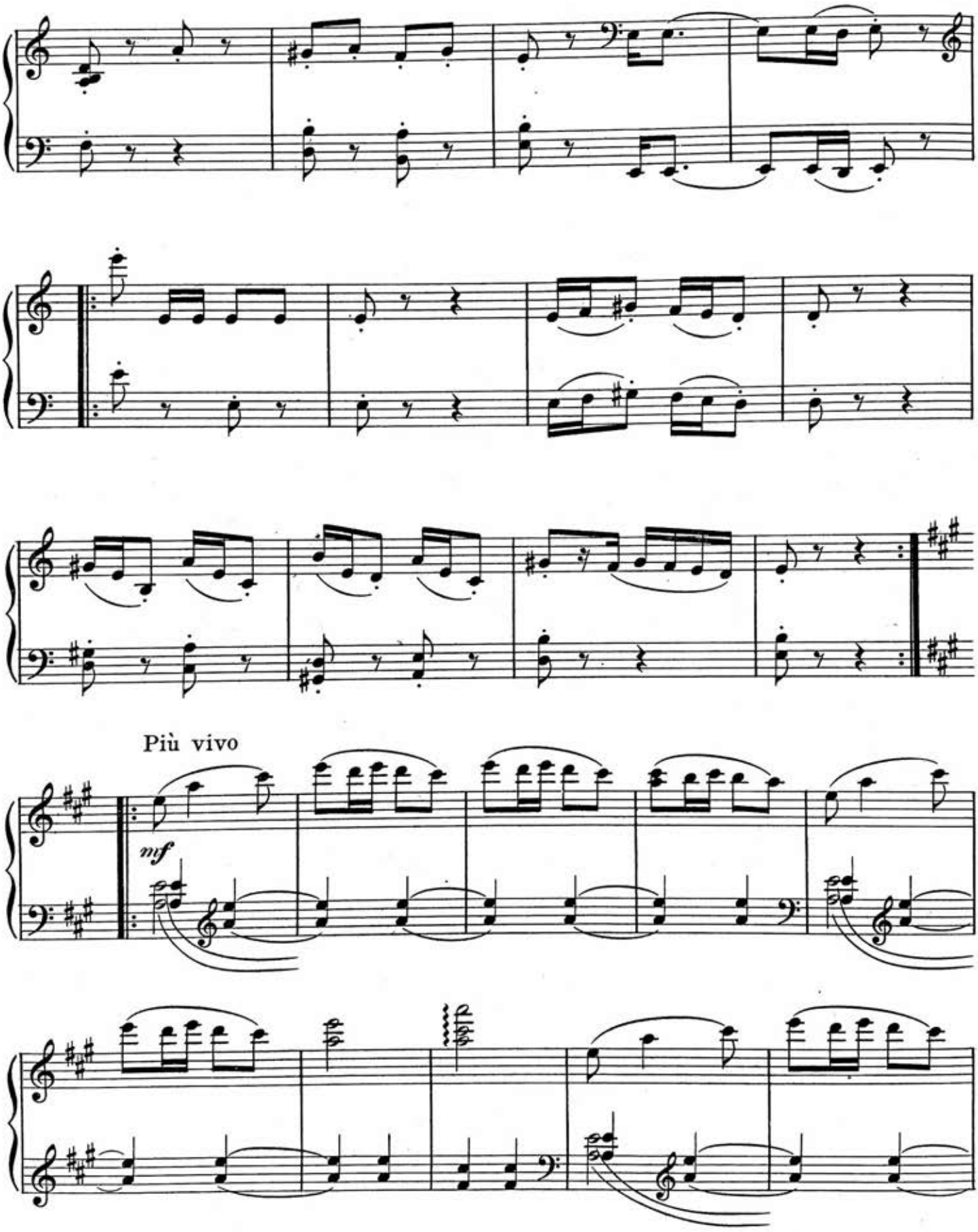


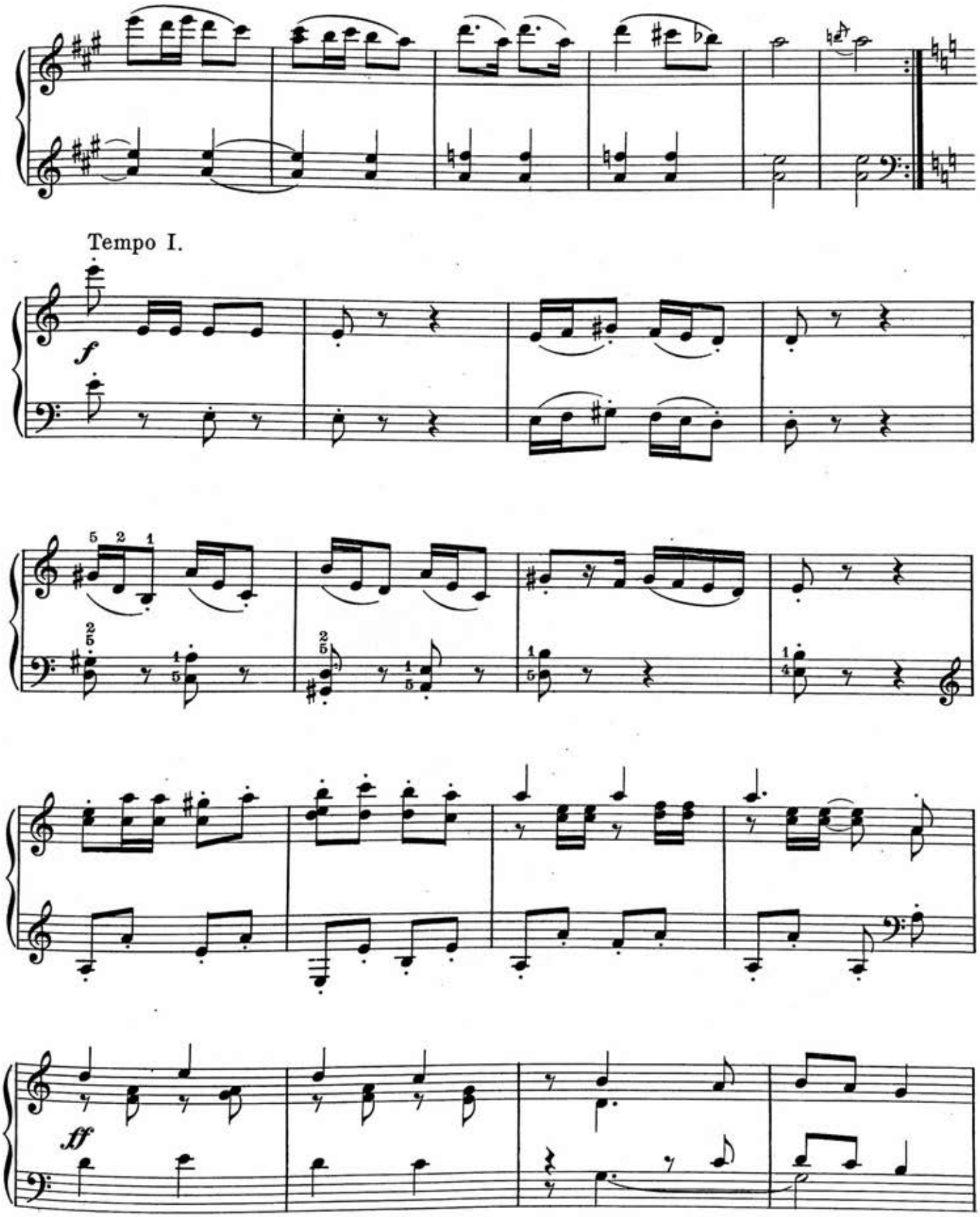

Come primo
f
allargando molto

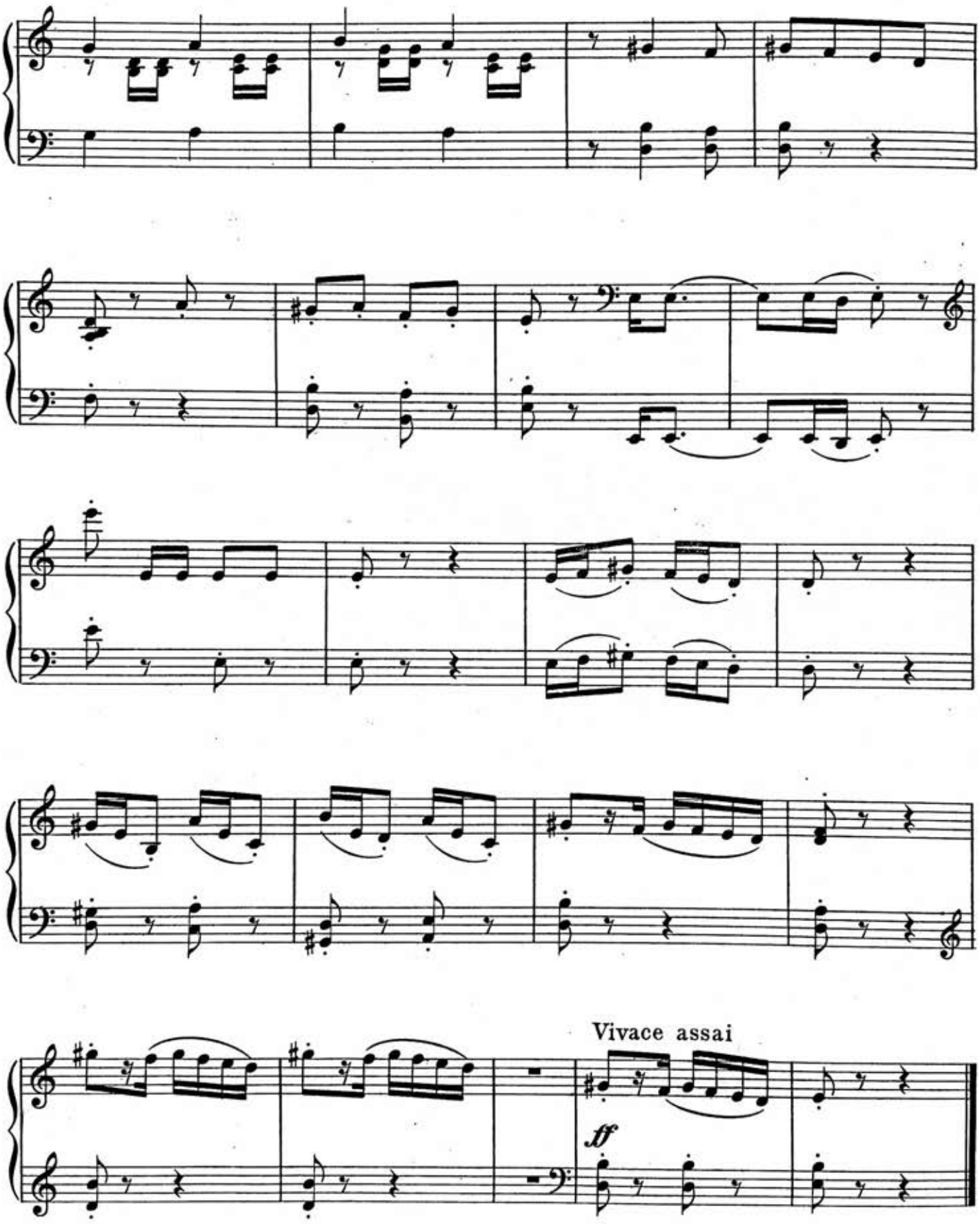
5. A Merry Wedding Dance

Giocoso, con spirito



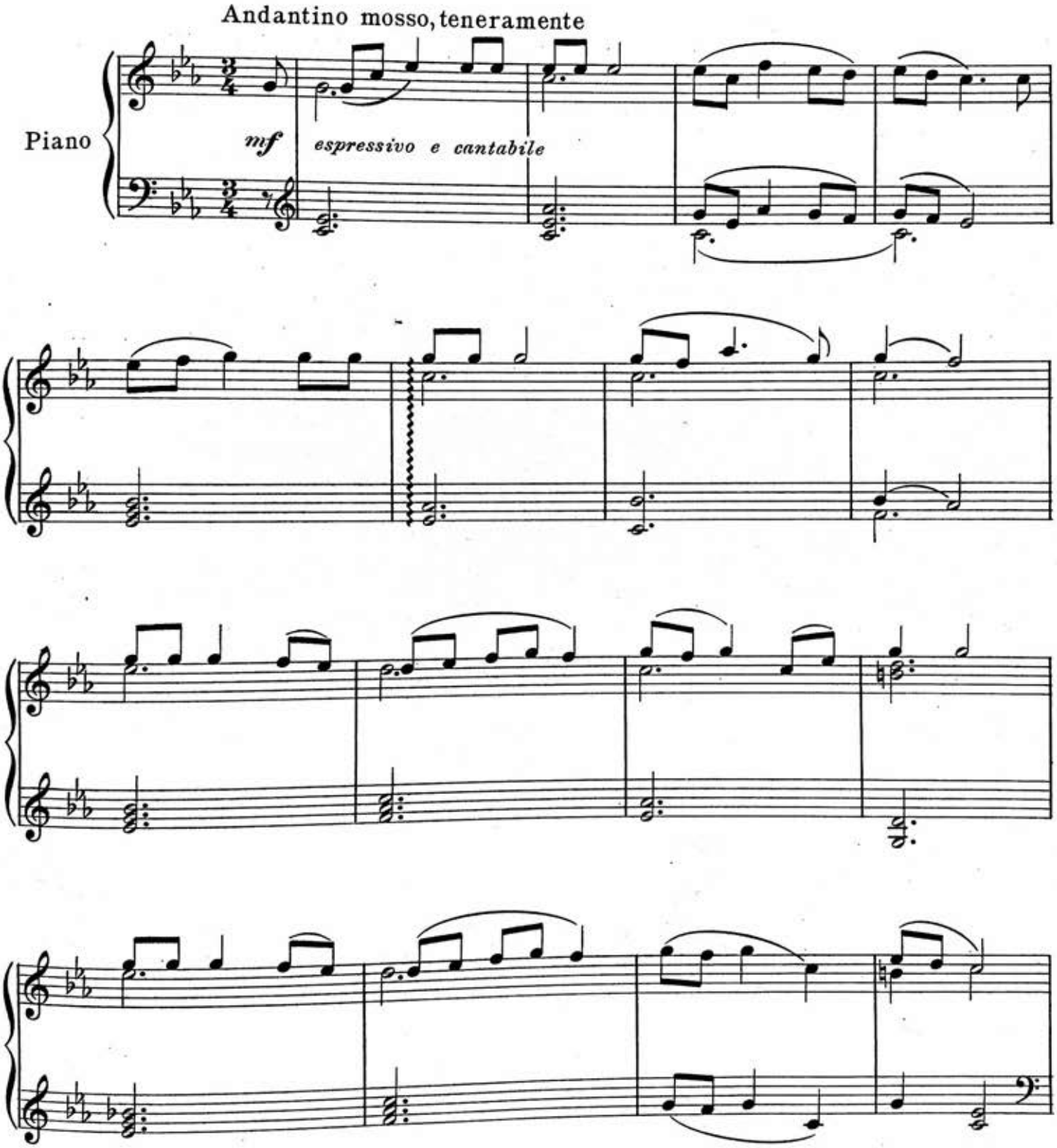

Più vivo
mf

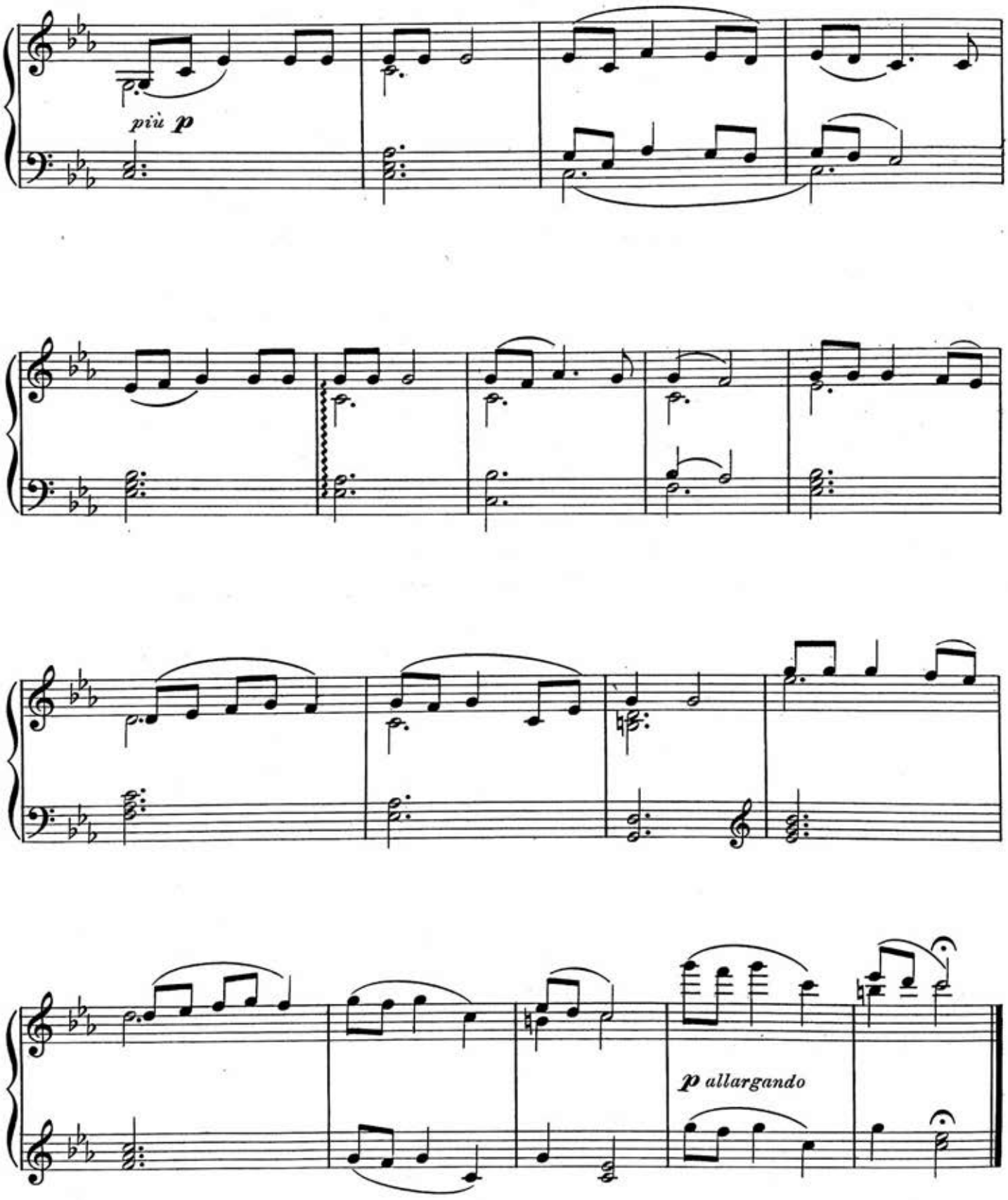

Tempo I.
f
ff


Vivace assai
ff

6. A Love-Song

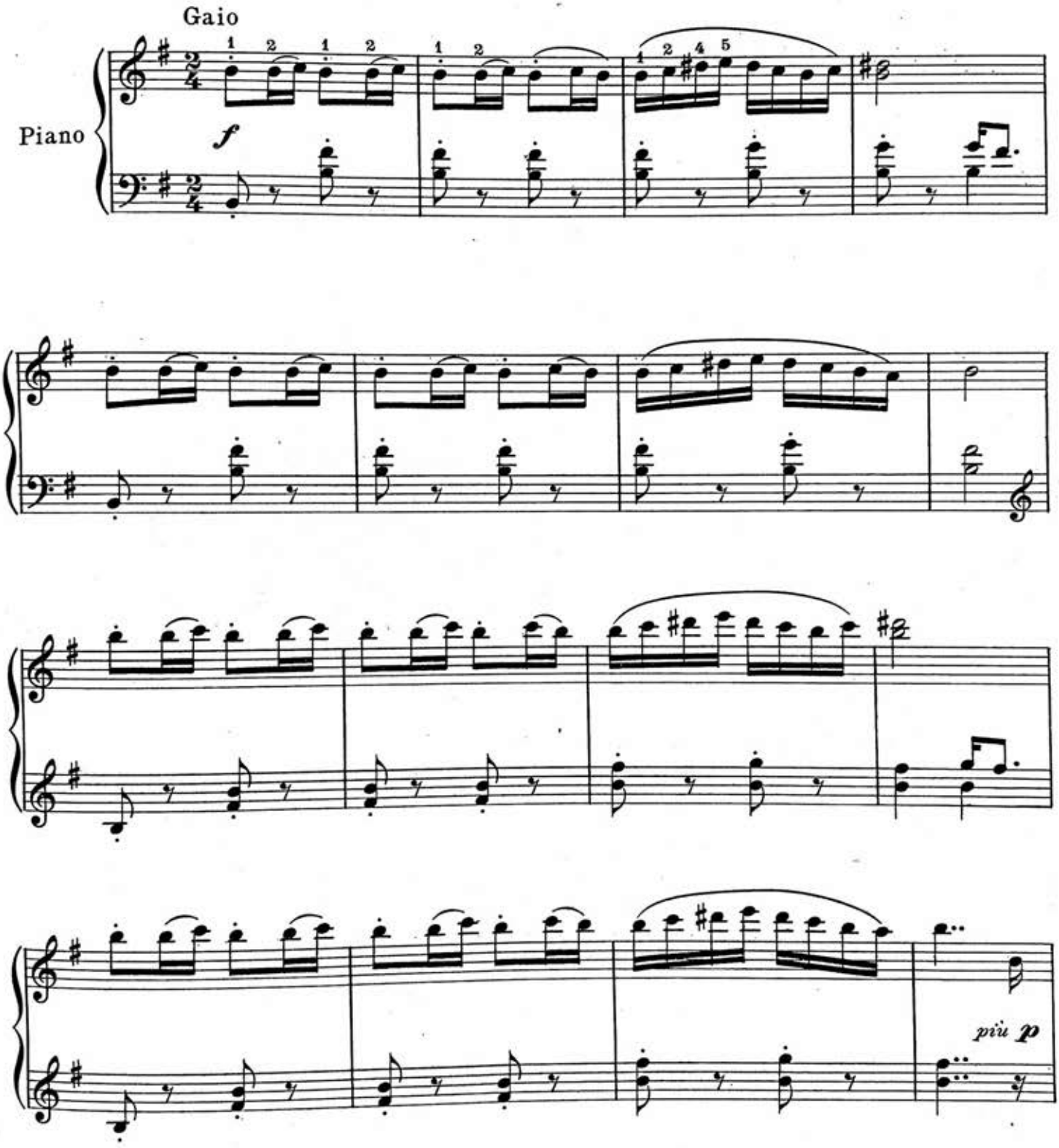
(Lied fun a feigele)

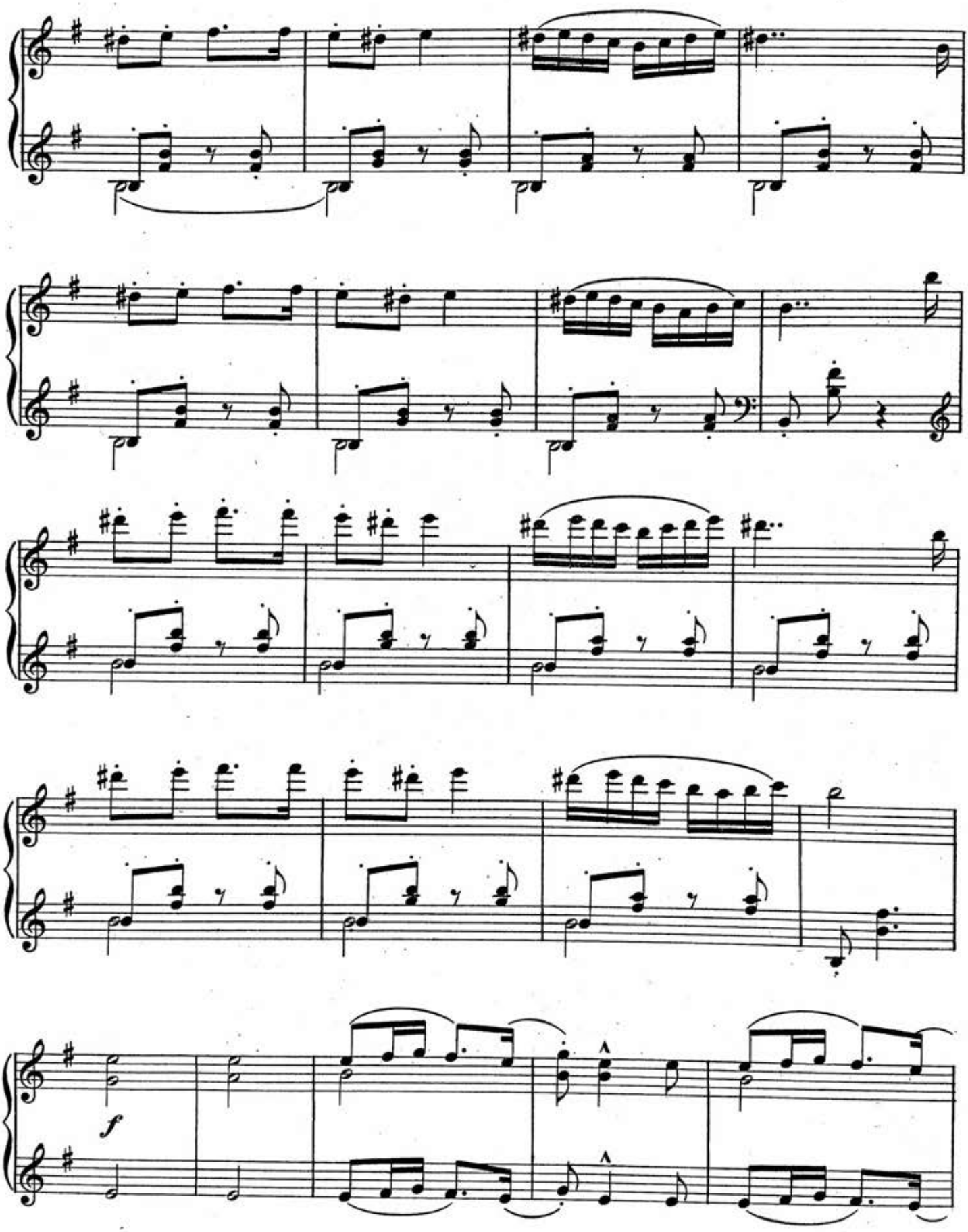


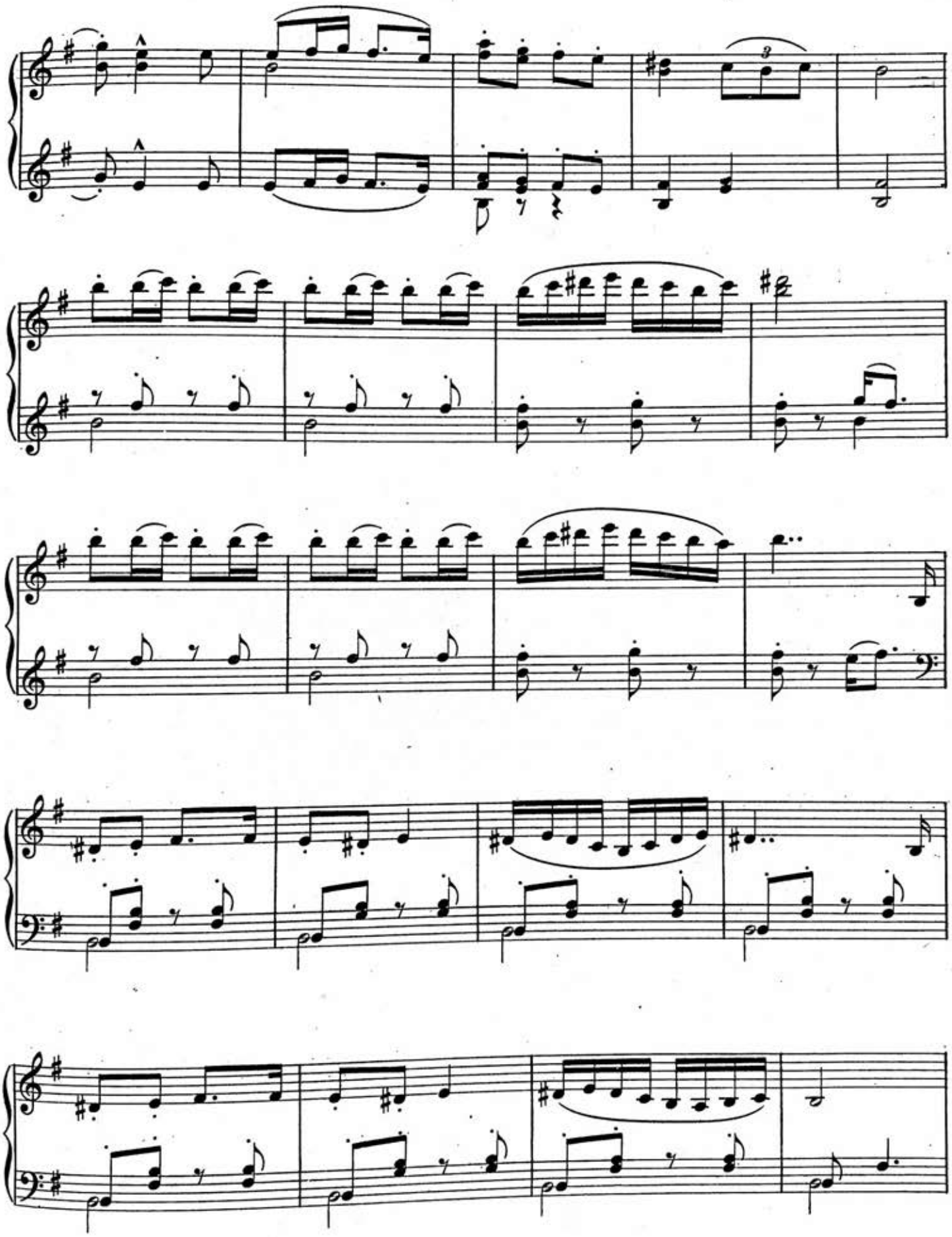

più p
p allargando

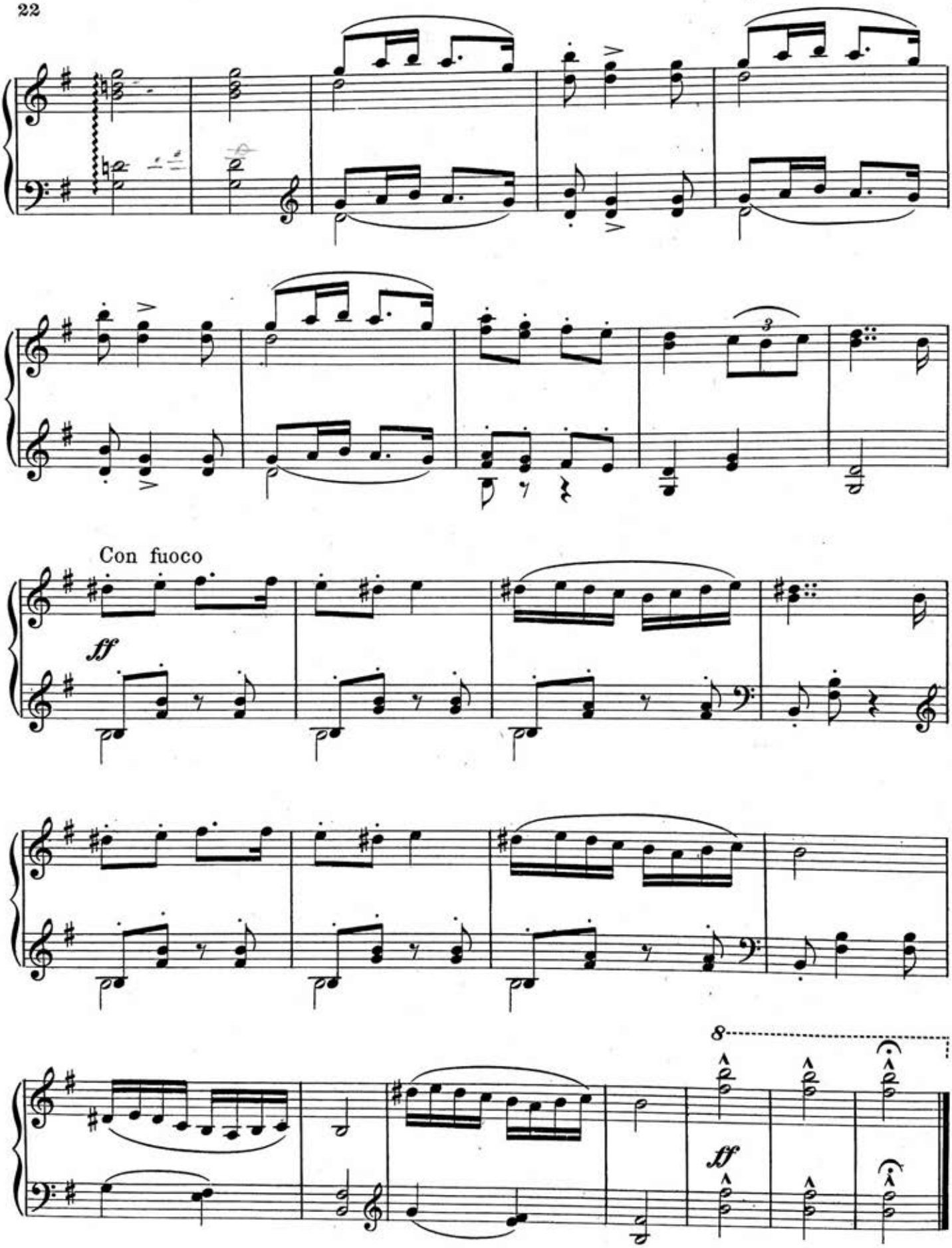
7. A Chassidic Sabbath Dance

(Mlave Malke)

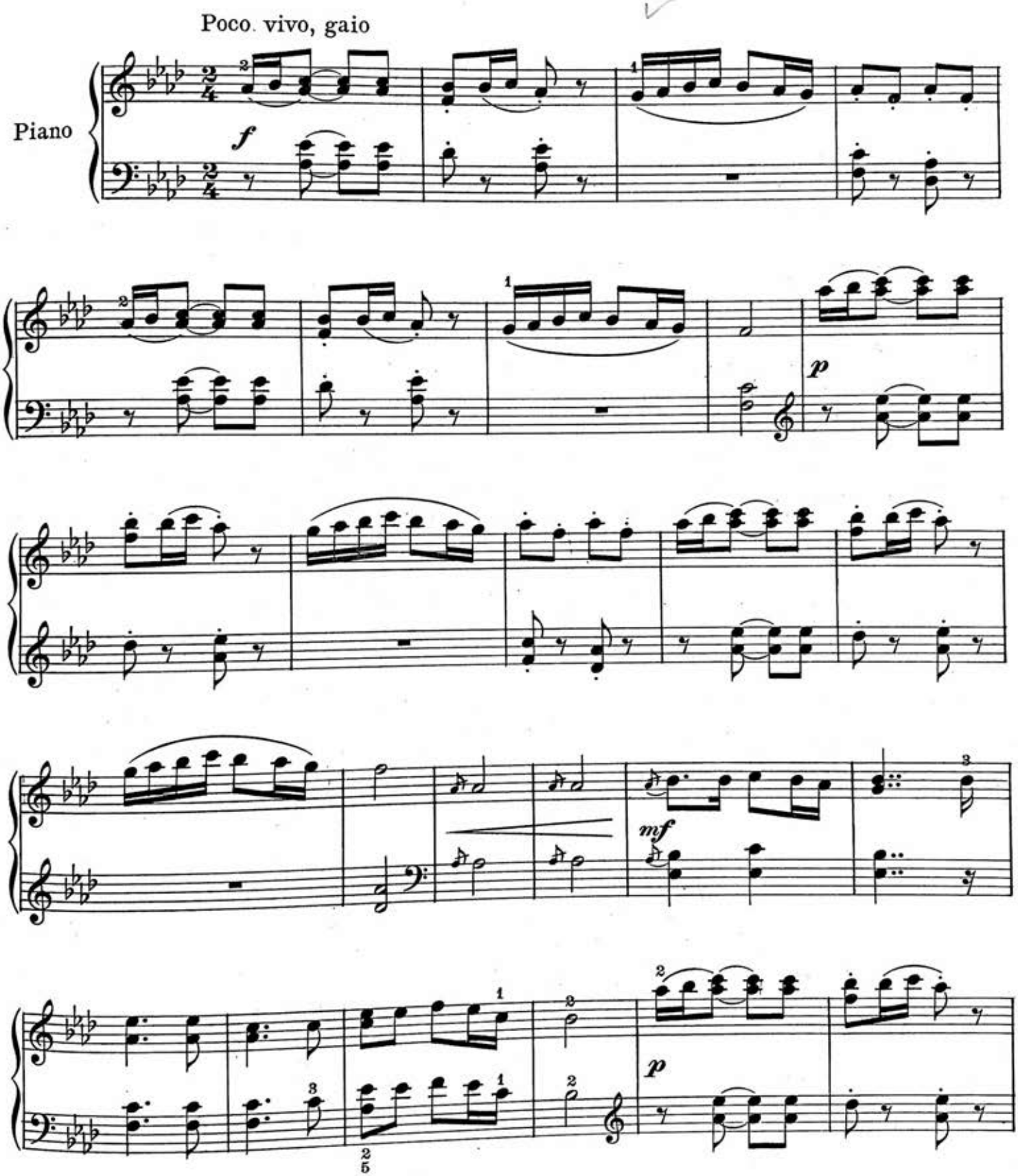


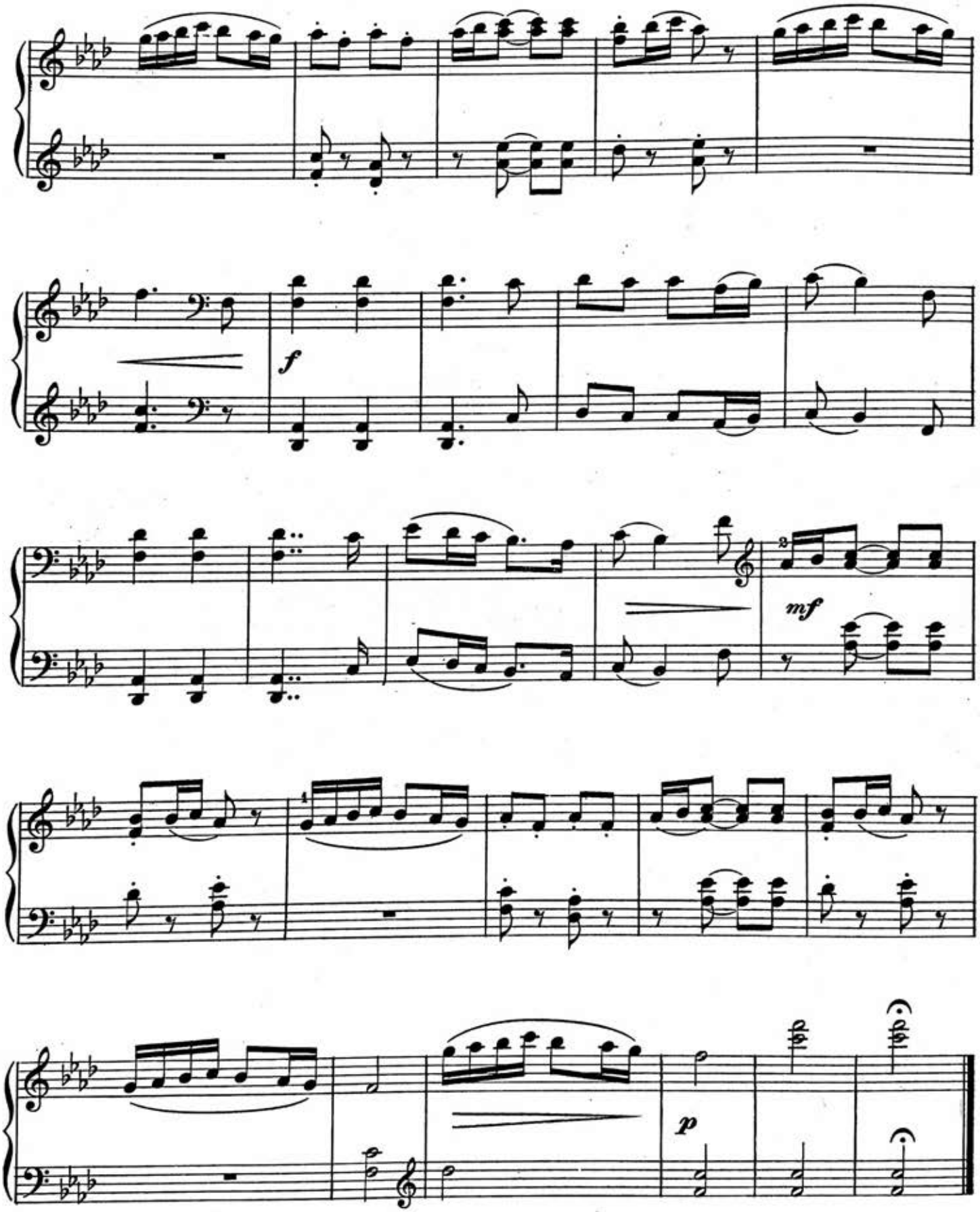

f




Con fuoco
ff
8
ff

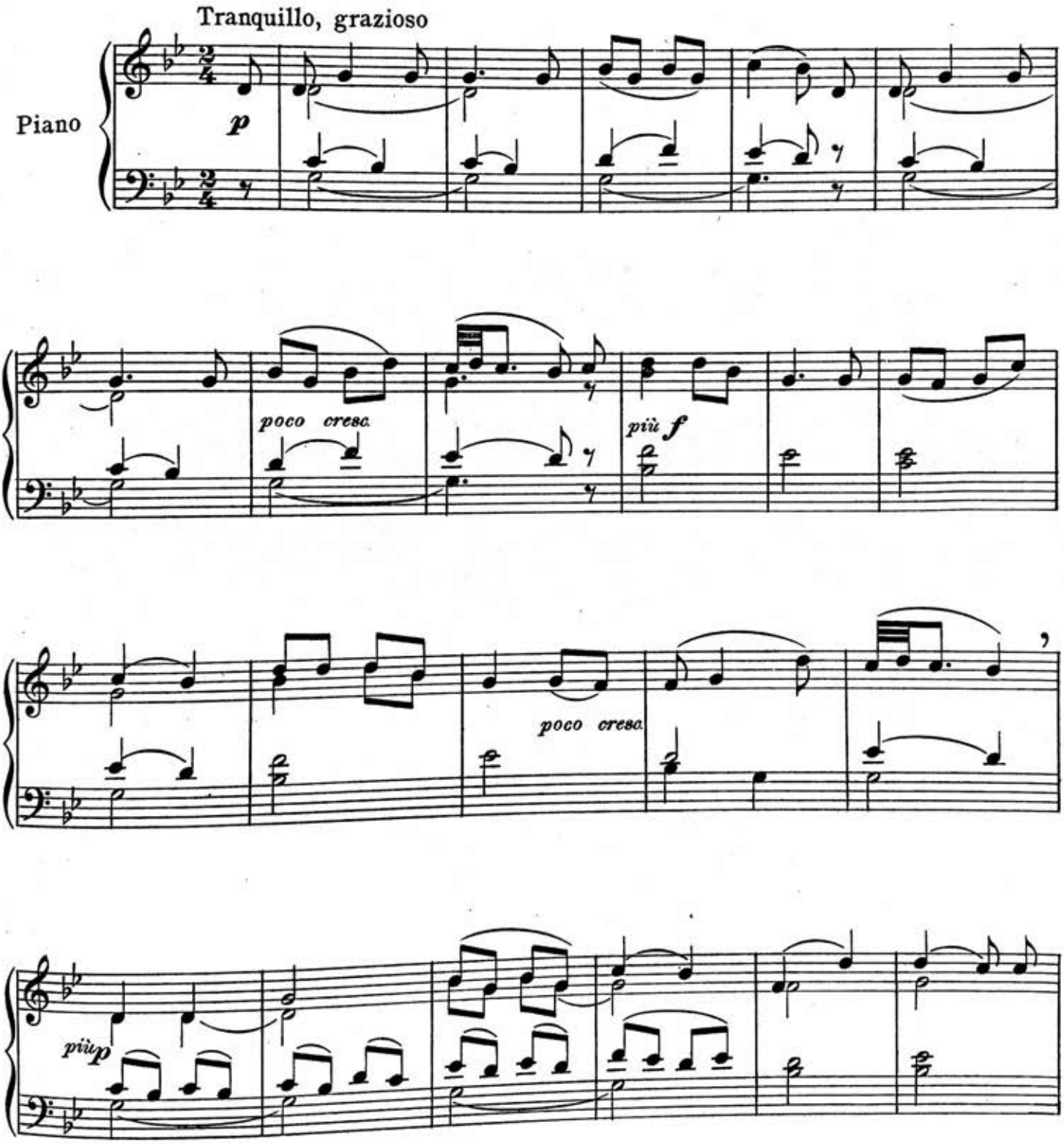
8. A Chassidic Religious Dance

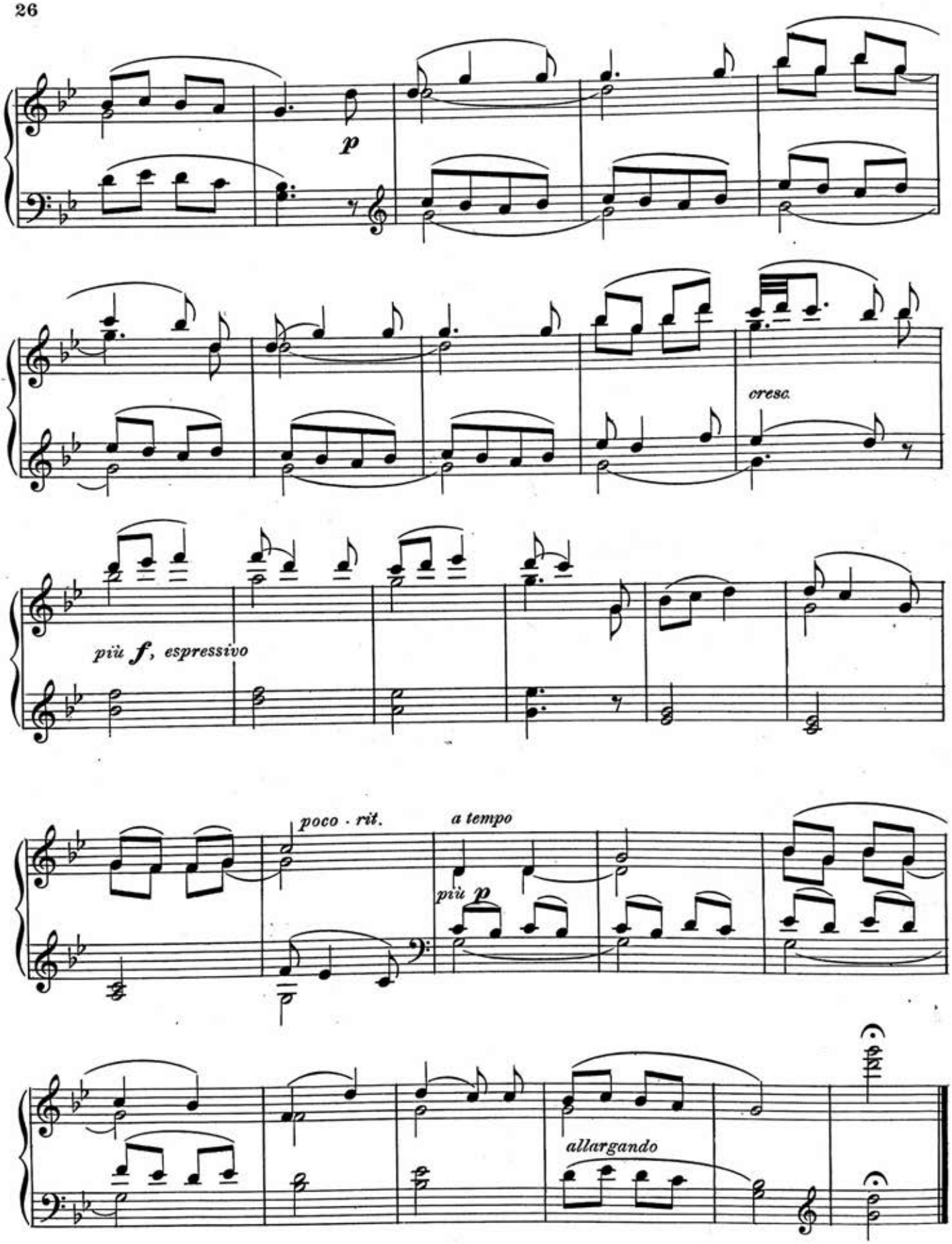



f
mf
p

9. A Lullaby

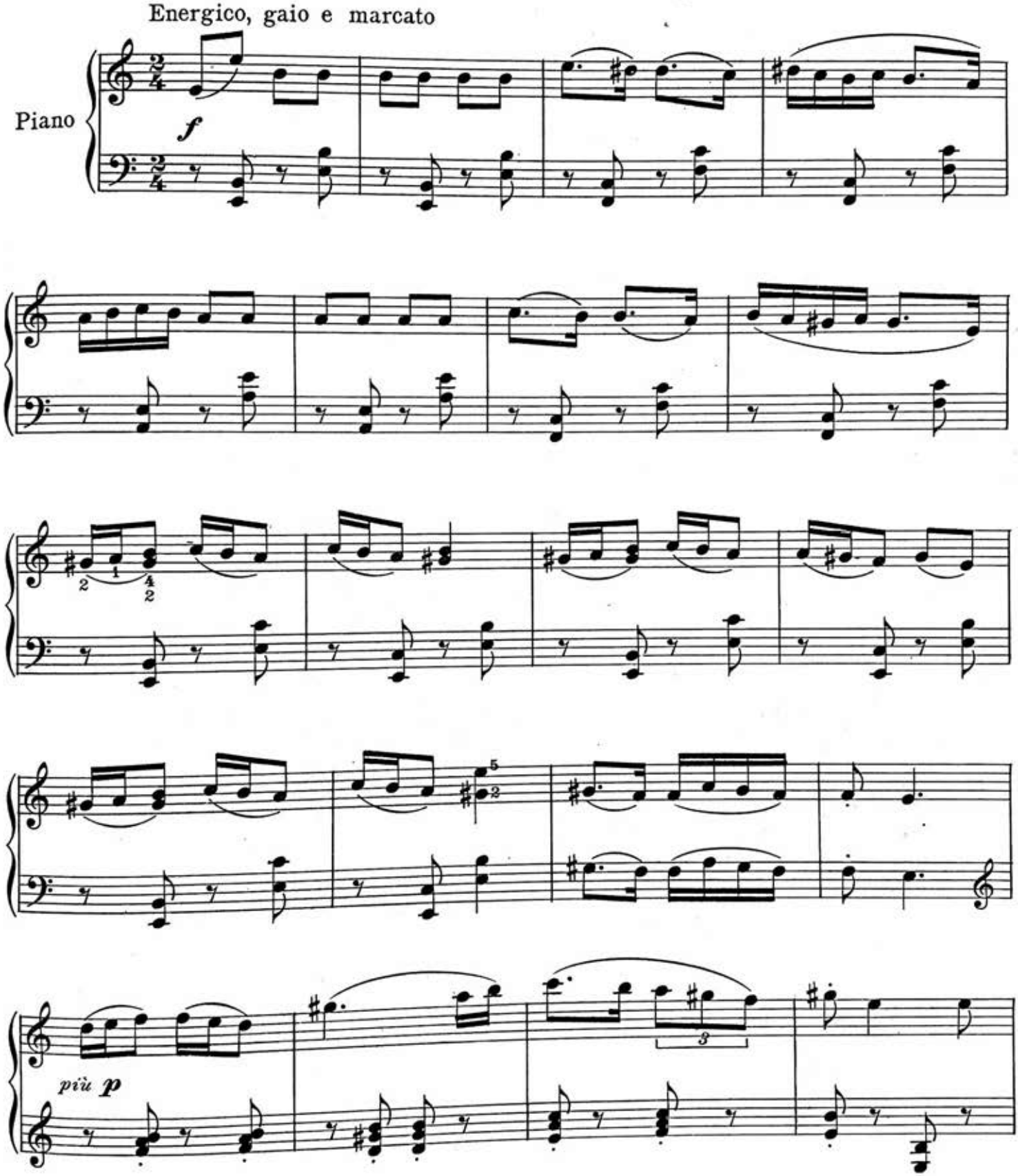
("As ich wollt gehat")

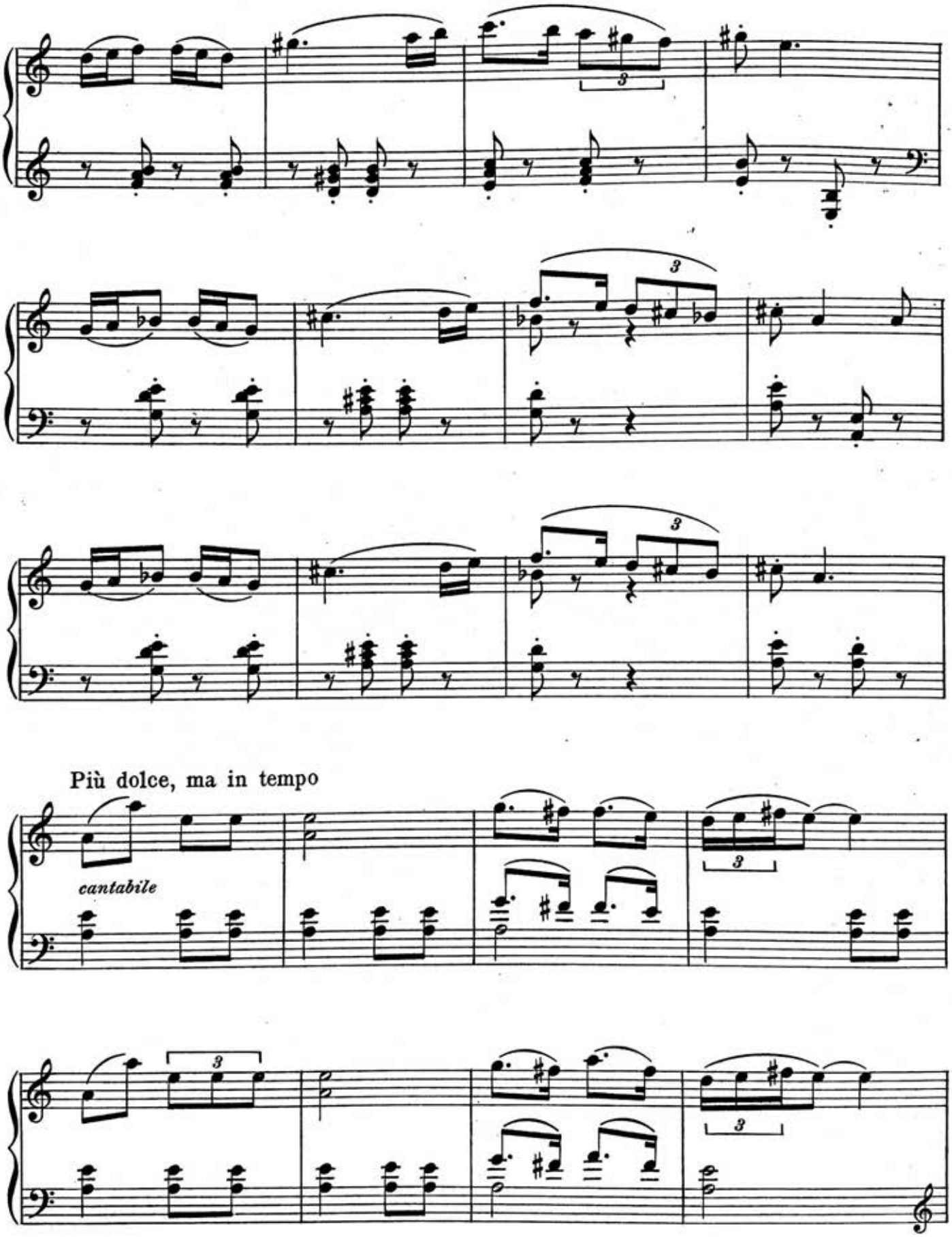


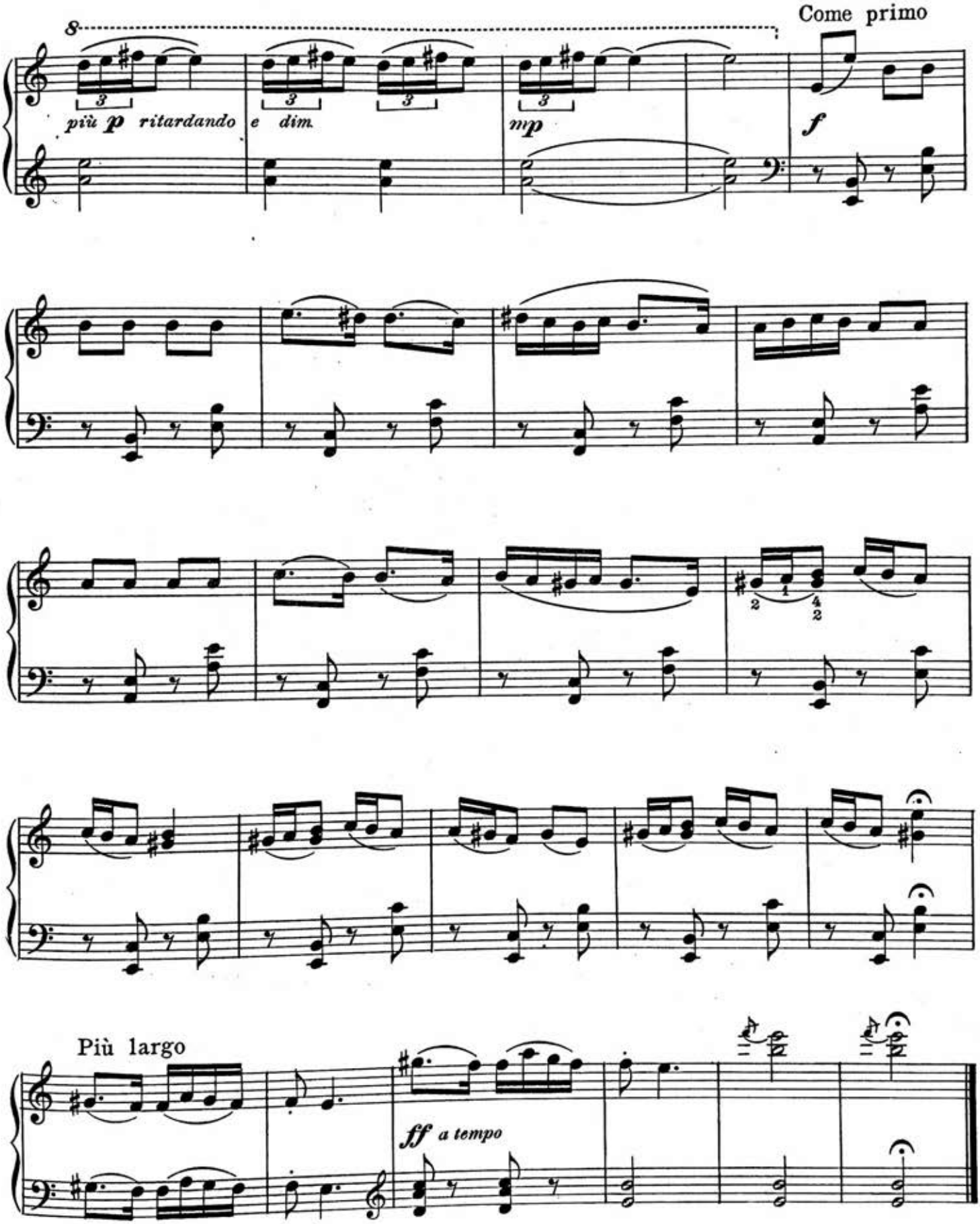

p
cresc.
più f, espressivo
poco · rit.
a tempo
più p
allargando

10. A Chassidic Dance of the Feast

("A Lioubavitcher Redl")




Più dolce, ma in tempo
cantabile


8
Come primo
più p ritardando
e dim.
mp
f
Più largo
ff a tempo