



# The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table: A Trilogy

*Oliver Wendell Holmes*

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# The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table: A Trilogy

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**The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table: A Trilogy** Oliver Wendell Holmes

• Three books by American author Oliver Wendell Holmes are bound together in this Kindle book: The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table; The Professor at the Breakfast Table; and The Poet at the Breakfast Table

**The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table (1858)**

A collection of essays first published in *The Atlantic Monthly* magazine. They are in the form of a one-sided dialogue between the Author and residents of a New England boarding house, referred to by their profession or other defining characteristics. The essays discuss a variety of topics including the nature of conversation. The essays generally end with a poem on the topic. The author sold 10,000 copies of *The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table* in three days when it was first in print, and the book remains Holmes's most popular and enduring.

**The Professor of the Breakfast-Table (1859)**

In addition to *Autocrat*, there are two further volumes in the series drawing on later essays along similar themes. The first sequel is *The Professor of the Breakfast-Table*, published in 1859.

**The Poet at the Breakfast-Table (1872)**

There was a 15-year gap between the first and last books in the trilogy and the author is more nostalgic as he ages: "As people grow older... they come at length to live so much in memory that they often think with a kind of pleasure of losing their dearest possessions. Nothing can be so perfect while we possess it as it will seem when remembered".

**About The Author**

American author Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) was a doctor, poet and member of Boston's literary elite. He was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and educated at Harvard. He studied law then medicine.

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