This is an abridged review score, for Web distribution only. If you'd like to receive a full review score, please contact us at info@jonathansantore.com

# Battle-Pieces.

REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

for SATB chorus and string orchestra

Jonathan Santore

Instrumentation

SATB chorus
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Double Bass

Program Note

When I was asked to write a piece for the New Hampshire Master Chorale commemorating the end of the Civil War, I found myself stymied at first. While this is a topic that resonates strongly with me, I felt that I'd already written works for the NHMC that explored much of the emotional territory I associate with that conflict. Then the NHMC's music director, Dan Perkins, mentioned a text he was interested in having me set—Herman Melville's poem "Shiloh."

"Shiloh" comes from Melville's book of poetry about the Civil War, *Battle-Pieces*. Although Melville's sympathy for the Union cause is plain from the outset, many of the poems in the book that struck me powerfully—as strange, remote, almost forbidding—are written from what I came to think of as a "God's-eye" perspective on the war. They blame the tragedies of battle on horrible decisions by human beings with free will on both sides of the conflict—human beings usually far distant from the battlefields where so many young men died.

I took the final stanza of an early poem in Melville's book, "The Conflict of Convictions," as the epigraph for my settings.

REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

Score

*Commissioned by the New Hampshire Master Chorale*
*Dan Perkins, Music Director*

# BATTLE-PIECES.

Herman Melville

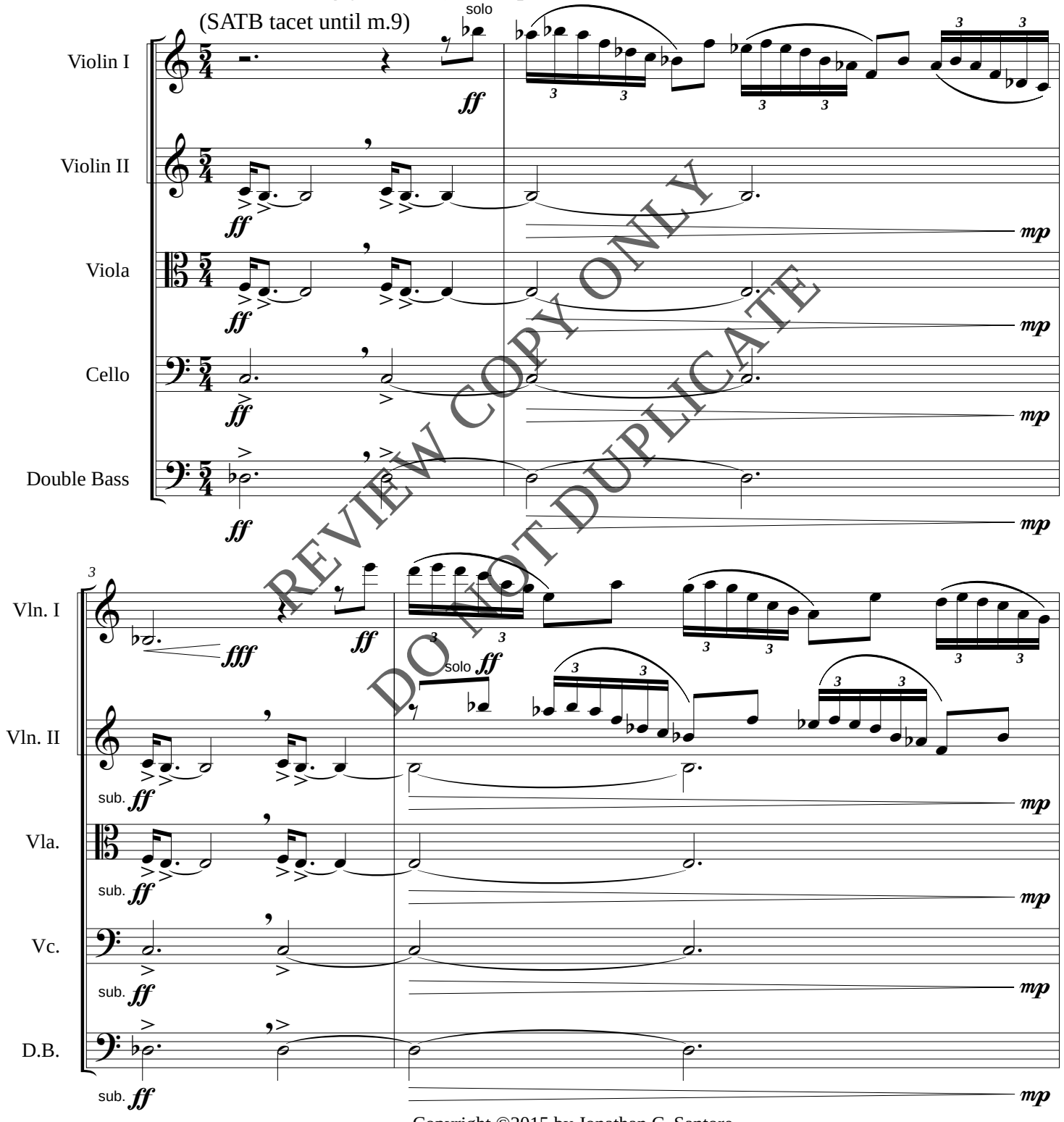
**YEA, AND NAY—**
**EACH HATH HIS SAY;**
**BUT GOD HE KEEPS THE MIDDLE WAY.**
**NONE WAS BY**
**WHEN HE SPREAD THE SKY;**
**WISDOM IS VAIN, AND PROPHESY.**

Jonathan Santore

## I. THE PORTENT. (1859.)

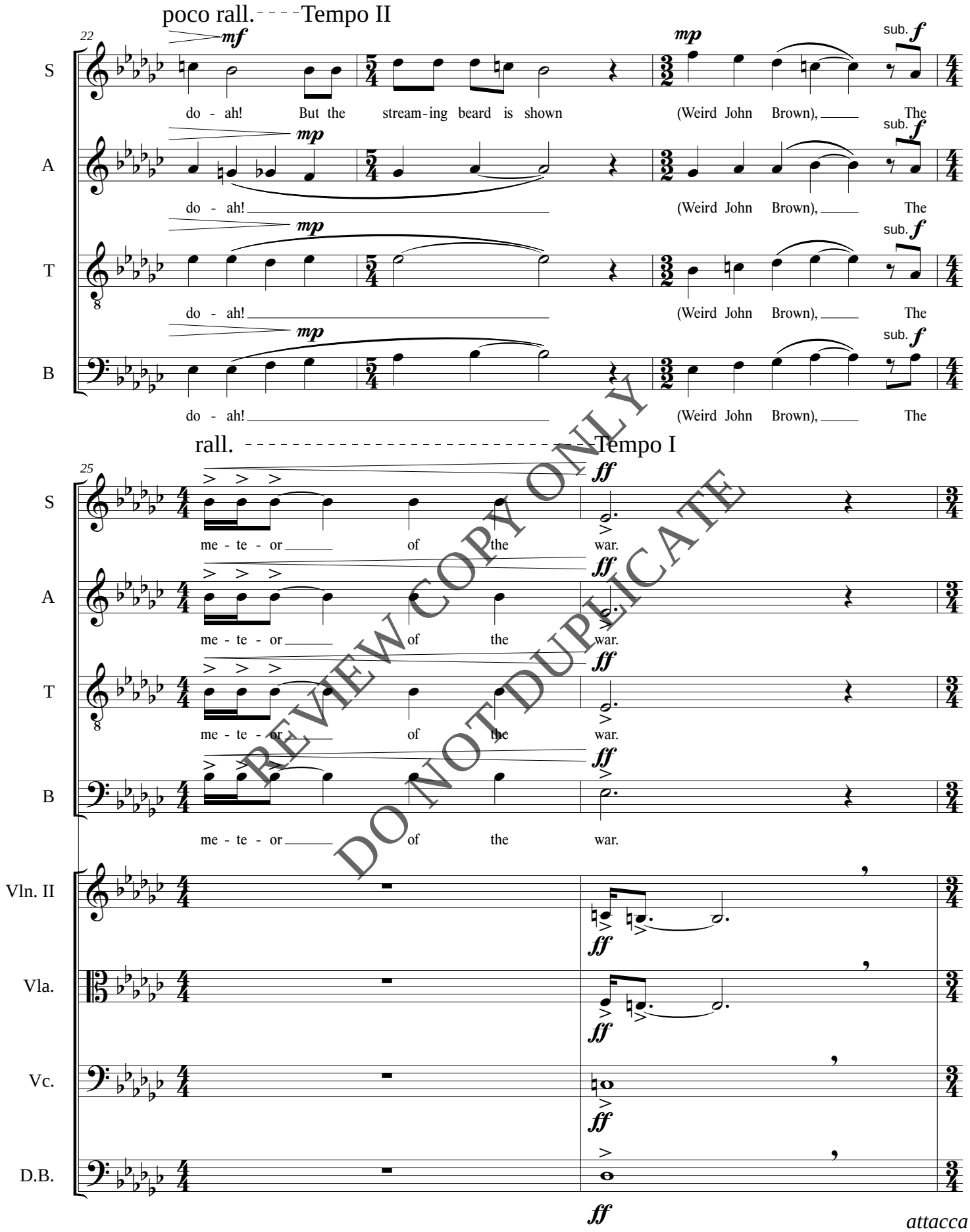
Accusingly ($\blacksquare = 60$) (Tempo I)

(SATB tacet until m.9)



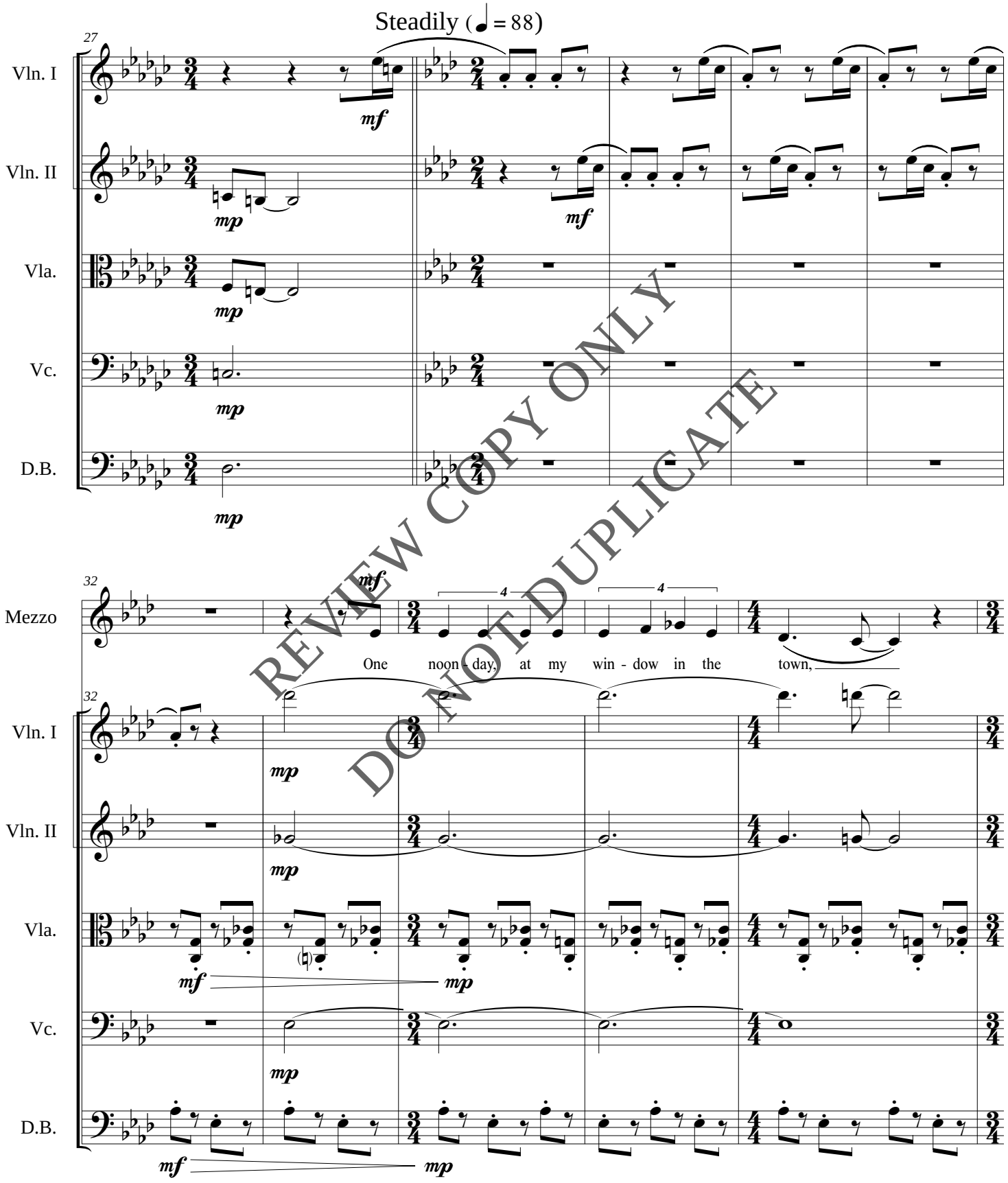

REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

Copyright ©2015 by Jonathan C. Santore
All Rights Reserved
Duplicating this music without permission is illegal. www.jonathansantore.com

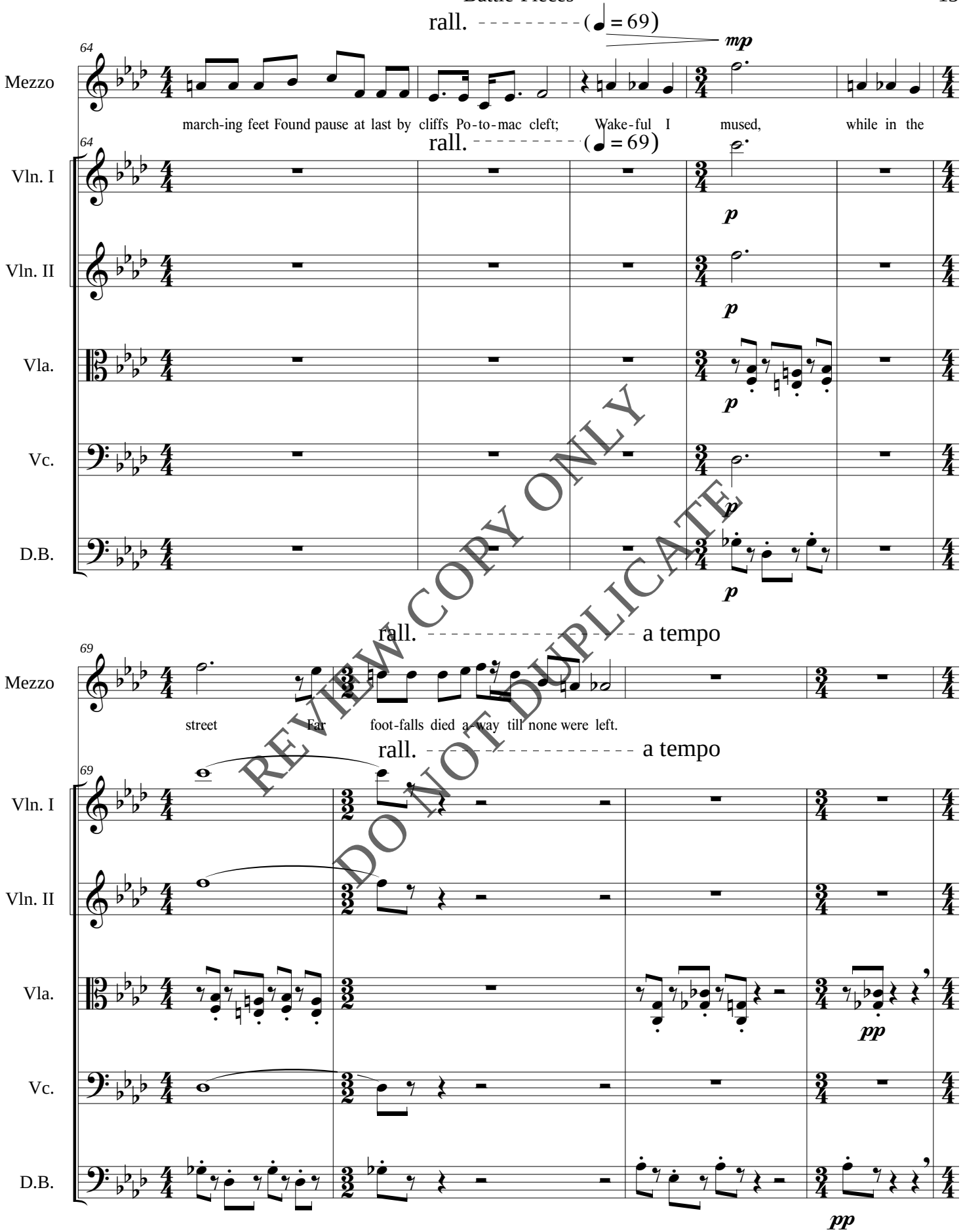



REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

## II. Ball's Bluff.
## A Reverie.
## (October, 1861.)

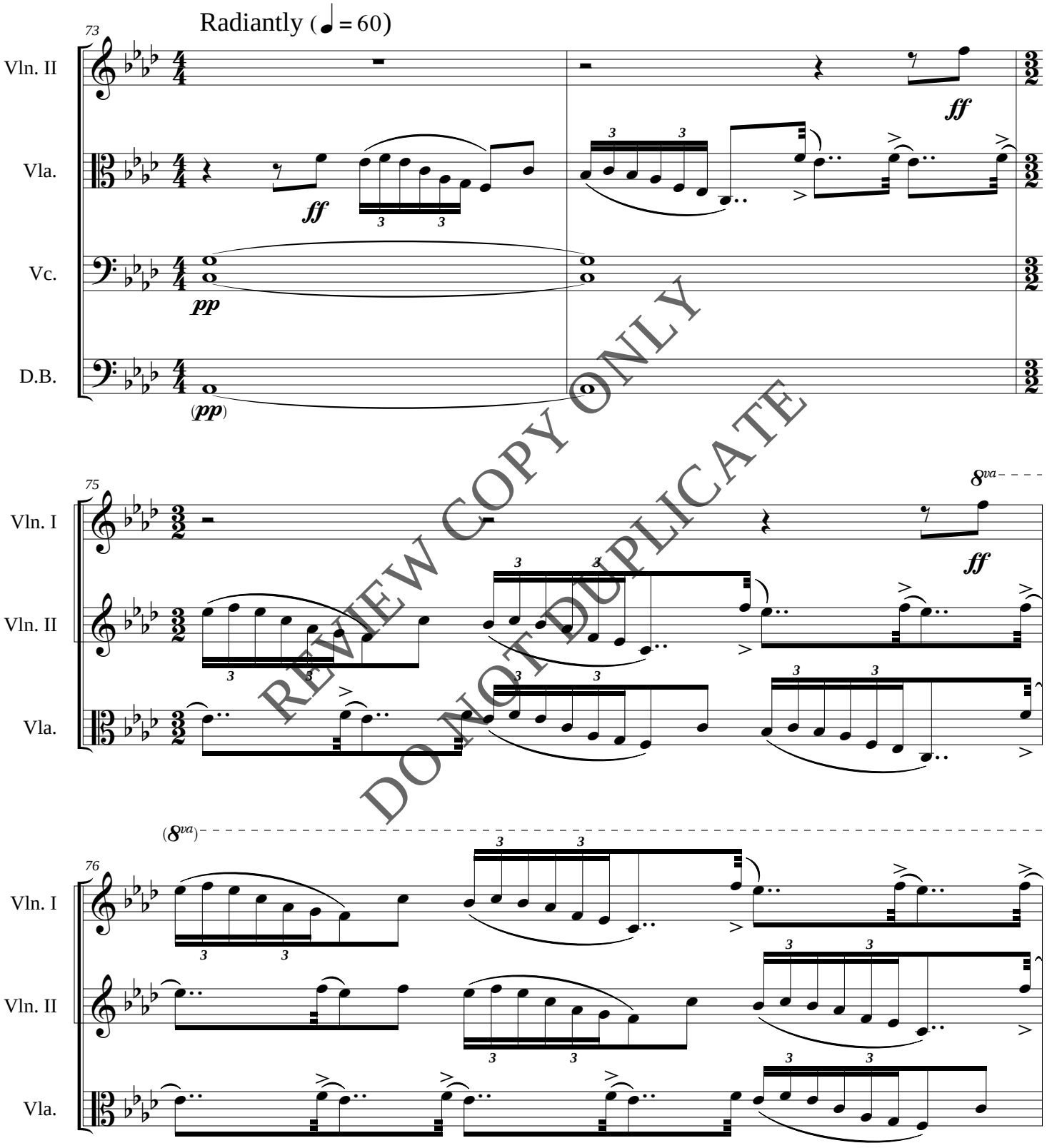



REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

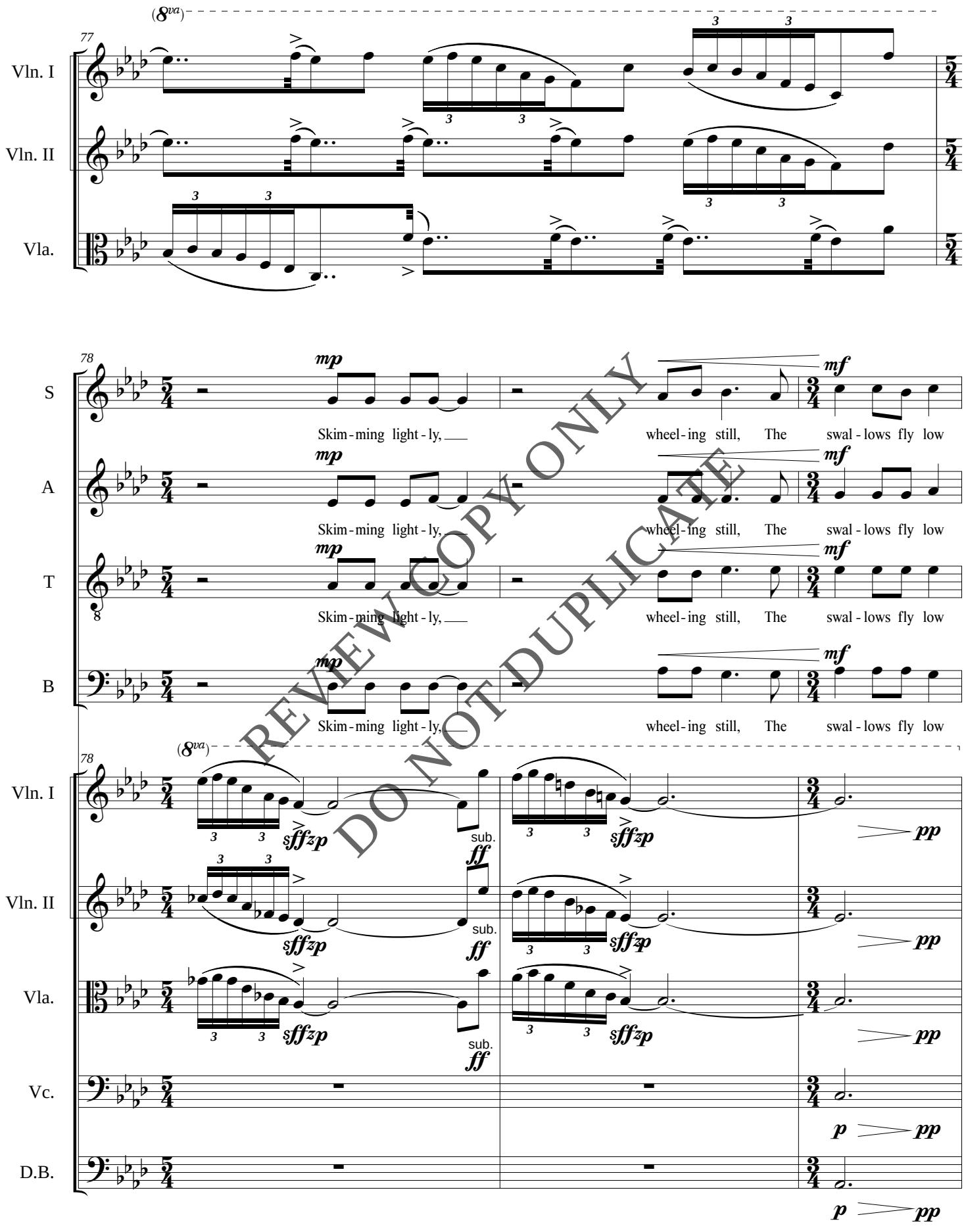



REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

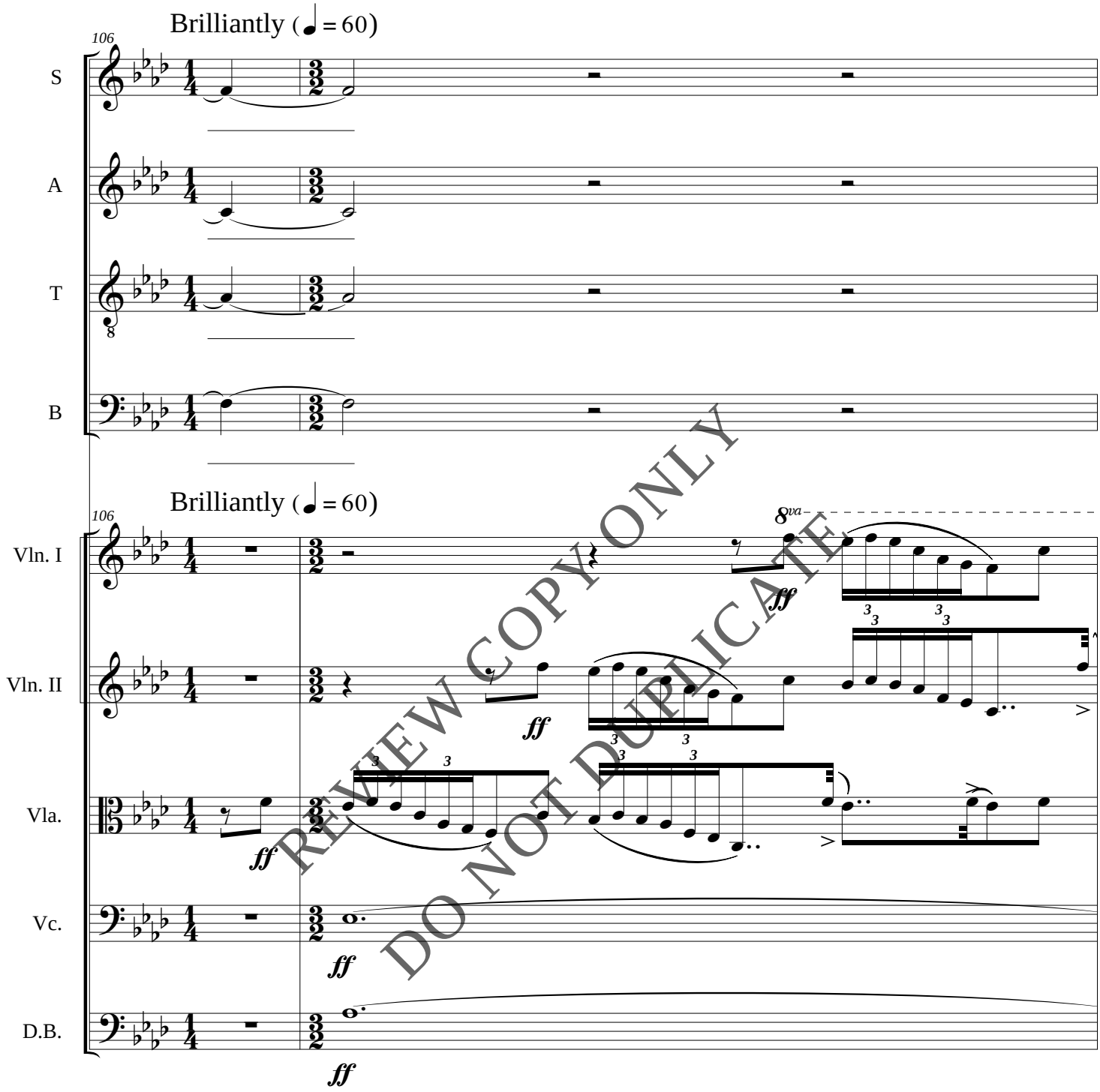
## III. Shiloh.
## A Requiem.
## (April, 1862.)

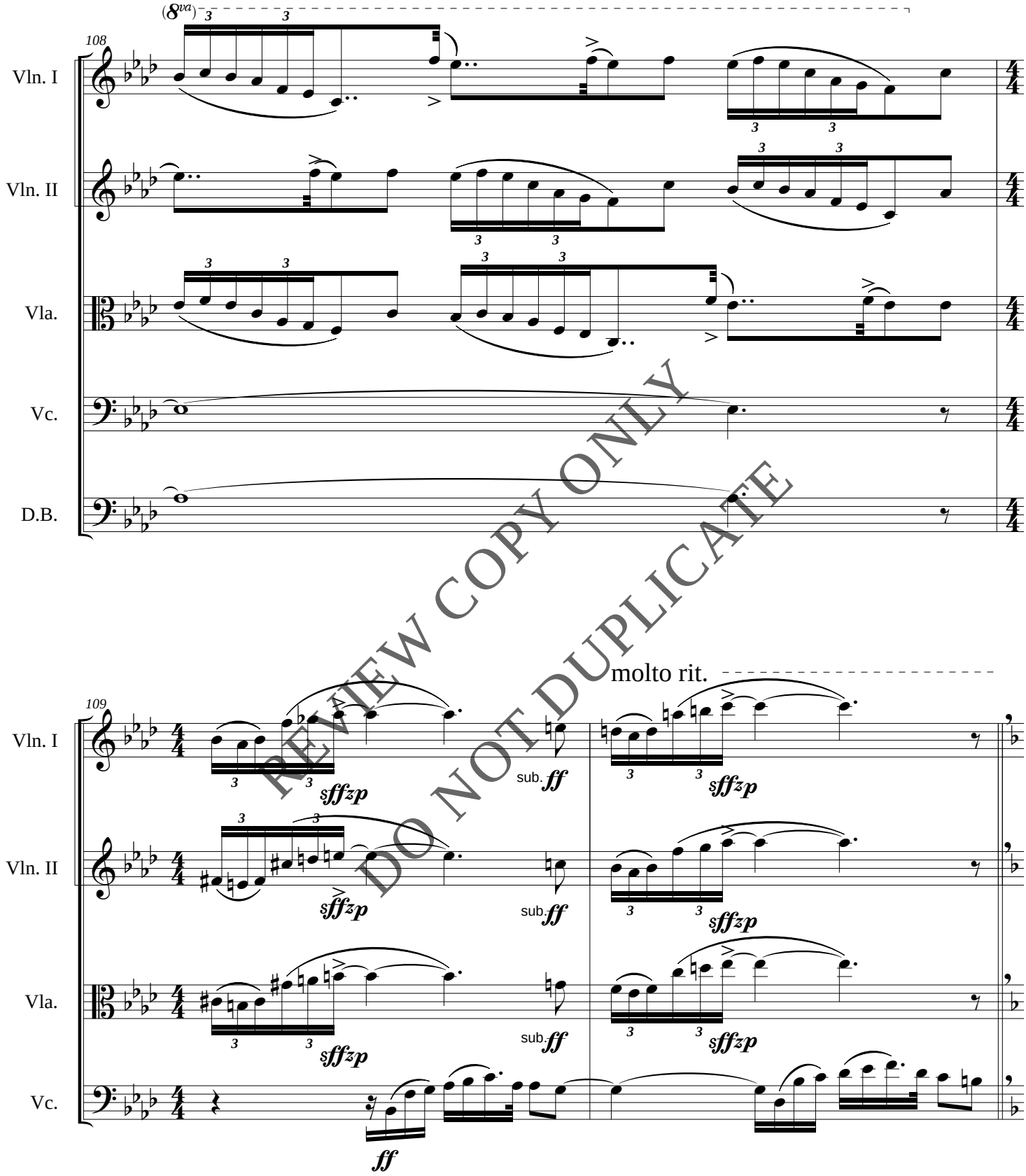



REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE



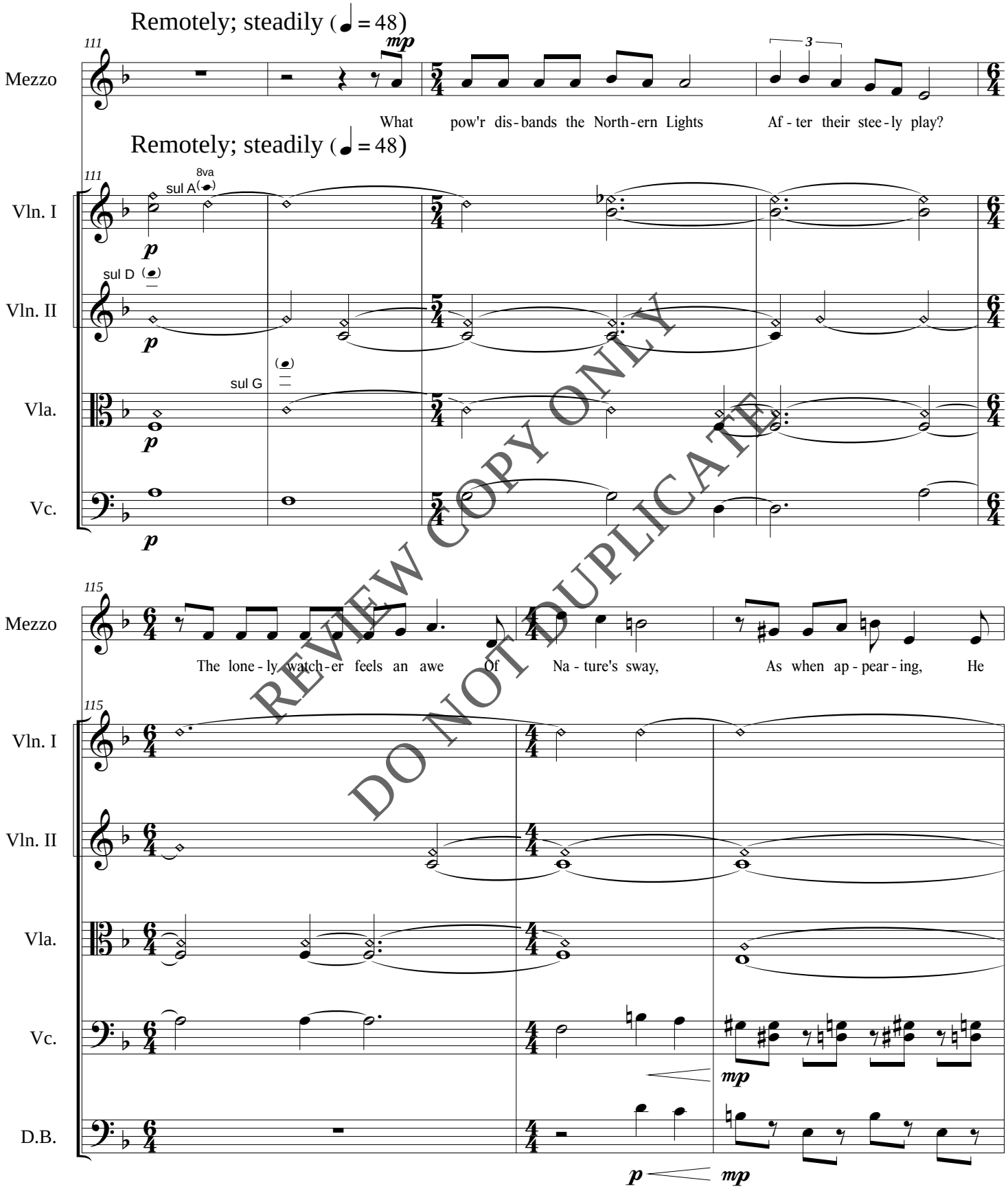

REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE


Brilliantly (♩ = 60)
106
S
A
T
B
Brilliantly (♩ = 60)
106
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
8va
ff
3
REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

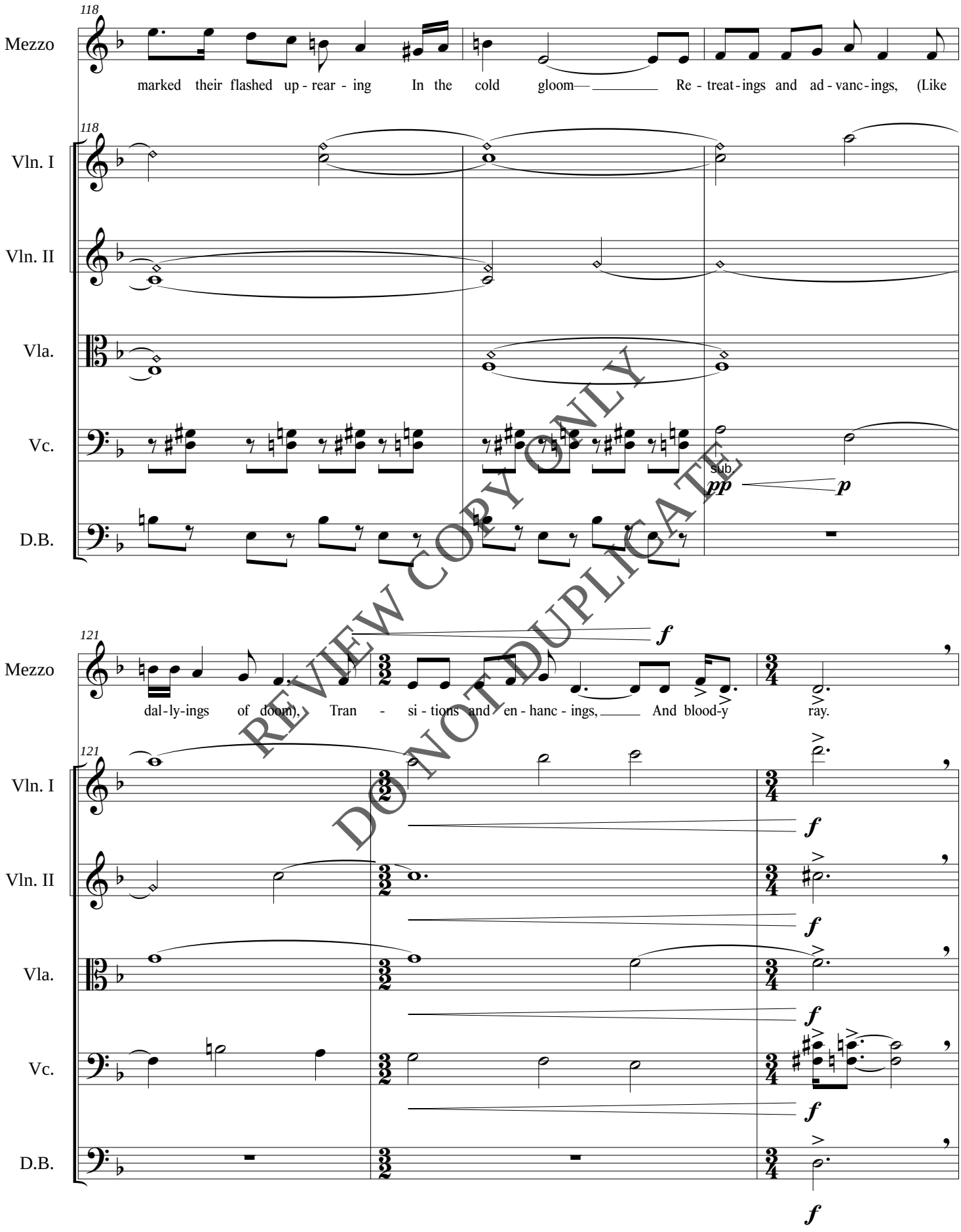



REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE

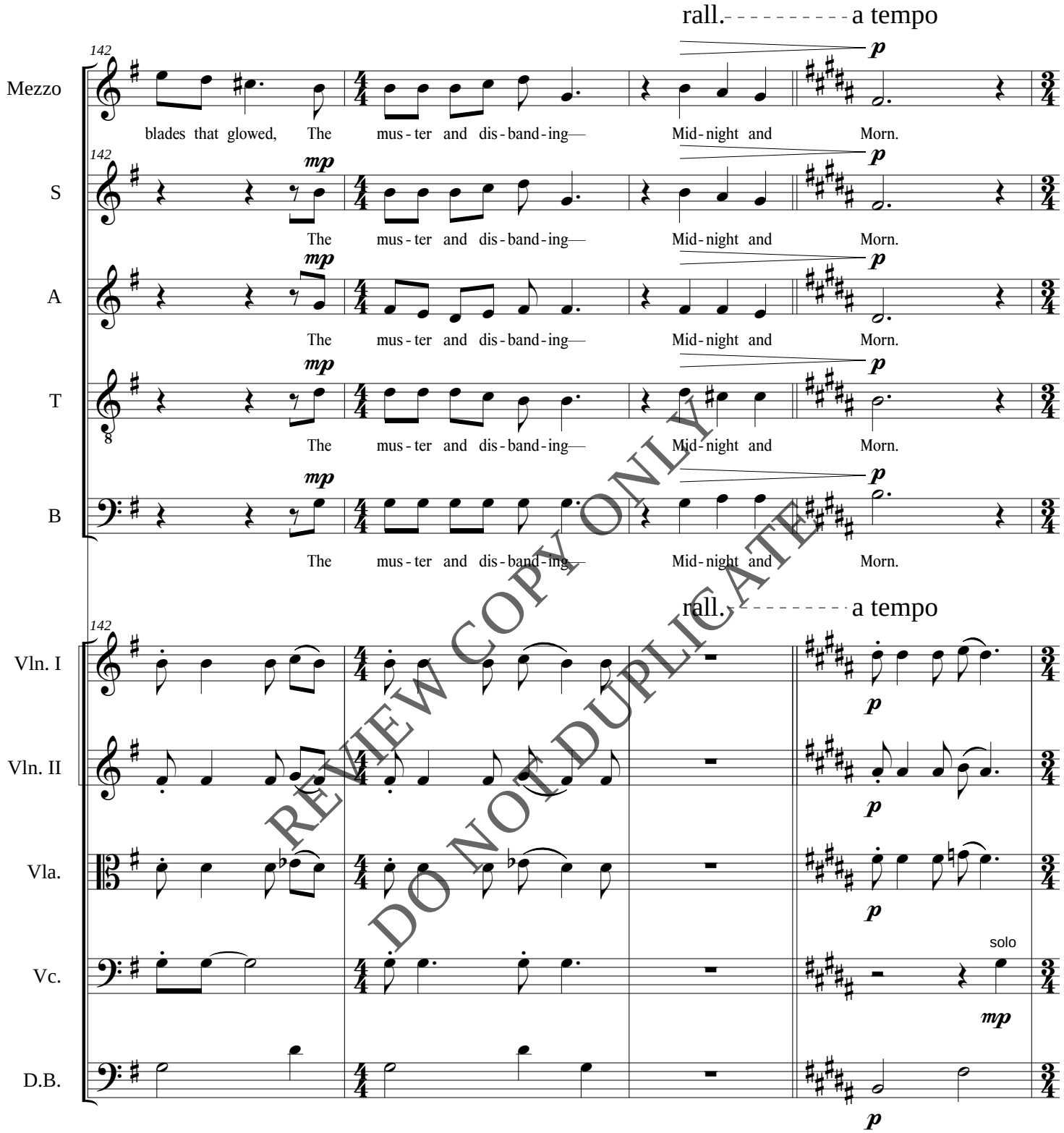
## IV. Aurora-Borealis.
### Commemorative of the Dissolution of Armies at the Peace.
### (May, 1865.)



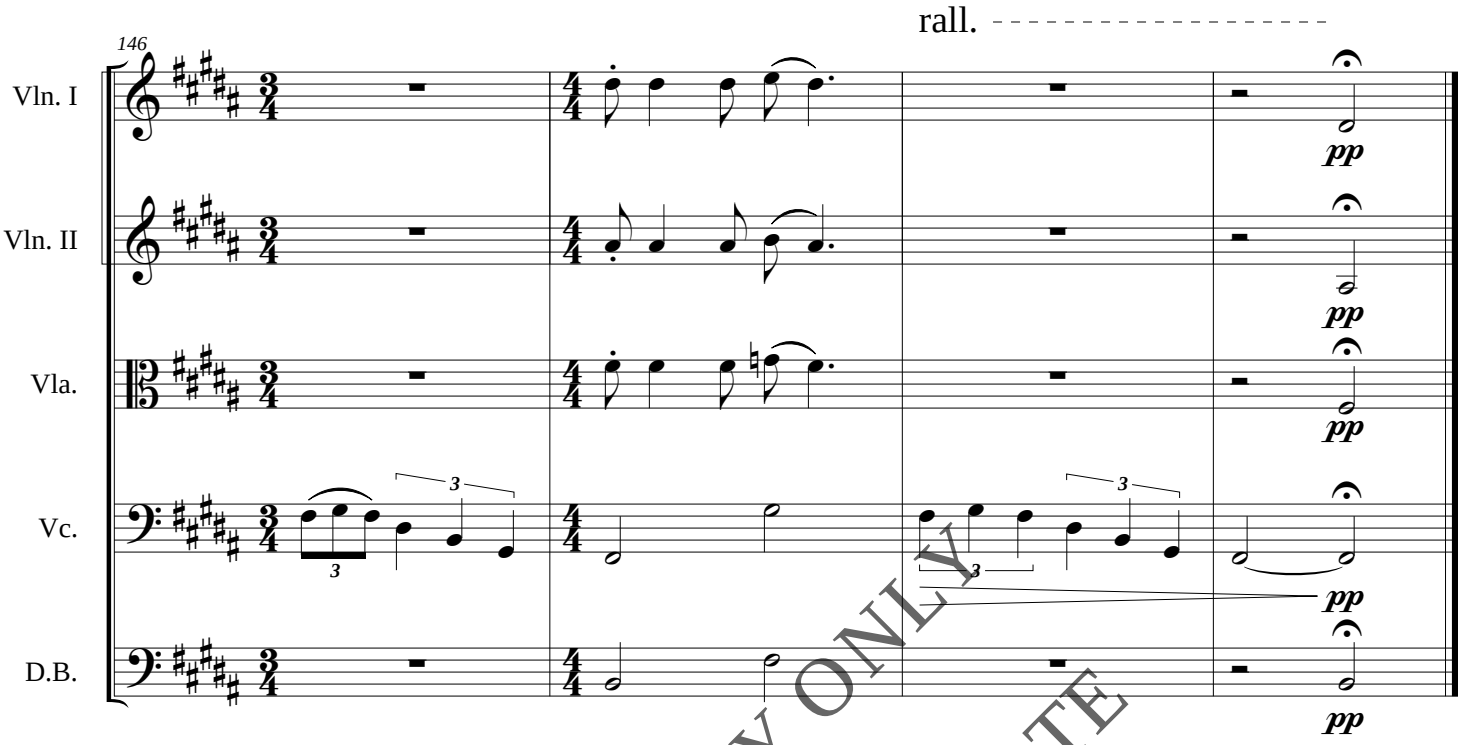

REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE




REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE




REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE




5/21/15
Plymouth, NH

REVIEW COPY ONLY
DO NOT DUPLICATE