## SONGS OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW

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Songs of Saint Bartholomew by Sara Hamilton Birchall

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### SARA HAMILTON BIRCHALL

# SONGS OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW



UPON us wagabonds who take
Our packs and paddles Sunday
The good folk look austerely down,
Though they may smile on Monday.

Some call us pagans, others tramps;
The truth they never knew —
We faithfully attend the Church
Of Saint Bartholomew.



## Songs of Saint Bartholomew

Sara Hamilton Birchall

Alfred Barilett
Boston

#### DEDICATION

#### DEAR HAPPY DAY:

You and I have gone to Saint Bartholomew's Church together too often, and shared the same camp-fire and the same blanket too many cold nights for any formal words to pass between us, even on the printed page. So here I will put only the old wish that we have said so often, and meant so sincerely. —Here's Luck!

S. H. B.

The Eggshell, June 28th, 1908



### SONGS OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW

Saint Bartholomew's-on-the-Hill

J<sup>UNE!</sup> June on the sunny hills, June Among the fragrant sedges, June Trilling with brooks, tickling the children's feet With her fox-tail grasses, June with her maiden face! Ah, the still day passes So lingeringly in June!

Like a thread of golden honey Poured from a silver jar the long hours drip Here in the sun, dreaming amid the fields, Hearing the village church-bell gravely clank.

Seeing the black-robed worshippers below

#### SONGS OF

Step decorously along the dusty path— How the sweet amber moment-drops fall coaxingly!

And in the grass the harebell nods her head To us free pagans, saying,

"Hear to me!

I call you to my preacher!" The groined

Of the rough, gnarled and ancient apple-tree Spreads its fret-carving clear against the blue, Here at Saint Bartelmeo's-on-the-Hill; The lark skips blithely through the tangled yetch.

Lilting remembered scraps of litanies, And in the orchard-choir boom the bees.

#### Hist!