

17. If love's a sweet passion

Henry Purcell

1st violin

5

The musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is for the 1st violin, starting in common time (indicated by '4'). The middle staff is for the basso continuo, showing a bass line with accompanying chords. The bottom staff is for the soprano, which begins at measure 25. The vocal line includes lyrics: 'If love's a sweet passion, why'. The score is annotated with various letters (a, b, etc.) and numbers (1, 2, 3, 4) above the notes, likely indicating performance techniques or specific editions. Measure numbers 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 are also marked.

30

does it torment? If a bitter, oh tell me whence comes my con-

tent? Since I suf-fer with plea-sure, why should I com-plain, Or

grieve at my fate, when I know 'tis in vain? Yet so

pleas- ing the pain is, so soft is the dart, That at

once it both wounds me and tickles my heart. I press her hand

Chorus $\overline{\overline{a}}$

50

55

60

65

70