

# **THE NEAR EAST FROM WITHIN**

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The near East from within by Anonymous

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**ANONYMOUS**

**THE NEAR EAST  
FROM WITHIN**





Peter I. of Serbia

**THE NEAR EAST FROM WITHIN**

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BY



*With Thirteen Photogravure Illustrations*

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## PREFACE

**I**T has so happened that many years of my life have been spent in the by-paths of European politics. At times a silent observer, not seldom a mere cog in the great wheel, or again, entrusted with operations of diplomatic moment, circumstances made me acquainted with the mysteries and under-currents of political life and of diplomatic intrigue in many parts of the world. Latterly, things which I did not understand seem to have become clear. Events, the significant purport of which I did not earlier realise, now stand out vivid and strong from the chambers of my memory. Trifles have become invested with prime importance.

When the war broke out it seemed my duty to remain silent. It were of little avail to add to the bitterness and hatred which sounded on every hand. Yet I had many a debate with myself as to how far loyalty demanded a veiling of matters which, once made known, would throw into truer focus the inner history of the Balkan and allied Eastern troubles, and their root causes, during the last twenty years.

Rightly or wrongly, I arrived at the decision that my greater duty was to mankind rather than to a man.

Hence these impressions of Eastern affairs as observed in the course of my passing from capital to capital, and as



## Preface

told me by one or other of certain people who were active in propagating the influence of their respective Governments.

Whether I shall succeed in capturing the interest of the reader is not for me to say. The only thing which I can assure those who read the pages that follow is, that whereas they perhaps may find several matters to shock or distress, they will not come across any that are consciously exaggerated.

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