

1864

**“A BROKEN AND A CONTRITE HEART,
O GOD, THOU WILT NOT DESPISE”**

William Cullen Bryant

Bryant, William Cullen (1794-1878) - American poet and editor of the New York Evening Post who practiced law before devoting his life to writing. A master of blank verse, Bryant's earliest works are considered his best. "A Broken and a Contrite Heart" (1864) - A hymn. Opening lines: O God, whose dread and dazzling brow / Love never yet forsook!...

**A BROKEN AND A CONTRITE HEART, O GOD, THOU WILT
NOT DESPISE**

O God, whose dread and dazzling brow
Love never yet forsook!
On those who seek thy presence now
In deep compassion look.

Aid our weak steps and eyesight dim
The paths of peace to find,
And lead us all to learn of Him
Who died to save mankind.

For many a frail and erring heart
Is in thy holy sight,
And feet too willing to depart
From the plain way of right.

Yet, pleased the humble prayer to hear,
And kind to all that live,
Thou, when thou seest the contrite tear,
Art ready to forgive.

THE END