

**THE RIVERSIDE LITERATURE
SERIES. HENRY
WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW:
A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE**

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HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW & CHARLES ELIOT NORTON

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H. W. Longfellow

The Riverside Literature Series

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE

BY

CHARLES ELIOT NORTON

*TOGETHER WITH LONGFELLOW'S CHIEF
AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL POEMS*



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NOTE

The commemoration, under the auspices of the Cambridge Historical Society, on the 27th of February, 1907, of the one hundredth anniversary of Longfellow's birthday, accounts for the character of this little volume. Besides the sketch of the life of the Poet, it contains most of those of his shorter poems which are referred to in the narrative, and also those which have a distinctly autobiographical character, and those which relate to his special friends and to the places of his birth and abode. Thus, the little book gives the story of the Poet's life briefly narrated in prose by a friend, and partially recorded in verse by himself.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters.

2. The second part outlines the specific procedures for handling sensitive information and data. It stresses the need for strict confidentiality and the implementation of robust security measures to protect against unauthorized access and data breaches.

3. The third section addresses the requirements for reporting and documentation. It details the frequency and format of reports, ensuring that all relevant information is captured and presented in a clear and concise manner.

4. The fourth part discusses the role of internal controls and audits. It highlights the importance of regular audits to identify potential weaknesses and ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

5. The fifth section covers the process of risk assessment and mitigation. It provides guidance on how to identify, evaluate, and manage risks effectively, minimizing their impact on the organization's operations.

6. The sixth part focuses on the importance of communication and collaboration. It encourages open dialogue and teamwork among all stakeholders to ensure that everyone is aligned and working towards common goals.

7. The seventh section discusses the need for continuous improvement and innovation. It advocates for a culture of learning and growth, where new ideas and technologies are embraced to drive the organization forward.

8. The eighth part addresses the ethical considerations and standards that should guide all actions. It emphasizes the importance of integrity, honesty, and fairness in all dealings, both internally and externally.

9. The ninth section covers the final steps of implementation and monitoring. It provides a checklist of key actions and a framework for ongoing evaluation and adjustment to ensure the success of the initiative.

10. The tenth and final part concludes the document by reiterating the commitment to excellence and the pursuit of long-term success through adherence to these principles and practices.

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NOTE

The frontispiece portrait of Longfellow in 1842 is from the original painting by G. P. A. Healy in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. The autograph, from a letter dated 1840, is in the Charles Folsom Collection, Boston Public Library. The portrait which faces page 42 is from a photograph taken in 1879. The autograph is from a letter dated 1830.

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

At the beginning of the nineteenth century New England was a good land in which to be born. It was still sparsely settled. There were no large towns. Boston, the largest, had scarcely twenty-five thousand inhabitants. The people were homogeneous, of unmixed English stock. They were mainly farmers or seamen. They were intelligent, industrious, and religious. There was great equality of condition, none were very rich, none very poor. Everybody was well off, for the poorest were free from the fear of oppression or starvation. The relations between man and man were natural and friendly. The general habits of life were simple and frugal; but even in the smaller towns there were often a few families which maintained a traditional comparatively high standard of refinement, of intellectual culture, and of moderate though genuine elegance.

There was never a more truly democratic community, nor one in which the advantages