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Persia and the Persian Question

Following his election to Parliament, George Nathaniel Curzon (1859–1925) embarked on extensive travels and research in Asia, spending several months in Persia in 1889–90. Later viceroy of India, Curzon believed that growing Russian influence in Asia threatened Britain's interests, and that Persia was an important buffer state. Highly regarded upon publication in 1892, this illustrated two-volume work is a mix of history, geography, travel narrative, and social and political analysis. Intended to educate readers at home as to Persia's strategic significance, the work reflects its author's staunch support for British imperialism. Volume 2 covers Curzon's travels from Tehran down to the Persian Gulf, and gives an overview of Persia's southern and eastern provinces. As well as discussing Persepolis and other ruins, Curzon covers Persian trade and industry, as well as Russian and British policy towards the country. His *Problems of the Far East* (1894) is also reissued in this series.

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Persia and the Persian Question

VOLUME 2

GEORGE NATHANIEL CURZON



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George Nathaniel Curzon
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VOL. II.
IN TWO VOLUMES

SIR A. LYALL—*Verses in India*
Shall I be the last of its kings?
Of death, and the doom of my country—
And round me a voice ever rings
But the kingdoms of Islam are crumbing,
And velvet to cover your claws';
And the Russian he sneers and says, 'Patience,
And justice, and govern with Laws,'
And the lord of the English writes, 'Order
'The Russian blows hot and blows cold.
Shall my left beckon aid from the Oxus?
'That England may fill it with gold?
Shall I stretch my right hand to the Indus,

LATE FELLOW OF ALL SOULS COLLEGE, OXFORD
AUTHOR OF 'RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA'
HON. GEORGE N. CURZON, M.P.
BY THE

PERSIA
AND
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