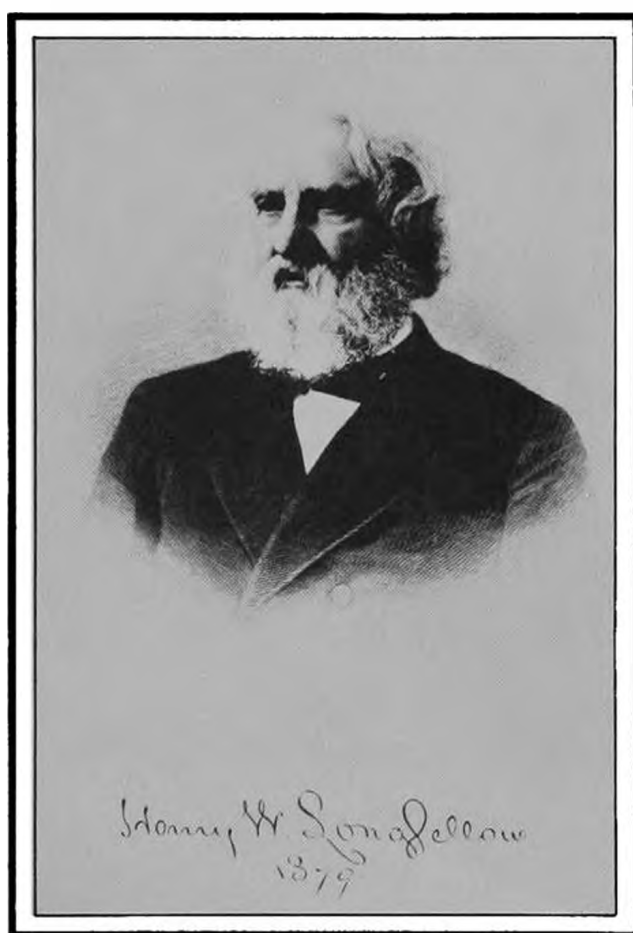


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HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY



Vol. 27, No. 4
Spring, 1988

\$2.00

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The *Maine Historical Society Quarterly* is published at 170 Stevens Hall, University of Maine at Orono, Orono, Maine 04469, and is received by 2015 members and 135 libraries.

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The articles appearing in the *Quarterly* are abstracted in *Historical Abstracts* and *America: History and Life*, published by the American Bibliographic Center.

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ISSN 0163-1152

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COVER ILLUSTRATION: The well-known face of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The articles featured in this issue were first presented to the public in a commemorative series of lectures titled "Longfellow's Portland," sponsored by the Maine Historical Society during 1985-1986. In the first two presentations Joyce Butler offers a view of early Portland through the eyes of the Wadsworth and Longfellow families, beginning, appropriately, as the stalwart seaport village lifted itself from the ashes of Revolutionary War destruction in the 1780s. Butler's story ends as young Henry, now Smith Professor of Romance Languages at Harvard University, stands on the brink of a brilliant literary career. Historian Daniel Aaron provides another perspective by assessing the continuing impact of that career in our third article: "The Legacy of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow."