

MEMORIES AND MILESTONES

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Memories and milestones by John Jay Chapman

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JOHN JAY CHAPMAN

**MEMORIES AND
MILESTONES**



From a photograph by Pack

WILLIAM JAMES

MEMORIES AND MILESTONES

BY
JOHN JAY CHAPMAN

NEW YORK
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TO MISS
ANNETTE

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PREFACE

Life is a unity in spite of the lightning changes of scene that flash across its vistas, and shock us with an awe inspiring sense of dislocation. Behind all there is a steady, moving power; and the scenes are related. The whole of any life,—the whole of any epoch,—is past and gone in a moment; and, behold, it then appears to be stamped all over with a kind of identity: it is unmistakably one thing. But we cannot peep behind this curtain of the future and find out what all our present thoughts signify. Therefore anyone who publishes portraits and memories, or who reprints little addresses upon current history, will do well to refrain from any parade of philosophy in a preface. One of the deepest impulses in man is the impulse to record,—to scratch a drawing on a tusk or keep a diary, to collect sagas and heap cairns. This instinct as to the enduring value of the past is, one might say, the very basis of civilization. It is a good sign then when young men

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PREFACE

keep journals and old gentlemen take to publishing reminiscences. It helps the general atmosphere of thought and enriches everyone a little. A belief in this kind of literary conservation must be my excuse for publishing the ensuing volume.

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