# OEDIPUS THE WRECK: OR "TO TRACE THE KNAVE"

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Oedipus the Wreck: Or "To Trace the Knave" by Owen Seaman

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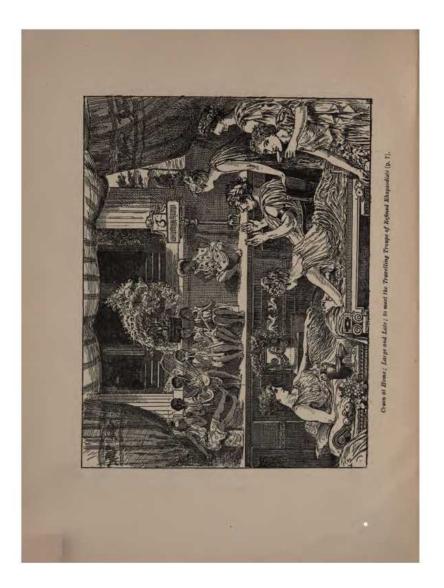
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# **OWEN SEAMAN**

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Trieste



## QEDIPUS THE WRECK

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## "To Trace the Knave"

BY

### OWEN SEAMAN

CLARK COLLING AUTHOR OF "WITH DOUBLE FIFF," AND JOINT AUTHOR OF "PAULOPOSTPRANDIALS"

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY

LANCE SPEED (Clare Coll.) and J. D. BATTEN (Trin. Coll.)



The Leit-motie.

#### Cambridge

E. JOHNSON, 30, TRINITY STREET LONDON: HAMILTON, ADAMS & CO. 1888

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#### Bedicated.

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BY ONE O.S.

TO ALL OTHER OLD SALOPIANS

AND ESPECIALLY

(TROUGH WITHOUT HIS PREMISSION)

то

ARTHUR HERMAN GILKES

GENEROUS CRITIC OF OUR BABLY ESSATS

IN THE MOTHER TUNGUE

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### OEDIPUS THE WRECK

or "To Trace the Knave"



He wont be, happy when he gets it !

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#### AUTHOR'S PROEM.

DEAR PEOPLE,

I am not without hope that I have succeeded in throwing some fresh light, reflected from a later civilisation, upon the career of a legendary Figure almost unique in its proportions. If I have erred on the side of partiality for that Figure, some licence must be accorded to the enthusiasm of Hero-worship. And what a Hero! The hero as King, as Prophet, as Poet we know familiarly enough. But the hero as Knave? The thought is sublime!

Most of these pages are devoted to a consideration of his early successes; the play of "Oedipus the Wreck," as rendered at Cambridge University in November 1887 A.D., furnishes the elucidation of his "Decline-and-Fall-Off"; while the book opens with an attempted reproduction of the Original Play-Bill of Sophocles, including actual Advertisements, date about 430 p.c.

The Preface is somewhere near the end of the book, p. 76.

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Yours.

P.S.—I ought perhaps to take the present opportunity of warning any sensitive scholar against the very painful anachronisms which may seem to disfigure this work, when regarded as a contribution, however trivial, to the trophies of Classical research.

b

O. S.