

MATTER, MYTH, AND SPIRIT

or

Keltic and Hindu Links

by

DOROTHEA CHAPLIN, F.S.A. Scot.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

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PREFACE

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DURING recent years it has come to be recognized how deeply the impress of ancient Indian designs and folk-lore has influenced the Pre-Columbian Civilization of America. But the designs and beliefs centred around the Elephants are just as emphatically revealed in the antiquities of Scotland and Scandinavia.

This world-wide diffusion of ancient culture creates a rich field for exploitation, from which an industrious and widely read interpreter like Mrs. Dorothea Chaplin has reaped a rich harvest.

In her wonderful book, *Matter, Myth, and Spirit*, Mrs. Chaplin has given the first fruits of her preliminary reconnaissance in the Vedic literature of India and the Keltic folk-lore of the extreme West for the recovery of much ancient world history. The chief interest of her work is the practical demonstration it affords of a new method of unveiling the remote antiquity of mankind.

FOREWORD

WHEN making tours for pleasure many people like to penetrate beyond the limits of a guide-book, but all have not the time or opportunity to read the many scholarly books which are written about the various objects of interest which we come across when roaming round the world or even when exploring our own islands. I find, myself, that if one can reach some of the thoughts and ideas which lie behind the material objects one's interest is thereby greatly increased.

Sir Grafton Elliot Smith has most kindly written an explanatory Preface for this new edition, and I wish here to express my most grateful thanks to him for his very encouraging promise to *Matter, Myth, and Spirit*.

The book has now undergone considerable revision, with some omissions, and with the addition of fresh items of research. I hope there may be a few readers who will find it of interest.

(MRS.) DOROTHEA CHAPLIN.

London.

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