

**HARRIET
MARTINEAU**

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Harriet Martineau by Mrs. F. Fenwick Miller

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MRS. F. FENWICK MILLER

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PREFACE.

THE material for this biographical and critical sketch of Harriet Martineau and her works has been drawn from a variety of sources. Some of it is quite new. Her own *Autobiography* was completed in 1855; and there has not hitherto been anything at all worth calling a record of the twenty-one years during which she lived and worked after that date. Even as regards the earlier period, although, of course, I have drawn largely for facts upon the *Autobiography*, yet I have found much that is new to relate. For some information and hints about this period I am indebted to her relatives, of her own generation, Dr. James Martineau, and Mrs. Henry Turner, of Nottingham, as well as to one or two others. With reference to the latest twenty-one years of her life, my record is entirely fresh, though necessarily brief. Mrs. Chapman, of

Boston, U.S., has written a volume in completion of the *Autobiography*, which should have covered this later period; but her account is little more than a repetition, in a peculiar style, of the story that Miss Martineau herself had told, and leaves the later work of the life without systematic record. As a well-known critic remarked in *Macmillan*—"This volume is one more illustration of the folly of intrusting the composition of biography to persons who have only the wholly irrelevant claim of intimate friendship." But it should be remembered that when Miss Martineau committed to Mrs. Chapman the task of writing a memorial sketch, and when the latter accepted the undertaking, both of them believed that the life and work of the subject of it were practically over. I have reason to know that if Harriet Martineau had supposed it to be even remotely possible that so much of her life remained to be spent and recorded, she would have chosen someone more skilled in literature, and more closely acquainted with English literary and political affairs, to complete her "Life." Having once asked Mrs. Chapman to fulfil the task, however, Harriet Martineau was too loyal and generous a friend to remove it from her charge; and Mrs. Chapman, on her side, while continually begging instructions from her subject as to what she was to say, and while doubtless aware that she would not be adequate to the under-

taking which had grown so since she accepted it, yet would not throw it off her hands. But her volume is in no degree a record of those last years, which constitute nearly a third of Harriet Martineau's whole life. I have had to seek facts and impressions about that period almost entirely from other sources.

My deepest obligations are due, and must be first expressed, to Mr. Henry G. Atkinson, the dearest friend of Harriet Martineau's maturity. It is commonly known that she forbade, by her will, the publication of her private letters; but she showed her supreme faith in and value for her friend, Mr. Atkinson, by specially exempting him from such prohibition. Her objection to the publication of letters was made on general grounds. Her own letters are singularly beautiful specimens of their class; and she declared that she would not mind if every word that ever she wrote were published; but she looked upon it as a duty to uphold the principle that letters should be held sacred confidences, just as all honourable people hold private conversations, not to be published without leave. But in authorising Mr. Atkinson to print her letters, if he pleased, she maintained that she was not departing from this principle; for it was only the same as it would be if two friends agreed to make their conversation known. I feel deeply grateful to Mr. Atkinson for allowing me the privilege of presenting

some of her letters to the public in this volume, and of perusing very many more.

I have been permitted, also, to read a vast number of Harriet Martineau's letters addressed to other friends besides Mr. Atkinson, and how much they have aided me in following her work and in appreciating her personality, may easily be guessed; but, of course, I may not publish these letters. Amongst many persons to whom I am indebted for helping me to "get touch" with my subject in this way, I must specially thank two. Mr. Henry Reeve, the editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, was a relative and intimate friend of Harriet Martineau; and her correspondence with so distinguished a man of letters was, naturally, peculiarly interesting—not the less so because they differed altogether on many matters of opinion. Her letters, which Mr. Reeve has kindly allowed me to see, have been of very great service to me. Miss F. Arnold, of Fox How, (the youngest daughter of Dr. Arnold, of Rugby,) is the second to whom like particular acknowledgment is due. She was young enough to have been Harriet Martineau's daughter; but she was also a beloved friend, and was almost a daily visitor at "The Knoll" during the later years of Miss Martineau's life. The letters which Miss Arnold, during occasional absences from home, received from her old friend, are very domestic, lively, and characteristic of the writer. It

has been of great value to me to have seen all the letters that have been lent me, but especially these two sets, so different and yet so similar as I have found them to be.

I have visited Norwich, and seen the house where Harriet Martineau was born ; Tynemouth, where she lay ill ; Ambleside, where she lived so long and died at last ; and Birmingham, to see my valued friends, her nieces and nephew. If I should thank by name all with whom I have talked of her, and from whom I have learned something about her, the list would grow over-long ; and so I must content myself with thus comprehensively expressing my sense of individual obligations to all who have laid even a small stone to this little memorial cairn.

F. F. M.

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 the context of public administration and government operations. This section outlines the various methods and systems used to collect, store, and analyze data, ensuring that information is readily accessible and reliable.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the role of technology in enhancing data management and analysis. It explores how modern software solutions and digital tools can streamline processes, reduce errors, and provide more comprehensive insights into organizational performance. This section also addresses the challenges associated with data security and privacy, highlighting the need for robust protocols and regular updates to protect sensitive information.

3. The third part of the document discusses the importance of training and development for staff involved in data management. It stresses that ongoing education and skill-building are crucial for ensuring that personnel are equipped with the latest techniques and tools. This section provides recommendations for designing effective training programs and for fostering a culture of continuous learning within the organization.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the need for regular audits and reviews to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the data. It outlines the procedures for conducting these audits, including the selection of independent reviewers and the implementation of corrective actions when discrepancies are identified. This section also discusses the importance of maintaining a clear audit trail and documenting all findings and actions taken.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of communication and collaboration between different departments and stakeholders. It emphasizes that effective data management requires a shared understanding of goals and objectives, as well as open lines of communication to address any issues or concerns. This section provides guidelines for establishing clear roles and responsibilities and for promoting a collaborative work environment.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the importance of staying up-to-date with the latest trends and developments in the field of data management. It encourages organizations to actively engage in professional development activities, such as attending conferences, workshops, and seminars, to stay informed about new technologies and best practices. This section also discusses the importance of sharing knowledge and experiences with other organizations in the industry.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining a high level of transparency and accountability in all data management activities. It emphasizes that organizations should be open and honest about their data practices, including how data is collected, stored, and used. This section provides recommendations for developing clear policies and procedures that are easily accessible to all stakeholders.

8. The eighth part of the document discusses the importance of regularly reviewing and updating data management policies and procedures. It emphasizes that the field of data management is constantly evolving, and organizations must adapt their practices accordingly to remain effective and compliant. This section provides guidelines for conducting regular reviews and for implementing necessary changes.

9. The ninth part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining a strong relationship with external partners and vendors. It emphasizes that organizations should carefully select and monitor their external partners to ensure that they meet the highest standards of quality and reliability. This section provides recommendations for developing clear contracts and for maintaining open communication with external partners.

10. The tenth part of the document discusses the importance of regularly reporting on data management performance and progress. It emphasizes that organizations should provide clear and concise reports to their stakeholders, highlighting key achievements, challenges, and areas for improvement. This section provides guidelines for developing effective reports and for using data to inform decision-making.