

**SARANAC: A
STORY OF LAKE
CHAMPLAIN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649697984

Saranac: A Story of Lake Champlain by John Talbot Smith

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JOHN TALBOT SMITH

**SARANAC: A
STORY OF LAKE
CHAMPLAIN**

SARANAC

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SARANAC

A Story of Lake Champlain

BY ⁰⁰
JOHN TALBOT SMITH

NEW EDITION

NEW YORK:
BLASE BENZIGER & CO., Inc.
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SARANAC.

CHAPTER I.

THE PILOT'S SON.

In Saranac the world was celebrating *New Year's Day*, or as the villagers themselves would call it *le Jour de l'an*, *The day of all the year*; and because of a certain custom connected with this celebration a difficulty had sprung up in the household of Mrs. Sullivan, at five o'clock of the morning, which brought trouble to the hearts of her two grandchildren. Saranac was a border town, with a mixed population, American by instinct and training, French-Canadian, Irish, English, and a mixture of all three at times in the matters of blood and sentiment. Hence there were all sorts of customs and traditions and sentiments in Saranac, and all sorts of difficulties springing from them; and one of these had intruded on Mrs. Sullivan on the unluckiest day of all the year for such a thing to happen. Because this good woman held it as an axiom almost, that the troubles of *New Year's Day* are sure to repeat themselves daily the entire year. She was therefore careful to make the festival one of unbounded joy, to banish all words, thoughts, and deeds smacking of sorrow. It was a heroic effort for a reminiscent mind, but success had so often rewarded the effort as to make it easy in the end.

Mrs. Sullivan's eldest daughter one day married a