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EDWARD DANIEL CLARKE, L.L.D.

TRAVELS
IN
VARIOUS COUNTRIES
OF
EUROPE ASIA AND AFRICA

BY
E. D. CLARKE LL.D.

PART THE FIRST
RUSSIA TAHTARY AND TURKEY

FOURTH EDITION

VOLUME THE FIRST

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TO THE
FOURTH EDITION.

INTELLIGENCE has lately reached the author of a transaction connected with the FIRST PART of these Travels, which is so highly honourable to the *individual* whom it concerns, and to the SOVEREIGN whom he represented, that it is hoped every one, interested in the character of the British Nation in foreign countries, will be gratified by its insertion. It was conveyed in a *Latin* letter from the *Capital* of the *Don Cossacks*, written by Colonel ALEXUS PAPOF, president and director of all their scholastic institutions; to the following purport.

Sir GORE OUSELEY being upon his return from *Persia*, where he had resided in his capacity of *British Ambassador* to the Court of the *Shah*, came to the *Cossack Capital*. Here he despatched a messenger to Colonel *Papof*, inviting

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that officer to his presence. Upon the *Colonel's* arrival, Sir *Gore Ouseley* proceeded to state, that, "as the Representative of a British Sovereign, he conceived it to be his duty to acknowledge the disinterested hospitality shewn by the *Colonel*, and by the *Cossacks* in general, to those English travellers who had visited *Tcherkash*; and therefore he begged to bestow upon his family such a mark of his gratitude as it was then in his power to offer." Having accompanied this declaration with a handsome present, Sir *Gore* further gratified his guest, by translating, from this work, all those passages which related either to himself, or to his countrymen; until the worthy *Cossack*, as he is kind enough to confess, "shed tears of delight."

In relating a circumstance of this nature, an author may easily be credited when he professes himself not to be more indifferent to the honour thereby conferred upon his work, than to its general success¹; but no author will

(1) Notwithstanding a ferocious attack made upon it in an *American Review*, it has passed through *Three Editions* in that country. The Agents for the *Russian Government* caused the article which appeared in the *American Review*, said to be written by a *Russian*, to be reprinted, and inserted in one of the minor Journals of *England*. An
allusion

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be so sensibly affected by the encouragement he receives, as one who is conscious of witnessing, in the favourable reception shewn to his writings, the triumph of truth. Having every reason to be convinced that they have outlived the *opposition* made to them, in consequence of the description given of the *Russians*, he now confesses that, when he published the FIRST PART of his Travels, he was not *politician* enough to be aware of the clamour it was likely to excite. In shewing that his testimonies concerning this people coincided with those of the most reputable writers who had gone before him^e, he thought he had fulfilled an obligation

allusion to the *Foreign Editions* of this work having been introduced, the author cannot avoid noticing a French Translation of it, published at *Paris* in 1813, in three volumes octavo; because it is accompanied by *Notes*, said to have been inserted under the *surveillance* of *Buonaparte*. Those *Notes* are evidently intended to persuade the *Russian Government* of the bad policy of an alliance with *Great Britain*. the writers perhaps, not being aware that this alliance is not so much a matter of *choice*, as of *necessity*. French *Notes* explanatory of the text of an English author are sometimes highly diverting: of this we have an instance in a *Note*, of the Edition now mentioned, upon the words "*parlious of St. Giles's*:" which the French translator explains, by saying that they signify "*Certaines terres démembrées des forêts royales, et sur lesquelles le propriétaire a droit de chasse.*" *Voy. tom. I. p. 163. Note (1) du Traducteur. Paris, 1813.*

(2) Even the *eulogists* of the *Russian Government* might be cited to prove that the condition of the people does not differ from the account given of it in this work. "The peasantry," says Mr. *Eton*, "look upon the monarch as a *divinity*; styling him (*Zemnoi Bog*) God of the EARTH." (See *Eton's Survey of the Turkish Empire*, p. 433.) It

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to the public. Leaving, however, this point to be decided by his adversaries; and their harmless *opposition*, to the inevitable fate of all political struggles, fitted only to serve the interests of *party*; and, moreover, being called upon for a *Fourth Edition* of the particular portion of his work against which so much hostility was levelled: he has nothing more to say of it, than that it is, at length, printed in a more commodious form, and with every attention to accuracy which repeated revision has enabled him to bestow.

remained for Mr. Thornton (*Present State of Turkey*, vol. II. p. 99. *Note*. Lond. 1809) to shew what were Mr. Eton's real sentiments concerning the *Russian Government*, by contrasting the observations he made after the death of CATHERINE, with those which he had before published. "Two years," observes Mr. Thornton, "after writing an *eulogium* on the *Russian Government*, Mr. Eton wrote his *Postscript*, though both were published together. The Empress CATHERINE was then dead; and then we are told, "that IT IS TIME THE VOICE OF TRUTH SHALL BE HEARD"—"It is only in foreign politics," says Mr. Eton, "that she (CATHERINE) appears great: as to the internal government of the (Russian) Empire, a most scandalous negligence, and a general corruption in the management of affairs, was visible, in every department. from Petersburg to Kamchatka."

Cambridge, Jan. 1. 1816.

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TO
THE THIRD QUARTO EDITION OF
PART THE FIRST.

A THIRD Edition of the FIRST PART of these Travels, within the short space of time that has elapsed since its original publication, may be considered as affording a good *practical* answer to certain objections which have been made against it. Whether this presumption be true or false, the author ventures, upon such encouragement, to proceed with the rest of the work according to his original plan.

In the present Edition, the text has been revised: the account given of the state of the society in *Russia* has been suffered to remain nearly as it was printed in the former Editions, and as it was written upon the spot.

TRUMPINGTON, near CAMBRIDGE,
May 1, 1813.

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TO
THE SECOND QUARTO EDITION OF
PART THE FIRST.

IN the present Edition, some verbal corrections will be found in various passages. Some additions have also been made; and it is hoped that they will add to the general interest excited by the work. The Notes, in certain instances, have been augmented, and the number of Inscriptions increased, by very valuable communications from *Charles Kelsall, Esq. of Trinity College, Cambridge*, who lately pursued a similar route to that of the author, in the *South of Russia*. *Robert Corner, Esq. of Malta*, has also obligingly added to the *Appendix*, an important article concerning the *Internal Navigation of the Russian Empire*¹

After the fullest and most impartial consideration, the author is contented to rest the truth

(1) See the *Appendix* to this Volume.

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and validity of his remarks, concerning the *Russian* character, upon the evidence afforded by almost every enlightened Traveller who has preceded him. In addition to their testimony, the unpublished observations of the late Lord ROYSTON¹ may be adduced, to shew that, subsequently to the author's travels, and under happier auspices of government in *Russia*, the state of society appeared to that gifted young Nobleman, as it has been described in the following pages. Lord ROYSTON, when writing to an

(1) The kindness of the Earl of *Hardwicke* authorizes this allusion to his Son's Letters. Lord ROYSTON's name carries with it a claim to public consideration. Although the knowledge of his great acquirements had scarcely transpired beyond the circle of his Academical acquaintance, his erudition was regarded, even by a PORSON, with wonder. The loss sustained by his death can never be retrieved; but some consolation is derived from the consciousness that all the fruits of his literary labours have not been annihilated. The sublime prophecy of his own *Cassandra*, uttering "a parable of other times," will yet be heard; in his native language, shewing "her dark speech," and thus portraying his melancholy end.

"Ye cliffs of Zarax, and ye waves which wash
Opheltes' crags, and melancholy shore,
Ye rocks of Trychas, Nedon's dangerous heights,
Dirphossian ridges, and Diacrian caves,
Ye plains where Phorcyn broods upon the deep,
And founds his floating palaces, what sons
Of dying men shall ye not hear? what groans
Of masts and wrecks, all crashing in the wind?
What mighty waters, whose receding waves
Bursting shall rive the continents of earth?"

Viscount Royston's Cassandra, p. 28.

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accomplished friend, who was snatched from the pursuit of worldly honours by a fate as untimely, although not so sudden as his own², thus briefly, but emphatically, characterizes the state of refinement in the two great cities of the Russian Empire³. “A journey from *Petersburg* to *Moscow* is a journey from *Europe* to *Asia*. With respect to the society of the former city, I am almost ashamed to state my opinion, after the stubborn fact of my having twice returned thither, each time at the expense of a thousand miles : but although I had not imagined it possible that any place could exist more devoid of the means of enjoying rational conversation, I am now, since my residence here, become of a different opinion. Not that I have not been excessively interested, both during this and my former visit to *Moscow*. The feudal magnificence of the nobility, the Asiatic dress and manners of the common⁴ people, the mixture of nations to be seen here, the immensity, the variety, and the singular architecture of the city, present, altogether, a most curious

(2) Rev.^d G. D. Whittington, author of an “*Historical Survey of Gothic Architecture*,” published since his death by certain of his distinguished friends. See the elegant tribute to his memory, in a Preface to that work, by the Earl of Aberdeen.

(3) This Letter is dated, *Moscow*, April 13th, 1809.

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and amusing assemblage." In a former part of the same Letter, the inattention of the superior Clergy to the religion of the lower orders, is forcibly illustrated. The words are as follow : " You have probably received some account of my journey to *Archangel*; of my movement thence, in a north-easterly direction, to *Mezen* : of the distinguished reception I received from the Mayor of that *highly-civilized*¹ city, who made me a speech in *Russian*, three-quarters of an hour long; of my procuring, there, twelve reindeer, and proceeding towards the Frozen Ocean, until I found a Samoied camp in the desert. between the rivers *Mezen* and *Petchora*; and of my ascertaining, that that nation, which extends over almost all the *North of Russia*, remains still in a state of Paganism; a circumstance, of **which** the Archbishop of the diocese was ignorant."

The description, given in this work, of the miserable condition of the *Russian peasants*, and of the scarcity of provisions in the interior of the country, has been disputed. Let us now therefore see what Lord *Royston* has said upon this part of the subject. It is contained in a

(1) So marked in the original.

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Letter to Mr. *Whittington*, from *Casan*, dated *May* 16th, 1807. * I left *Moscow* on Tuesday the 5th of *May*; and the first town at which I arrived was *Vladimir*, formerly the capital of an independent sovereignty, and the residence of a Grand Duke. The accommodations are such as are alone to be met with all over *Muscovy*; one room, in which you sleep with the whole family, in the midst of a most suffocating heat and smell; no furniture to be found, but a bench and table; and an absolute dearth of provisions."

In the Extracts, added to the Notes, from Mr. *Heber's Journal*, there are certain observations which are said to be at variance with the remarks in the Text; but it is hardly necessary to add, that they were introduced for this especial reason. Some persons have also insinuated, that the author has accused the *Russians* of want of hospitality; although the very reverse may be proved from his writings. In describing the reception which he experienced at *Moscow*, he lays particular stress upon the *hospitality* of the inhabitants; "although," to use his own words in the Fourth Chapter of the present Volume, "it was considered dangerous at that time to have the character of hospitality towards Englishmen."

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He also cites a passage, in the Notes, from a French work of celebrity, to prove, with reference to *Moscow*, that *l'hospitalité des Russes paroît ici dans tout son jour.*" Another extract from Lord *Royston's* Letters will shew, that the same characteristic of the inhabitants was observed by his Lordship; although, as he expressly declares, it did not alter his "*general opinion*" of the people. It is taken from a Letter to the Right Honourable *Charles Yorke*, dated *Moscow*, May 5th, 1807. "Notwithstanding all the pleasure I promise myself from my tour, I shall be sorry to leave *Moscow*: the hospitality of the people is very great; and it is unpleasant to be always forming new and agreeable acquaintance, with the expectation of shortly leaving them, and the probability of never seeing them again. On leaving *Petersburg*, notwithstanding my general opinion, I felt very strongly how painful it is, to quit, for ever, a place in which we have resided for some time; and believe it was solely that feeling which caused me to return thither from *Moscow.*"

Indeed it may be urged, that even those Authors who endeavour to present a favourable view of the *Russian* people, and who strain every

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effort to accomplish the undertaking, are continually betraying the hidden reality. Their pages, like embroidered vestments upon the priests of *Moscow*, disclose, with every gust that separates them, the rags and wretchedness they were intended to conceal'. Nor is it only in those periods of *Russian* history, when hostility threw off the veil, and enabled other nations to observe the real disposition of the people towards every country but their own, that their character has been thus manifested. It is alike displayed in peace or war; in circumstances of seeming civilization, or of acknowledged barbarism; in the reign of *PETER*, or of *CATHERINE*; under the tyranny of *PAUL*, or the mild government of *ALEXANDER*. These are facts, indeed, which a traveller may withhold: he may say, with *Fontenelle*, "If I had my hand full of truths, I would not suffer one of them to escape; or, like *Voltaire*, he may wait "until he has leisure to methodize

(1) You can hardly imagine any thing more showy than the appearance of the priests of these churches on their festival days. But if the wind should chance to blow aside the sacred vestment, you would probably feel a degree of disgust not easily described, at seeing shoes and stockings, and breeches, and shirt, of the coarsest materials, generally ragged, and always dirty, appearing from under robes of the most superb and costly embroidery." *Letters from Scandinavia*, vol. I. p. 71. *Land*. 1796.

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events," prior to their communication: but if he expect credit to be given, when he tells the theme of praise, when all that "is lovely and of good report" claims its due regard, it is not from such philosophy, that he can hope for its acquirement'.

At all events, the subject, as far as the author is concerned, shall now rest. Another portion of his Travels, describing objects of a more pleasing nature, diverts his attention from *Scythian* wilds and from all their fur-clad tribes; from uniformity of scenery and of disposition, to regions highly diversified, and to human-nature under every circumstance of character; from wide and barren plains, to varied territories "flowing with milk and honey;" from rivers, and lakes, and stagnant waters, to seas traversed by "men out of every nation under heaven;" **PARTHIANS, AND MEDES, AND ELAMITES, AND**
"THE DWELLERS IN MESOPOTAMIA, AND IN

(1) "Even the Author of the History of CHARLES XII. of PETER I. and of the age of LOUIS XIV. was of opinion, that it was of greater importance to say what is useful than what is true; as if what was false could ever be useful! In a Letter to Count *Schuralef*, he says, 'Until I have leisure to methodize the terrible event of the death of the *Tsarevitch*, I have begun another work.' Is this the language of a philosophical historian?" *Mem. of the Court of Petersburg*, p. 81.

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“JUDEA, AND IN CAPPADOCIA, IN PONTUS, AND
“ASIA, PHRYGIA, AND PAMPHYLIA, IN EGYPT,
“AND IN THE PARTS OF LYBIA, ABOUT CYRENE,
“AND STRANGERS OF ROME, JEWS AND PROS-
“ELYTES, CRETES, AND ARABIANS.”

P R E F A C E

TO

PART THE FIRST.

IN presenting the FIRST PART of his Travels to the Public, the author is desirous to explain the general extent of his undertaking.

His design is, to complete, in THREE separate PARTS, a series of Travels, in *Europe, Asia, and Africa*; so that each portion, consisting of one, or more, volumes, may constitute a survey of some particular region. Thus, for example, the PART now published, relates to Travels in *Russia, Tartary, and Turkey*; a SECOND PART may include the observations collected in *Greece, Egypt, and Palestine*; and, finally, a THIRD PART, those objects which were presented in *Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Lapland, and Finland*. But, in order to accomplish so extensive an undertaking, some indulgence is required to the manner of its execution; some credit for a better disposition towards his fellow-creatures, than the author's severe penance in *Russia* may seem to have excited. It is not so generally

known as it may be, that the passage of a small rivulet, which separated the two countries of *Sweden* and *Russia*, at the period of the author's journey, and before the dismemberment of *Finland*, the mere crossing of a bridge, conducted the traveller from all that adorns and dignifies the human mind, to whatsoever, most abject, has been found to degrade it. If, therefore, the late Empress and *Autocrat* of all the *Russias*, CATHERINE THE SECOND, could find a *Volney*, who would prostitute his venal pen to varnish the deformities of her reign and of her empire; if *Potemkin* did not want an apologist, and an advocate, even among the Writers of this country; *Great Britain* will forgive the frankness of one, among her sons, who has ventured, although bluntly, to speak the truth. It is a language not wholly obscured in the more cautious descriptions of former Writers. *Tuberville*, of *England*; *Augustine*, of *Germany*; *Olearius*, of *Denmark*; and, more recently, the *Abbé de la Chappé*, of *France*, together with the authors of many anonymous productions, represent the real character of the people, in colours, which neither the antidote of *Aleksye Musine Puchkine*, the drivellings¹ of *Voltaire*, nor

(1) See *Voltaire's* Correspondence with the Empress CATHERINE, in the latter part of his life.

all the hired deceptions of French philosophers and *savans*, have been able to wipe away

A few words, by way of acknowledgment, to those who have contributed to the accomplishment of the present undertaking, it is hoped, will not be deemed superfluous: at the same time, it is not necessary to repeat expressions which occur in the following pages. With the exception, therefore, of Lord WHITWORTH, whose respectable name the author here begs leave to introduce, no repetition will be offered. To his kindness, while Ambassador at *Petersburg*, the very existence of the FIRST PART of this work may be ascribed; and his character ought to stand recorded, in having afforded, as an English Minister, the very rare example of liberal patronage to his travelling countrymen, during the whole of his embassy.

(2) "Omnes enim pauperum, cujuscunque conditionis sint, nullo respectu personarum habito, durissimâ servitute premuntur. Nobiles, magnates, præfecti, primores, consiliarii que universi, se *chlopes*, id est, abjectissimos et vilissimos servos Magni Ducis fatentur; et bona sua omnia, mobilia et immobilia, quæ possident, non sua, sed Principis esse agnoscunt. Ut autem equestria ordo à Magno Duce, ita enim plebeus ordo à Nobilibus et Magnatibus gravissimè premitur: colonorum animi et oppidanorum bona, militarium hominum et Nobilium prædæ exposita sunt. Sex dies coloni in septimana dominis suis laborant; septimus dies privato labori conceditur. Neque hi strenuè laborant, nisi bene verberati." *Descriptio Moscoviæ. L. Bat. 1600.*

and in the least obtrusive manner, objects referred to in the text,—the merit is solely due to her, whose name appears occasionally annexed to those Designs, and who, from the rudest documents, has afforded an elegant and faithful representation of truth.

Notwithstanding the care bestowed upon the accuracy of the text, it is highly probable that some errors have escaped the author's notice. Should this prove to be the case, it is hoped that the Public will overlook defects in the style of a mere writer of travels; from which the more responsible pages of an *Addison*, a *Steele*, and a *Gibbon*, have not been found exempt. In the progress of transcribing a journal written in a foreign land, remote from scenes of literature, more attention was often given to fidelity of extract, than to elegance, or even purity of composition.

The unsettled state of English orthography, as far as it affects the introduction of Russian names, produces considerable embarrassment to the writer who wishes to follow a fixed rule. Upon this subject it not only happens that no two authors agree, but that the same author is inconsistent. *Jonas Hanway*, whose writings are

more accurate than those of any other English traveller who has visited *Russia*, may be considered as affording, perhaps, the best model in this respect: but *Hanway* himself is not consistent¹.

In the Russian alphabet there is no letter answering to our *W*; yet we write *Moscow*, and *Woronzow*. Where custom has long sanctioned an abuse of this kind, the established mode seems preferable to any deviation which may wear the appearance of pèdantry. The author has, in this respect, been guided by the authority and example of *Gibbon*; who affirms², that "some words, notoriously corrupt, are fixed, and as it were naturalized, in the vulgar tongue. The Prophet *Mohammed* can no longer be stripped of the famous, though improper, appellation of *Mahomet*; the well-known cities of *Aleppo*, *Damascus*, and *Caïro*, would almost be lost in the strange descriptions of *Haleb*, *Damashk*, and *Al Cahira*." But, it may be fairly asked, where is the line to be drawn? What are the Russian

(1) The name of the same place is written *Kiwa* in vol. I. p. 9. *Khiva* in p. 15, and *Khira* in a note. *Nagai Tartars*, in p. 8. vol. I. are written *Nagay Tartars* in p. 11. Throughout his work, the terminating vowel is sometimes *i*, and as often *y*; as, *Valdai*, *poderostnai*, and *Yakutsky*, *Nasorowsky*.

(2) P.S. to Pref. ch. XXXIX. *Hist. of the Decline and Fall*, &c.

names, which we are to consider as *fixed and naturalized in the vulgar tongue*? Are we to write *Woronetz*, or *Voronéje*; *Wolga*, or *Volga*; *Kiow*, or *Kiof*; *Azow*, or *Azof*? Lord *Whitworth* wrote *Chioff* and *Asoph*, although both these names have the same original termination'. It is the *B* (*Védy*) redoubled in compound words, which occasions the principal difficulty, and which has been confounded with our *W*. Thus, as it is mentioned by *Storch*¹, from *Lévesque*, the Russian word *Vvédénié*, signifying 'introduction,' consists of the preposition *vo* or *v* (*into*), and *védénié* (*to conduct*). The proper initial letter in *English*, therefore, for this word, would be *V*, whose power it alone possesses; and not *W*, which conveys a false idea of pronunciation. When this compound occurs as the termination of a word, it is best expressed by our *f*; as *Orlof*, for *Orlow*; which exactly answers the mode of pronunciation in *Russia*. Some writers use the letter doubled, as *ff*: the latter *f* is however superfluous. The plan pursued by the author, but to which, perhaps, he has not regularly adhered, was to substitute a *V* for the Russian

¹ *Account of Russia*, by Charles Lord *Whitworth*. Strawberry Hill, 1759.

⁽²⁾ *Tableau de l'Empire de Russie*, tom. I. p. 19. See also *Histoire de Russie par Lévesque*, tom. I. p. 17. Hamb. 1800.

VV, whenever it occurs at the beginning, or in the middle, of a word; and an *f*, whenever it is found as a termination.

There is yet another letter of the Russian alphabet, which, from its frequent recurrence as an initial, requires a perfect reconciliation to some settled law of English orthography; viz. the *Tchérvé*: this has the power of our *ch*, in *cheese* and *child*, and occurs in the name of the *Cossacks* of the *Black Sea*, *Tchernomorski*. With regard to words terminating in *ai* and *oi*, as *Valdai*, *Paulovskoi*, perhaps it would be well to substitute *ay* and *oy*, as *Valday*, *Paulovshoy*; or *y* only, as *Valdy*, *Paulovshy*; which last offers a close imitation of the vulgar mode of pronunciation in general: but the variety caused by different dialects, in different parts of the empire, will, after every attention is paid to a settled rule of writing, occasion frequent perplexity and embarrassment.

In the orthography of the names of places immediately south of *Moscow*, frequent attention was paid to the Map of *Reymann*, published by *Schmidt*, at *Berlin*, in 1802. But even in that map, the territories of the *Don Cossacks*, *Kuban Tartary*, and the *Crimea*, appear only as a forlorn blank. Many years may expire before

Russia, like *Sweden*, will possess a HERMELIN, to illustrate the geography of the remote provinces of her empire; especially as it is a maxim in her policy, to maintain the ignorance which prevails in *Europe*, concerning those parts of her dominions. On this account, the indecision, which must appear in the perusal of this volume, to characterize the description of the country between *Biroslaf* and *Odessa*, admits of explanation. The geography of all that district is little known; the courses of the *Dniester*, the *Bog*, and the *Dnieper*, as well as the latitude and soundings of the coast near their embouchures, have never been adequately surveyed. The only tolerable charts are preserved by the Russian Government, but sedulously secreted from the eyes of *Europe*. It has however fallen to the author's lot, to interfere, in some degree, with this part of its political system, by depositing within a British Admiralty certain documents, which were a subsequent acquisition, made during his residence in *Odessa*. These he conveyed from that country, at the hazard of his life. They are too voluminous for insertion in the work, but may serve to facilitate the navigation of the Russian coasts of the *Black Sea*, if ever the welfare of *Great Britain* should demand the presence of her fleets in that part of the world. In making this

addition to our stock of knowledge, for the use of our navy, no ties of confidence, or of honour, were broken, with a people who have violated every engagement with this country. Those documents were entrusted to the author by persons fully authorized to concede the information, and their injunctions have been sacredly obeyed.

TABLES

OF

RUSSIAN MEASURE, WEIGHT, & MONEY.

MEASURE.

The *Archine*, or Russian Yard, equals 28 English Inches.
 The *Sajen*, or Russian Fathom, equals 7 English Feet.
 Three *Versts* equal 2 English Miles.
 The Russian *Foot* is exactly that of England.
 The *Fershock* equals 1 English Inch and $\frac{1}{2}$.

104 <i>Versts</i>	-	equal	1 <i>Degree</i> .
500 <i>Sajens</i>	-	=	1 <i>Verst</i> .
3 <i>Archines</i>	-	=	1 <i>Sajen</i> .
16 <i>Fershocks</i>	=	1 <i>Archine</i> .	

WEIGHT.

The smallest weight of *Russia* is the *Solotnick*, which equals grains.

3 <i>Solotnicks</i>	equal	1 <i>Lot</i> .
32 <i>Lots</i>	-	= 1 <i>Pound</i> .
40 <i>Pounds</i>	=	1 <i>Poud</i> .

TABLE OF RUSSIAN MONEY.

The first silver money of *Russia* was coined at *Novogorod* in 1420, in small pieces, which were called *Copeeks*. The present value of the *Copeek* may be estimated as equal to an English Halfpenny. Almost all calculations of the country are made according to the number of *Copeeks*.

TABLE OF RUSSIAN MONEY.

In 1654, *Roubles* were introduced at *Moscow* in the form of bars, with deep notches in them (*roubli*), which enabled the possessor to detach as much of the bar as his payment might require*. Hence the origin of the word *Rouble*. Almost all the copper money of *Russia* is coined in *Siberia*, and principally at *Catherineburg*, near the *Ural Mines*. Sixteen *Roubles* of pure copper weigh a *Poud*.

At present, the specie of the country has nearly disappeared, and paper is its only representative. The *Copeek* no longer exists as current coin.

The following statement of the Names and Value of Russian Money is chiefly extracted from *Georgi*.†

SILVER MONEY.

1 <i>Rouble</i>	- - - -	equals	100 <i>Copeeks</i> .
1 <i>Polten</i> , or $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>rouble</i>	-	=	50 Do.
1 <i>Polupolten</i> , or $\frac{1}{4}$ <i>rouble</i>	=	25	Do.
1 <i>Dvagriven</i>	- - -	=	20 Do.
1 <i>Paetalten</i>	- - - -	=	15 Do.
1 <i>Griven</i>	- - - -	=	10 Do.
1 <i>Paetach</i>	- - - -	=	5 Do.

COPPER MONEY.

1 <i>Paetach</i>	- - - -	equals	5 <i>Copeeks</i> .
1 <i>Altime</i>	- - - -	=	3 Do.
1 <i>Grosh</i>	- - - -	=	2 Do.
1 <i>Copper Copeek</i>	- -	=	1 Do.

This last coin represents, in front, the Figure of *St. George* on horseback, piercing a dragon with his spear. "From this spear," says *Georgi*‡, called *Copæa* in Russian, the word *Copeek* has been derived.

* *Georgi, Descript. de St. Peters. p. 187. Edit. Franc. Peters. 1793.*

† *Ibid. sect. 8. chap. 3.*

‡ *Ibid. p. 191.*

TABLE OF RUSSIAN MONEY.

1 *Denga*, or *Denushka* - - - equals $\frac{1}{4}$ a *Copeck*.

1 *Polushka*, the smallest coin of *Russia* = $\frac{1}{4}$ Do.

The *Polushka* takes its name from a hare-skin, *Ushka* (which, before the use of money, was one of the lowest articles of exchange); *Pol* signifying *half*; and *Polushka*, *half a hare's skin*.

The gold coinage of *Russia* is scarcely ever seen. It consists principally of *ducats*, the first of which were struck by PETER THE GREAT, worth two *roubles* and twenty-five *copecks* each. When the author was in *Petersburg*, a coinage was going on at the mint, day and night, for the private use of the Emperor PAUL, of seventy-three *pounds* of gold, the whole of which was made into *ducats*. The mint was worked by steam-engines.

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CHAP. I.

PETERSBURG.

*Preliminary Observations — State of Public Affairs —
Strange Conduct of the Emperor — Insolence of the
Police — Extraordinary Phænomenon.*

A CURIOSITY to visit the Eastern bounda-
ries of Europe, is naturally excited by the
circumstance of their situation, in a country
rarely traversed by any literary traveller, and
little noticed either in antient or in modern
history. Above two thousand years ago, the

CHAP.
I.

CHAP. I. *Tanaïs*, watering the plains of *SARMATIA*, separated the *Roxolani* and the *Jazyges* from the *Hamaxobii* and the *Alani*. In modern geography, the same river, altered in its appellation, divides the tribe of the *Don Cossacks* from the *Tchernomorshi*, whose territory extends from the *Sea of Azof* to the *Kúban*. The Greeks, by their commerce in the *Æxine*, obtained a slight knowledge of the people who lived on the *PALUS MÆOTIS*. The wars of *Russia* and *Turkey* sometimes directed our attention to this remote country; but the knowledge of its inhabitants, both among the Antients and Moderns, has scarcely exceeded the names of the tribes, and their character in war. With their domestic habits, the productions of the land, the nature of its scenery, or the remains of antiquity they possess, we are very little acquainted. By referring to Antient History, we find that the same want of information prevailed formerly as at present. This may be accounted for by the wandering disposition of a people, seldom settled for any length of time upon the same spot: and with regard to their successors, since the establishment of a metropolis in the marshes of the *Don*, and the expulsion of the *Kuban Tartars* by the *Cossacks of the Black Sea*, the country has been submitted to very little examination. It was

among these people that the political differences of ENGLAND and RUSSIA drove the Author, a willing exile, from the cities of *Petersburg* and *Moscow*, in the last year of the eighteenth century. Necessity and inclination were coupled together; and he had the double satisfaction, of escaping persecution from the enemies of his country, and of surveying regions which, in the warmest sallies of hope, he had never thought it would be his destiny to explore.

In the course of this journey, through extensive plains which have been improperly called deserts, and among a secluded people who with as little reason have been deemed savages, he had certainly neither the luxuries and dissipation of polished cities, nor the opportunities of indolence, to interrupt his attention to his journal. If therefore it fail to interest the public, he has no apology to offer. He presents it in a state as similar as possible to that wherein notes written upon the spot were made; as containing whatsoever his feeble abilities were qualified to procure, either for information or amusement; and adhering, in every representation, strictly to the truth.

CHAP.

I.

State of
Public
Affairs.

After suffering a number of indignities, in common with others of our countrymen, during our residence in Petersburg; about the middle of March, 1800, matters grew to such extremities, that our excellent Ambassador, *Sir Charles* (now *Lord*) *Whitworth*, found it necessary to advise us to go to *Moscow*. A passport had been denied for his courier to proceed with despatches to *England*. In answer to the demand made by our Minister for an explanation, it was stated to be *the Emperor's pleasure*. In consequence of which, *Sir Charles* inclosed the note containing his demand, and the Emperor's answer, in a letter to the English Government, which he committed to the post-office with very great doubts of its safety.

Strange
Conduct
of the
Emperor.

In the mean time, every day brought with it some new example of the Sovereign's absurdities and tyranny, which seemed to originate in absolute insanity. The sledge of *Count Razumovsky* was, by the Emperor's order, broken into small pieces, while he stood by and directed the work. The horses had been found with it in the streets, without their driver. It happened to be of a blue colour; and the Count's servants wore red liveries: upon which a *ukase* was immediately published,

prohibiting, throughout the EMPIRE OF ALL THE RUSSIAS, the use of blue colour in ornamenting sledges, and of red liveries. In consequence of this sage decree, our Ambassador, and many others, were compelled to alter their equipages.

CHAP.
I.

One evening, being at his theatre in the *Hermitage*, a French piece was performed, in which the story of the English Powder-plot was introduced. The Emperor was observed to listen to it with more than usual attention; and as soon as it was concluded, he ordered all the vaults beneath the palace to be searched.

Coming down the street called *The Perspective*, he perceived a Nobleman who was taking his walk, and had stopped to look at some workmen who were planting trees by the Monarch's order.—“What are you doing?” said the Emperor. “Merely seeing the men work,” replied the Nobleman. “Oh, is that your employment?—Take off his pelisse, and give him a spade!—There, now work yourself!”

When enraged, he lost all command of himself, which sometimes gave rise to very ludicrous scenes. The courtiers knew very well when the storm was gathering, by a trick the Emperor had in those moments of blowing

CHAP. I. from his under-lip against the end of his short nose. In one of his furious passions, flourishing his cane about, he struck by accident the branch of a large glass lustre, and broke it. As soon as he perceived what had happened, he attacked the lustre in good earnest, and did not give up his work until it was entirely demolished.

In the rare intervals of better temper, his good-humour was betrayed by an uncouth way of swinging his legs and feet about in walking. Upon those occasions he was sure to talk with indecency and folly.

But the instances were few in which the gloom spread over a great metropolis, by the madness and malevolence of a suspicious tyrant, was enlivened even by his ribaldry. The accounts of the Spanish Inquisition do not afford more painful sensations than were excited in viewing the state of *Russia* at this time. Hardly a day passed without unjust punishment. It seemed as if half the Nobles in the Empire were to be sent to *Siberia*. Those who were able to leave *Petersburg* went to *Moscow*. It was in vain they applied for permission to leave the country: the very request might incur banishment to the mines. If any family

received visitors in an evening ; if four people were seen walking together ; if any one spoke too loud, or whistled, or sang, or looked too inquisitive, and examined any public building with too much attention ; he was in imminent danger. If he stood still in the streets, or frequented any particular walk more than another, or walked too fast or too slow, he was liable to be reprimanded and insulted by the police-officers. *Mungo Park* could hardly have been exposed to a more insulting tyranny among the Moors in *Africa*, than Englishmen experienced at that time in *Russia*, and particularly in *Petersburg*. They were compelled to wear a dress regulated by the police : and as every officer had a different notion of the proper mode of enforcing the regulation, they were constantly liable to interruption in the streets and public places, and to the most flagrant impertinence. This dress consisted of a three-cornered hat, or, for want of one, a round hat pinned up with three corners ; a long queue ; single-breasted coat and waistcoat ; and buckles, at the knees, and in the shoes, instead of strings. Orders were given to arrest any person who should be found wearing pantaloons. A servant was taken out of his sledge, and caned in the streets, for having too thick a neckcloth ; and if it had been too thin, he

CHAP.

I.

Insolence
of the
Police.

CHAP. would have met with a similar punishment.
I.

After every precaution, the dress, when put on, never satisfied the *police* or the *Emperor*: either the hat was not straight on the head, or the hair was too short, or the coat was not cut square enough. A Lady at Court wore her hair rather lower in her neck than was consistent with the *ukase*, and she was ordered into close confinement, to be fed on bread and water. A gentleman's hair fell a little over his forehead, while dancing at a ball; upon which a police-officer attacked him with rudeness and with abuse, and told him if he did not instantly cut his hair, he would find a soldier who could shave his head¹.

When the *ukase* first appeared concerning the form of the hat, the son of an English merchant, with a view to baffle the police, appeared in the streets of *Petersburg*, having on his head an English hunting-cap, at sight of which the police-officers were puzzled. "It was not a cocked hat," they said, "neither was it a round hat." In this embarrassment, they reported the affair to the Emperor. A *ukase* was accordingly promulgated, and levelled at the hunting-cap; but not knowing how to describe

(1) A mode in which criminals are punished in Russia.

the anomaly, the Emperor ordained, that “no CHAP.
I.
person should appear in public with the thing on his }
head worn by the merchant’s son.”

An order against wearing boots with coloured tops was most rigorously enforced. The police-officers stopped a foreigner driving through the streets in a pair of English boots. This gentleman expostulated with them, saying that he had no other, and certainly would not cut off the tops of his boots; upon which the officers, each seizing a leg as he sat in his *droshky*, fell to work, and drew off his boots, leaving him to go bare-footed home.

If Foreigners ventured to notice any of these enormities in their letters, which were all opened and read by the police, or expressed themselves with energy in praise of their own country, or used a single sentiment or expression offensive or incomprehensible to the police-officers or their spies, they were liable to be torn in an instant, without any previous notice, from their families and friends, thrown into a sledge, and hurried to the frontier, or to *Siberia*. Many persons were said to have been privately murdered, and more were banished. Never was there a system of administration more offensive in the eyes of God or man. A veteran officer, who

CHAP. I. { had served fifty years in the Russian army, and attained the rank of Colonel, was broken without the smallest reason. Above an hundred officers met with their discharge, all of whom were ruined; and many others were condemned to suffer imprisonment or severer punishment. The cause of all this was said to be the Emperor's ill-humour; and when the cause of that ill-humour became known, it appeared that his mistress, who detested him, had solicited permission to marry an officer to whom she was betrothed. To such excessive cruelty did his rage carry him against the author of an epigram, in which his reign had been contrasted with his mother's, that he ordered his tongue to be cut out; and sent him to one of those remote islands, in the *Alcoutan* Tract, on the North-west coast of *America*, which are inhabited by savages¹.

Viewing the career of such men, who, like a whirlwind, mark their progress through the ages in which they live by a track of desolation,

(1) The following is the literal sense of that memorable Epigram. It originated in the Emperor PAUL's attempting to finish with brick-work the beautiful Church of *St. Isaac*, which his predecessor CATHERINE had begun in marble.

"Of two reigns behold the image:

"Whose base is marble, and summit brick!"

can we wonder at the stories we read of regicides? “There is something,” says *Mungo Park*, “in the frown of a tyrant, which rouses the most inward emotions of the soul.” In the prospect of dismay, of calamity, and of sorrow, which mankind might experience in the reign of PAUL, we began to feel a true presentiment of his approaching death; and do freely confess, much as we abhor the manner of it, that it was

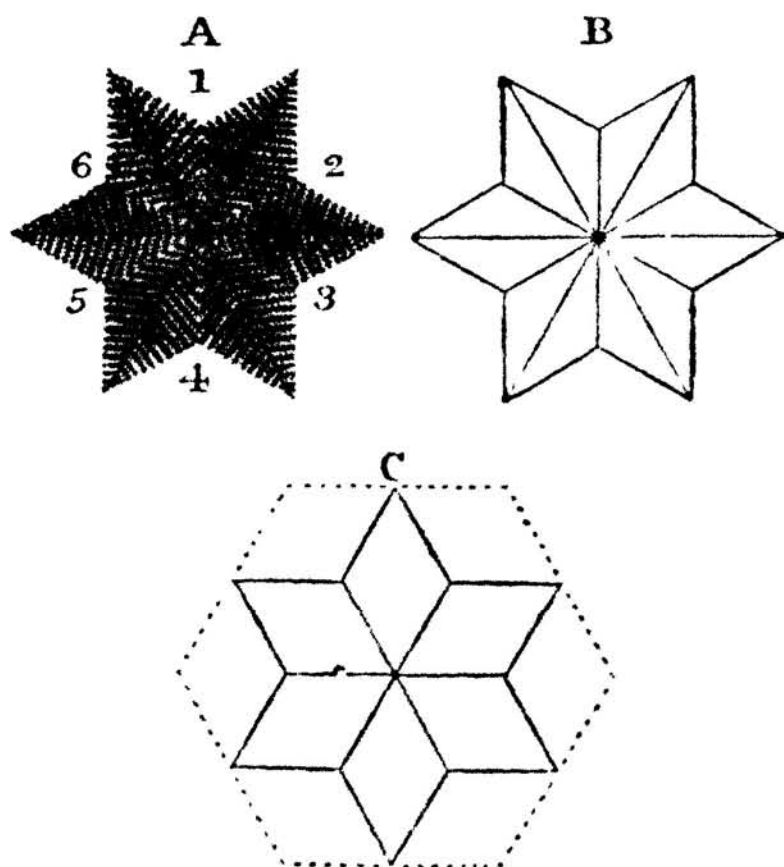
CHAP.
I.

——“a consummation
Devoutly to be wish’d.”——

The season began to change before we left Petersburg. The cold became daily less intense; and the inhabitants were busied in moving from the Neva large blocks of ice into their cellars. A most interesting and remarkable phænomenon took place the day before our departure,—the thermometer of *Fahrenheit* indicating only nine degrees of temperature below the freezing point; and there was no wind. At this time, snow, in the most regular and beautiful crystals, fell gently upon our clothes, and upon the sledge, as we were driving through the streets. All of these crystals possessed exactly the same figure, and the same dimensions. Every one of them consisted of a wheel or star, with six equal rays, bounded by circumferences of equal diameters; having all the same number

Extraordi-
nary Phæ-
nomenon.

CHAP. of rays branching from a common centre. The
 L size of each of those little stars was equal to
 the circle presented by the section of a pea,
 into two equal parts. This appearance continued
 during three hours, in which time no other
 snow fell; and, as there was sufficient leisure
 to examine them with the strictest attention, we
 made the representation given in the first figure.



Water, in its crystallization, seems to consist of *radii* diverging from a common centre, by observing the usual appearances on the surface of ice; perhaps, therefore, it may be possible

to obtain the theory, and to ascertain the laws, from which this structure results'. *Monge*, President of the National Institute of *Paris*, noticed, in falling snow, stars with six equal rays, descending, during winter, when the atmosphere was calm. *Hauy* records this, in his observations on the *muriate of ammonia*². CHAP.
L

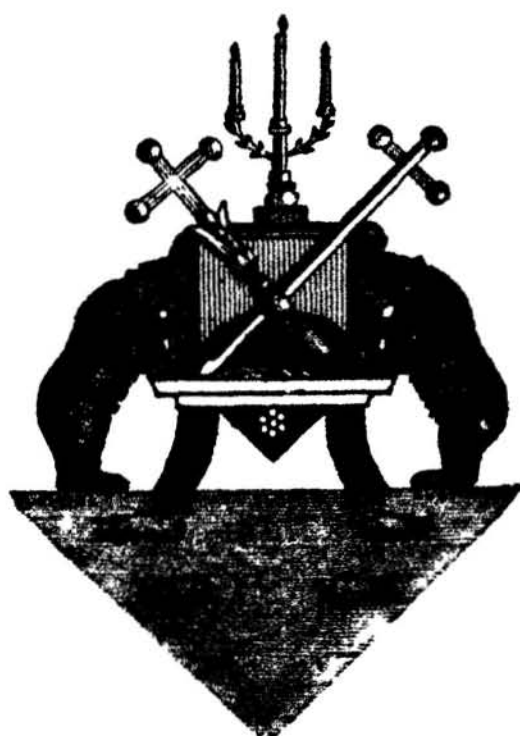
The first *drosky*³ had made its appearance in the streets of Petersburg before we left it; and we began to entertain serious apprehensions that the snow would fail, and our sledge-way to Moscow be destroyed. We had often been told of the rapidity with which the warm season makes its appearance in this climate; there being

(1) An equiangular and equilateral plane *hexagon* is divisible into three equal and similar *rhombs*; and if the engraved Figure A be attentively observed, it will appear that each linear ray of the star is a diagonal (See Figure B), joining the acute angles of a *rhomb*, whose sides are the *loci* of the extreme points of the lines of ramification from those diagonals. The RHOMB may therefore be the *primitive form* of water crystallized. This seems the more manifest, because if equal and similar *rhombs* be applied, between all the rays of the star A, in the spaces 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, an equilateral and equiangular *hexagon* will be the result; as represented by the dotted line in Figure C.

(2) "Il en résulte des étoiles à six rayons, lorsque le temps est calme, et que la température n'est pas assez élevée pour déformer les cristaux." HAUY, *Traité de Min.* tom. ii p. 385.

(3) The *drosky* is a kind of bench upon four wheels, used in Russia as our Hackney-coaches: it contains four or six persons, sitting back to back, thus driven sideways by the coachman, who sits at the end of the bench. This vehicle succeeds the sledge, after the melting of the snow.

CHAP. hardly any interval of spring, but an almost
I. instantaneous transition from winter to summer.
The frozen provisions of the city, if not consumed by the appointed time, which may be generally conjectured to a day, almost instantly putrify when the frost disappears.



CHAP. II.


FROM PETERSBURG TO MOSCOW.

Departure from Petersburg — Manner of Travelling — Palace of Tsarskoselo — Gardens — Anecdote of Billings's Expedition to the North-west Coast of America — Ledyard — Barbarous Decoration of the Apartments — Arrival at Novogorod — Cathedral — Antient Greek Paintings — Manner of imitating them in Russia — Superstitions of the Greek Church — Virgin with Three Hands — Story of her Origin — Russian Bigh.

WE left Petersburg on the morning of the third of April, and arrived with great expedition at TSARSKOSELO. Our carriage had been placed upon a *traineau* or sledge; and another

CHAP.
II.

1800.
Departure
from Pe-
tersburg.

CHAP. II.  **Manner of Travelling.** sledge, following us, conveyed the wheels. It is proper to describe our mode of travelling, that others may derive advantage from it. If the journey be confined to countries only where sledges are used, the common method adopted by the inhabitants is always the best; but if a passage be desired with ease and expedition from one climate to another, some contrivance should secure the traveller from the rigours of the seasons, without impeding his progress by superfluous burthen. For this purpose, the kind of carriage called a *German batarde* is most convenient. A delineation of one of these is given in the work of REICHARD¹, who also mentions the expense of building it in *Vienna*, where those carriages are made for one-fourth of the money required by the *London* coach-makers; and they answer every purpose of travelling, full as well as vehicles made in *England*. The *batarde* is nothing more than an English chariot with a *dormeuse*, advancing in front, and made sufficiently high to furnish a commodious seat for two persons on the outside, upon the springs. We caused the driver to sit upon the trunk in front; but it would be better to provide for him a little chair raised for that purpose. The door of the *dormeuse* within

(1) *Guide des Voyageurs en Europe*, tom. II. planche 1.

the carriage lets down upon the seat; it contains leathern cushions, and a pillow covered with thin leather. The carriage has, besides, an imperial, a 'well, a sword-case which may be converted into a small library, and, instead of a window behind, a large lamp, so constructed as to throw a strong light without dazzling the eyes of those within. Thus provided, a person may travel night and day, fearless of want, of accommodation, or houses of repose. His carriage is his home, which accompanies him everywhere; and if he choose to halt, or accidents oblige him to stop in the midst of a forest or a desert, he may sleep, eat, drink, read, write, or amuse himself with any portable musical instrument, careless of the frosts of the North, or the dews, the mosquitoes, and vermin of the South. Over snowy regions, he places his house upon a sledge, and, when the snow melts, upon its wheels; being always careful, where wheels are used for long journeys through hot countries, to soak them in water whenever he stops for the night.

Setting out from *Petersburg* for the *South of Russia*, the traveller bids adieu to all thoughts of inns, or even houses with the common necessities of bread and water. He will not even find clean straw, if he should speculate upon

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the chance of a bed. Every thing he may want must therefore be taken with him. A pewter tea-pot will prove of more importance than a chest of plate; and more so than one of silver, because it will not be stolen, and may be kept equally clean and entire. To this he will add, a kettle; a saucepan, the top of which may be used for a dish; tea, sugar, and a large cheese, with several loaves of bread made into rusks, and as much fresh bread as he thinks will keep till he has a chance of procuring more. Then, while the frost continues, he may carry frozen food, such as game or fish, which, being congealed, and as hard as flint, may jolt about among his kettles in the well of the carriage without any chance of injury. Wine may be used in a cold country: but never in a hot, or even in a temperate climate, while upon the road. In hot countries, if a cask of good vinegar can be procured, the traveller will often bless the means by which it was obtained. When, with a parched tongue, a dry and feverish skin, he has to assuage his burning thirst with the bad or good water brought to him, the addition of a little vinegar will make the draught delicious. Care must be taken not to use it to excess; for it is sometimes so tempting a remedy against somnolency, that it is hardly possible to resist using the vinegar without any mixture of water.