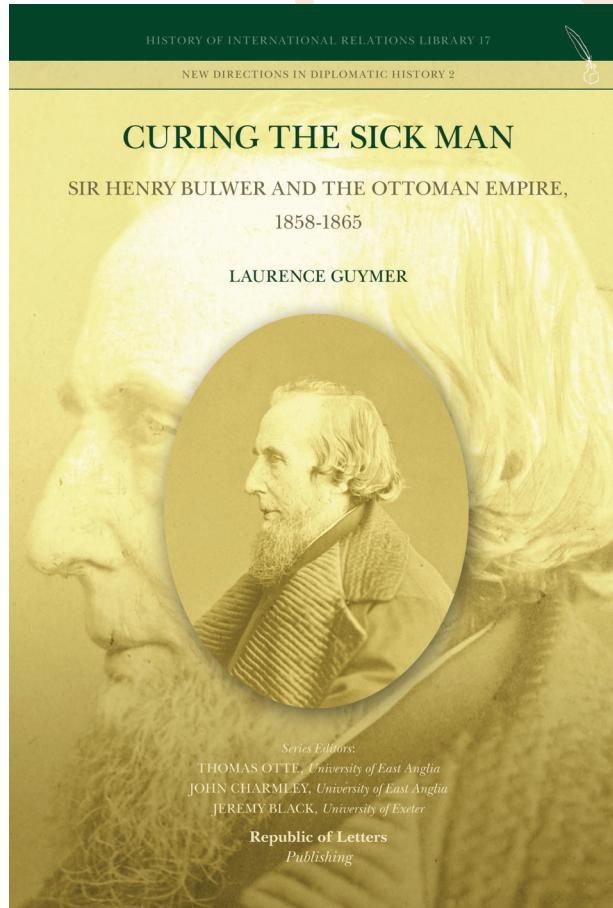


# Curing the Sick Man

## *Sir Henry Bulwer and the Ottoman Empire, 1858-1865*

Laurence Guymer  
University of East Anglia



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Most of the previous scholarship on Britain and the ‘Eastern Question’ ignores the crucial period between the end of the Crimean War in 1856 and the Bulgarian atrocities of 1876. This book, which focuses on the period 1858 to 1865, is, therefore, a significant addition to the literature. It develops important debates about the politics and mechanics of British diplomacy, and rescues from obscurity one of the most interesting figures from the diplomatic scene - Sir Henry Bulwer. It knits together an assessment of his personal impact on London’s policy towards the Ottoman Empire with an explanation of the broader currents of foreign policy. Through Bulwer’s embassy, it is also possible to examine debates about the existence of distinct Liberal and Conservative foreign policies, and to refine our understanding of the domestic party political dimension of foreign policy debates, with important implications for the working out in the recent historiography of a non-Palmerstonian line.

This book uses the embassy of Sir Henry Bulwer at Constantinople as a prism through which to examine British policy towards the ‘Eastern Question’ in the mid-nineteenth century. It is concerned with the ‘politics of foreign policy’ and the role of the diplomat in the decision-making process.

**Laurence Guymer**, Ph.D. (2010) in History, University of East Anglia, is a Junior Fellow at Winchester College and Research Associate at the University of East Anglia. He is interested primarily in British foreign policy in the nineteenth century. His most recent publication is *A Question Presenting a Host of Difficulties: Sir Henry Bulwer, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe and the Danubian Principalities, 1856-58* (History, 2011).

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