NOCTURNE.



The nocturne consists of a chief subject A_B, and a secondary subject B_C. The latter is followed by the repetition of the chief subject, together with a coda. The composition vividly reminds one of Op. 15 Nº 8 (see Remark to the same). Here, too, the chief subject is the expression of deep melancholy; though, to be sure, in comparison with the immediate passionateness of the former nocturne (Op. 15) the present one discloses a touch of still resignation. In both nocturnes then follows a secondary subject of a religious character, which moves along full of nobility and dignity, and bestows comfort and tranquility. Op. 15 closes with its secondary subject. In the present nocturne, on the other hand, the chief subject is repeated. This is indeed justifiable in point of form, but at the same time it weakens the poetic contents of the work; for the secondary subject, with its beautiful intimation, that for deep suffering of soul religion is the best and highest consolation is lowered to a merely passing moment.



