

**HENRY OSCAR
HOUGHTON; A
BIOGRAPHICAL OUTLINE**

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Henry Oscar Houghton; a biographical outline by Horace E. Scudder

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HORACE E. SCUDDER

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HENRY OSCAR HOUGHTON

A Biographical Outline

BY

HORACE E. SCUDDER



CAMBRIDGE

Printed at the Riverside Press

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UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

PREFACE

WHEN the family of Mr. Houghton asked me to prepare a memorial of his life I gladly consented, for it was a grateful task to recall his vigorous personality. I did not fully perceive till I came to write my book how impossible it would be to make anything like an adequate Life: there were very few letters which I could use, for almost the whole of Mr. Houghton's correspondence was of a business sort, and it was difficult to detach him from his business. I was bent on presenting him individually, yet some of his most notable achievements were accomplished through and with the hearty coöperation of his associates. I am sure they will not misunderstand the concentration of my attention on him.

I was compelled, after I had sketched the

beginning of his life by means of such scanty documents as I could procure, to rely largely upon my own recollections and impressions. The portrait thus is drawn from my own point of view. It is no more than an outline. If conditions had been more favorable, not only would I gladly have filled out the sketch with a more detailed treatment, but I would have tried to correct my own view by a comparison with that of one and another of Mr. Houghton's acquaintances and friends. In truth I fear I have strayed somewhat from the task set me of preparing a memorial volume. I can only plead that after thirty years' constant intercourse with Mr. Houghton, his personality was too vivid for me to treat it with the studied impartiality of a historian.

NOTE ON THE PORTRAITS

THE frontispiece is from a photograph taken in 1893 for use by Mr. Robert Gordon Hardie when painting the portrait presented by Mr. Houghton to his partners and associates, which hangs in the Counting Room of the Riverside Press.

The picture facing page 12 represents Mr. Houghton just before entering college, and his sister Marilla, afterwards Mrs. Gallup, who was two years his junior.

The portrait facing page 56 gives the aspect of Mr. Houghton at the time when he went into business with Mr. Bolles.

The three-quarters portrait opposite page 74 is from a photograph taken about 1860.

The figure which faces page 82 is from a photograph taken in Paris when Mr. Houghton was there in 1864.

The portrait opposite page 110 is from a photograph taken in 1878.

In the Aldermanic Chamber at the City Hall, Cambridge, hangs a painting by Mr. Hardie which was presented to the city by various persons engaged in the business of the Press, and at the several offices of Houghton, Mifflin and Company. The photogravure facing page 132 is from this painting, and Mr. Hardie in executing the portrait had before him a photograph taken by Sarony about 1884.

The latest portrait of Mr. Houghton is that facing page 152, and is from a photograph taken in 1895.

