

**BIRDS WITHOUT A NEST: A  
STORY OF  
INDIAN LIFE AND PRIESTLY  
OPPRESSION IN PERU**

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Birds Without a Nest: A Story of Indian Life and Priestly Oppression in Peru by Mrs. Clorinda Matto de Turner & I. G. H.

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BIRDS WITHOUT A NEST



MAKING THE TEMPLE.

*Promizhace.*

# BIRDS WITHOUT A NEST:

*A Story of Indian Life and Priestly Oppression  
in Peru*

BY  
MRS. CLORINDA MATTO DE TURNER.

*TRANSLATED FROM THE SPANISH BY J. G. H.*

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KINGSWAY, W.C.

1904.





TO THE MEMORY OF  
**Albert Merriam Hudson,**  
WHO WAS EVER THE LOYAL FRIEND AND STAUNCH  
DEFENDER OF THE OPPRESSED AND DOWNTRODDEN,  
THIS WORK IS LOVINGLY DEDICATED  
BY THE TRANSLATOR,  
J. G. H.



## PREFACE

I HAVE been requested to write a short introduction to this English translation of "Aves sin Nido" ("Birds without a nest") for several reasons. I have travelled somewhat in these countries and am therefore in a measure acquainted with existing conditions; I am in deepest sympathy with every effort to ameliorate the condition of the Indian, and I am well acquainted with the writer.

A historian, contemporary with the early colonization of Peru, writes: "The ills that the Indians suffered were so many and so great that nothing could be conceived more deplorable. They killed them, robbed them, and enslaved them without motive or necessity. For forty years they treated those innocent creatures with the cruelty of hungry wolves, tigers and lions; they oppressed and destroyed them by all the means that human malice could devise. The inhuman policy of the conquerors caused, as is commonly believed, twelve millions of Indians to die. Greed of gold has been the cause of this terrible butchery. The conquerors have known no other god, and to fill themselves with treasure they have treated as vile refuse the people who received them as the messengers of heaven."

This was written nearly five hundred years