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TITLE INFORMATION

Pierre Loti

# THE WAY TO ISFAHAN
## AND PASSING THROUGH MUSCAT

### An Account of a Trip to Persia and Oman in 1900
### Translated and annotated by G. Rex Smith with Jonathan M. G. Smith

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From 17 April, 1900, to 6 June of that year, Pierre Loti travelled in a private capacity from Bushire on the Persian Gulf, northwards through Shiraz, Persepolis, Isfahan and Tehran, before returning via the Caspian Sea to Europe. This is the personal day-by-day account of his journey, the hardships of the mountainous terrain and the empty desert. Loti excels in his descriptions of the world around him: the sky, the mountains, the fertile plains, the deserted desert. His descriptions of the people he meets, their dress and manners are remarkable. Loti had come from India and on his way to the Gulf, he stopped off at Muscat and his account of this brief visit was published as 'En passant à Mascate' (Passing through Muscat).

This is the first English translation of both texts.

Pierre Loti (1850-1923) was born Louis-Marie-Julien Viaud into a Protestant family in Rochefort in Saintonge, South-West France (now Charente Maritime). He was an officer of the French Navy and a prolific author of considerable note in 19th-/early-20th-century France, publishing many novels and numerous accounts of his travels around the world. He was a member of the French Academy. Apart from his literary talents, Loti was a pioneer photographer and this translation of his journey to Persia in 1900 is greatly enhanced by the reproduction of some of the photographs he took at the time.

Volume includes 24 historic photos taken by Pierre Loti and 1 map.

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