



“APERIAM TERRAS GENTIBUS.”

## CHAPTER XLIX

### ALEXANDER'S MARCH THROUGH SOUTHERN BALUCHISTAN

Most European travellers who have passed through Persia have noticed the number of ruins of towns and villages, caravanserais and mosques, towers, walls, and irrigation canals all along the roads and in districts which are now quite uninhabitable. This is the case, to a greater extent than elsewhere, in the eastern provinces, southern Khorasan, Kerman, Seistan, and Mekran, and no one has represented this with greater clearness than E. Huntington in his valuable work *The Pulse of Asia*, where he devotes a whole chapter to it. He relies on historical data, and, beginning with Alexander the Great, he seeks to prove that it would be impossible at the present time to conduct a whole army along the coast of Baluchistan. He alludes to the utterance of St. John that a Craterus would in our days find it troublesome enough to lead his elephants and his heavy baggage from the Hilmend to Narmashir through