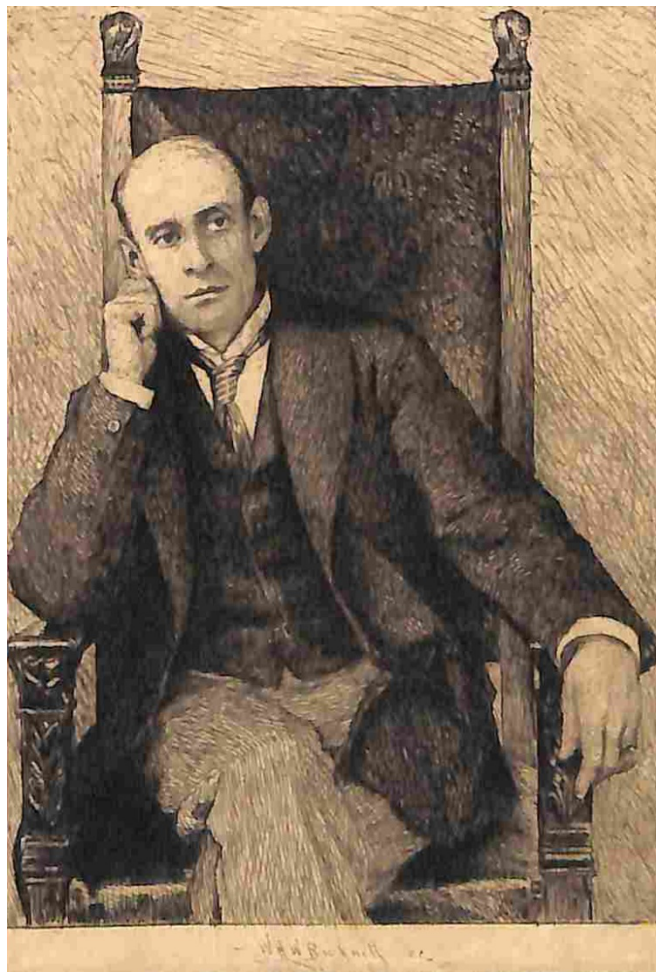


# THE POEMS OF EUGENE FIELD

AUTOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS, LETTERS AND SCORES  
IN MOROCCO BINDINGS OF THE  
MONASTERY HILL BINDERY, CHICAGO



**SPECIAL OFFER**

EBERHARD KÖSTLER  
AUTOGRAPHEN & BÜCHER  
JULY 2018

**EUGENE FIELD** was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1850 and died in Chicago in 1895. He had worked as a journalist at the Chicago Daily News, before he became famous as the American “children’s poet”. His Christmas poems are most popular; the poem „Little Boy Blue“ from the year 1894 is unforgettable. It was set to music in 1956 by [Billy Vaughn](#). Musical composers, rock and pop musicians like Donovan, Buffy Saint-Marie or The Doobie Brothers musically adapted Field’s poem. Even in Sesame Street his poems are sung.

**THE MONASTERY HILL BINDERY** in Chicago, founded in 1868 and famous at the time when Field lived and worked there, bound the autograph manuscripts of some of Field’s poems together with letters, printed poems, musical scores and other ephemera in richly decorated royal blue morocco bindings.

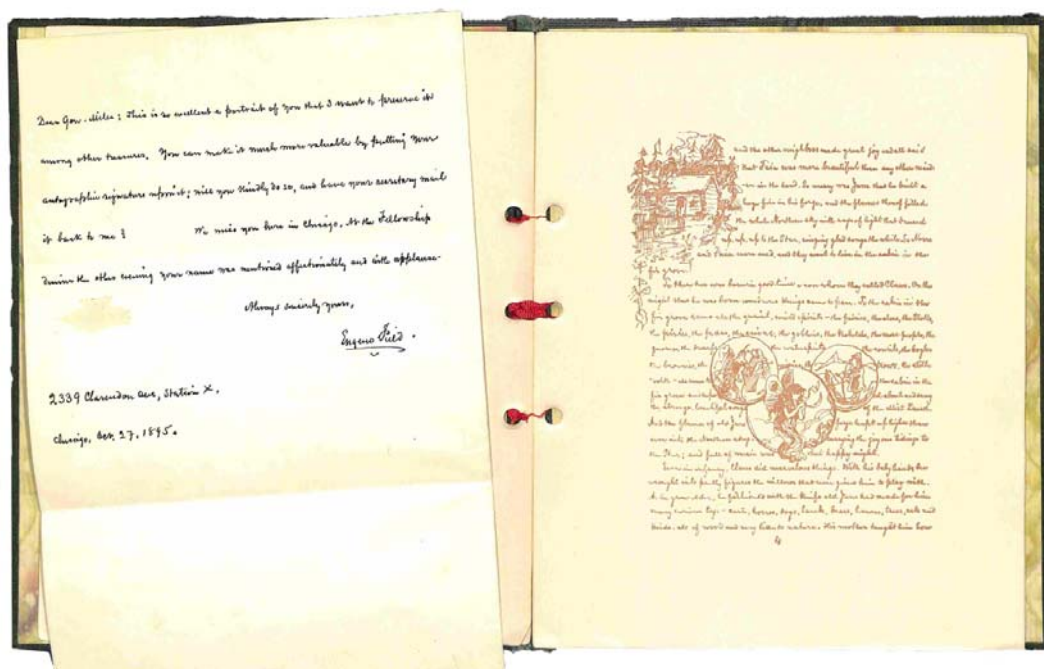
Please find below a selection of these superb documents of Eugene Field’s work.



„A Christmas Tale“

1 **Field, Eugene**, poet (1850-1895). Autograph manuscript signed „The Symbol and the Saint. A Christmas Tale by Eugene Field. Illustrated by J. L. Selanders. 1886“. With 11 ink drawings (1 on title) by J. E. Selanders. 11 leaves. In a red morocco slipcase. (order no: 28860) 800,-

Lovely set, consisting of the autograph manuscript with the original illustrations (ink drawings) by J. E. Selanders, in a decorative morocco slipcase in the style of the Monastery Hill Bindery, Chicago. This manuscript of one of the most famous Christmas songs by Eugene Field was the setting copy of the lithographic first edition. Two dedication copies of this first edition are included in the set: (1) A Christmas Tale by Eugene Field. Illustrated by J. L. Selanders. 1886. Lithograph text of Field's manuscript with the illustrations by Selanders. 11 leaves, bound together with a red bow, in a slipcase of green cloth. Enclosed is an autograph letter signed by Eugene Field and written to General Nelson A. Miles, Chicago, 27. X. 1895: „This is so excellent a portrait of you that I want to preverve it among other tresures. You can it much more valuable by putting your autograph signature upon it; will you kindly do so and have your secretary mail it back to me? [...]“. - (2) A Christmas Tale by Eugene Field. Illustrated by J. L. Selanders. 1886. Lithograph text of Field's manuscript with the illustrations by Selanders. 11 leaves, bound together with a red bow, in a contemporary ocher half morocco binding with gilt spine. Autograph dedication on title: „With the compliments of Eugene Field“, also signed by Field at the end of the text; end paper with Field's exlibris. - (3) Quarto leave with 2 autograph lines by Eugene Field: „The Symbol and the Saint. | Christmas, 1886.“

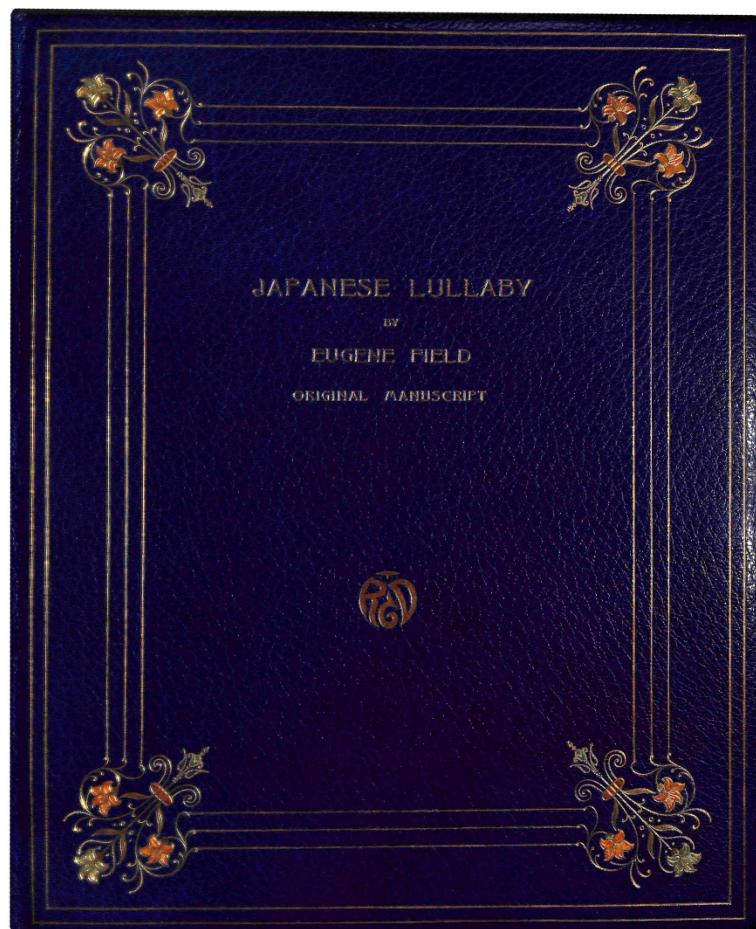


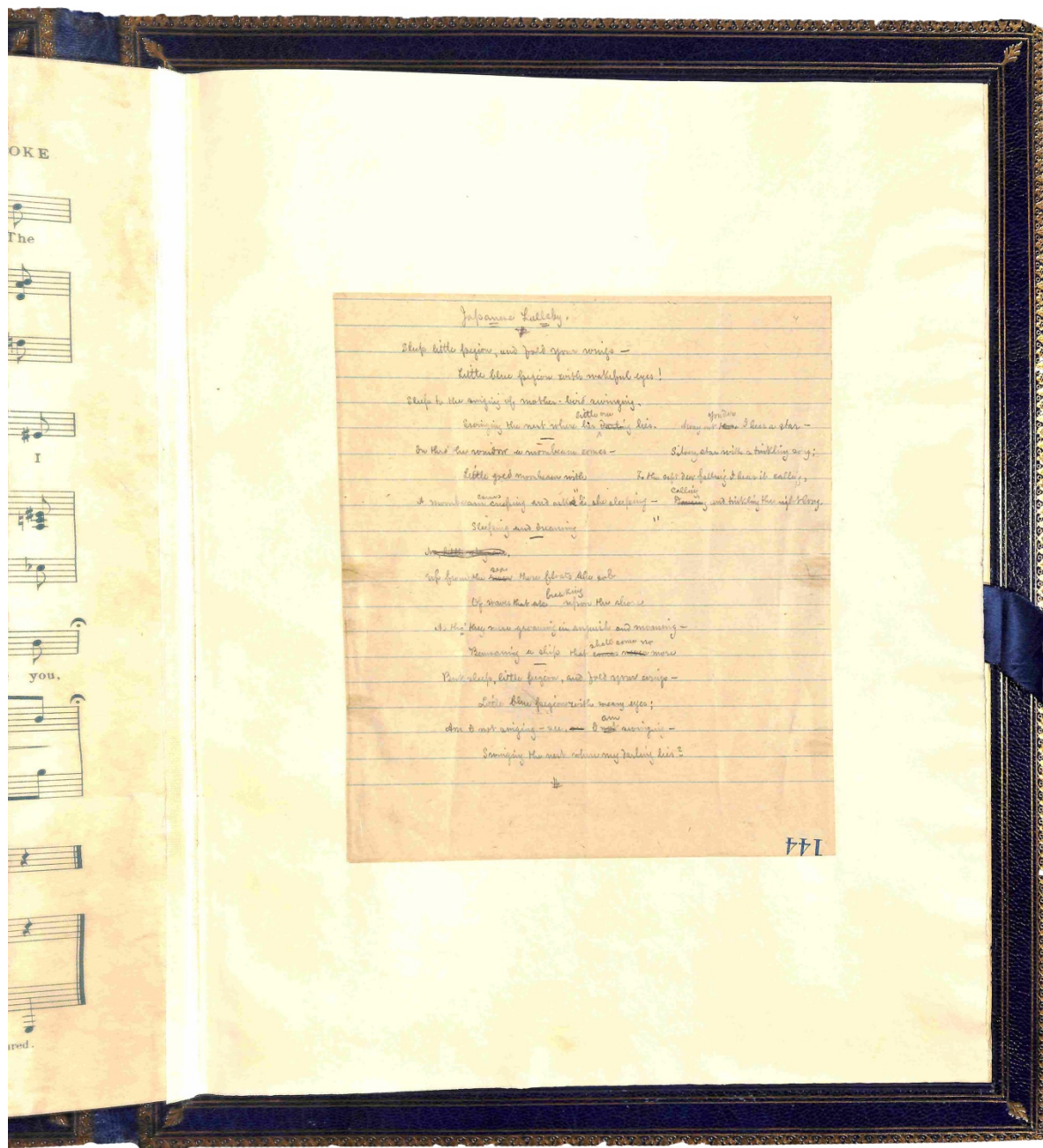


*„Japanese Lullaby“*

2 **Field, Eugene**, poet (1850-1895). Autograph manuscript signed „Japanese Lullaby“ (25 lines) with corrections and deletions. Ca. 1890. Fol. 2 pages. Mounted on vellum, in a royal blue morocco binding with gilt cover, leather inlays in blue, red and gilt, with inner dentelles and royal blue Moiré end papers. All in a royal blue morocco slipcase. The gilt signet of the „Monastery Hill Bindery“ on the cover (order no. 28864) 1.800,-

Autograph manuscript of Field's popular poem „Japanese Lullaby“, with pencil on lined paper, some deletions, corrections and underlinings. Verso a handwritten note by Field's wife: „This is the original draft of 'The Japanese Lullaby' written by my husband - Eugene Field. Julia S. Field (Mrs. Eugene Field) Jan 8th 1920.“ – Decoratively bound in royal blue morocco by the masters of the Monastery Hill Bindery, Chicago, together with: (1) A portrait (original etching on India paper) of Eugene Field by W. H. W. Bicknell. - (2) The printed version of the poem (pp. 114 f. of Field's „Little Book of Western Verse“). - (3) The musical version of the poem composed by Jean B. Stimpson, musical scores for piano, printed in Boston, Thompson, 1903, 5 pp., bound with the original dust jacket. – A superb set of the original manuscript, the first printing and the musical version of Field's well-known poem, in a beautiful binding. Unique.





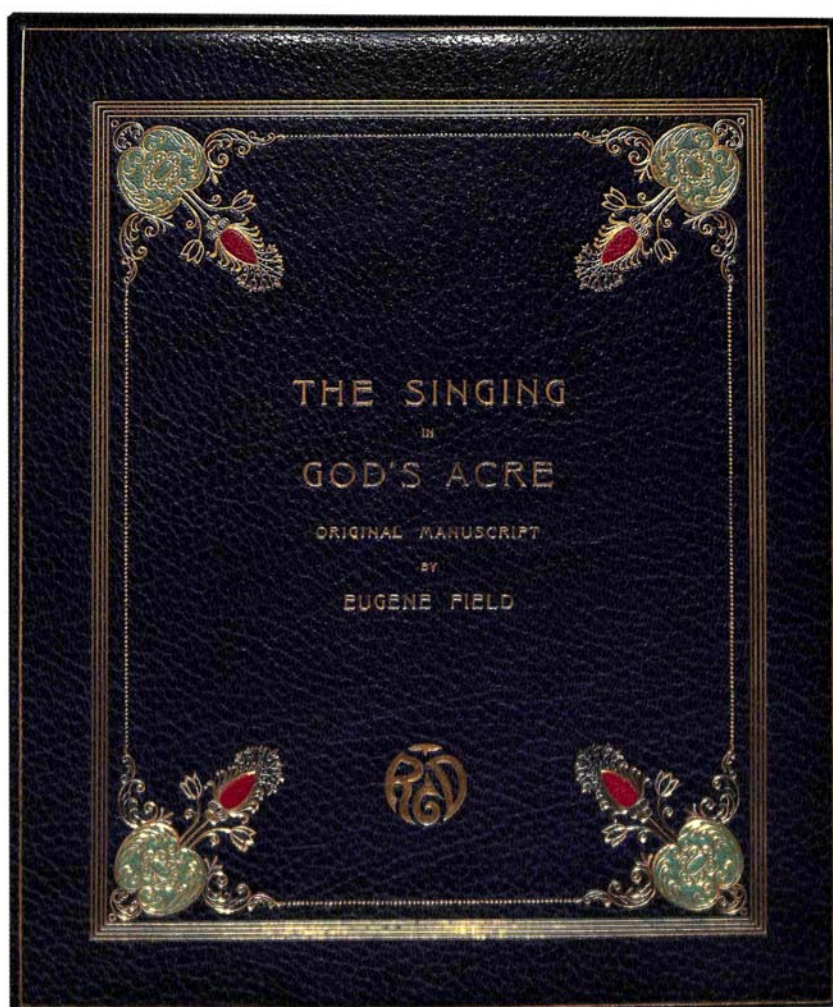
No. 2 (see also the title page)



*„The Singing in God's Acre“*

3 **Field, Eugene**, poet (1850-1895). Autograph manuscript „The Singing in God's Acre“ (30 lines) signed „Eugene Field“, with a vignette in watercolour by Field. Chicago, 17. I. 1892. 4°. 2 pages. In a royal blue morocco binding with gilt cover, leather inlays in blue, red and gilt, with inner dentelles and royal blue Moiré end papers. All in a royal blue morocco slipcase. (order no. 28862) 1.200,-

Autograph manuscript of Field's poem „The Singing in God's Acre“, with ornaments, initials and vignettes in watercolour: „[...] Out yonder in the moonlight, wherein God's Acre lies | Yo angels walking to and fro, singing their lullabies; | Their radiant wings are folded and their eyes are bended low, | As they sing among the beds whereon the flowers delights to grow [...]“. - Decoratively bound in royal blue morocco by the masters of the Monastery Hill Bindery, Chicago. Enclosed is a handwritten musical version (5 pages with scores), with dedication to Eugene Field and signature: „My dear Mr Field: This is Dr. Benj. Blodgetts autograph original copy of his music to your lyric. Written October 1891 W. M. Stryker“. – Beautiful set, unique.



## The Singing in God's-acre.



**O**ut yonder in the moonlight, wherein God's-acre lies,  
 Do angels walking to and fro, singing their lullabies;  
 Their radiant wings are folded and their eyes are bended low,  
 As they sing among the beds whereon the flowers delight to grow:

"Sleep - oh, sleep !

The Shepherd guardeth his sheep;

Night spurs doth the night away -

Soon cometh the glorious Day;

Sleep, many ones, while ye may -

Sleep, oh, sleep !"

**T**he flowers within God's-acre see that fair and wondrous sight,  
 And hear the angels singing to the sleepers through the night;  
 And, lo ! throughout the hours of Day these gentle flowers fanning  
 The music of the angels in that soothing slumber-song :

"Sleep - oh, sleep !

The Shepherd loveth his sheep !

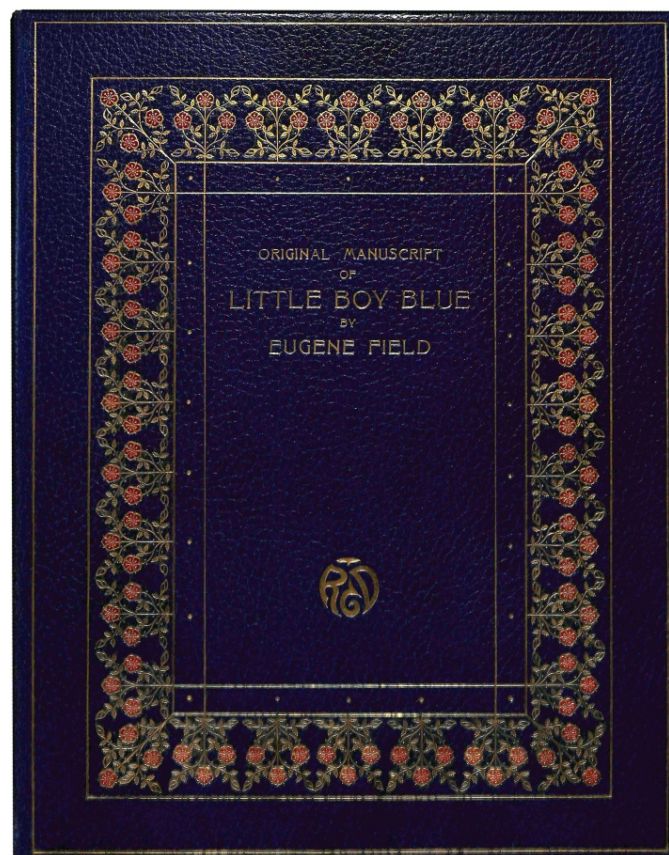


„*Little Boy Blue*“

4 **Field, Eugene**, Schriftsteller (1850-1895). Autograph manuscript „*Little Boy Blue*“ (24 lines) signed „Eugene Field“. Chicago, 17. I. 1892. 4°. 2 pages. In a royal blue morocco binding with gilt cover, leather inlays in blue, red and gilt, with inner dentelles and royal blue Moiré end papers. All in a royal blue morocco slipcase. The gilt signet of the „Monastery Hill Bindery“ on the cover and on the slipcase. (order no. 28861)

1.800,-

Superb set, with an extraordinary provenance, the personal copy of Eugene Field's wife: Field's famous poem „*Little Boy Blue*“, written down by Field in blue and red ink with calligraphic ornaments: „[...] The little toy dog is covered with dust, | But sturdy and stanch he stands; | And the little toy soldier is red with rust | And his musket molds in his hands: | Time was when the little toy dog was new | And the soldier was passing fair, | And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue | Kissed them and put them there [...]“. – The manuscript is decoratively bound in royal blue morocco by the masters of the Monastery Hill Bindery, Chicago, together with: (1) a printed double page „In Memoriam Eugene Field“. – (2) autograph manuscript of a poem written by an unknown hand with three lines of musical scores and an autograph note by Eugene Field's son: „This original manuscript of 'Little Boy Blue' was presented by my father, Eugene Field, to my mother. This manuscript was her personal copy [...] Eugene Field II. Oct 20 - 1925.“





2

### Little Boy Blue.

**T**he little toy dog is curled on the turf,

But sturdy and staunch he stands,

And the little toy soldier is red with rust

And his musket moulds in his hands:

Time was when the little toy dog was new

And the soldier was passing fair,

And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue

Guided them and sent them there.

**"N**ow don't you go 'til I come," he said,

"And don't you make any noise;" —

So, toddling off to his trundle-bed,

He dreamt of the pretty toys.

And as he was dreaming, an angel song

Awakened our Little Boy Blue —

Oh, the years are many, the years are long,

But the little toy friends are true!

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