

**SUNDAYS IN YOHO;
TWELVE STORIES
FOR CHILDREN
AND THEIR FRIENDS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649200870

Sundays in Yoho; twelve stories for children and their friends by Mary Helen Campbell

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MARY HELEN CAMPBELL

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TWELVE STORIES
FOR CHILDREN
AND THEIR FRIENDS**


Sundays

in

Goho.

TWELVE STORIES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR
FRIENDS.

EDITED BY

MARY HELEN CAMPBELL.


"And without a parable spake he not unto them."—ST. MATTHEW XII. 34.

Montreal:

WILLIAM DRYSDALE & CO.

1884.

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Entered according to Act of Parliament of Canada, in the year 1884, by MARY
HELIX CAMPBELL, in the Office of the Minister of Agriculture.

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PRINTED BY GAZETTE PRINTING COMPANY, MONTREAL.

IN
LOVING MEMORY
OF
Two Little Worshipers
WHOSE
SERVICE IS PERFECT
IN THE CHURCH ABOVE.



PREFACE.

Yoho is an island in one of the small northern lakes of Ontario, only to be found depicted on local charts and unmentioned, so far as I know, in any gazetteer. Yet it has a certain quiet celebrity of its own which it is far from being my desire to make public. Life on the island is a return to first principles, a child life in the best and wisest sense. Children form a large element in its limited population and in that of the adjoining islands. Those who are no longer children in years, even to grandsires and granddames, are still such in heart, and find their chief happiness in the children's joys. The first day of the week is there the holy of the Lord and honourable, but it is also a delight. At the hour appointed for morning service, cottages and tents send forth their occupants while, in all directions, from neighbouring islets and from settlers' clearings upon the mainland, boats large and small bring their quota of worshippers into the quiet harbour. The chapel in which they meet is one of nature's building, a pleasant hollow among mossy rocks and boulders, overshadowed by spreading maples and hemlocks. Saucy squirrels have been known to gambol and chatter among the branches over the preacher's head, stray bees and beetles to cause a temporary flutter in the choir, and the silly chuckle or mournful wail of the loon to excite the indignation of the otherwise well-behaved dogs. But generally all nature is in harmony with the spirit of the day and helpful to devotion. The children are there expectant. They are waiting for the new story, a story they can remem-

REFACE.

ber and tell and give the meaning of and lay up in their hearts for many days. Woe to the reverend divine, however pious, learned, and eloquent he may be, if he disappoint them. With that congregation his reputation as a preacher is gone forever.

From among the sermons which the children like and which their elder brothers and sisters, their fathers and mothers remember also, I have chosen twelve for publication. Some of them have been delivered more than once to varying audiences in the chapel of Yoho, and, unless by special request as sometimes happens, cannot be repeated there. But the young people wish to have them in a book of their own, and perhaps there are other boys and girls in the world to whom the stories may give pleasure and do good. My critical young friends who have heard them spoken extempore will doubtless detect many variations from the original in form of expression, but in their main features they will find the narratives unchanged. It is not my duty to provoke or to disarm general criticism of the productions of others which it has been my office simply to collect and arrange. They pleased and profited the children and me and will do the same, I trust, to those who are like-minded.

THE EDITOR.

MONTREAL, Christmas 1884.

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