HIGH-CLASS STANDARD RAGS.

BASS

STARK MUSIC COMPANY.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Scanned from Bill Russel's xerox copies of "Property of Bunk Johnson" by Klaus Pehl, www.ragtime-society.de, Frankfurt am Main, March 2008

The „Red Back Book“

The real title of this collection of band arrangements is "***Standard High-Class Rags***", published by the Stark Music Company of St. Louis around 1911/12. The among musicians popular name came from the red colour of the front and back page. There existed folios for ***flute/piccolo, clarinet, (1st) cornet, trombone, drums, piano (acc.), 1st and 2nd violin, cello, and bass*** and possibly for 2nd cornet, and viola. John S. Stark had chosen rags for this collection which he had already successfully published as piano rags, especially from his composer stars Scott Joplin, James Scott, and Joseph F. Lamb. Stark even put the collection together from already published arrangements in earlier years. The orchestrations strictly follow the piano compositions. In a few cases keys were chosen which are more convenient for the wind instruments than the original keys. Stark did not publish the collection sorted by pieces, but published separate folios for each instrument. The fifteen "classical" rags of the collection are (in the order found in the book for violin[1], other books differ somewhat):

1. ***Maple Leaf Rag*** (*Scott Joplin 1899, arr. N.N. ca. 1901*)
2. ***Sunflower Slow Drag*** (*Scott Joplin - Scott Hayden 1901, D. S. Delisle 1902*)
3. ***The Cascades*** (*Scott Joplin 1904, arr. E. J. Stark 1901s*)
4. ***The Easy Winners*** (*Scott Joplin 1901, arr. N.N. 1903*)
5. ***The Ragtime Dance*** (*Scott Joplin 1906, D. S. Delisle 1910s*)
6. ***The Chrysanthemum*** (*Scott Joplin 1905, N.N. 1905*)
7. ***African Pas'*** (*Maurice Kirwin 1902, arr. N.N. 1900s*)
8. ***Ophelia Rag*** (*James Scott 1910, arr. R. Venuto 1910s*)
9. ***Hilarity Rag*** (*James Scott 1910, arr. R. Venuto 1910s*)
10. ***The Minstrel Man*** (*J. Russel Robinson 1911, arr. E. J. Stark 1911/12*)
11. ***Frog Legs Rag*** (*James Scott 1906, arr. Scott Joplin 1906*)
12. ***The Entertainer*** (*Scott Joplin 1902, D. S. Delisle 1901*)
13. ***Sensation*** (*Joseph Lamb 1908, arr. E. J. Stark 1900s*)
14. ***Kinklets*** (*Arthur Marshall 1906, arr. E. J. Stark 1906*)
15. ***Grace And Beauty*** (*James Scott 1909, arr. E. J. Stark 1900s*)

If you want to know more, see also: Klaus Pehl: (*M-)Ein Blick auf Ragtime - Populäre Musik zu Beginn des 20. Jahrhunderts und unvergänglich liebenswürdig*. Section 6.2, p. 86-114. Im Internet http://www.klauspehl.de/RagtimeBlickTotal.pdf [21st of December 2020]

In 2008 I made my facsimile edition of the “Red Back Book” publicly available in the Internet, based on copies given to me by Bill Russel, New Orleans. As early as the in the 1990s I had passed on the edition to Ragnar Hellspong, of Krusenberg in Sweden. Hellspong freed the historical arrangements from obvious musical typographical errors and redesigned them with a modern, legible music notation. He made his result publicly available through his website in the 2010s along with many other band arrangements from the ragtime era: http://www.ragsrag.com/vo/vo.html [21st of December 2020]. There you can download the collection, one pdf file for each piece. More details see the above mentioned internet publication, section 11.1.2.2, p. 216-219.

On the basis of Ragnar Hellspong’s work I thought to compile the collection again, actually in the historic organisation in a folio for each Instrument. I hope this will be more convenient for practical use by bands and their leader. For each folio I used the covers I had reconstructed from old fotos.

I wish you all to have much fun with performing the old but still lovable music.

21st December 2020, Klaus Pehl, Landgrabenweg 3, 58227 Bonn, Germany
E-Mail klaus.pehl@t-online.de
Web www.klauspehl.de or www.ragtime-society

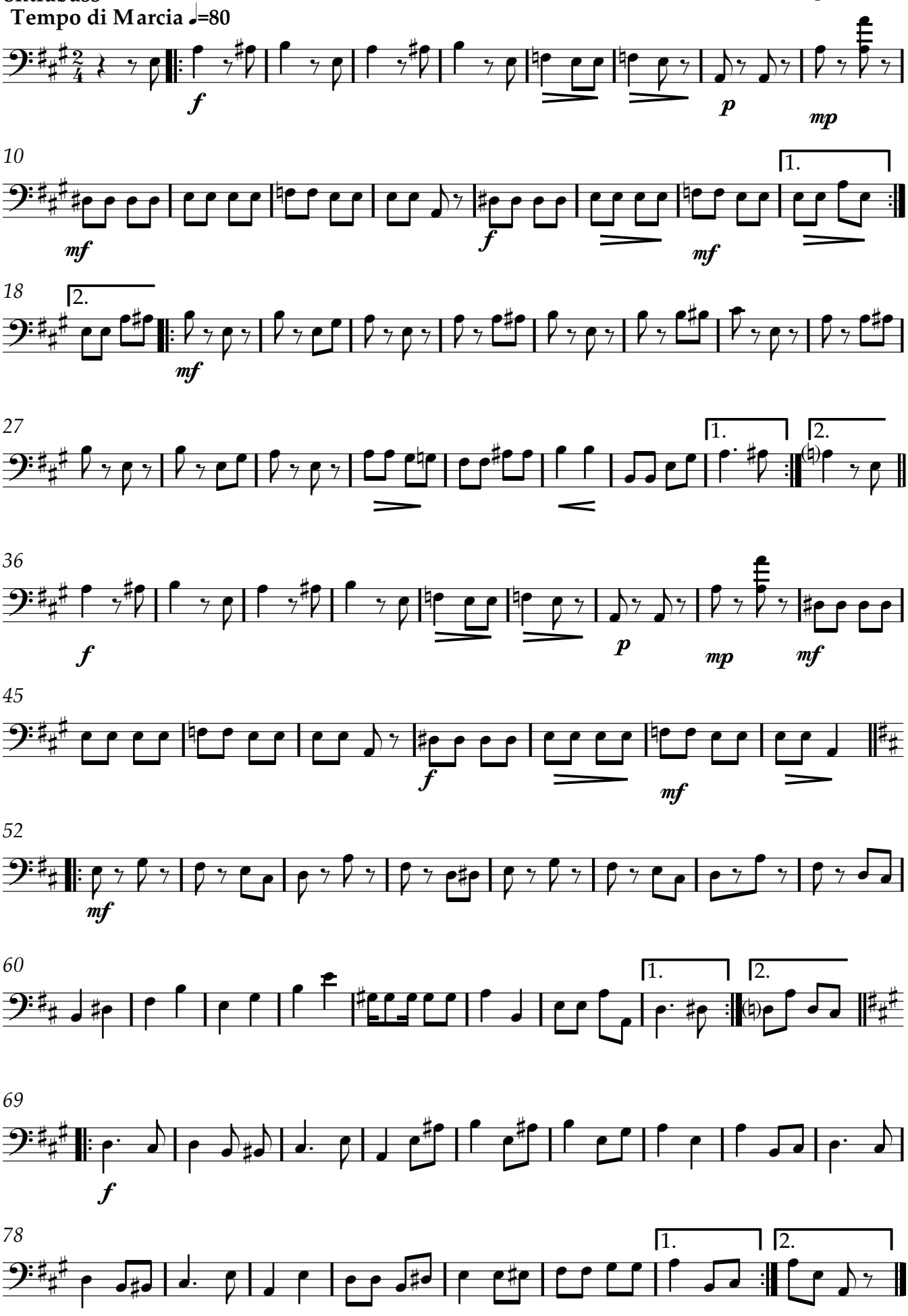
[1] The violin player was the „natural“ leader of an orchestra in the ragtime era, e.g. John Robichaux in his orchestra.

Maple Leaf Rag

Contrabass

Scott Joplin (1899)

Tempo di Marcia ♩=80



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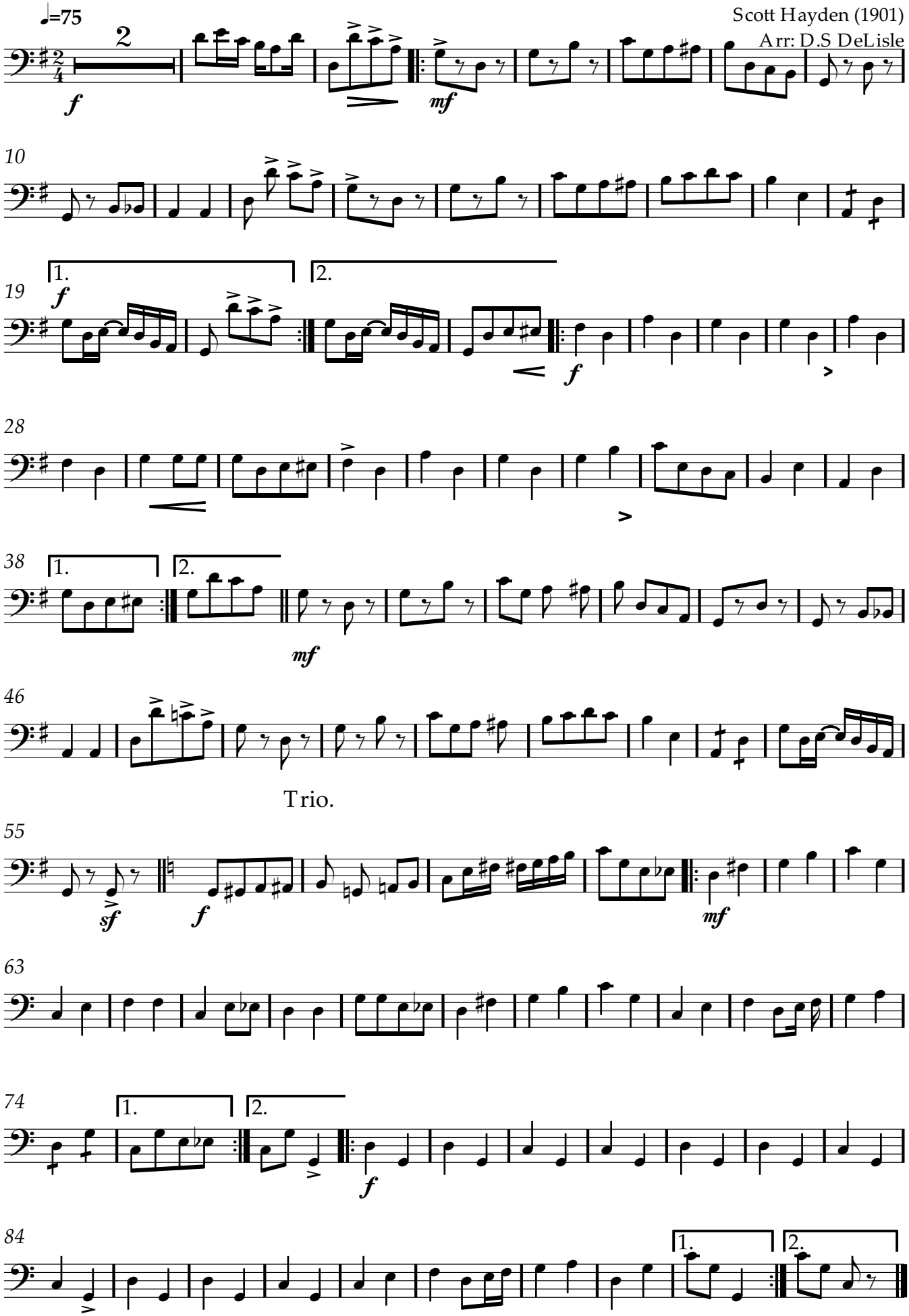
Sun Flower Slow Drag

Contrabass

Scott Joplin and
Scott Hayden (1901)
Arr: D.S DeLisle



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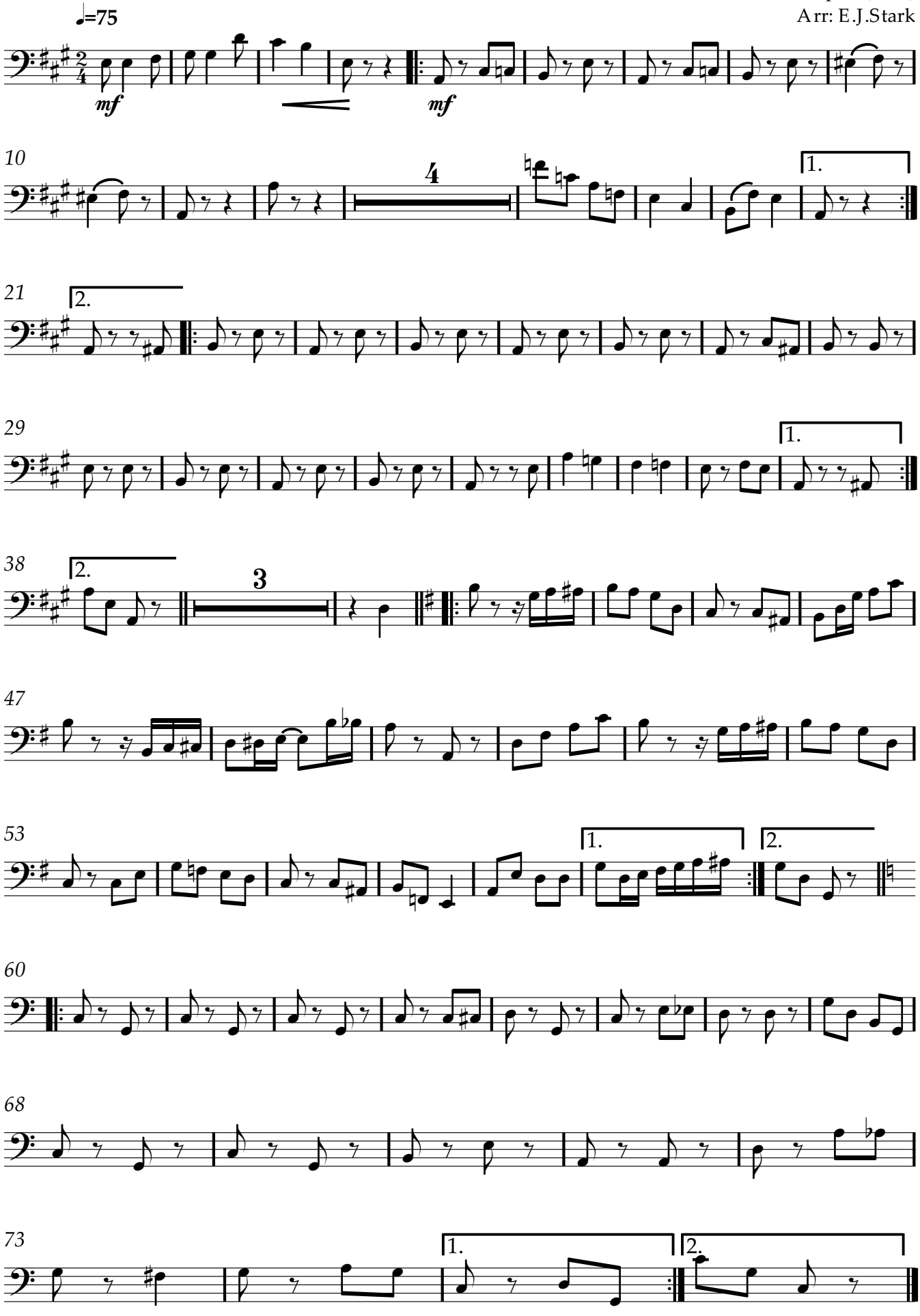
Contrabass

The Cascades

Scott Joplin (1904)
Arr: E.J.Stark



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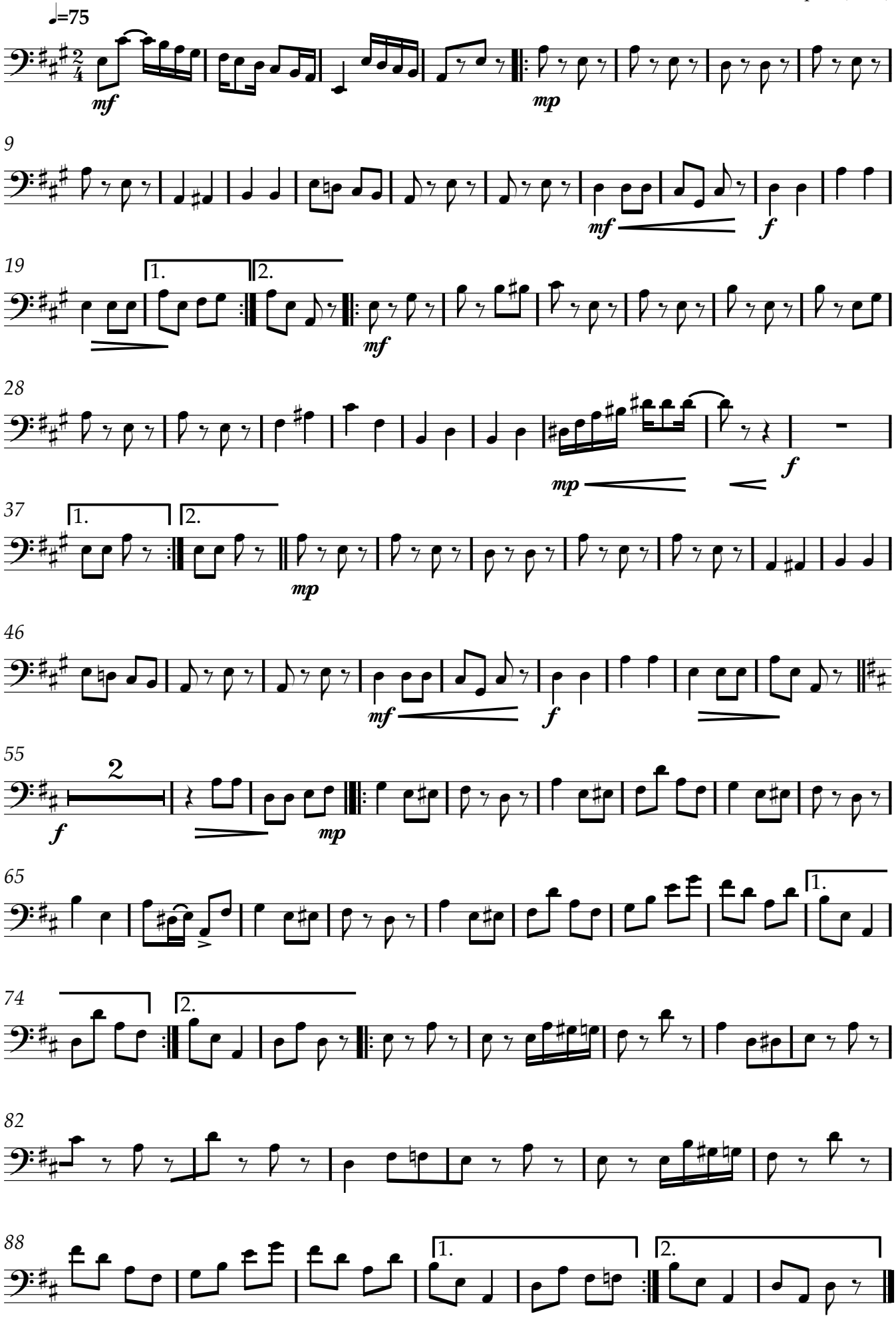
The Easy Winners

Contrabass

RAG TIME TWO STEP

Scott Joplin (1901)



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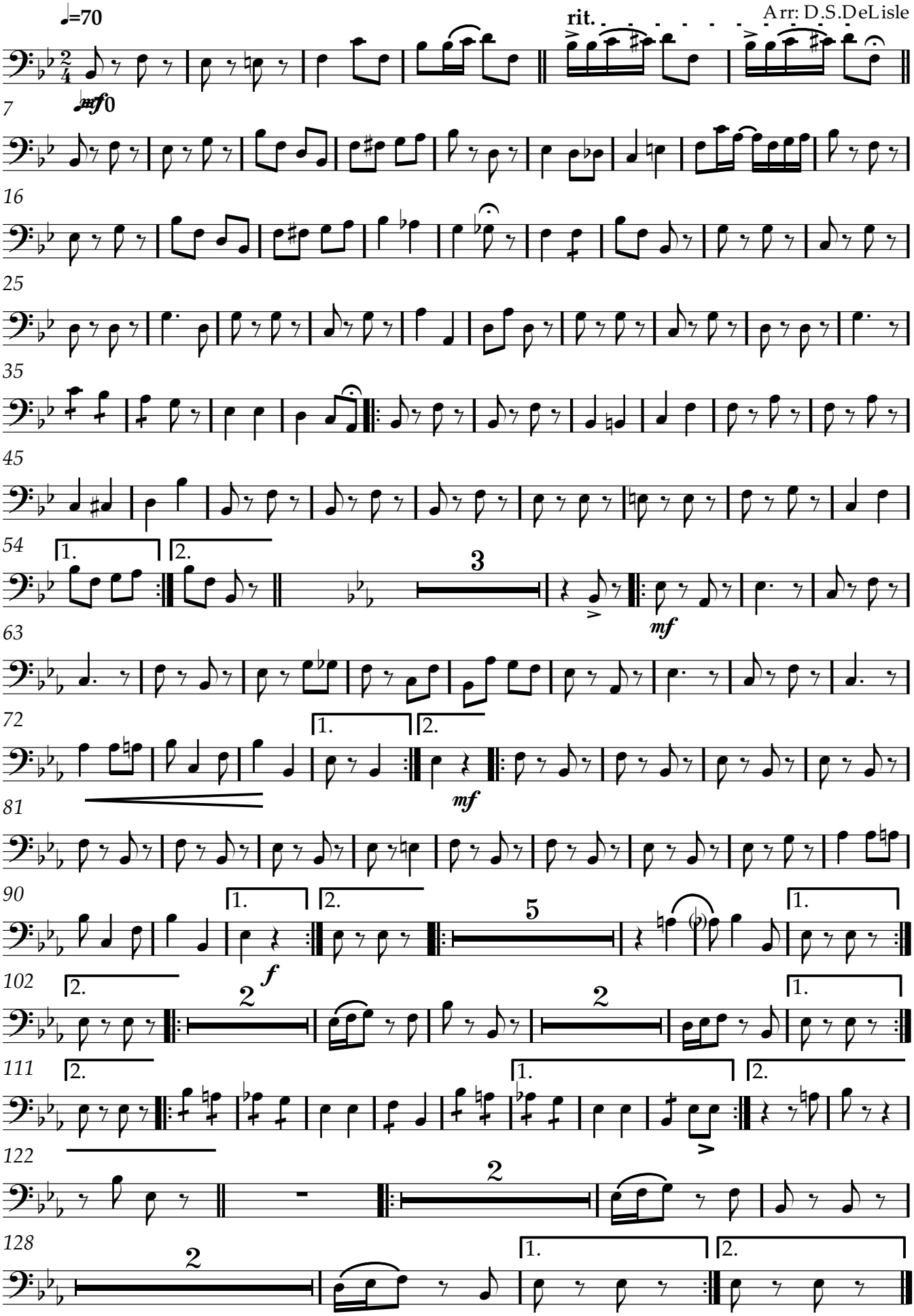
Contrabass

The Ragtime Dance

Scott Joplin (1906)
Arr: D.S.DeLisle



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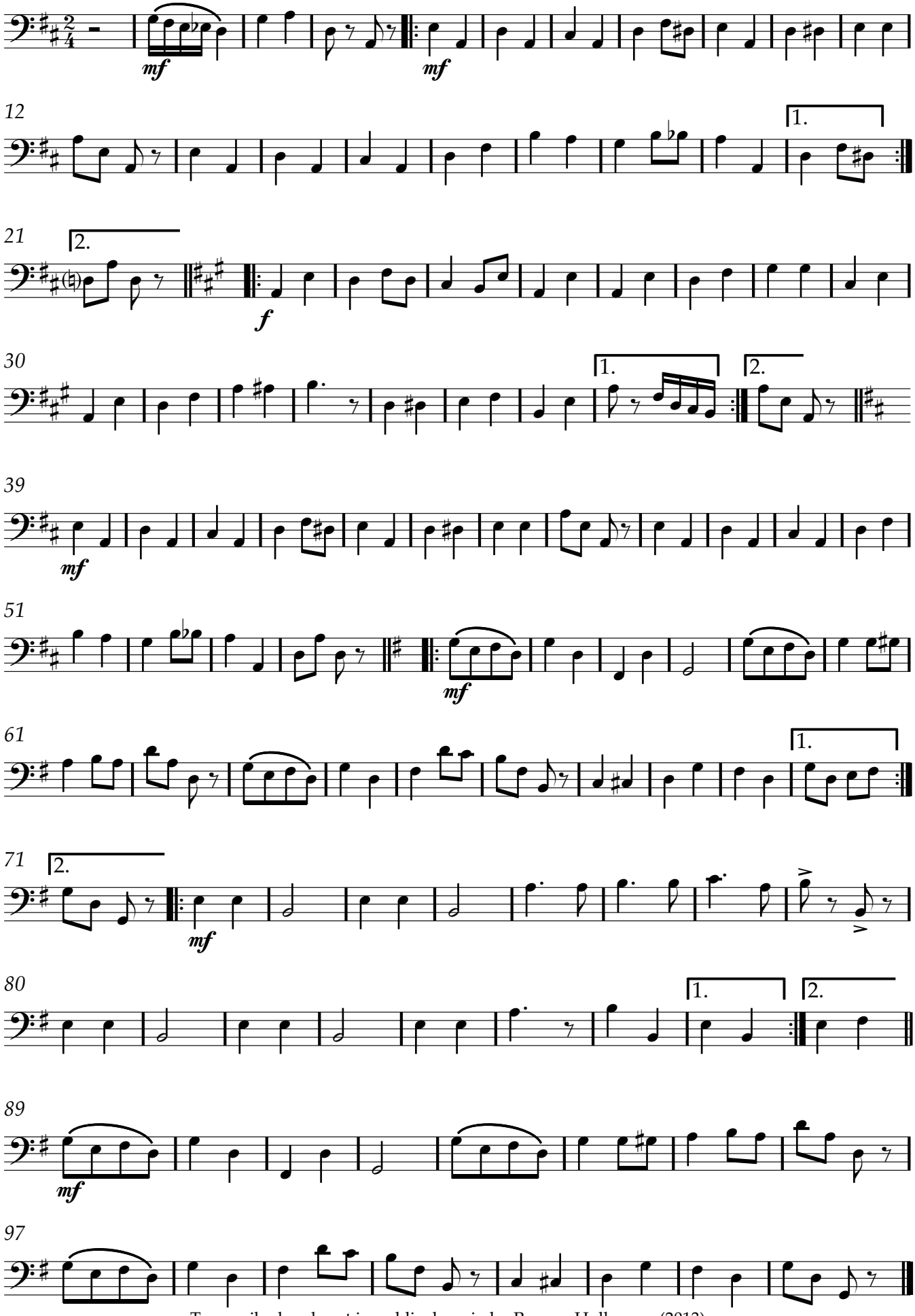
The Chrysanthemum

An Afro-American Intermezzo

Scott Joplin (1904)

Contrabass

♩=70



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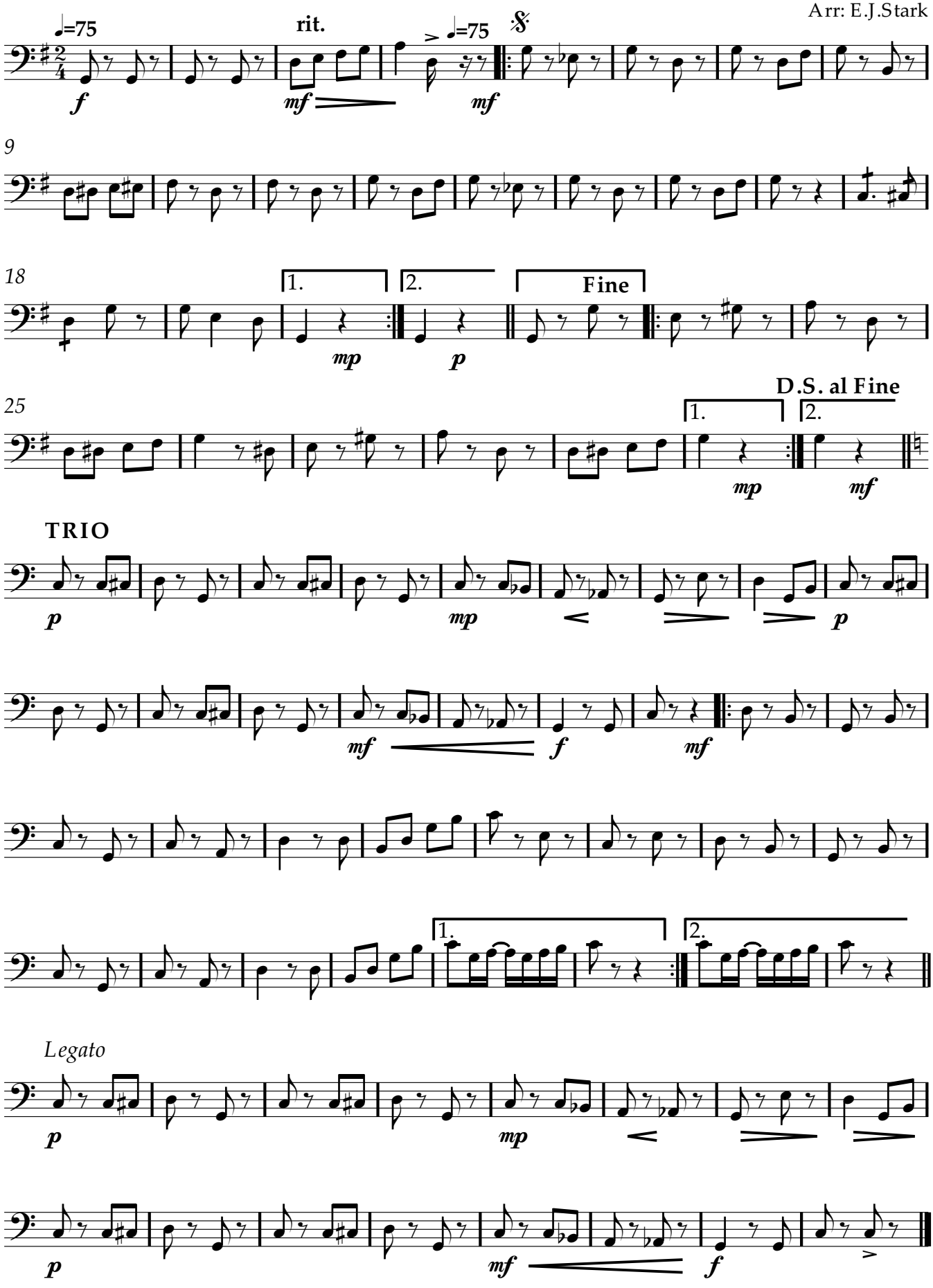
Contrabass

African Pas

Rag Time Two Step

Maurice Kirwin (1902)
Arr: E.J.Stark



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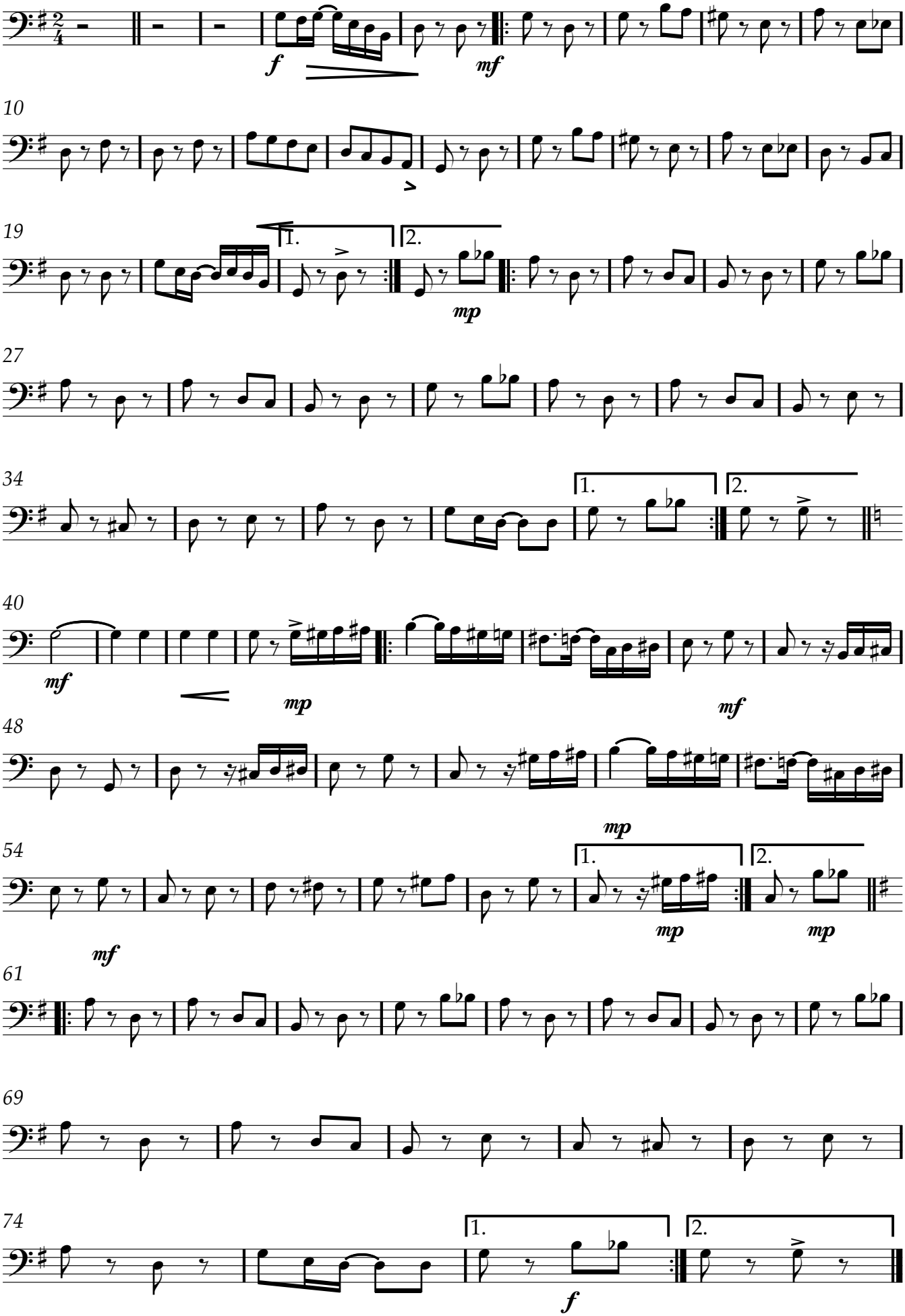
Ophelia Rag

Contrabass

♩=72

James Scott (1910)
Arr: Rocco Venuto



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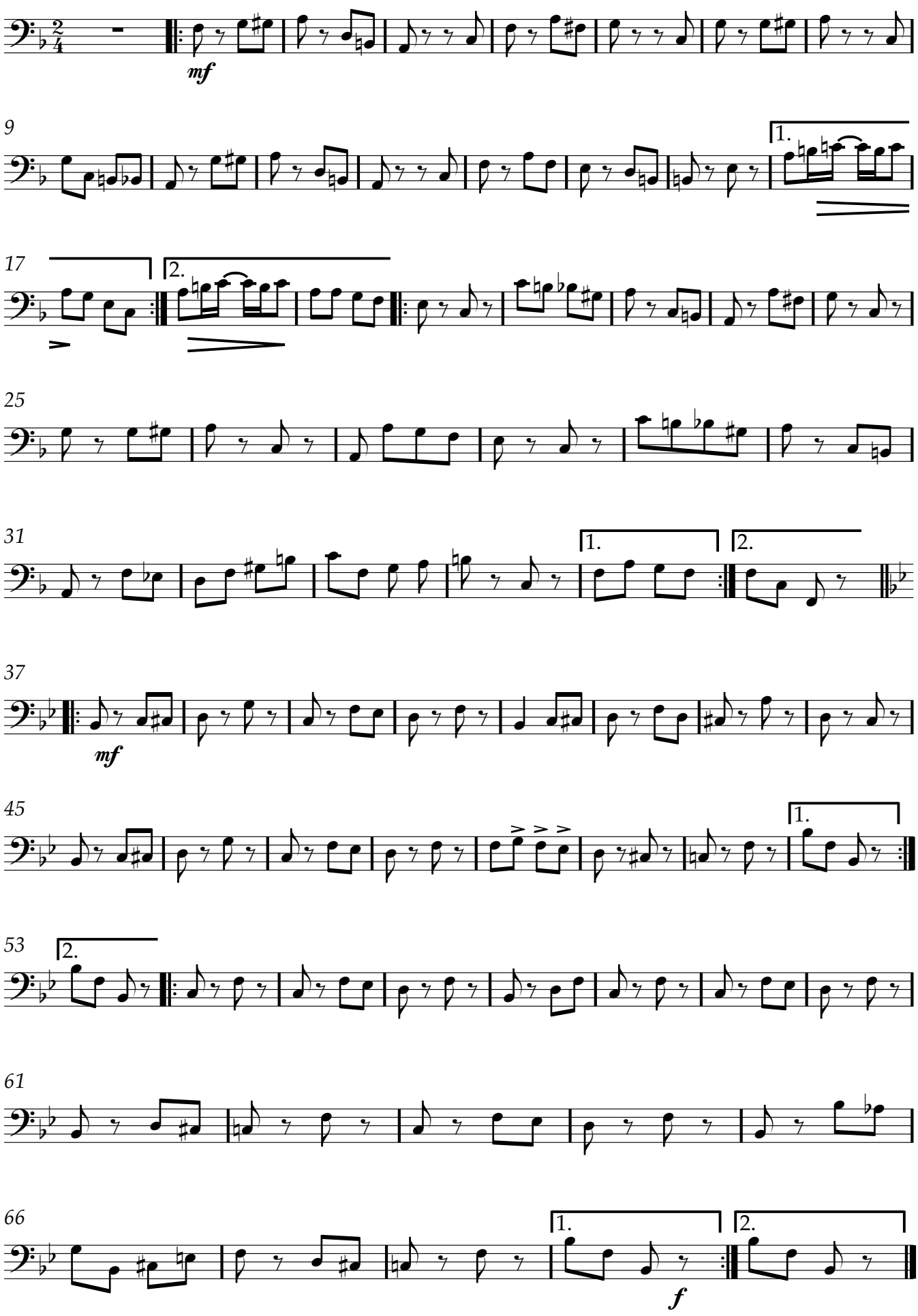
Hilarity Rag

Contrabass

James Scott (1910)
Arr by R. Venuto



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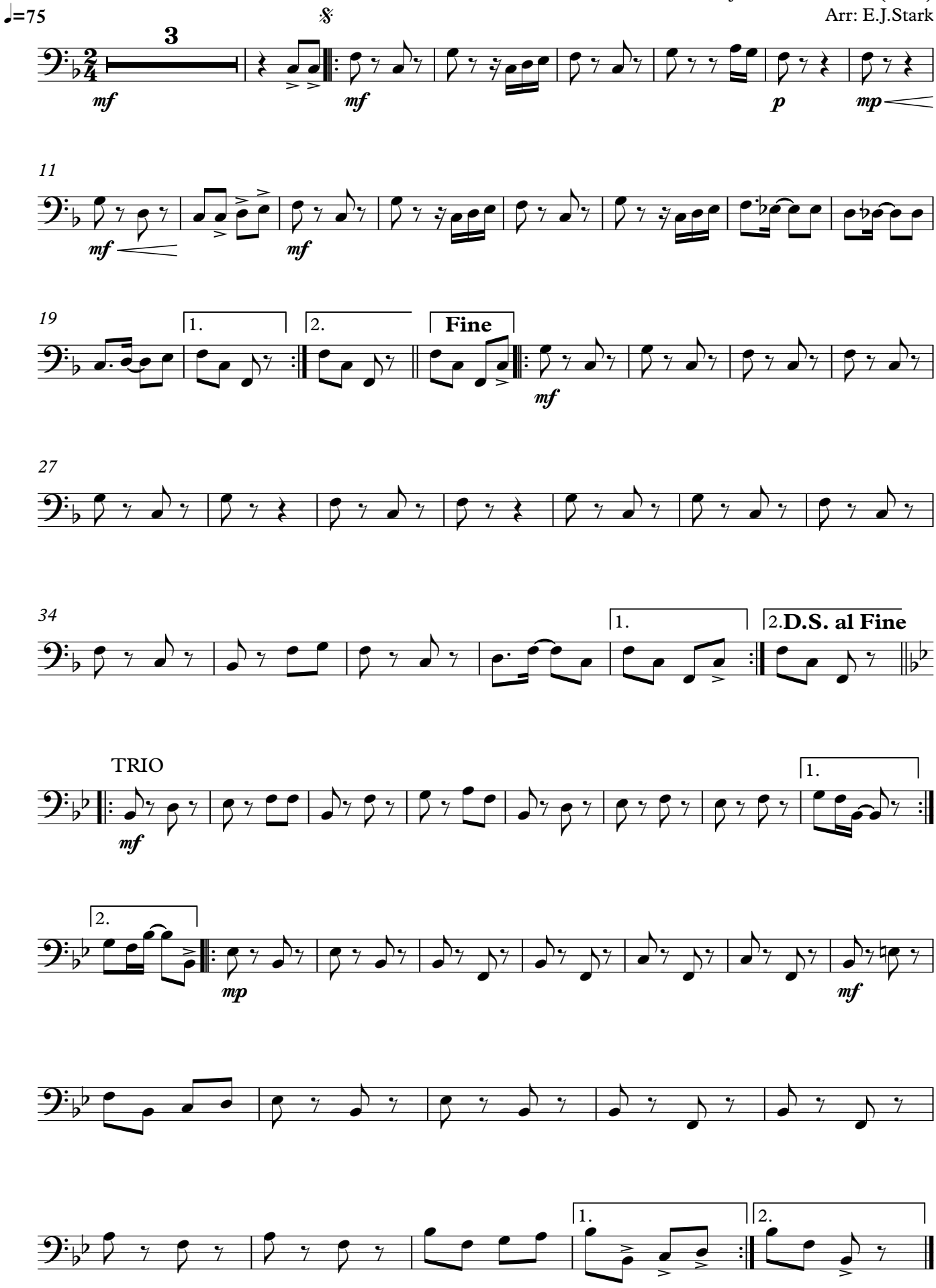
The Minstrel Man

Ragtime Two Step

Contrabass

J.Russel Robinson (1911)
Arr: E.J.Stark



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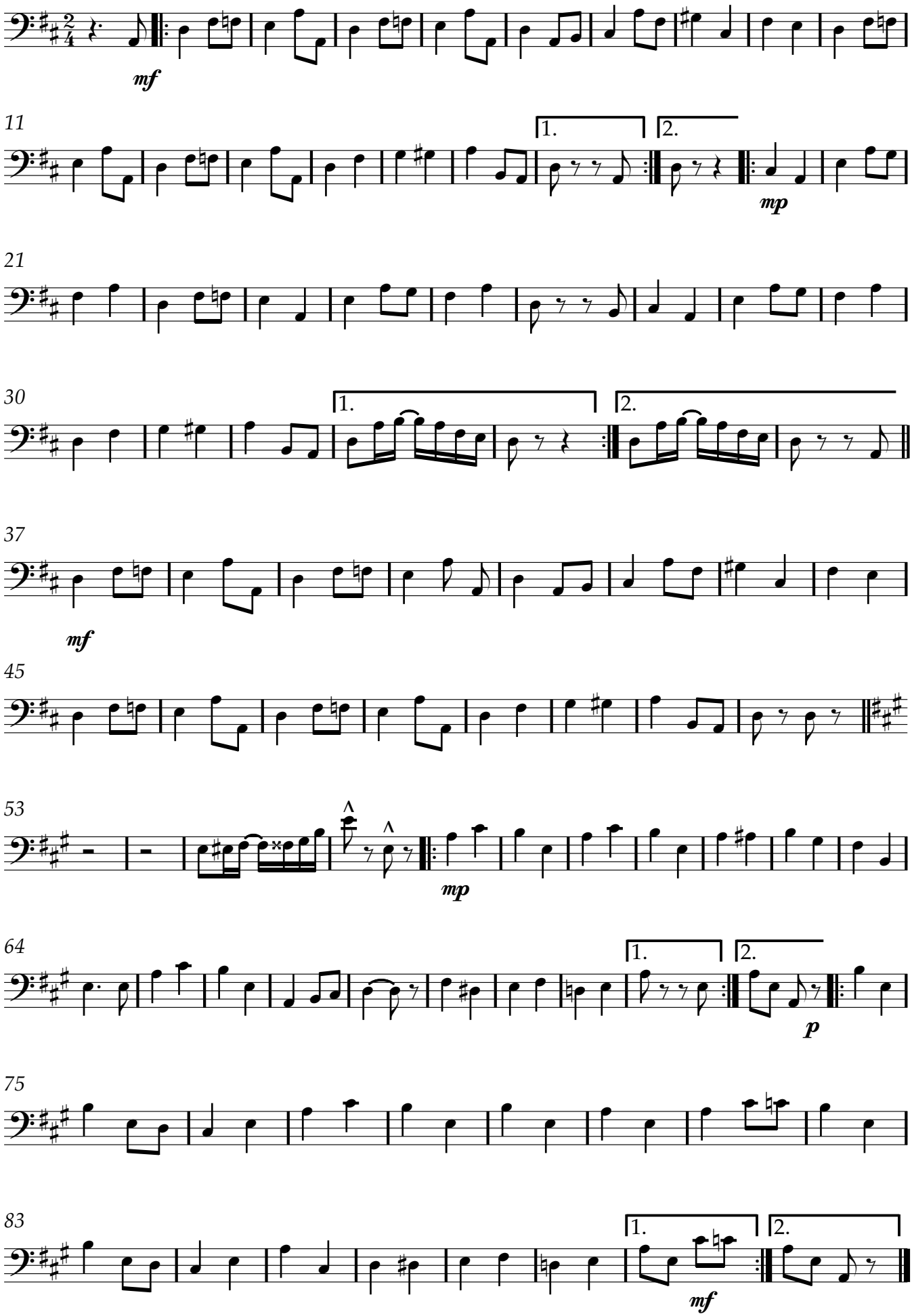
Frog Legs Rag

Contrabass

♩=75

James Scott (1906)
Arr: Scott Joplin



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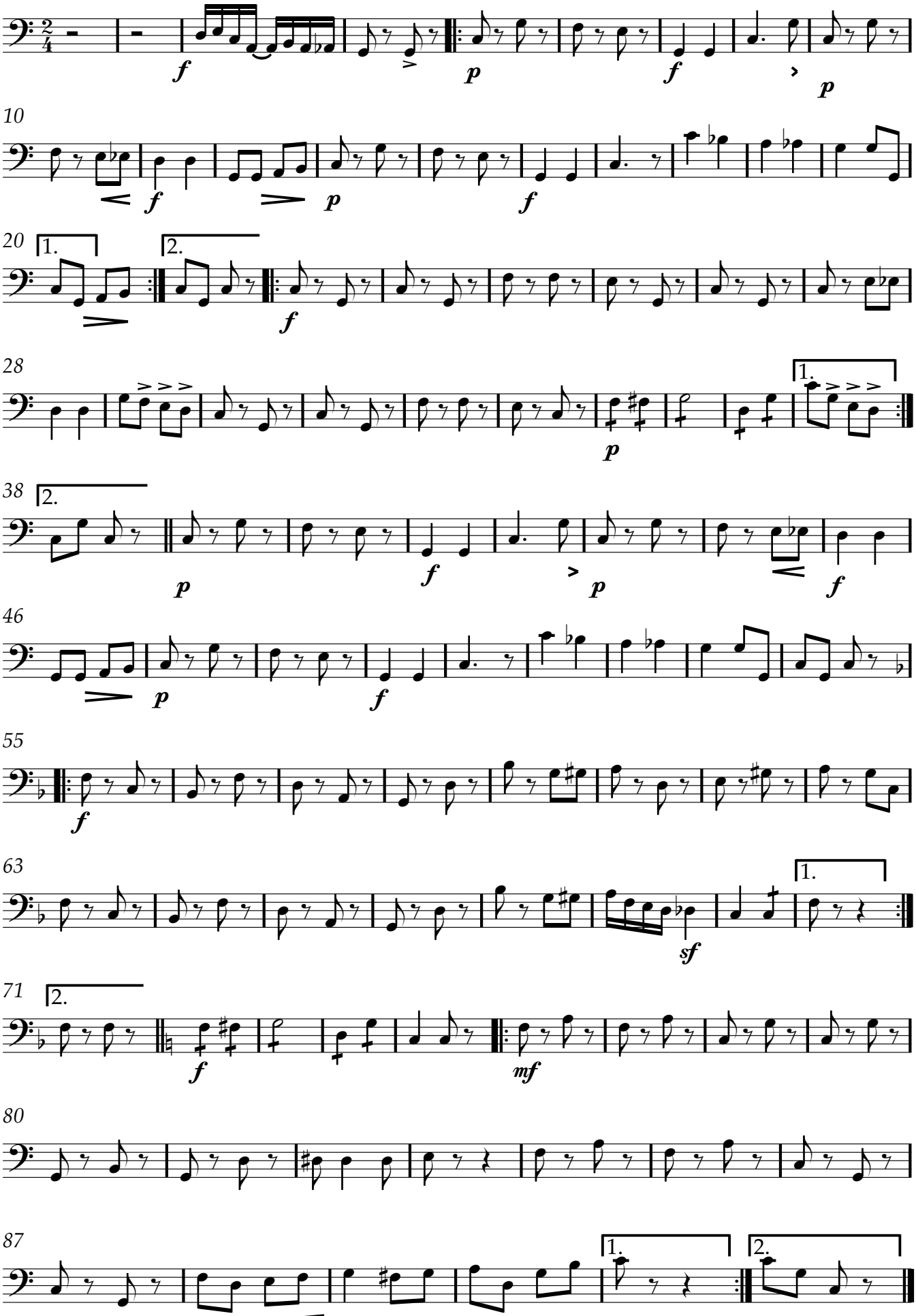
The Entertainer

Contrabass

♩=75

Scott Joplin (1902)
Arr: D.S. DeLisle



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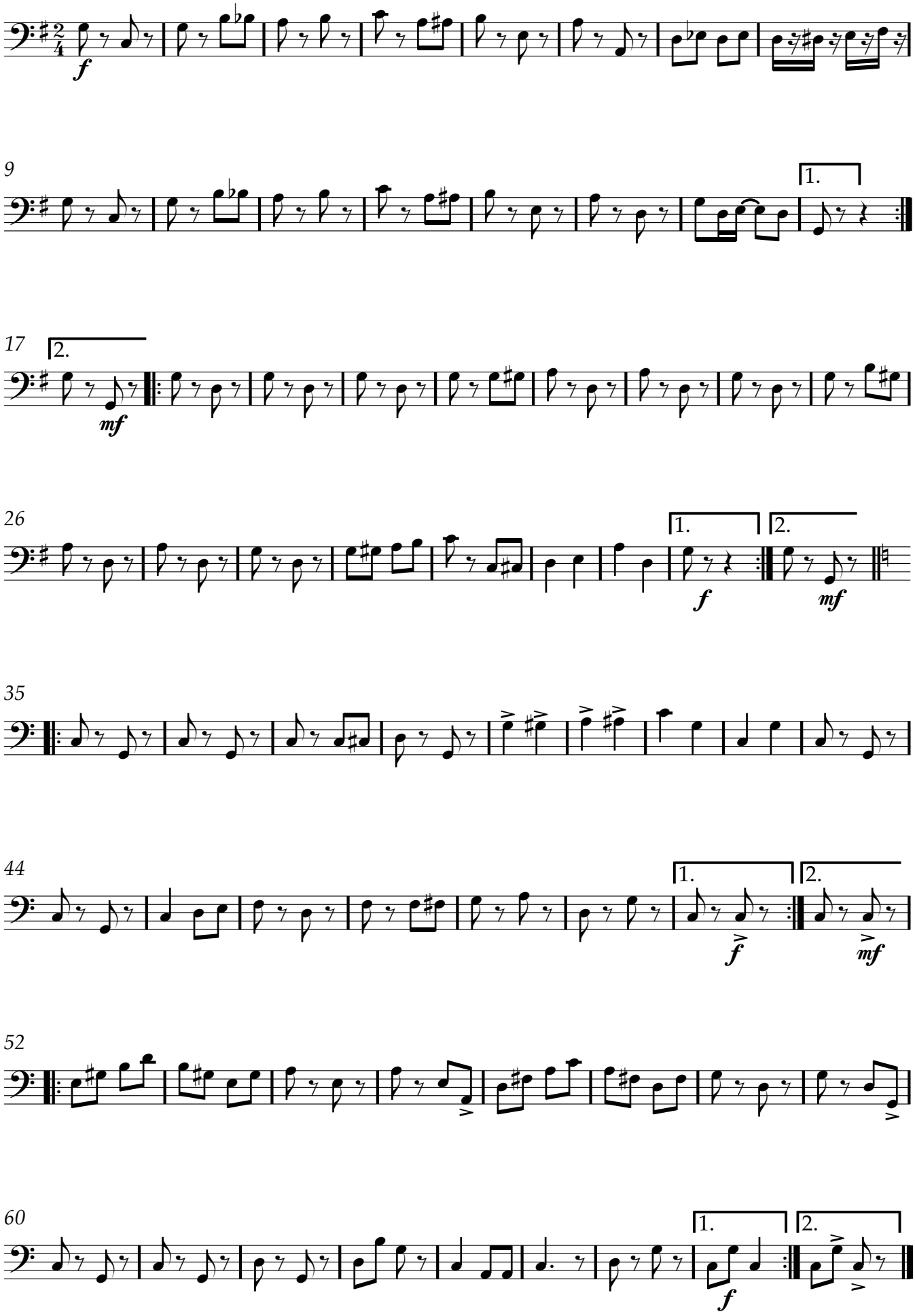
Sensation

A Rag

Contrabass

♩=80

Joseph Lamb (1908)
Arr: Rocco Venuto



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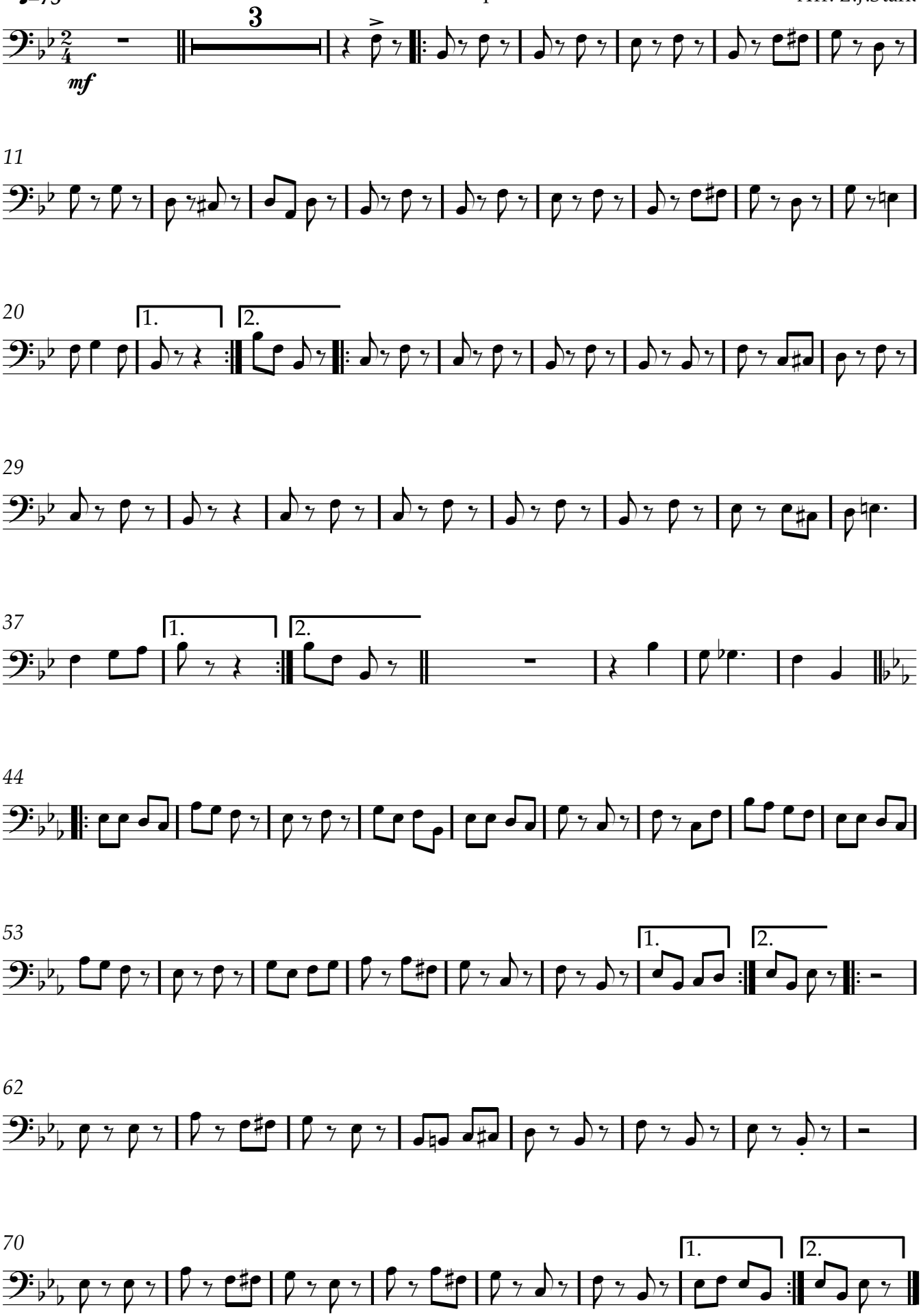
Kinklets

Two Step

Arthur Marshall (1906)
Arr: E.J.Stark

Contrabass

♩=75



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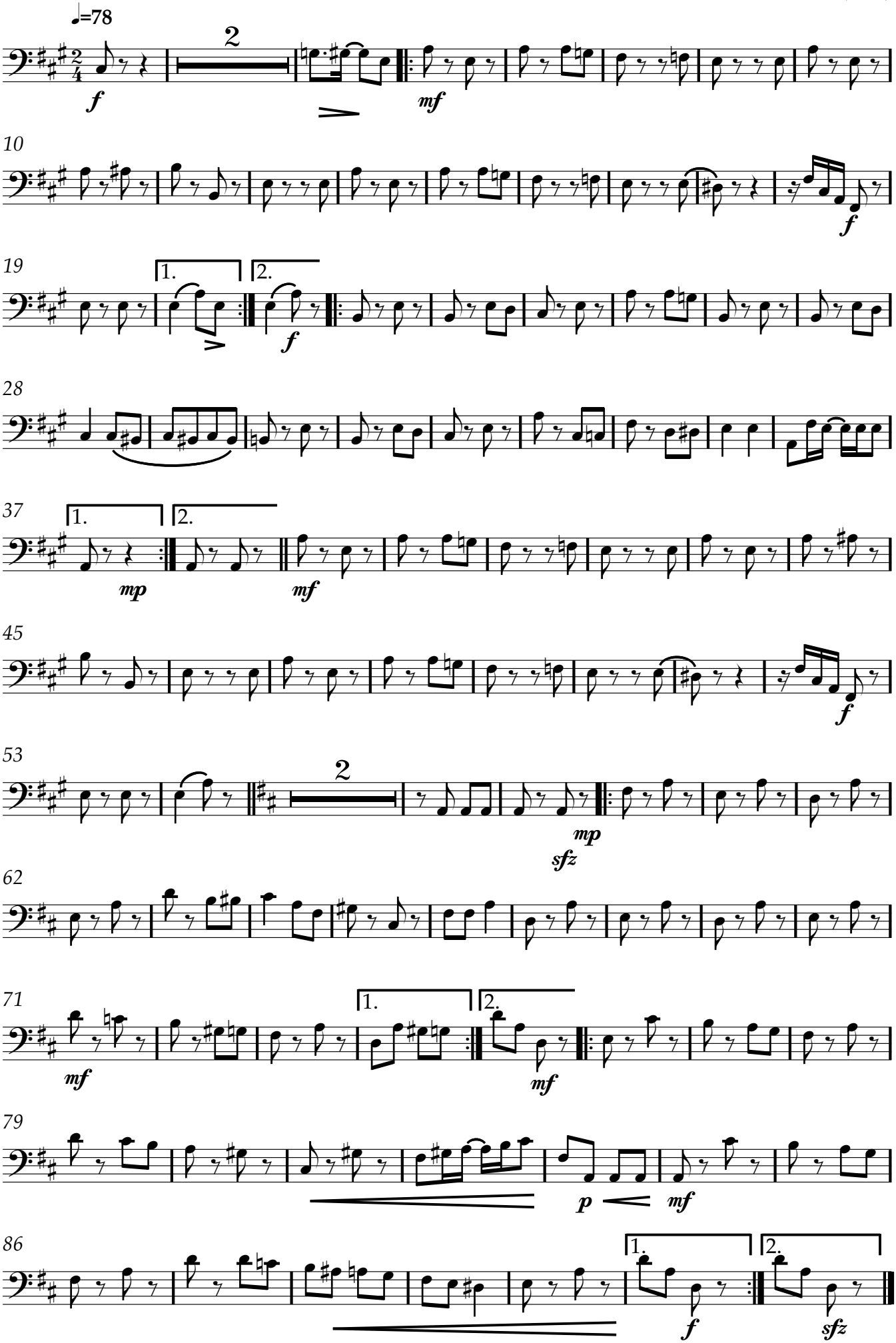
Grace and Beauty

Contrabass

James Scott (1910)



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Creme de la Creme

If you want the pure Classics in Ragtime, here they are EXTRA SELECTED

These are what are waking up Berlin and London, to the fact of a new creation in Music—Beware of imitations.

THE TEN BEST RAGS by SCOTT JOPLIN	TEN BEST RAGS by JAMES SCOTT
Maple Leaf	Grace and Beauty
Cascades	Frog Legs
Entertainer	Hilarity
Sunflower Slow Drag	Ophelia
Elite Syncopations	Ragtime Betty
Easy Winners	Sunburst
Felicity	Ragtime Oriole
Peacherine	Quality
Nonpariel	Princess
Heliotrope Boquet	Kansas City Rag

STAPLE AS FLOUR

STARK MUSIC CO.
[illegible]