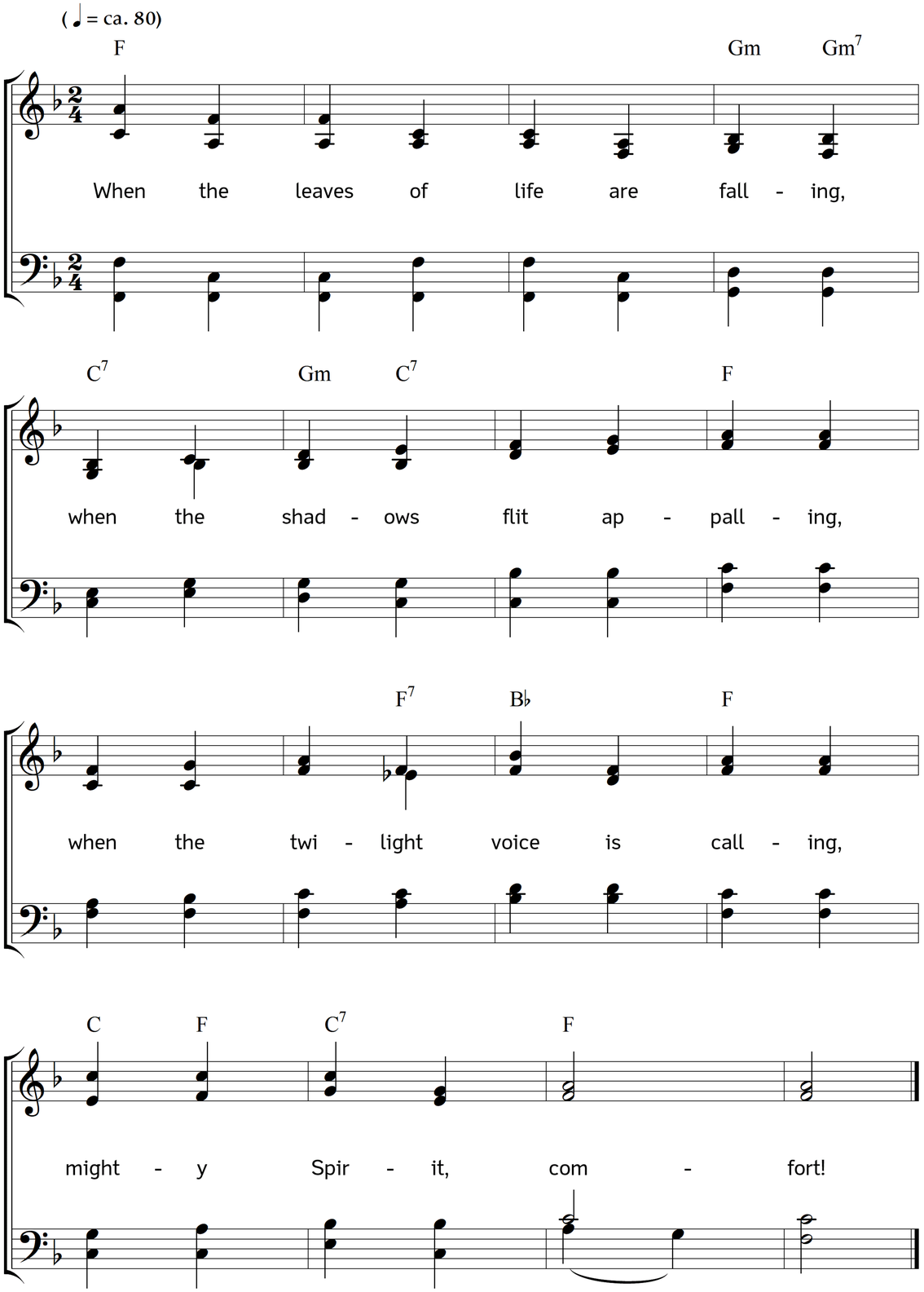
THE COMFORT OF THE HOLY GHOST



2. When youth's verdure all is fading,
when I pass into the shading,
life's long load at last unlading,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

3. When the frost of time has found me,
when the chains of age have bound me,
when the evening mists surround me,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

4. When the worn-out flesh is sinking,
when from burdens it is shrinking,
and from earthly ties unlinking,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

5. When the gates of life are closing,
all its lattice-bolts unloosing,
and the spirit seeks reposing,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

6. When these skies look wan and dreary,
when the inner man is weary,
worn out by the adversary,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

7. When the once keen eye is failing,
when the steadfast heart is quailing,
flesh, and friend, and world assailing,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

8. When past sins are flocking round me,
when the fiery arrows wound me,
as if hell would then confound me,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

9. When I think on manhood wasted,
cups of pleasure vilely tasted,
holy longings madly blasted,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

10. When my farewells I am taking,
and these lower rooms forsaking,
to my upper home betaking,
mighty Spirit, comfort!

11. Holy Spirit, strength in weakness,
Holy Spirit, health in sickness,
give me comfort, patience, meekness:
mighty Spirit, comfort!

12. Ah, thou wilt not then forsake me,
strong in weakness thou wilt make me,
to thy bosom thou wilt take me:
mighty Spirit, comfort!

Words: Horatius Bonar. Music: Johannes Thomas Rüegg.
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