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THE WRITINGS IN  
PROSE AND VERSE  
OF EUGENE FIELD

[7]

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S  
SONS, NEW YORK, 1899



THE WORKS OF  
EUGENE O'NEILL

Volume VII  
From a photograph



THE WORKS OF  
EUGENE FIELD

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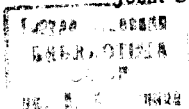
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THE LOVE AFFAIRS  
OF A BIBLIOMANIAC

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S  
SONS, NEW YORK, 1899

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## Introduction

THE determination to found a story or a series of sketches on the delights, adventures, and misadventures connected with bibliomania did not come impulsively to my brother. For many years, in short during the greater part of nearly a quarter of a century of journalistic work, he had celebrated in prose and verse, and always in his happiest and most delightful vein, the pleasures of book-hunting. Himself an indefatigable collector of books, the possessor of a library as valuable as it was interesting, a library containing volumes obtained only at the cost of great personal sacrifice, he was in the most active sympathy with the disease called bibliomania, and knew, as few comparatively poor men have known, the half-pathetic, half-humorous side of that incurable mental infirmity.

The newspaper column, to which he con-

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