

**COWPER'S  
TEXT; A POEM**

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Cowper's text; a poem by James Mason

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**JAMES MASON**

**COWPER'S  
TEXT; A POEM**



**COWPER'S TEXT:**

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**POEM.**

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**BY JAMES MASON,**

**OF SHREWSBURY.**

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**Shrewsbury :**

**PRINTED BY W. AND J. EDDOWES, CORN-MARKET.**

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1827.

TO

**MRS. JONES,**

DAUGHTER OF BENJAMIN HEYWOOD,

OF STANLEY HALL, WORKSHIRE,

AND NIECE OF BRIDGET HEYWOOD, OF LIVERPOOL,

BOTH DECEASED.

FOR THEIR SAKES AND HER OWN,

THE FOLLOWING

**POEM**

IS MOST AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED,

BY HER COUSIN AND FRIEND,

*JAMES MASON.*

*St. John's Hill, Shrewsbury,*

*Jan. 1st, 1897.*

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. This section also highlights the need for regular audits and reviews to ensure that all data is up-to-date and correct.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the implementation of robust internal controls. It outlines various measures that can be taken to prevent fraud, mismanagement, and other risks. These include establishing clear policies and procedures, separating duties, and ensuring that all employees are trained and aware of the organization's standards. The document also discusses the importance of monitoring and evaluating these controls to ensure they remain effective over time.

3. The third part of the document addresses the role of technology in modern organizations. It explores how digital tools and systems can be used to streamline operations, improve communication, and enhance data security. It also discusses the challenges associated with technology, such as data privacy and cybersecurity, and provides recommendations for how to address these issues. The document stresses that technology should be used to support the organization's goals and improve its overall performance.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the importance of human resources and talent management. It highlights the need for organizations to attract, develop, and retain top talent. This involves creating a positive work environment, providing opportunities for growth and advancement, and offering competitive compensation and benefits. The document also discusses the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace and how these factors can contribute to an organization's success.

5. The fifth and final part of the document discusses the importance of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability. It outlines how organizations can integrate these values into their business operations and contribute to the well-being of society. This includes initiatives such as environmental protection, social justice, and community development. The document emphasizes that CSR and sustainability are not just ethical obligations but also strategic imperatives that can drive long-term success and resilience.

## COWPER'S TEXT.

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" I was a stricken deer that left the herd  
Long since—with many an arrow deep impress'd  
My panting side was charg'd; and I withdrew  
To seek a tranquil death in distant shades:  
Here I was found by one, who had himself  
Been hurt by th' archers: in his side he bore  
And in his hands and feet the cruel scars:  
With gentle force soliciting the darts,  
He drew them forth, and heal'd, and bade me live."

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Yes! thou wast stricken, ere thy rank was known,  
Thyself least knowing it of all the herd:  
Restor'd, the wound declar'dst thou from heav'n,  
And therefore nursedst it to a relapse:  
So came thy fiftieth year—when thy career  
Lean'd bright on temp'ral glory, though it still  
Held its strong wheeling on th' eternal goal:  
Faith, hope, and charity baptiz'd thy course,  
And stern expostulation, and a talk  
Thy table best might bear, and a review.



With'ring to modern discipline at schools,  
 The iron still tighten'd of thy splendid curb :  
 And yet at times right cheerily it shook,  
 E'en innocently jingling from its hold,  
 As when the train-band hero rode so fast  
 By wife and child and bell and balcony,  
 Boasted at Ware, and then rode back as fast :  
 'Twas thine own levity, of many one,  
 Simple, unspotted, guileless, graceful all :  
 And now the fair impos'd on thee a theme,  
 Soft, 'twas the sofa—fair, 'twas from the fair,  
 But, if sublime, sublime as Cowper's Task :  
 And 'tis sublime—sofas were not for thee,  
 And the mere name took a repulsive power,  
 And urg'd thee thro' the fields of earth and heav'n,  
 As vast proprietor, by truth made free.  
 Thy home was in the vale—thy morning air  
 Drugg'd from the market-place of wretched town,  
 But from that dwelling-place could walk with thee,  
 A kindred guardian of a mind that claim'd  
 A kindred guardian in a still small voice :  
 And ye would walk together, save when clouds  
 Were harsh upon this weather-house, our world,  
 And suffered but the man to brave the toy :  
 Then as no pangs arthritic plagu'd thy step,  
 In masculine dignity thou wouldst alone

Th' inanimate and animate explore,  
 Applaud the respite of th' umbrageous arch,  
 Own the privations of the peasant's nest,  
 Ascending or descending toil, slip, smile,  
 Admire the common's vegetable gold  
 With sympathy for her that wand'rer there,  
 Or those dependants on the double theft,  
 From highest eminence through all its plain  
 Trace Ouse by glassy line or verdant bank,  
 Then mindful of each novelty regain  
 Thy parlour, and thy Mary, and thy God :  
 Such was thy state to meet the softest theme,  
 Noise and a market-place and purest love,  
 A scanty competence and every charm  
 In nature that e'er charm'd thee, reach'd with toil,  
 A body in the noblest sequels wrapt,  
 A spirit that through all its harmony,  
 Its comprehensive harmony, could jar  
 But by that touch, at which the mountains smoke :  
 'Twas thus encount'rdst thou the ladies' theme,  
 And having balanc'd in its gentle name  
 And thine own music, peasant, sage, and saint,  
 Country and town, the outlaw and the craz'd,  
 Op'nedst thy second book, with pealing time :  
 Oh ! what a sadd'ning yet tremendous pow'r  
 Thy first touch gives that time-piece ! what a tone

Claims for the sable slave the common God.  
 The sun had slept in fog, a tideless sea  
 Voraciously had fed on man and tow'r,  
 Earth had been as the wave, when holy bard  
 From Olney with his summons shuts the scene,  
 And brethren in calamity bids love :  
 A chime succeeds, but of cathedral depth,  
 That stirs the earth o'er Wolfe and Chatham dead,  
 Wolfe laurel'd on the heights of victory,  
 And Chatham as he lifted hand and voice  
 Against a peace that merg'd that victory :  
 True—our apparent glory was not there,  
 But Lansdowne's wisdom reigned, and shall that  
     peace

By its example more advance mankind,  
 Than any conquest any Cæsar boasts ?  
 Else who is Washington ? Who Philip's son ?  
 But Chatham found dismemberment and shame,  
 And Olney's poet from his market-place  
 Ill reconcil'd the coxcomb and the brave,  
 And deem'd us borrowers too minute from France :  
 Yet perfumes he had pardon'd, pardon'd dress,  
 But when he finds the sacramental cup  
 Mid the same lilies that enwreath'd the sword,  
 He arms his rage but with the master-sound,  
 And church and college seem (but seem !) to reel.