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Cambridge Elements

Elements in Publishing and Book Culture

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PUBLISHING SCHOLARLY EDITIONS

Archives, Computing, and Experience

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ABSTRACT: *Publishing Scholarly Editions* offers new intellectual tools for publishing digital editions that bring readers closer to the experimental practices of literature, editing, and reading. After the Introduction (Section 1), Sections 2 and 3 frame intentionality and data analysis as intersubjective, interrelated, and illustrative of experience-as-experimentation. These ideas are demonstrated in two editorial exhibitions of nineteenth-century works: Herman Melville's *Billy Budd, Sailor*, and the anti-slavery anthology *The Bow in the Cloud*, edited by Mary Anne Rawson. Section 4 uses pragmatism to rethink editorial principles and data modelling, arguing for a broader conception of the edition rooted in data collections and multimedia experience. The Conclusion (Section 5) draws attention to the challenges of publishing digital editions, and why digital editions have failed to be supported by the publishing industry. If publications are conceived as pragmatic inventions based on reliable, open-access data collections, then editing can embrace the critical, aesthetic, and experimental affordances of editions of experience.

KEYWORDS: textual scholarship, digital humanities, digital publishing, book history, nineteenth-century literature

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