

down their arms except certain guards specified and kept under arms to police the city. This resulted in the disarming of Sattar Khan and several hundred of his followers by force on Sunday, August 7th, in the north part of Teheran. There was of course bloodshed and some destruction of property and the populace was newly plunged into discord, faction pitted against faction, according to whether they sympathize with the government or with Sattar Khan.

Every existing commodity has been burdened with taxes. The people are in a spirit of bitter discontent. Teheran has become an "open town" under the "New Persia" government. Brothels, public drinking houses, gambling and opium dens, have increased. Persia's foreign obligations are between five and six million pounds sterling. There is also a large indebtedness within the country. It is possible that under a competent management she might develop latent resources to pay off all her indebtedness and finance the country. At present, however, she has no money, and so far no statesmen have appeared equal to the situation. Some men of ability have been killed or forced to leave the country. In a word, the present situation is, general discontent of the people, a heavy debt, no money, and lack of statesmen.

Such is a brief outline of the political changes that have taken place in Persia. It is more difficult to speak of the relation of these political changes to Islam. The state religion of Persia is Islam. Religious liberty has never been granted. One professed object of the National Assembly, as stated in the preamble to the Constitution, is to execute the laws of the holy prophet. That means that the Constitutional Monarchy shall be conducted consistently with the teachings of the Koran, and is a precaution against the creeping in of religious liberty. Now and again expressions of the government or of high officials