

**THE LOVE SONNETS
OF PROTEUS**

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The Love Sonnets of Proteus by Wilfrid Scawen Blunt

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WILFRID SCAWEN BLUNT

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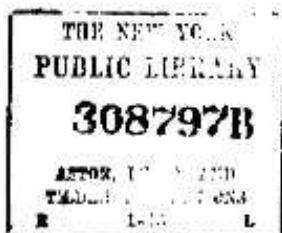
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SEVENTH EDITION.

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PREFACE TO FOURTH EDITION.

No life is perfect that has not been lived,—
youth in feeling,—manhood in battle,—old age in
meditation.

Again, no life is perfect that is not sincere.

For these two reasons I have decided to add my
name to the title-page of this the Fourth Edition
of the Sonnets of Proteus.

W. S. B.

CRABBET PARK, SUSSEX.

March 13th, 1885.

5 X 26

PREFACE.

The author of these sonnets, styling himself Proteus, acknowledges thereby a natural mood of change. He here lays bare what was once his heart, to the public, but what for good or evil is his heart no longer, thus closing for ever his account with youth. He stands upon the threshold of middle life, and already his dreams are changed. The gods of his youth have ceased to be his gods. Yet, while looking back upon the feelings here portrayed as things now foreign to his life, and recognizing the many errors and exaggerations of his youth, he finds it impossible wholly to regret the past, knowing that those only are beyond all hope of wisdom who have never dared to be fools.

August 17th, 1880.

