THE BURDEN OF ISIS, BEING THE LAMENTS OF ISIS AND NEPHTHYS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649316403

The Burden of Isis, Being the Laments of Isis and Nephthys by James Teackle Dennis

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JAMES TEACKLE DENNIS

THE BURDEN OF ISIS, BEING THE LAMENTS OF ISIS AND NEPHTHYS



WISDOM OF THE EAST THE BURDEN OF ISIS

BEING THE LAMENTS OF ISIS AND NEPHTHYS

TRANSLATED FROM THE EGYPTIAN
WITH AN INTRODUCTION
BY JAMES TEACKLE DENNIS



NEW YORK
E. P. DUTTON AND COMPANY
1910



890.8 W8le V.1 C.2

PRINTED BY
HAZELL, WATSON AND VINEY, LD.,
LONDON AND AYLESBURY,
ENGLAND.

TO MY WIFE, THE SHARER OW MANY HAPPY DAYS IN EGYPT, THIS VOLUME IS LOVINGLY DEDICATED

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EDITORIAL NOTE

THE object of the Editors of this series is a very definite one. They desire above all very definite one. They desire above all things that, in their humble way, these books shall be the ambassadors of good-will and understanding between East and West—the old world of Thought and the new of Action. In this endeavour, and in their own sphere, they are but followers of the highest example in the land. They are confident that a deeper knowledge of the great ideals and lofty philosophy of Oriental thought may help to a revival of that true spirit of Charity which neither despises nor fears the nations of another creed and colour. Finally, in thanking press and public for the very cordial reception given to the "Wisdom of the East" Series, they wish to state that no pains have been spared to secure the best specialists for the treatment of the various subjects at hand.

> L. CRANMER-BYNG. S. A. KAPADIA.

NORTHBROOK SOCIETY, 185 PICCADILLY, W.

THE BURDEN OF ISIS

INTRODUCTION

Or all the Egyptian religious beliefs that existed from the Prehistoric period down into Roman times, the oldest and the one most held in veneration was that connected with the worship of Osiris, Isis and Horus. These three, though primarily only local gods, at an early period became prominent deities of all Egypt; and the cult of Isis, more particularly, remained a favourite always, rivalling even that of Osiris in later times.

During the many thousand years of Egyptian history, not only did many changes occur in the ceremonies connected with these cults, but also the legends and origin of the Osirian faith received many additions and interpolations; and thus the old faith lost much of its purity. The simplest form in which it is preserved to us states that Osiris was the son of Seb and Nut—i.e. Earth and Heaven; of whom were