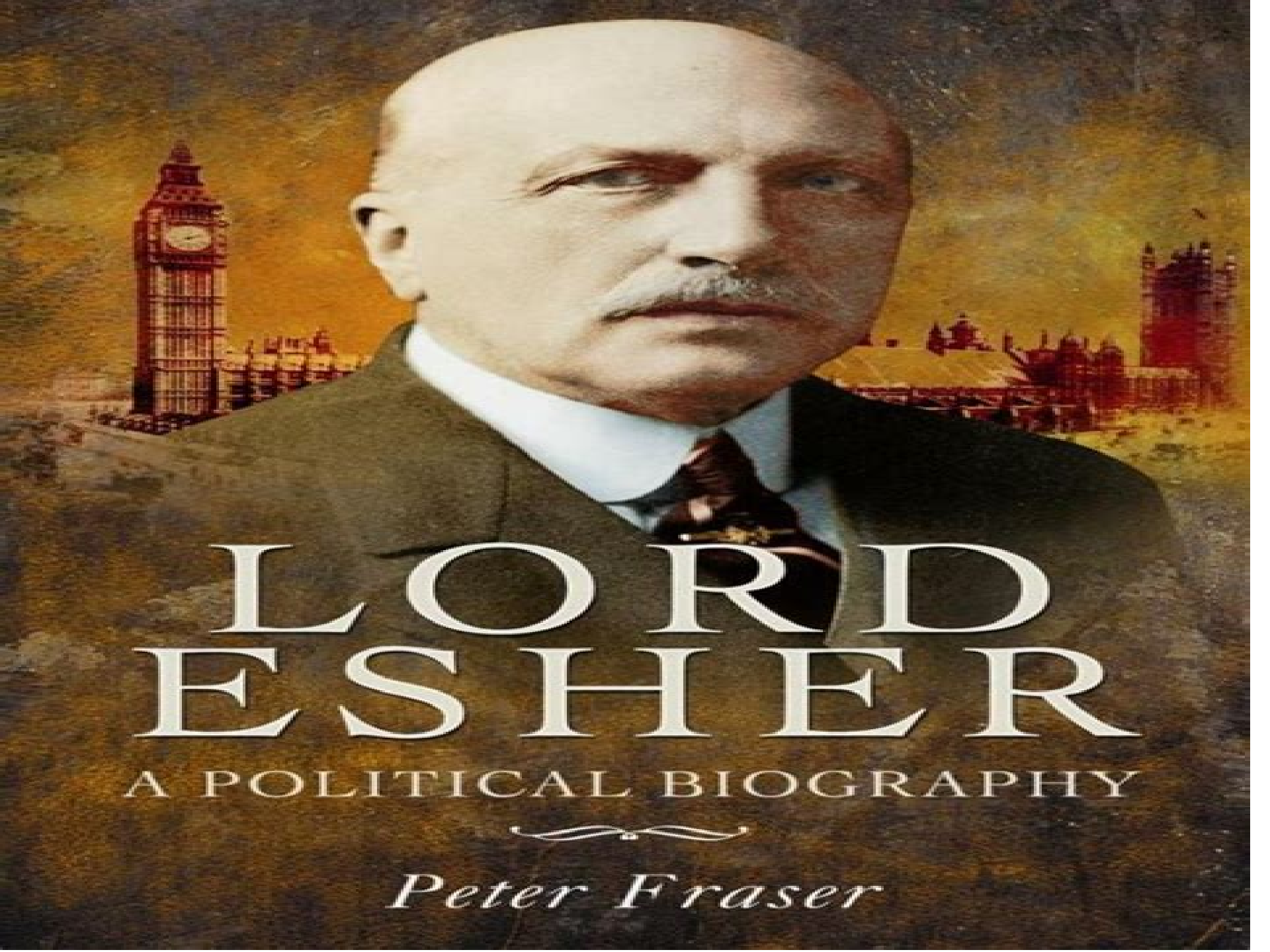


A portrait of Lord Esher, a bald man with a mustache, wearing a dark suit and a patterned tie. The background is a sepia-toned illustration of the London skyline, featuring the Big Ben clock tower on the left and various industrial buildings on the right.

LORD ESHER

A POLITICAL BIOGRAPHY

Peter Fraser

Lord Esher A Political Biography

John F. Naylor



Lord Esher A Political Biography:

Lord Esher Peter Fraser, 2013-07-16 Although wielding huge influence in late Victorian and Edwardian political life Reginald Baliol Brett 1852 1930 the second Lord Esher was an enigma to his contemporaries and still remains a puzzle to historians At the heart of British and Imperial political affairs for several decades Esher sat in both Houses of Parliament was a high ranking civil servant friend and confidential advisor to three Sovereigns and four Prime Ministers of differing political hues and yet refused high office offered by both Liberals and Conservatives Yet his behind the scenes influence through his range of friends in high places gave him unmatched some thought undemocratic power Despite his lack of military service he was instrumental through his work on the Committee for Imperial Defence CID and its Secretariat for the wholesale reorganisation of the Armed Forces It could be said that Esher with his grasp of power without responsibility was a unique phenomenon in British history The Author while compiling this fascinating study drew on Cabinet and CID files the Royal Archives and the papers of the Esher Balfour Asquith and Lloyd George estates The result is a brilliant readable yet scholarly addition to British political bibliography

The Invention of Tradition Eric Hobsbawm, Terence Ranger, 1992-07-31 This book explores examples of this process of invention and addresses the complex interaction of past and present in a fascinating study of ritual and symbolism

A Man and an Institution John F. Naylor, 1984-07-26 drawing upon a uniquely wide range of official and private papers to examine the historical development of the Cabinet Office the custodian of Cabinet secrecy

A Bibliography of British History, 1914-1989 Keith Robbins, American Historical Association, Royal Historical Society (Great Britain), 1996 Containing over 25 000 entries this unique volume will be absolutely indispensable for all those with an interest in Britain in the twentieth century Accessibly arranged by theme with helpful introductions to each chapter a huge range of topics is covered There is a comprehensive index

The Development of British Amphibious Operations 1882-1914 Joseph Moretz, 2025-11-30 The projecting of military force to a distant shore has come to be seen as a uniquely British way of waging war To be sure many of these operations would now be classed as administrative landings with battle if occurring at all only following sometimes afterward Others of course merit the label of opposed landings To contemporaries of the period covered by this study the evolutions went by the appellation of conjoint or combined operations Less important than how they were styled remains the thought and the purpose giving rise to these ventures In the decades before the First World War professionals appreciated the myriad difficulties and dangers associated with amphibious operations The laity including statesmen thought rather less of these matters but could recount numerous examples of their occurrence before 1914 Indeed whatever operational failings Britain demonstrated during the World War a corpus of relevant experience was the least of these What is now styled joint amphibious operations were difficult because they were never of a single type Naval support to a military force standing on the defensive raids feints blocking operations riverine operations and yes an opposed landing spoke to a series of joint operations of ever increasing complexity Meanwhile as every operation must at

some point and even the manner of evacuation came to be viewed as a special type of combined operation to be understood and learned. Finally it remained that in a campaign of the grandest scale examples of each might feature at differing moments along the way. Landings before 1914 were difficult and what military and naval authorities thought feasible before the onset of the World War in the realm of joint operations is a neglected field of study, a surprising omission given the ink that has been spilt retelling the debacles experienced at Gallipoli, Mesopotamia and East Africa. Every campaign has its context, operational and strategic to be sure but also political, doctrinal and bureaucratic. How Britain elected to wage war in 1914 proved a product of these variables just as surely as the military and naval capabilities it could muster. Tying the strands of pre-war military experience and thought in the realm of joint operations is the chief purpose of this study which takes as its starting point 1882 and the British assault against Egypt. The choice is far from arbitrary as the moment saw several earning their spurs who would later play a central role in the amphibious operations executed during the Great War. To the extent learning is more than the product of self experience this work pays special attention to the Russo-Japanese War. Thinking officers appreciated that fundamental changes were occurring in the nature and style of war. A learned public also appreciated this courtesy of works such as Ivan Bloch's *Is War Now Possible?* Notwithstanding what British officers understood on the eve of the World War the problem of time and scale remained. This alone should give one pause before chiding others over past mistakes. This study looks at what was thought, what was taught, what was expected and what occurred in the thirty years before Britain found herself facing a scale of conflict not witnessed in a century.

Politicians and Defence Ian Frederick William Beckett, John Gooch, 1981

Churchill Norman Rose, 1995 Winston Churchill is without question one of the most important figures of the twentieth century. Famous as the bulldog who rallied his wavering and war-weary compatriots to lead the Allied resistance to Hitler, he will forever stand as Britain's savior. Unceremoniously thrown out of office after the war, he was considered brilliant, occasionally impolitic but morally principled by his friends and fearsome, opportunistic and an unruly troublemaker by his enemies. For much of his long political career he was the most detested and mistrusted man in British public life. Yet when he retired he was acclaimed as the greatest Englishman of all time. Norman Rose, the first historian to be granted access to the Churchill archives since the publication of Churchill's authorized biography, sets the record straight, combining a proper assessment of Churchill's achievements with a legitimate strand of revisionism.

The British Army 1815-1914 Harold E. Raugh, 2020-03-24 This collection of essays examines the evolution of the British Army during the century-long Pax Britannica from the time Wellington considered its soldiers the scum of the earth to the height of the imperial epoch when they were highly respected soldiers of the Queen. The British Army during this period was a microcosm and reflection of the larger British society. As a result, this study of the British Army focuses on its character and composition, its officers and men, efforts to improve its efficiency and effectiveness and its role and performance on active service while an instrument of British Government policy.

The Imperial Army Project Douglas E.

Delaney, 2018-01-25 How did British authorities manage to secure the commitment of large dominion and Indian armies that could plan fight shoot communicate and sustain themselves in concert with the British Army and with each other during the era of the two world wars What did the British want from the dominion and Indian armies and how did they go about trying to get it Douglas E Delaney seeks to answer these questions to understand whether the imperial army project was successful Answering these questions requires a long term perspective one that begins with efforts to fix the armies of the British Empire in the aftermath of their desultory performance in South Africa 1899 1903 and follows through to the high point of imperial military cooperation during the Second World War Based on multi archival research conducted in six different countries on four continents Delaney argues that the military compatibility of the British Empire armies was the product of a deliberate and enduring imperial army project one that aimed at standardizing and piecing together the armies of the empire while at the same time accommodating the burgeoning autonomy of the dominions and even India At its core this book is really about how a military coalition worked

Kitchener's Army Peter Simkins, 1988 This interesting book looks at the British army of 1914 an army of conscripts and volunteers The effect of this mobilization on the social and political climate of Britain and the kind of army that was created are thoroughly explored Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc Portland OR

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