



Medical Meddlers, Mediums and Magicians: The Victorian Age of Credulity

By Souter, Keith.

History Press. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New. The Victorian thirst for knowledge drove them to explore uncharted corners of the world, pursue scientific explanation and discovery, and create engineering and architectural marvels. Yet this open-minded enthusiasm could also make them utterly gullible, while the ever-present threat of disease and death made them desperate to believe the claims of quacks who promised panaceas and mediums who offered a means of communicating with the dead. Keith Souter, a retired general practitioner as well as the author of *Doctor's Latin* and *Schoolboy Science Remembered* and *The Little Book of Genius*, offers this entertaining illustrated survey of the flawed theories and outright shams of the age, and also introduces us to the stage magicians whose brilliant illusions ended up exposing the tricks of fraudsters. 188.



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