

A CLOUD OF WITNESSES

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649162437

A cloud of witnesses by Anna De Koven

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
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ANNA DE KOVEN

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BY
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WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
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NEW YORK
E. P. DUTTON & COMPANY
681 FIFTH AVENUE

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First printing February, 1920
Second printing March, 1920

Printed in the United States of America

IN ORDER THAT SHE
THO' DEAD, MAY YET SPEAK

THIS BOOK
HER MEMORIAL

IS COMPILED BY ONE OF THE
MANY WHO BEAR HER
IN
PERPETUAL REMEMBRANCE

It will be proved in the future, I do not know when or where, that also in this life the human soul stands in an indissoluble communion with all the immaterial beings of the spiritual world, that it produces effects therein and in exchange receives impressions from them, without however becoming conscious of them as long as all stands well. It would be a blessing if such a systematic constitution of the spiritual world as conceived by us had not merely to be inferred from the too hypothetical conceptions of the spiritual nature generally, but would be inferred or at least conjectured as probable from real and generally acknowledged observations.

Immanuel Kant.

PREFACE

IN giving the records of what I believe to be actual communications from relations and beloved friends who have passed from the earth, I am moved by a profound conviction that any facts which tend to prove that the soul is immortal should not be withheld. I think it my duty to present them and leave it to the judgment of my readers as to their significance and to their imagination to account for them. In promulgating the possible analogy between the formula of materialized organisms, as stated by Dr. Geley, with the "mentally manipulated" substance of the other world I wish to disavow any assumption that it is scientifically proved. Again, in quoting Sir William Crookes' hypothesis regarding the peculiar organization of the nerve ganglia of the sensitive, I state only that Mrs. Vernon's method of receiving the communications which I publish seems to confirm his hypothesis.

This hypothesis, which suggests the impact of thought waves upon peculiarly organized or developed nerve ganglia, is, however, in defi-