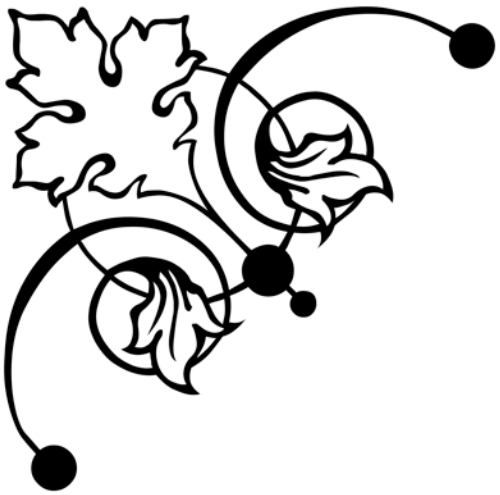
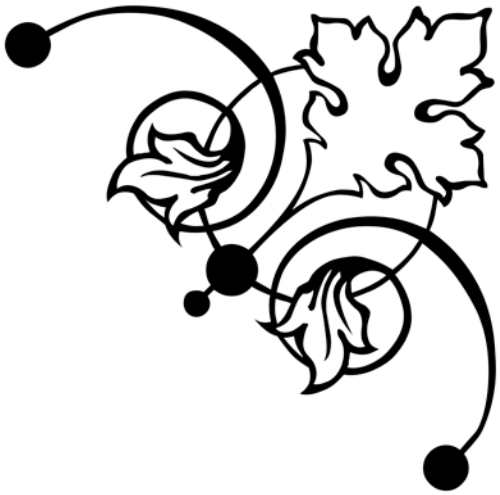




Never Borrow Trouble

George F. Root
(1820-1895)

George Frederick Root (1820-1895) was born at Sheffield, Massachusetts, and grew up in North Reading. The son of amateur musicians, he was named after composer George Frideric Handel and showed a love for music from a very early age. At 18, he moved to Boston to work for Artemas N. Johnson, earning room and board and piano lessons. He began to teach piano, sang in the Bowdoin Street choir, was a church organist, studied with Geo. Jas. Webb, and became an associate of Lowell Mason. He taught in many music conventions and normal schools. He went to New York City as organist and choir director of the Mercer Street Church and teacher at taught at Rutger's Female Institute, Haines' School for Young Ladies, Union Theological Seminary, and the New York Institute for the Blind. He met Fanny Crosby and together they eventually composed over fifty popular secular songs. He left his work in New York dedicating his career to teach music conventions and normal schools. He studied in Vienna, Paris, and London, eventually returning to teach in Boston with Lowell Mason, and later Bangor, Maine, where he was director of the Penobscot Musical Association. In 1860, he moved to Chicago and joined his brother Ebenezer T. Root and C. M. Cady in a music publishing company. The company was destroyed in the Chicago fire and he continued in his teaching throughout the Northern states. He died at his summer home in Bailey Island, Maine. He was one of the leading contributors to the development of 19th century American musical education. He also collected and edited volumes of choral music for singing schools, Sunday schools, church choirs and musical institutes. He was a prolific composer of cantatas, songs, Gospel songs, and choral pieces. He is recognized as one of the most significant composers of the Civil War era and was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1970. He also wrote under the pseudonym George Wurzel (German for Root) to capitalize on the popularity of German composers during the 1850s. He wrote the first published Civil War song, "The First Gun is Fired," two days after the bombardment of Fort Sumter. His other famous songs include "The Battle Cry of Freedom" and "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys are Marching" the tune of which was later used for "Jesus Loves the Little Children" and "God Save Ireland."

As down the stream of life we glide,
We hope for naught but pleasure,
But very often by our side
Floats sorrow in full measure;
And very oft in life we pause
And miseries make double,
By worrying without good cause,
And so but borrow trouble.

Floating down the stream of time,
Our happiness will double,
If we are cheerful, rain or shine,
And never borrow trouble.

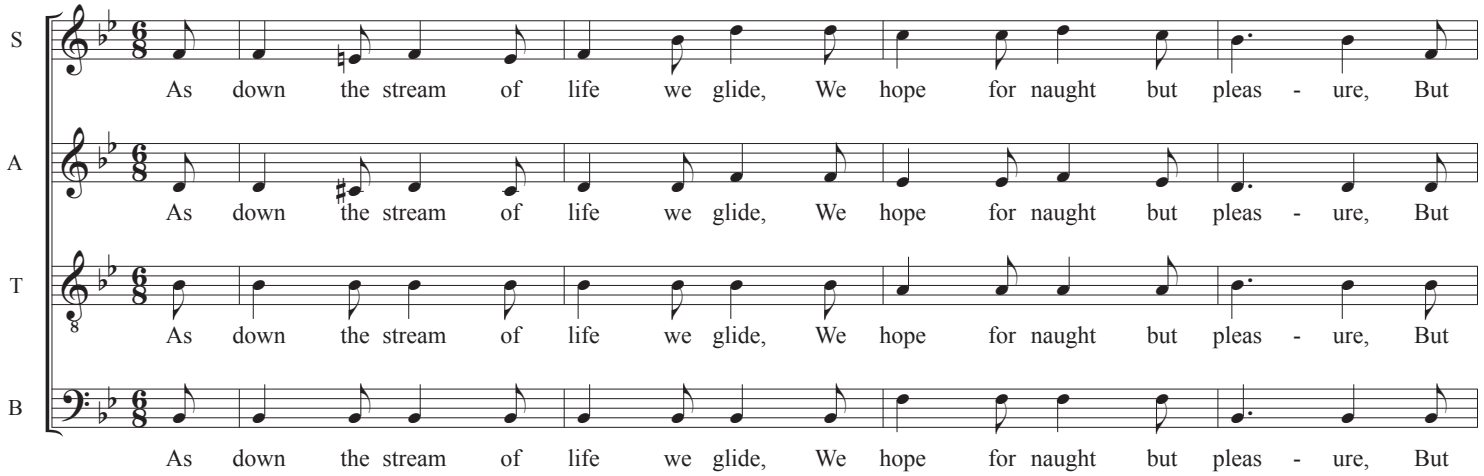
Oh, let us never seek in life,
Imaginary sorrow,
For ev'ry sign of grief and strife
May vanish on the morrow;
Tho' speculations of today
Dissolve like any bubble,
Some other ones may better pay,
So never borrow trouble.

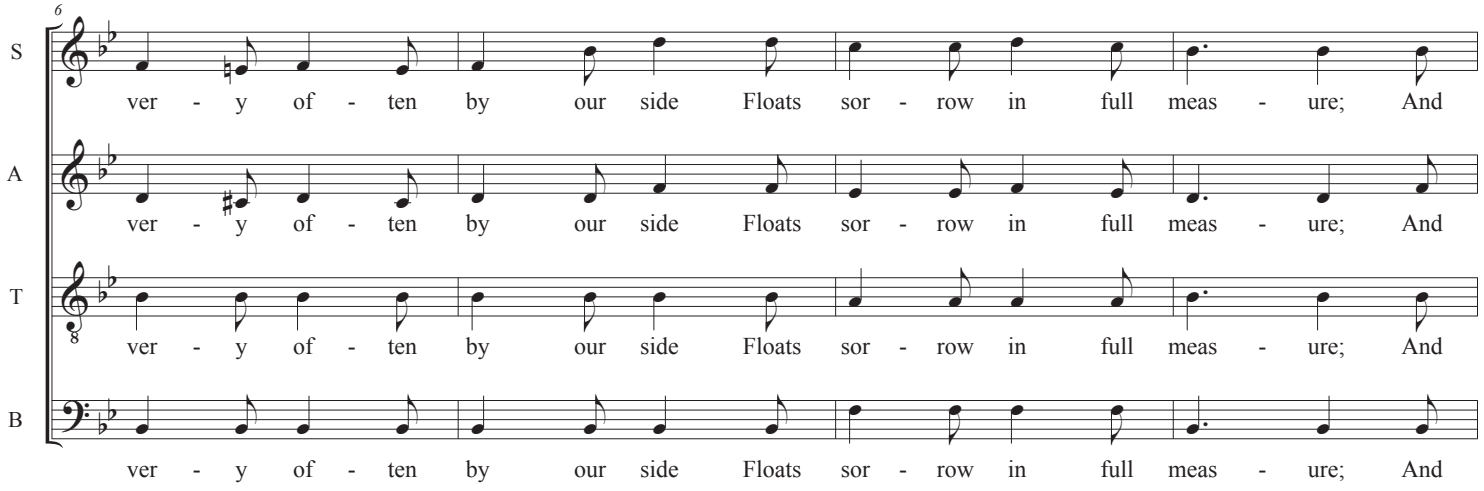
Let's lend a hand and kind words speak,
To each desponding neighbor,
Help him for brighter things to seek,
'Twill lighter make his labor;
Let's cheerful be thro' rain or shine,
Life's pleasures then will double,
Let's never at our lot repine,
Oh, never borrow trouble.

Never Borrow Trouble

Geo. F. Root

Andantino





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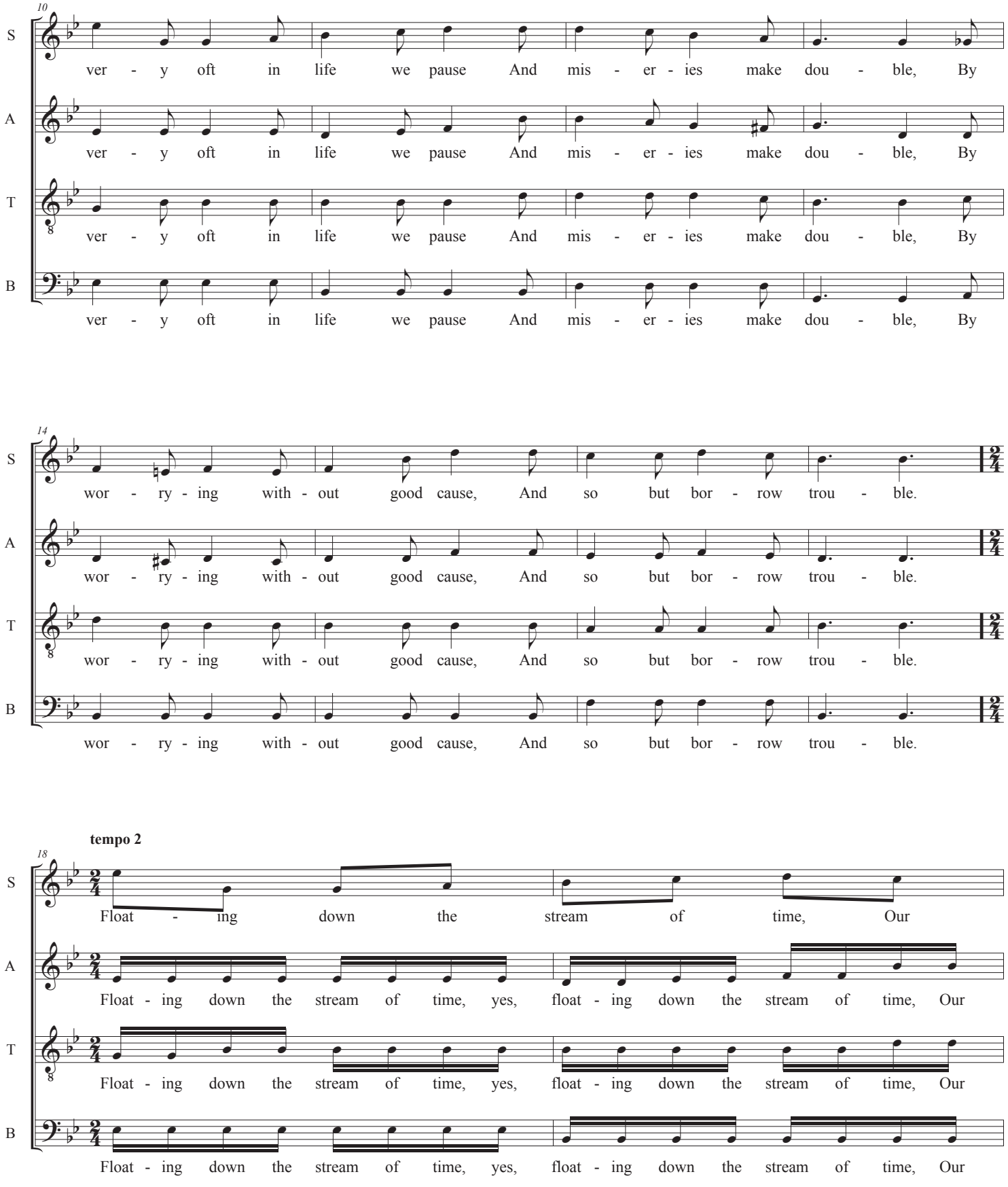
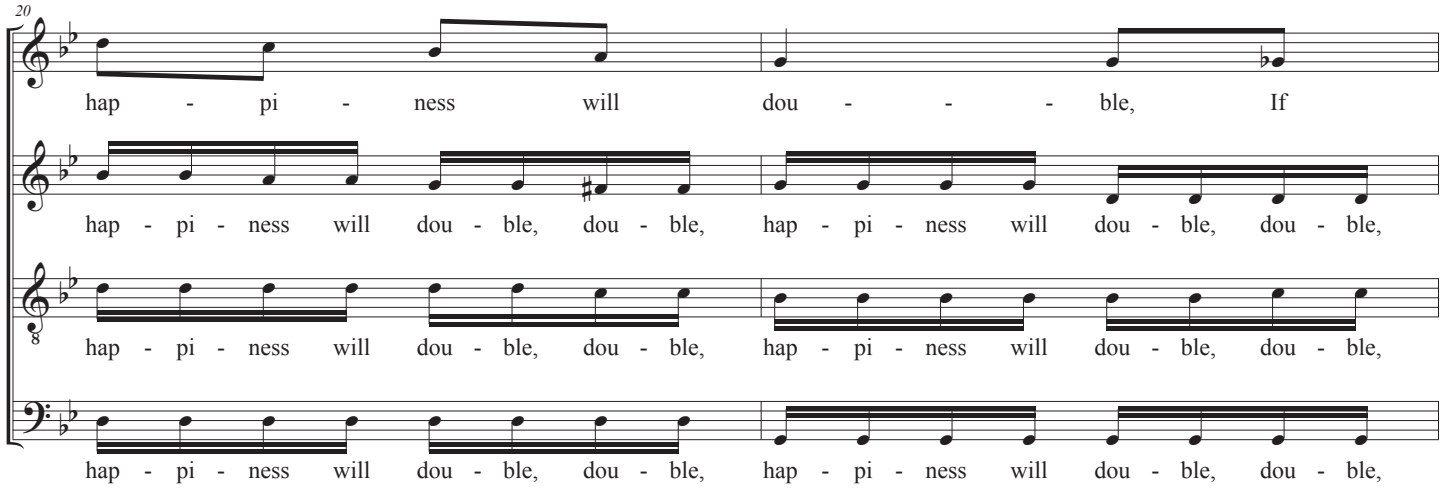
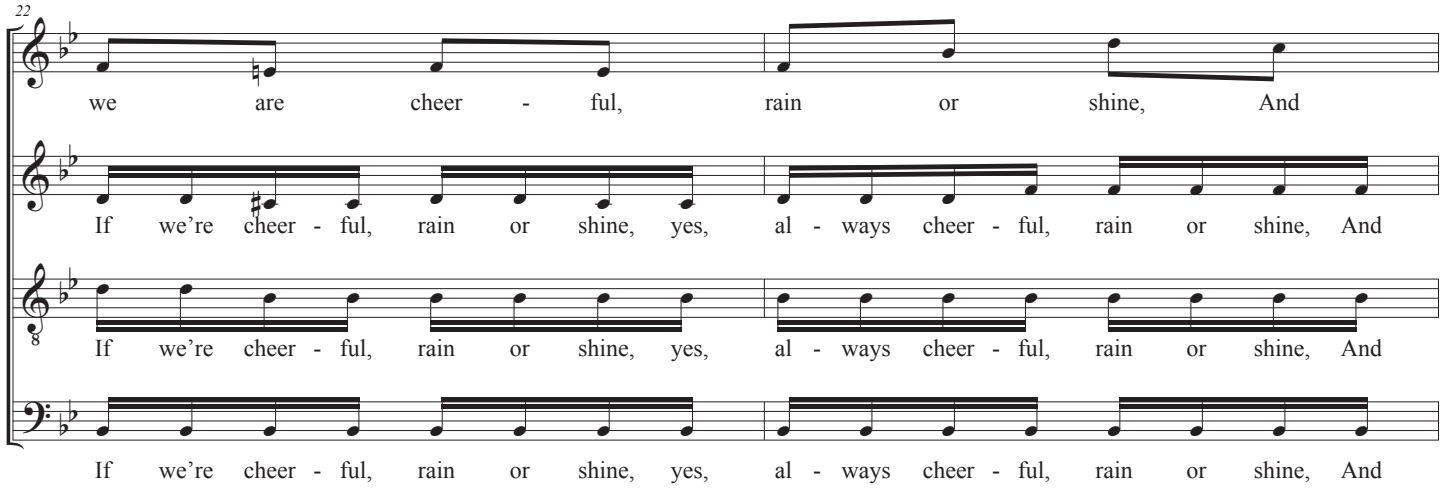
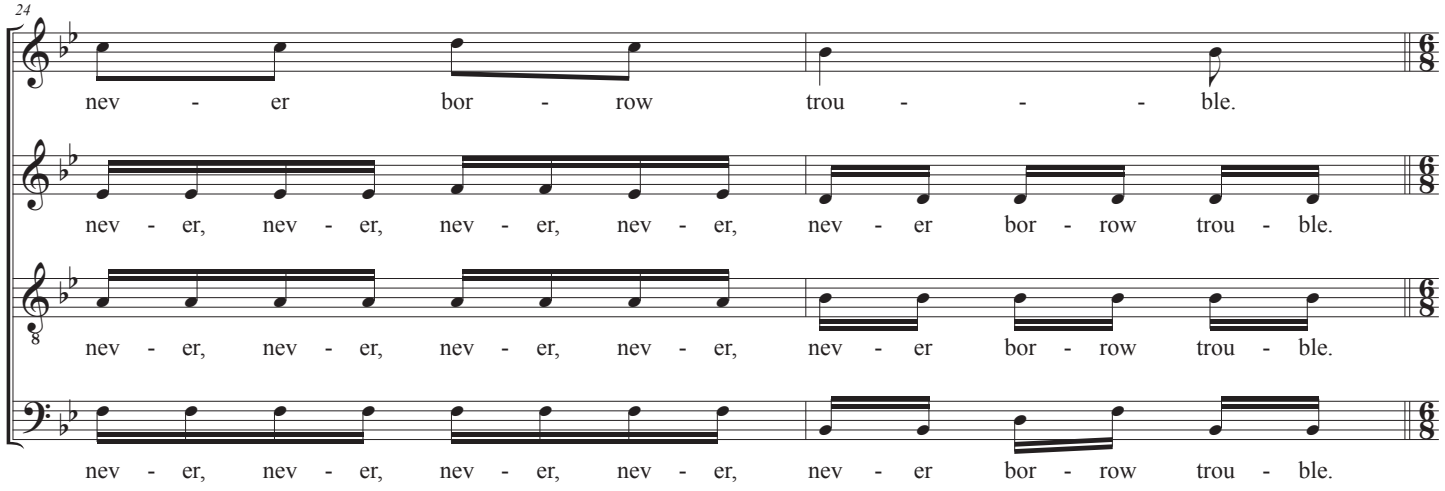
Never Borrow Trouble



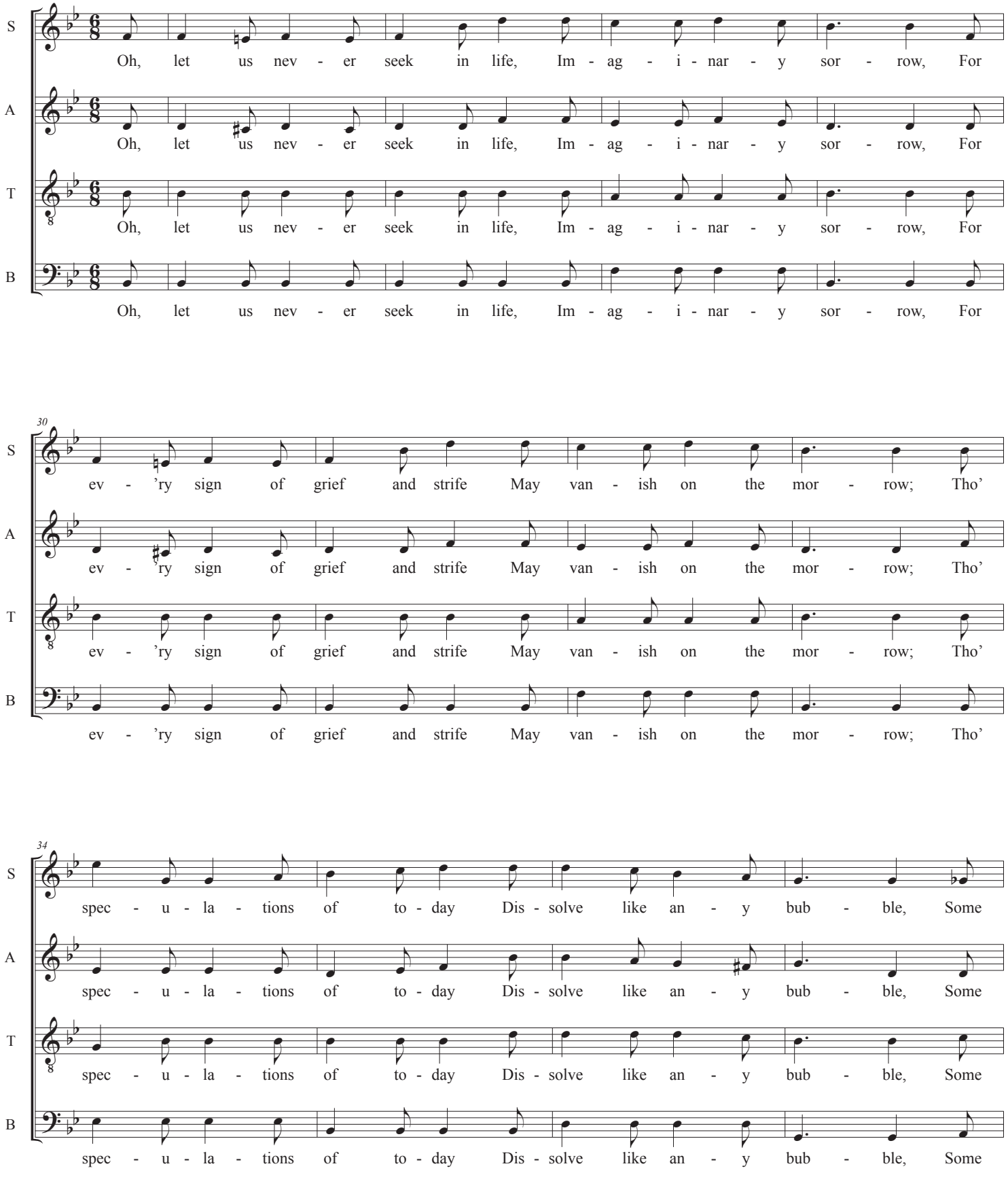

20
S
hap - pi - ness will dou - - - ble, If
A
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
T
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
B
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,

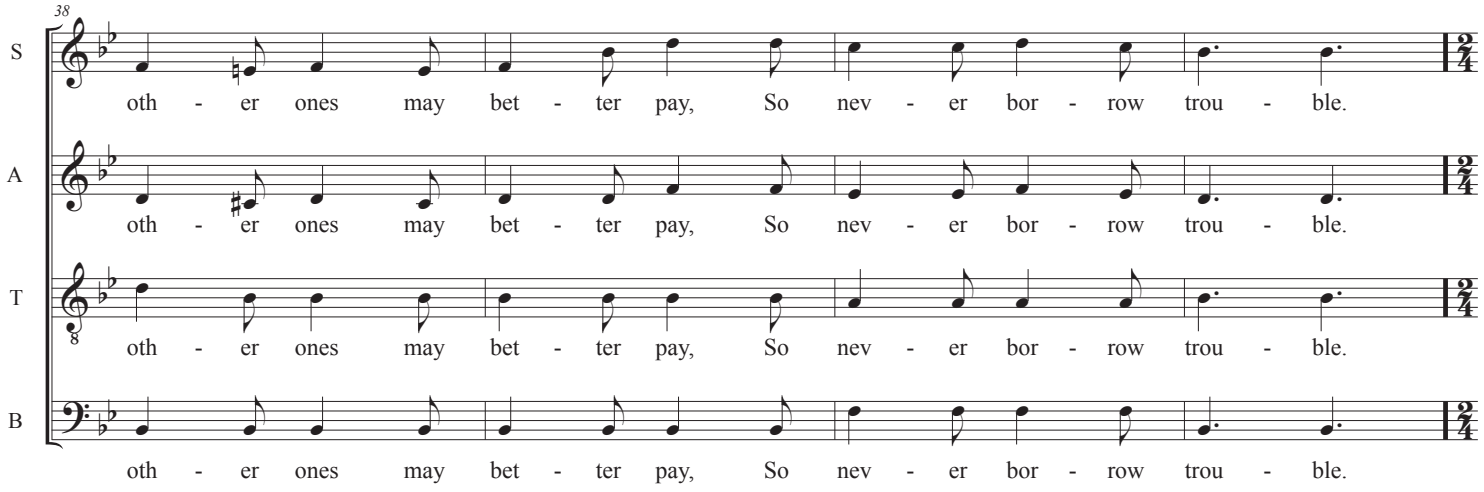

22
S
we are cheer - ful, rain or shine, And
A
If we're cheer - ful, rain or shine, yes, al - ways cheer - ful, rain or shine, And
T
If we're cheer - ful, rain or shine, yes, al - ways cheer - ful, rain or shine, And
B
If we're cheer - ful, rain or shine, yes, al - ways cheer - ful, rain or shine, And

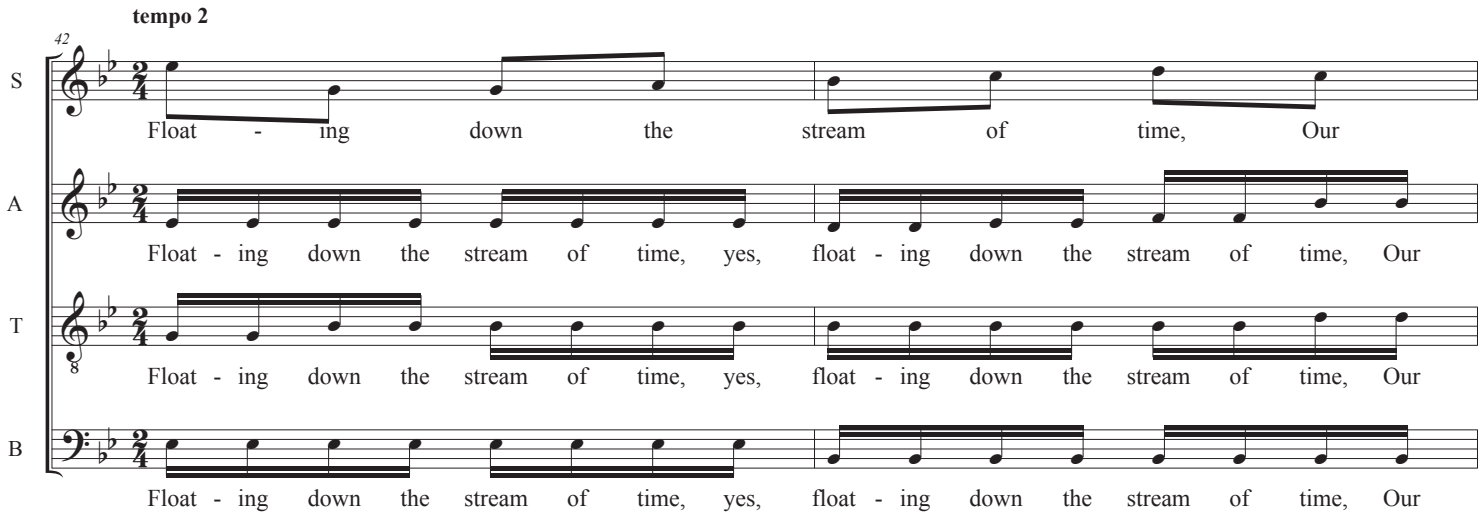

24
S
nev - er bor - row trou - - - ble.
A
nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
T
nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
B
nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.

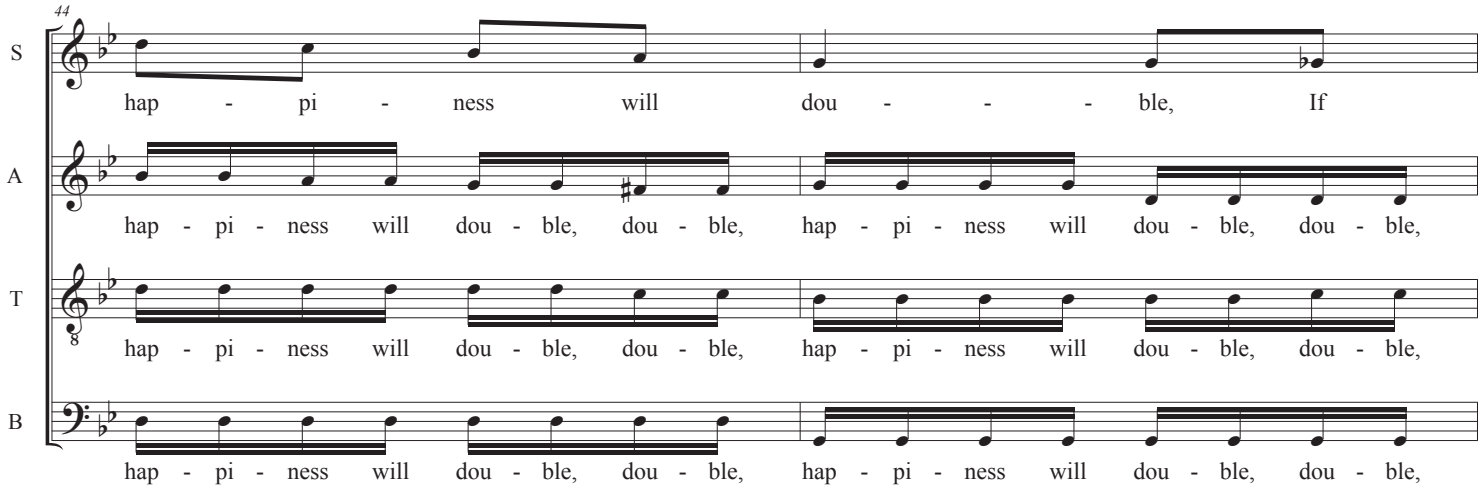
Never Borrow Trouble

Andantino

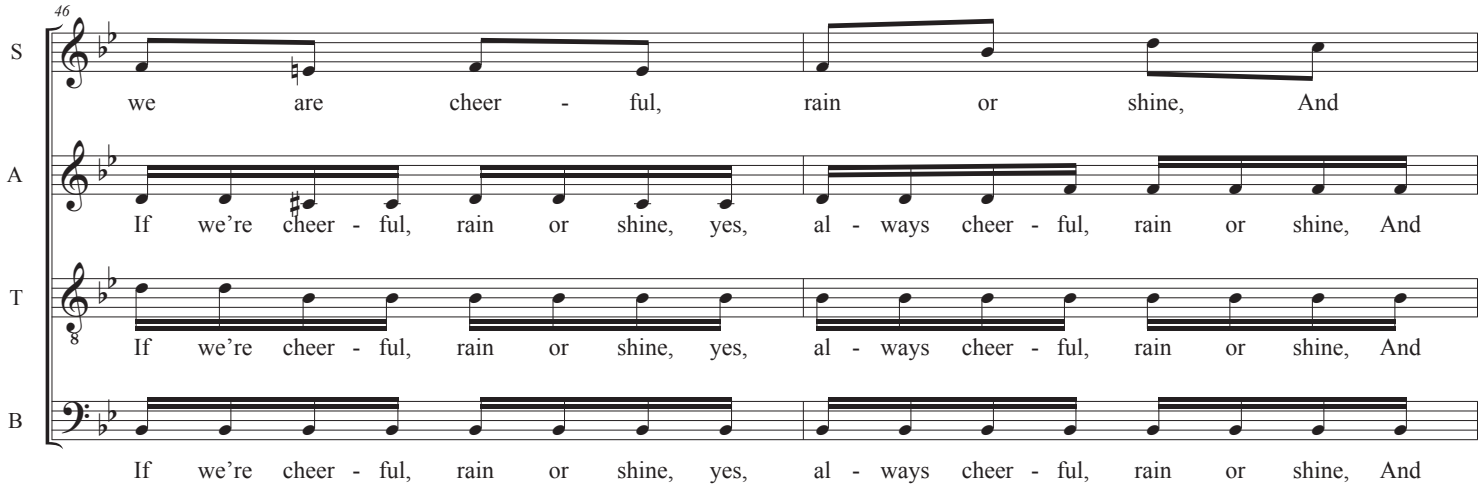


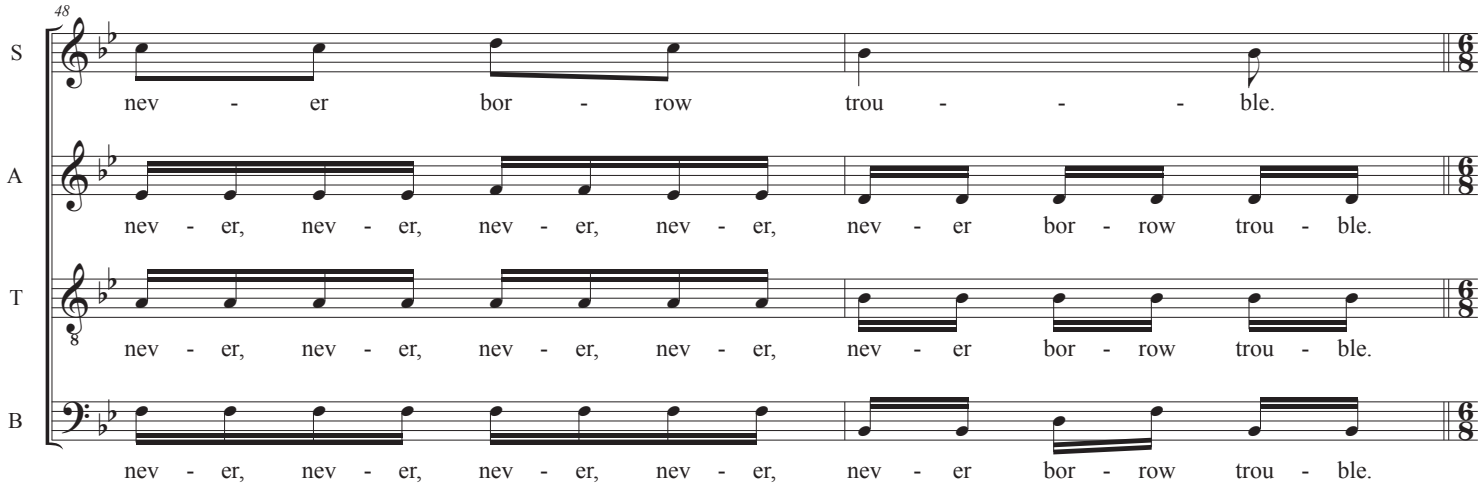

38
S
oth - er ones may bet - ter pay, So nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
A
oth - er ones may bet - ter pay, So nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
T
oth - er ones may bet - ter pay, So nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
B
oth - er ones may bet - ter pay, So nev - er bor - row trou - ble.

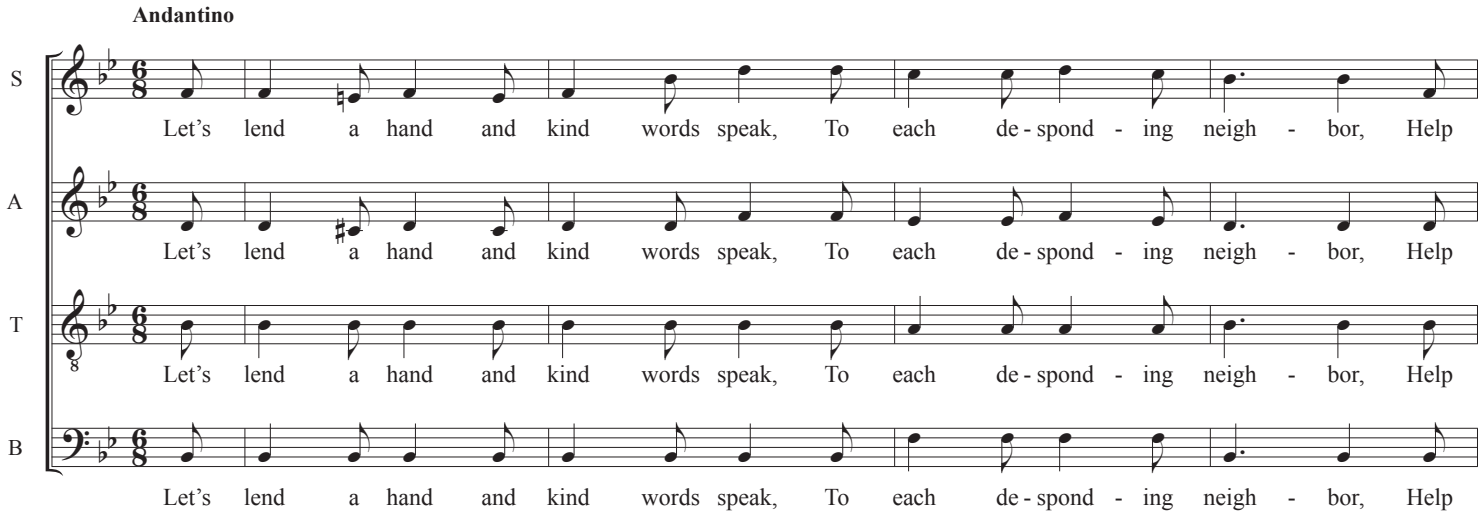

tempo 2
42
S
Float - ing down the stream of time, Our
A
Float - ing down the stream of time, yes, float - ing down the stream of time, Our
T
Float - ing down the stream of time, yes, float - ing down the stream of time, Our
B
Float - ing down the stream of time, yes, float - ing down the stream of time, Our

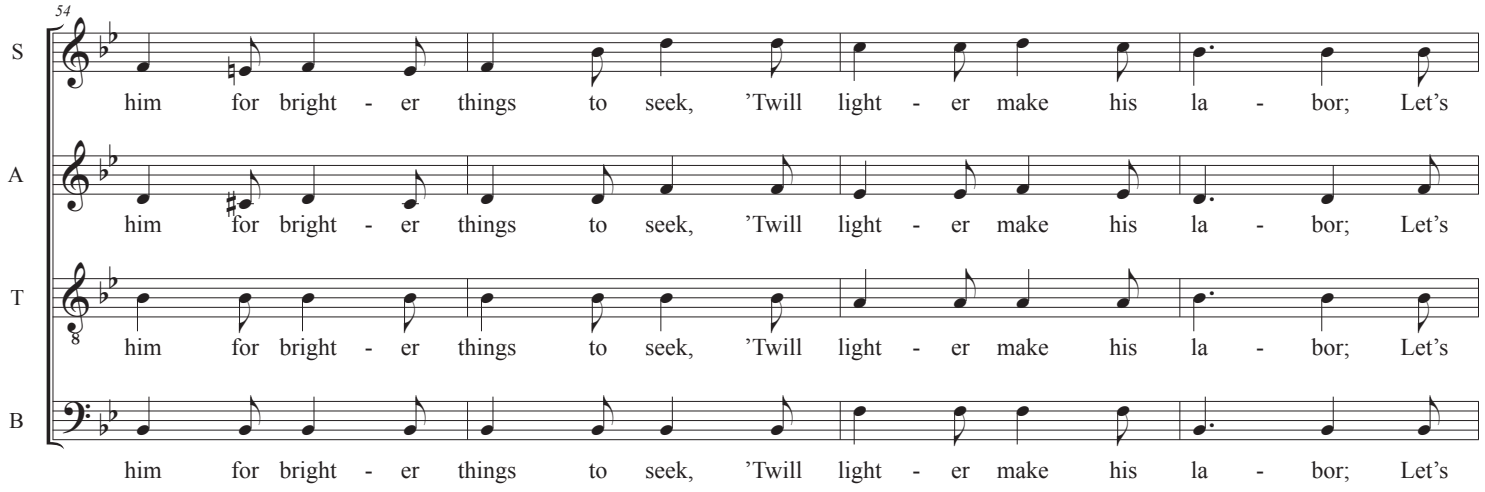

44
S
hap - pi - ness will dou - - - ble, If
A
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
T
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
B
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,

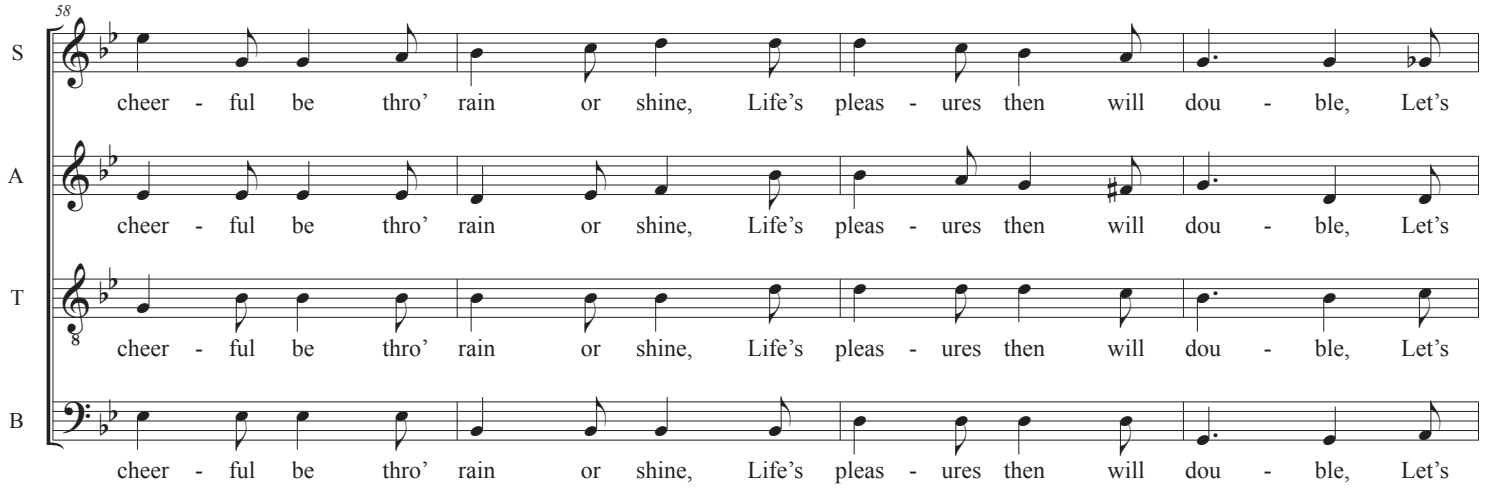
Never Borrow Trouble

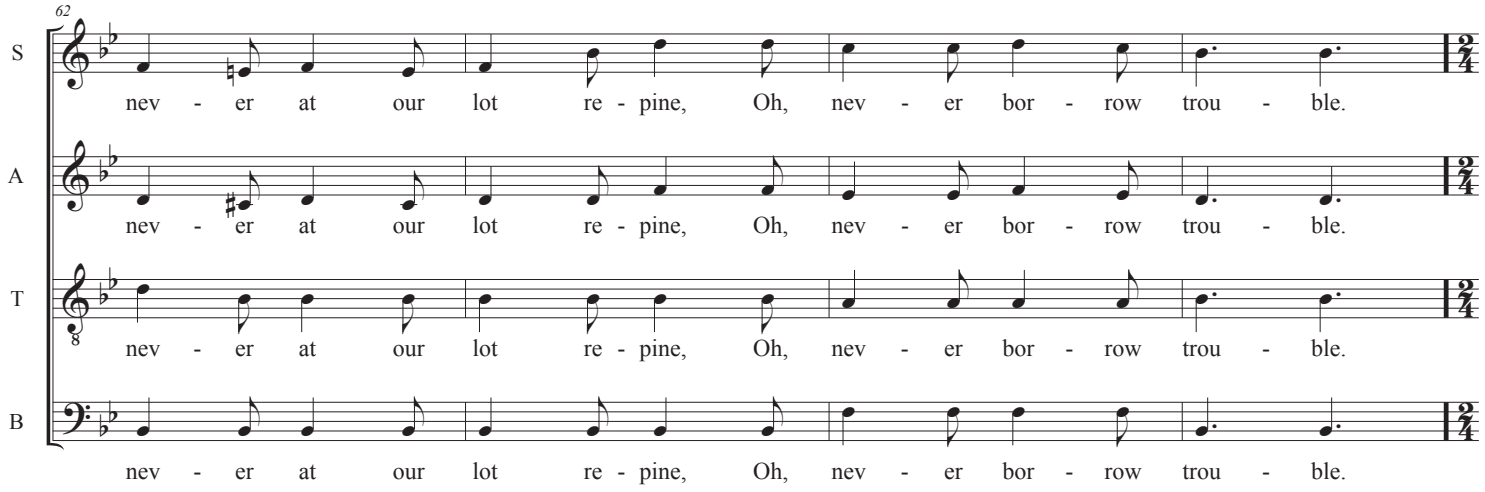


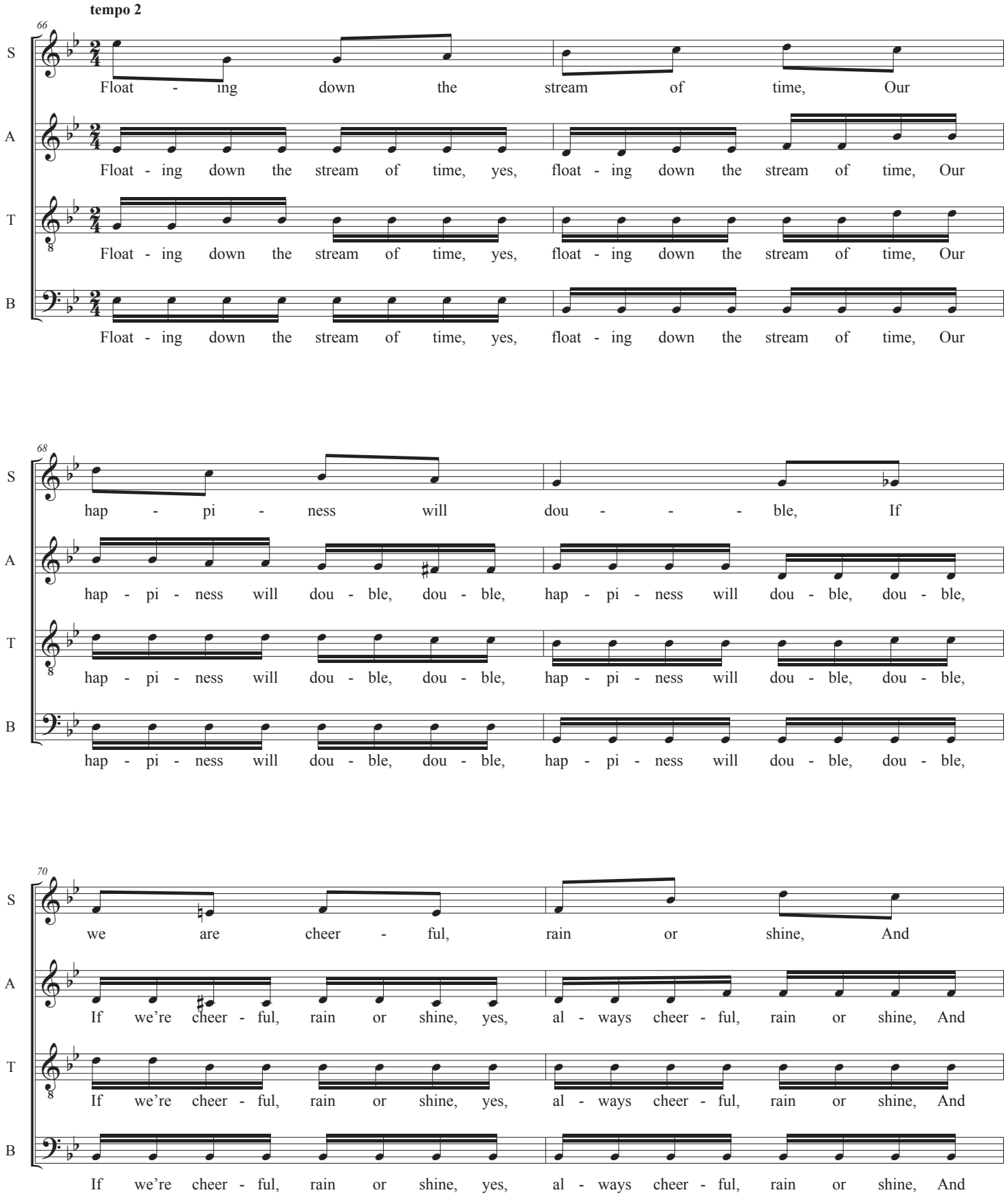




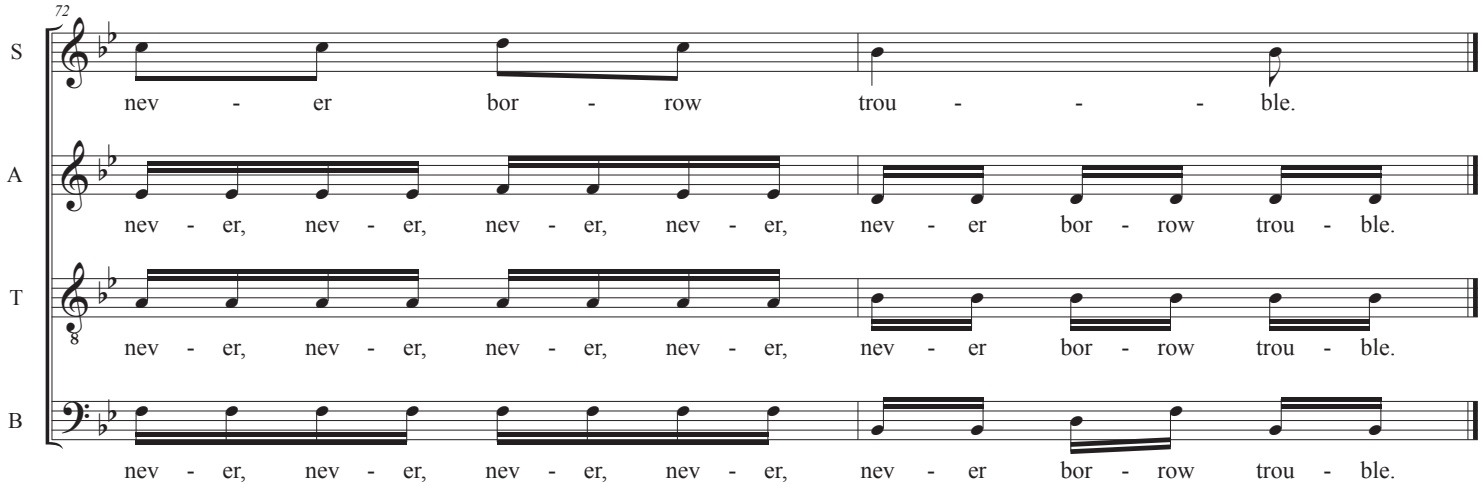

54
S
him for bright - er things to seek, 'Twill light - er make his la - bor; Let's
A
him for bright - er things to seek, 'Twill light - er make his la - bor; Let's
T
him for bright - er things to seek, 'Twill light - er make his la - bor; Let's
B
him for bright - er things to seek, 'Twill light - er make his la - bor; Let's


58
S
cheer - ful be thro' rain or shine, Life's pleas - ures then will dou - ble, Let's
A
cheer - ful be thro' rain or shine, Life's pleas - ures then will dou - ble, Let's
T
cheer - ful be thro' rain or shine, Life's pleas - ures then will dou - ble, Let's
B
cheer - ful be thro' rain or shine, Life's pleas - ures then will dou - ble, Let's


62
S
nev - er at our lot re - pine, Oh, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
A
nev - er at our lot re - pine, Oh, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
T
nev - er at our lot re - pine, Oh, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.
B
nev - er at our lot re - pine, Oh, nev - er bor - row trou - ble.


tempo 2
66
S
Float - ing down the stream of time, Our
A
Float - ing down the stream of time, yes, float - ing down the stream of time, Our
T
Float - ing down the stream of time, yes, float - ing down the stream of time, Our
B
Float - ing down the stream of time, yes, float - ing down the stream of time, Our
68
S
hap - pi - ness will dou - - - ble, If
A
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
T
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
B
hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble, hap - pi - ness will dou - ble, dou - ble,
70
S
we are cheer - ful, rain or shine, And
A
If we're cheer - ful, rain or shine, yes, al - ways cheer - ful, rain or shine, And
T
If we're cheer - ful, rain or shine, yes, al - ways cheer - ful, rain or shine, And
B
If we're cheer - ful, rain or shine, yes, al - ways cheer - ful, rain or shine, And

Never Borrow Trouble



John Church & Co.
(1872)

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