The Saga of Heidi’s Avatars:
Would Johanna Spyri Still Recognize Her Child?

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I shall concentrate on Heidi’s new life in French. After the excellent translation (1882) by Camille Vidart, approved by Spyri herself, Charles Tritten (1908-1948), after retranslating into French the two parts of Heidi, added two new sequels to the famous novel, sequels unknown in the German part of Switzerland and that many people still think today are originals. This he did likewise with other novels by Spyri in which he added new stories invented by himself. I might extend the analysis of this type of transformation to other reinterpretations of Heidi, including Takahata’s cartoon.