

**ANTE-MORTEM
DEPOSITIONS;
PP. 1-121**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649479399

Ante-Mortem Depositions; pp. 1-121 by P. Petroff

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

P. PETROFF

**ANTE-MORTEM
DEPOSITIONS;
PP. 1-121**



PETER PETROFF

W. N. P.
1853

ANTE-MORTEM
DEPOSITIONS

— OF —

P. PETROFF

VETERAN OF THE WAR FOR THE UNION

SAN FRANCISCO
PRESS OF THOS. J. DAVIS
523 MARKET STREET
1895

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Peter Petroff died in Oakland, June 1, 1894, aged 68 years. He was a member of the Garfield Post, Grand Army. Fitting funeral services were held at their hall in this city, and the burial was on June 5th, in the Soldiers' Cemetery at the Presidio. The testimony of his commanding officer in the war was, "His character was excellent." "None was more faithful, trustworthy and brave on the field of battle." A gentleman in New Haven, in whose employ he was about ten years immediately after the war, said: "Mr. Petroff I believe to be one of nature's born gentlemen, of unexcelled faithfulness and integrity in every respect." And such was his character in this city and up to the time of his death. His bearing was military; he was a great reader; he thought much upon the social questions of the day, and wrote and published some very good articles. He lived quietly on his pension for years. His left arm was amputated near the shoulder, and his health was not good. With means placed at my disposal, and according to promise, I publish his manuscript, left to my care, and only to be read after his death. His imperfect English is given nearly as he wrote it. He particularly requested this, possibly fearing to cause his friend trouble, and that by the changes made the sense would be obscured. Whatever the faults of the grammatical construction, the meaning is in almost every place quite plain. Each reader must judge for himself as to the weight he will give to the "visions" of our brother. Whatever he saw or thought he saw, he was a noble Christian man, a soldier of the cross. He has been mustered out from the Grand Army here, and has gone to join the infinitely more glorious army above, of whom the Lord Jesus Christ is Captain.

J. K.

SAN FRANCISCO, December, 1894.

PREFACE

I deem it to be expedient and necessary to say at the start, as preface, that these writings are, in no ways, intended to serve as an autobiography of my life; but are done solely for the transmission to the world of the after-described *Visions* I have had; and with exclusive desire and hope that my fellow-men who will have the opportunity to read these *Ante-mortem Depositions* may profit by them, and be strengthened in belief in the Word of God—the Sacred Scriptures—as also in the faith of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and be thereby moved to render due obedience to his teachings and commandments as they are ingrafted and handed over to us in the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles.

As these ante-mortem depositions will be read only then, when I have passed away from among the living beings on this earth, so they—the Depositions—may be reasonably and properly considered as a voice from the other, that is the spiritual, world.

Now, is there any person among the professed believers in God and the Bible that could assert any doubt in the truthfulness of the after-described *Visions*, or consider them as fictions or imaginations of some diseased mental faculties, seeing that they come, as it were, from out the grave? God be merciful to such a being! I cannot help him; but his doubt or unbelief will surely be injurious to him. And his folly he will perceive only then, when it will be too late for him to mend it or repair. As regards the writer of this, he can only, and does, solemnly assure every one on earth that he saw the *Visions*, as they are described in the *Depositions*, in full mental power, in

full daylight, and in full rational consciousness, as he was fully aware about all surroundings and circumstances which were at that time under the sweep of his natural eye. And the visions themselves, as also the other objects—to that time under his eye—are all perfectly preserved in his memory till the very present day, although over twenty-two years passed since he saw the first and most sublime of them. And he sees them, the visions, mentally clear till the present day, and remembers all the surroundings and attendant circumstances as clearly and vividly now as if he saw them a few days or a month ago; although but a very few circumstances of his life not connected with the visions are remaining in his memory, even so far that he can but very little remember of the various circumstances of his life. But the *Visions* and all the circumstances of the respective times when he beheld the visions are all vividly before his mental eye till now.

It is natural to expect that, with many a thinking reader, the question will be raised, Why these *Visions*, obviously so sublime and significant, were not given to the world by the writer of this during his life on earth, and not, as he has done, after his passing away from the earth? The answer and full explanation of the various reasons to that, the reader will find in the proper places of the "Depositions" themselves. And, as it was said before, the "Depositions" are not to constitute an autobiography of the writer of them; so I shall confine myself to the limits of mentioning only such events as are necessary to the better explanation of the *Visions*, as also describing more fully the events connected with the *Visions* themselves.

This I deem to be sufficient as a preliminary introduction. Therefore, with the help of our Lord and Saviour, I will proceed with the "Depositions" themselves, saying, "Thy will be done, Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

PETER PETROFF.