GEO MIDDL MSS 32/445

We know nothing with certainty about Russia till the tenth Century, when their Prince Wol'omir marrying the Sister of Basilius Porphyrogenetus a Grecian Emperor, Christianity was introduc'd into that Country. From that time to the Sixteenth Century it was not heard of the Tartars having overrun it.

John Basilowitz in 1553. becoming Czar found the Hereditary Governors of the provinces had all the power, only paid him shameful honours, & left him but the Revenues for the support of his Houshold. His Tyrannical disposition could not be satisfied with this, which made him sow jealousies among the Chiefs, & by that in time reduce them. He then made an invasion into Livonia, pretending it belong'd to him; upon this the Knights submitted to the Swedes, their Grand Master gave up his title, yielded to Poland, &

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recew'd Courland as a fief, which he had been Sovereign of.

This Conqueror & some of his Successors were too proud to treat with the Kings of Sweden, but left it to the Governors of Novogrod; even Peter I. had the vanity to call himself on it in a manifesto against Charles XII.

The Russians quarrelling among themselves in the Seventeenth Century, the Swedes took the opportunity to conquer that part of their dominions which laid near their own territories, as well as to encrease Livonia. this forc'd the Russians to a Peace, by which they gave up Livonia to the Swedes, & they on their part, yielded Carlia as belonging to Novogrod; but this peace was not of long duration, the Russians again jarring among themselves, the Swedes made another irruption, & King James I. of England, with difficulty

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/446

obtain'd them a Peace in 1616. by which Livonia, Carelia, & all the Country to the Neva was surrender'd to the Swedes.

It is remarkable that the Northern Powers had a maxim of keeping the Muscovites from the Baltick, & in all their treaties with the Hanstowns made a seperate article that in their Trade with Nerva & Riga, they should not furnish the Russians with any Warlike Stores or implements.

The last treaty the Russians concluded with the Swedes, was made by Michael Foedorowitz, the first of the Reigning family. He was son of a Patriarch of the Greek Church, by a daughter of Basilowitz, came to the Crown in 1613. & regain'd great parts of those dominions, which the Swedes had taken from Russia.

His Son Alexius Michaelowitz in hopes of recovering

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the rest, declar'd war against Gustavus Adolphus, was successful at first, but oblig'd to leave his conquests to quell a Rebellion in Astracan. He died in 1675. & was succeeded by his Son Feodor, who being of a weak constitution, was assisted in Government by his Sister Sophia, & died in 1682. knowing the incapacity of his Brother Ivan, nam'd Peter his Ye yest successor, but Sophia got the Eldest associated with him, tho' without any share in the administration.

This Peter Alexowitz, was surnam'd the Great, at his Accession the greatest part of his dominions was Desarts, with few Houses. He civilliz'd the Men, introduc'd Arts & Sciences, went himself to Foreign Nations to learn what might be useful to him, with his own hands us'd to build Ships, & made Russia a Maratime Power, which at his mounting

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GEO ADDL MSS 32 /442

the Throne, had only the Port of Archangel. In short Russia was fear'd before his death, tho' it had been before his time, despis'd by all its Neighbours. He took the title of Emperor, & left it without dispute to his Wife & family. He died in 1725. & was succeed By his Wife Catharine, whom he had rais'd from an humble birth, on account of her merit. She continued his Plan of Government, but died in 1727. & left the Empire to Peter's Grandson Peter II. under the tutelage of Prince Menzikoff, Peter's favourite, an ambitious man, who by his insolence displeas'd the Young Emperor, when but 12. years old, & was banish'd.

The two Princes Dolgaroski succeed in favour, Catharine the Daughter of Alexis one of these Brothers having married the Young Czar, he died of the Small-Pox in 1739. before the

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marriage was consummated.

Upon his death the Succession was disputed; by Catharina's Will, the Son of Her Daughter Anna came to the Throne, but they set ye. aside to avoid a long Minority; they therefore affirm'd that Peter the Great on his death bed had appointed Anna Iwanowna his Brothers Daughter to succeed. But if the Crown was to go to the Children of the Elder Brother, Catharine Iwanowna the Eldest Sister ought to have succeeded; but Her Husband the Duke of Mecklenburgh having great dispates with his Nobility, it was said that Peter II. had pass'd Her by, for the Peace of his Subjects.

The Dolgarouski's who had plac'd this Empress on the Throne, appointed a proper Council, limited

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page 41. — and Odensee in Funen, are —

GEO ADDL MSS 32/14147a

— 43 — 1. in Funen —

ibid. — 2 in Funen —

— 46 — Skie-lopere (Skiir-laufrer —

The Skie-lopere are Men, that can renn up and the Mountains, and over the Bottoms coverd with the deepest Snow, by means of two boards tyed to their feet. The right board is about 5 or 6 feet long, and 8 or 9 inches broad. The left board is about two feet, or somewhat less, long, and 5 Inches broad. They have also a long Stick, with a little round planck at the bottom, in their hand. With the help of this, they

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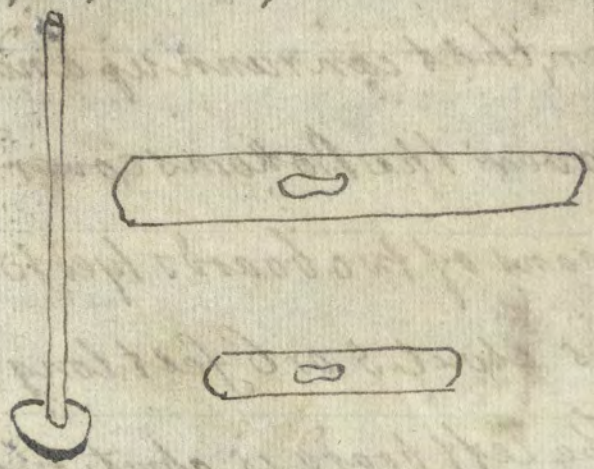
run over the deepest Snow without sinking into it and particularly they run down the Mountains, with incredible Swiftness. By their running in Corps, and over Hills and Dales, they are usefull for quick expeditions, and to surprise the Ennemy.



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GRO ADDL MSS 32/448

Her power, & made a new constitution, to this she readily agreed, but had the Crown no sooner fix'd on Her Head, than she null'd all that had been done, & banish'd the Promoters of it. She then chose good Ministers, & experienc'd officers, with great reputation. She was in a situation to give the Emperor Charles VI. powerful succours against France, beat the Turks, & entirely destroy'd Crim Tartary. In short she made Her Empire respected, & form'd Alliances proper to preserve Her Government.

Her greatest Error was the totally confiding in Strangers particularly Germans, the Russian Nobility could not bear it; they shew'd it very plainly towards the End of Her Reign; but she made several severe Acts to check their ill humour

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yet it encreas'd, which forc'd Her to other measures.

She brought Princess Ann of Mecklenburgh, her Eldest Sister's Daughter to Court, who married Prince Anthony Ulric of Brunswick, by whom she had a Son, whom the Empress nam'd Her Successor, & appointed his Father, & Mother, Guardians, & having put the Duke of Courland at the Head of his Council with the title of Regent, she died in 1740.

The little Czar was own'd as such by the Nation, but it soon appear'd that great alterations were necessary in the Government. Prince Ulric & the Grand Duchess ventur'd not only to remove the Duke of Courland from publick affairs, but to send him & his family to Siberia; this occasion'd little tumult, or bloodshed, but serv'd as a precedent to what follow'd; for Elizabeth

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/449

Petrowna Daughter of Peter I. who had liv'd at Court
~~ible~~ Anna's Reign, but had not been treated suitable
to her birth, & was now a sort of Prisoner in the Palace,
had the entire hearts of the people, who now
resolv'd to hazard every thing for her deliverance;
& accordingly on the 6th of December she was
unanimously declar'd Empress.

This Princess was possess'd of many great
qualities, & was in an age of Maturity viz. 38.
or " king the Reins of Empire. She greatly
rewarded those who had rais'd her to the Throne,
restor'd the Nobility to their Ranks, gave them
the Principal employments, & made no alteration
in foreign affairs, unless in matters calculated for
the good of her Subjects.

She sent for her Nephew the Duke of Holstein,

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& had him declar'd Grand Duke of Russia, & Heir Apparent of the Empire.

We must not look for Government in this Country before Peter the Great, who was the Legislator of this Empire. 'Tho' absolute he intended to set bounds to his sway, '. He therefore establish'd a Senate much after the Parliament of Paris, for it gives the form of laws to the will of the Sovereign; but yet Russia remains despotic. ~~Sabie, however to the Contrary of the Liberty, at the Halton is to that of the Janizaries~~ During Minorities & Revolutions it appears to strangers as if it was a limited Government; but when closely examin'd, it will be found that the Imperial Power instead of being curb'd, is strengthen'd by the Senate.

The several Colleges, answer to our Boards; Peter form'd them in imitation of the several

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/450

Councils in France.

The High Chancelor is look'd upon as Prime Minister, & the Vice Chancelor, as his Coadjutor.

~~The Political interests of Russia with respect to Foreigners, are not so complicated as might be imagin'd from the extent of the Em, &c.~~

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/451

We know nothing with certainty of Prussia till the 10th Century, when their Prince Woldomir marrying the Sister of Basilius Porphyrogenetus Emperor of Greece, Christianity was introduced into that Country; from that time to the 16th Century it was not heard of, Tartars having overrun it.

When John Basilowitz was Czar in 1503. the Hereditary Governors of the Provinces had all the power, he only paid the Sovereign empty honour, with the Revenues necessary for the support of his Household; John's disposition could not brook this Servitude, He therefore endeavour'd to sow Jealousys among the Chiefs, which by dividing would in time reduce their power.

He then turn'd his thoughts to War, & made an inroad into Livonia, laying claim to that Province; upon this the Knights submitted to the Swedes, but their Grand Master yielded up his title to Poland, & receiv'd that Country as a Fief from them, of which he had been the Sovereign.

So great was the vanity of this Conqueror & some of his Successors, that in all business they scorn'd to treat in

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Peace with the Kings of Sweden, but left it to the Governor of Novogrod; even Peter the Great was weak enough to value himself on this folly, in a manifesto against Charles XII.

The Russians quarelling among themselves in the 17th Century, the Swedes took the opportunity to conquer that part of their Country bordering on Sweden; this forced the Russians to a Peace, the Basis of which was the Cession of Livonia; the Swedes on their part, yielding Carilia as belonging to Novogrod; but this Peace was not of long duration, the Russian again jarring among themselves, the Swedes made another irruption, when King James I. of Britain with difficulty obtained them a Peace in 1616. under the hard terms of surrendring up Livonia, Carilia, & all the Country to the Neva.

It is remarkable that the Northern Powers ever held the Maxim of keeping the Muscovites from the Baltick, & in all their Treatys with the Hanse Towns made a seperate Article, that in their Trade with Reval & Riga, they should not furnish the Russians with any Warlike Stores or implements.

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This last Treaty with the Swedes was made by Michael Feodorowitz the founder of the present Reigning Family, who was Son of a Patriarch of the Greek Church, by a Daughter of Basilowitz, & came to the Crown in 1613. during his Reign Russia recover'd great parts of those Dominions the Swedes had taken from them.

His Son Alexius Michaelowitz in hopes of possessing the rest, declar'd War against Gustavus Adolphus, was successful at first, but oblig'd to leave his conquests to quell a Rebellion in Astracan. He died in 1675. & was succeeded by his Son Feodor, who being of a weak constitution, was assisted in Government by his Sister Sophia, & died in 1642. Feodor knowing the incapacity of his eldest Brother Iwan, nam'd Peter his Youngest or Successor; but Sophia got the Eldest associated with him, tho' without any share in the administration.

This Peter Alexowitz was surnam'd the Great; at his Accession the greatest part of his Dominions was Desart, the People barbarous; He civilizd them, introduc'd Arts & Sciences, travell'd himself into Foreign Nations, learnt Manual Trades, built Ships with his own hands, & raisd Russia in a few Years to a Maritime Power, which at

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His mounting the Throne had the single Port of Archangel, also at His Accession was the Contempt of all the other Northern Powers, grew before His death to be the envy & Terror of Her Neighbours.

He took the title of Emperor, & left it without Dispute to His Family, & dying in 1725. was succeeded by His Wife Catharine whom He had raised from an Humble birth to the the Partner of His Throne.

She follow'd His plan of Government, but expir'd in 1727. & left the Empire to Peter's Grandson, Peter II. under the tutelage of Prince Menzikoff Peter's favourite, an ambitious Man, who by His insolence displeas'd the Young Emperor tho' but 12 Years old, & was banish'd.

The two Princes Dolgarouski succeded in the Emperor's favour, Catharine Daughter of Alexiowe of these Brothers marry'd the Young Czar; but He died in 1739. of the Small Pox, without having consummated the Marriage.

Upon His death the Succession was disputed; by Catharina's Will, the Son of Her Daughter Anne came to the Throne, but fearing the Consequences of a long Minority the Dolgarouskis affirm'd that Peter the Great on His Death bed had appointed

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Anne Iwanowna His Brother's Daughter to succeed; this appeared unjust, for as the Crown was to go to the Children of the Elder Brother, Catherine Iwanowna the Eldest Sister ought to have succeeded; but Her Husband the Duke of Mecklenburgh having great disputes with His Nobility, it was said that Peter II. had passed Them by, for the Peace of His Subjects.

The Dalgarouskis who had placed the Empress on the Throne, appointed a proper Council, limited Her Power, & made a new Constitution; to all which She at first agreed, but had no sooner secured the Crown, than She annulled all that had been done, & banished the promoters of it.

She then chose Good Ministers, & experienced Officers, with great reputation; This enabled Her to assist powerfully the Emperor Charles VI. against France, to beat the Turks, & destroy entirely Crim Tartary. In short She made Her Empire respected, & formed Alliances proper to preserve Her Government.

Her greatest error seems to be the entire Confidence She placed in Strangers, particularly Germans; the Russian Nobility could not bear it, & showed their discontent very plainly towards the End of Her Reign; & tho' She made several severe Acts to check their ill humour, yet it continually encreased.

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She brought Princess Anne of Mecklenburgh Her Eldest Sister's Daughter to Court; who marry'd Prince Anthony Ulric of Brunswick, by whom She had a Son, whom the Empress nam'd Her Successor, & appointed His Father & Mother Guardians; & having put the Duke of Courland at the Head of His Council with the title of Regent, She died in 1740.

The little Czar was acknowledg'd by the Nation, but it soon appear'd that great alterations were necessary in the Government. Prince Ulric & the Grand Dutchess ventur'd not only to remove the Duke of Courland from public affairs, but to send him & His family to Siberia; this occasion'd little tumult or bloodshed; but serv'd as a precedent to what follow'd; for Elizabeth Petrowna a Daughter of Peter I. who had liv'd at Court all Anne's Reign tho' not in a manner suitable to Her birth, & now a sort of Prisoner in the Palace, had the entire hearts of the people, who now resolv'd to hazard every thing for Her deliverance; & accordingly on the 6th of Dec. She was unanimously declar'd Empress; & little Czar, His Father, & Mother sent into Siberia.

This Princess was possess'd of many great qualitys, & was in an age of Maturity viz. 34. on first taking the reins

of Government. She greatly rewarded those that had raised her to the Throne, restored the Nobility to their ranks, gave them the principal Employments, & made no alteration in foreign affairs, unless in matters calculated for the good of her subjects.

She sent for her Nephew the Duke of Holstein, & had him declared Great Duke of Russia & Heir apparent of the Empire.

We must not look for Government in this Country, before Peter the Great, who was the Legislator of this Empire. Tho' absolute He intended to set bounds to his successors. He therefore established a Senate much after the Parliament of Paris, for it gives the form of Laws to the will of the Sovereign. but yet Russia remains despotic, subject however to the control of the Streletes, as the Sultan is to that of the Janissarys.

During Minorities & Revolutions it appears to Strangers as if it was a limited Government; but when closely examined it will be found that the Imperial Power instead of being curb'd, is strengthen'd by the Senate.

The several Colledges answer to our Boards; Peter formed them in imitation of the several Councils in France.

The High Chancelor is look'd on as Prime Minister, & the Vice Chancellor, as His Coadjutor.

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The Czar's income for the uses of Government amounted formerly only to 5,000,000. of Rubles; but now to 15,000,000. of Rubles. (that is £3,000,000) yet the People are not overburden'd with Taxes.

For the understanding what follows, it will be necessary to explain the Russian Money, & give the Value in English Standard; the Russian Coins consist of Rubles, valu'd at 4s. 6d. & half & quarter Rubles; also there are Copecks or Pence; & Chervonitz a Gold Coin worth 9s. 6d. commonly call'd a Ducat by Strangers.

Every Peasant pays	Copecks or Pence
To the War Office	25.
To the Admiralty	10.
For recruits	6.
Contribution Money for Horses kept for Travellers in the different Governments.	11.
Towards Brick-kilns	3.
Towards Lime-kilns	3.
For Materials for the fortifications of Petersburgh.	4.
Towards Post Horses	5.
For the support of Offices	1.
For extraordinary Expences	½.
	6d ½.

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GEO ADDL MSS 32,452

These Taxes are still collected according to the survey made in 1679. of the number of Houses & Farms; in 1710. Commissarys were appointed to make a fresh survey of all the Houses in the different Provinces; but through the Management of the Nobility this had no effect, the Peasants being able to take their Houses in a few Hours to pieces, having only Timbers let into each other in the four Corners.

The Peasants also are tax'd 15. pence per annum for their Bagnios; as to their Gardens, Fish Ponds, Bee Hives &c. they pay according to their Antient Value; & they give a fourth part of the Clear profit for their Mills.

In the new acquis'd Countrys of Livonia, the district of Dorpt pays 25,000. Rubles

Revel - - - 15,000.

Oesel - - - 9,000

Riga - - - 600.

Besides the above taxes the Inhabitants of Towns give 5. Copecks for every fathom Square of Ground their Houses stand on to the Government; unless built on Ground that formerly was granted to Great Men, & exempt from Taxes; also those who exercise any Trade, pay a Tax in proportion to their profits; every Citizen pays a Ruble yearly for his

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Bagnio, & Noblemen 3. Rubles; this is the only House Tax they pay.

The Clergy contribute largely when money is levy'd; in the beginning of the late war the revenues of the Bishopricks Monasterys were united to the Demesnes of the Crown;

In 1711. the Bishops Lands were restor'd; but yet the Crown demands a free gift every 3. or 4. Years from the Clergy, besides their other Taxes; some of the Monasterys got their Estates again, but the Patriarchal dignity was suppress'd, & the Income seiz'd by the Czar; the Secular Clergy are very highly tax'd; the Minister of a place pays 6. Copecks to the Crown for every House in his Parish, tho' he does not always raise so much from them, besides a tax for being a Priest, & another for every Child he has; as 9.d for his Bagnio, which to a Farmer amounts only to 15.d

The Constant Revenue given by a late Writer amounts to 3,111,144. Rubles that is £234,334..1.s

The Variable Revenue consists of what is raiz'd from the Subject on extraordinary occasions, as in 1716. when the following duties were laid on all Houses whether belonging to Burghers or Peasants viz.

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GEO ADDL MSS 32 1453

For providing Petersburgh & Riga with provisions - - - 57.d
For supplying the Admiralty at Revel with Materials. - - 24 3/4.
Every Hundred Houses to furnish a day labourer } - - - - - 3.
for whose charges each House was rated at }
Every five Hundred Houses to provide a Carpenter } - - - - - 1.
& pay him each - - - - - - - -
For Salarys of Provincial Commissioners, Justices, & other }
Civil Officers, pursuant to an order of the 24th of Jan. 1705. } - - 10
95 3/4.

The Coinage is another Branch of the Variable revenue; there are two Mints at Moscow, in one of which nothing is coin'd but Copper, at the rate of two pounds of Copper for a rable, & in the other all the sorts of Silver species there is in use; it is thought that these offices yield the Czar about 200,000. Rubles yearly, or £27,500.

The Monopoly of strong liquors is a considerable branch of the Revenue of the Crown, for none but the Czar's Agents are allow'd to sell them except in Ukrania or Livonia; this is computed to bring in 1,000,000. of Rubles per Annum or £225,000.

The Government also Monopolizes the Trade of Tobacco, Pot-Ash, Weed-ash, Tar, Isinglass, Salt, & Siberia Goods; the last of these includes the Commodities that come through Siberia from China, what this produces yearly is uncertain.

All other Goods either pay an importation or an exportation.

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/454

Ld Lord Witworth gives an account of the State of Prussia in 1700. when he was Ambassador there, it seems to me very proper to add an abstract of it to this little treatise.

He says The Prussians are divided into 3. Bands, the Nobility call'd Kneas, the Gentry, Ducornias, & the Peasants.

The Kneas or Dukes were formerly Governors of the small Provinces this Empire was divided into, they were all subdu'd by Prince Voldomir, who took the title of Weliki Kneas or Great Duke. The descendants of these Dukes have kept the antient title, & the Poles since settl'd there, have taken them pretending to be sprung from their Waywodes or Palatines.

~~The present Kneases are very numerous, those who have their Patrimonies or Estates, are very few, & much the most part have their Nobility only either by their Merit in Civil or Military affairs; many of them are so poor that in 1706, near 300. of them were common troopers in P. Menzikoff's Regt. of Dragoons.~~

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The Decurions are Country Gentlemen, most of them hold their Estates by Military service, formerly they were bound to send a man to serve on Horseback in time of War, but Peter I. forced them to attend in person the exercises, who were connived at by the Ministers; when Recruits are not permitted to bring any servant, but they perform all the duties of common Soldiers; any of their Peasants inlisting as Volunteers are from their Lord, & form part of their Lord's stock, & are sold with the Estate.

The Peasants have always been in the power of their Lords, & they have nothing in property but when they have done their Lords work, they provide by hard Labour bread & firing sufficient to keep their families & spend the rest of their time in sloth & idleness. They seldom taste Meat, living entirely on roots, fish or Milk. This hard life renders them excellent Soldiers when

Of the Present Princes those only were respected who on losing their Sovereignty received Estates, or whose families have raised themselves

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/455

once disciplin'd.
~~The~~ ~~Th~~ Religion of the Country is agreable to
the Greek Church, only more
corrupted, they however condemn ~~they think that it is wrong to~~ worshipping
images, but pay great ~~not right pay~~ great reverence to Pictures;
they have four great fasts in the Year besides
~~the~~ ~~ordinary~~ every Wednesday & Friday.
Every Child ~~at~~ at his ~~Baptism~~ has his peculiar tutelar
saint appointed him. There are an immence number of
Churches, as the building one of them is deem'd
laying a sort of Obligation on Heaven.
The Secular Clergy were ~~was~~ formerly obliged
~~only to be permitted to help as clerk or boy or~~
~~or Verger~~ ~~Wives, kept, then~~ They were either
or by death of their Wives, either ~~married~~ to turn Monks, or follow some other business,
but later allowed them to continue in the
lower offices of the Church; ~~they were ordinarily~~ on account of
these strict rules ~~the~~ ~~they were but ignorant~~ they must
~~most generally also~~ ~~they were but ignorant~~ & poverty also ~~other~~.
always prevent men of birth or merit from ~~following~~ ~~enterinc into this profession~~
~~In mean we could~~ ~~Ecclesiastick pale~~
The Monks & dignify'd Clergy are equally
~~fall~~ as ignorant, but from their grave
deportment are more regarded, ~~formerly~~
they had great popes prior, ~~which~~ that

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The Greek Church was governed by ~~There was also~~ a Patriarch, but Peter gave them great temporal interest, finding them very troublesome, on the death of Patriarch Nicon ~~appointed~~ abolished that Office, & gave the Administration of Spiritual affairs to the Archbishop of Kazan, & the temporal to a lay-Commissioner, who were to dispose of the Abbey Lands & revenues which he had taken away some Years before.

As to the Government it is certain despotical, the Czar ~~having the power~~ power over his subjects lives & estates. Landrede, is without control ~~of life & death, & of taking the Estates of his subjects~~. His Great Officers are also very arbitrary, there being no appeal from their Decrees, all proceedings ~~being~~ running in the Czar's name.

There are Laws to decide ~~differences~~ disputes between private Men, but they are seldom put in execution ~~the administration~~ of Justice ~~being easily bribed~~ from the great Depotcy

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GEO ADDL MSS 32 1 456

Till Peter 1. the Czars seldom appeared except on days of Ceremony or Devotion, the Bojars or Privy Councellors therefore transacted all public business, but he changed this, & exposed them & their Conduct to the sight of all his People. He often made the Youths of the Greatest families bear Arms in his Foot Guards, & raised the meanest People to the highest Employments. this was necessary to rouse the spirits of the Nobility & make them fit for Command.

The Ocolnitzen were the assistants of the Bojars, but only attended on particular occasions.

The Priaspes or Offices of Justice were composed of Dumnoys or Judges, & Ducks their Assistants. there were thirty of these Courts. the Bojars were at the head of them but by degrees that Office as well as the Ocolnitzen were dropt & only the Ducks remaining.

In 1710. the Czar divided the Empire into eight Governments, Mosco, Archangel, Astrophe Theodor, Cazan & Astracan, Chiff & Ukraine, Siberia, Livonia Ingria Plescow & Novogrod, Smolensko, & Veroniez & the Shipyards.

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These Governors have absolute power in Civil matters ~~except in military affairs~~ [illegible]; they disposed of all offices whether Civil or Military, receive the Revenues, defray all expences, & transmit yearly a certain sum to the Great Treasury

Before we explain the trade of this Nation we must ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ most usd in Traffic is Copeeks, ~~remark~~ that the Coin ~~[illegible]~~ or pence

3 Copeeks make a Altine
10 ..... a Greiven
25 ..... a P. poltine
50 ..... a Poltine
100 ..... a Rouble.

all sorts of Woolen Manufactures, Lead, Tin, Dying Woods, Indigo, Pewter, Olibanum, Brimstone & Lignum Vitæ are imported from England, & Wine, Paper, Allum, Glass-Ware, Spices, Dollars, Plate, Gold & Silver Lace, Brocades, Silesia cloth, & all sorts of Ribbons &c. by the Dutch.

The English export Hemp, Flax, train-oil, Linnen, Pot-Ash, Rhubarb, Isenglass, Wax, Tar & the Dutch Wood-Ash, Masts, Skins, Tallow, Hemp-seed, Mats & Hogs Bristles.

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GEO ADDL MSS. 32157

There are several fisherys, that in particular of Morses or Sea Horse would be very considerable, if not Monopolized by a Company; but this ruin'd the trade greatly decreases.

As to the Customs all Foreigners give five per Cent for all the Goods they buy & sell by weight, & four per Cent for those by Measure, they only pay either the highest amounts they pay but one duty, on import & export whichever of these is the highest & amounts to less at the end of the trading year becomes the rule on importation or exportation, according to which amounts highest at the end of the trade time; Goods sent by Foreigners to Inland Towns, pay ten per Cent in Dollars, & six per Cent if they buy or sell in Russian Money, the Inhabitants give five per Cent when they traffic in the Country, & at Archangel; & five Dollars per Hogshead is paid for Wine.

The Czars yearly Revenue amounts to near 7,000,000. of Rubles, it arises from the Customs & Duties on Goods in Archangel; from Monopolys in the Czar's Hands, that on pot-ash brings in yearly 40,000. Dollars, Wood ash 125,000. Dollars, Caviar 30,000. pieces of eight, besides what is consum'd in the Country; Rhubarb about 20,000. Dollars all these are only sold for specie Dollars; In 1706 Tar brought in 40,000. Dollars, & another 10,000. Rubles, but little of the latter is now.

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He had also Moss on Inland Monopolys, Salt 500,000 Rubles, Tobacco, boards & Bricks, were uncertain; Brandy & Beer, in Mosco alone amounted to 600,000 Rubles per Annum.

By coining Dollars he got 120. per cent profit; 30. per cent on Copper Money & 65. per cent. on Brass Money.

The Chinese Trade would have brought him in about 2, or 300,000 Rubles if rightly Managed. the Cargoes sent there consist of various kinds of European Manufactures & Furs. In return Damasks, Callicoes, Gold, Tapestry, China Ware, & Drugs were brought from thence.

By the Persian Trade raw Silk, Carpets, Brocades, Satins, jewels, & Persia Leather were imported mostly by Armenians, who only pay two per cent for all sorts of Merchandize.

He also received new impositions on Stamp'd Paper; ten per cent of the Value contested on all Law Suits, besides Chimney Money, a Duty on Hackney horses & Carriages, on Baths, where every fashionable House pay a ruble a Year for this Commodity

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GEO MADL MSS 321/458

Also He received the ~~Monks~~ income of abbey lands, Peter having as we have said before taken them into His own hands, & paying a certain sum to each Cloister.

Besides there is a Land tax, & Royal Domains.

There are some Iron, Copper, Brimstone, & Salt Peter Mines

Peter 1. Troops consisted in the year 1710.

Of 51. Regts. of Foot

viz. 51. { the first of Guards. - - - 2400. then
five More 1800. each ..... 9000.
forty five More 1200. each ..... 54.000.

fifty one Companys of Grenadiers ... 5100.
a Comp. of Bombardiers ... 150.
thirty Regts. of Dragoons at 100. each. 36,000.
three Regts. of Horse Grenadiers ... 3000.

+ Total ..... 109,650.

The first Regt. of Guards had ~~other~~ 24. Companys the five others eighteen, & the ordinary one's 12. & the Dragoons 10. Companys each.

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Every Foot Soldier receiv'd a Tun of Corn, an eighth of a Tun of Peace or Oatmeal, & ten pounds of Bacon per Month; We suppose this Tun must be smaler than ours.

A Dragoon had eighteen Pounds English of Hay per day, & two Tuns of Oats per Month.

The Troops are cloath'd every two Years.

The Nobility were forc'd in the time of the Czar to furnish the Dragoons with Horses at seven Rubbles a Horse.

The Czar who was the founder of the Russian Fleet had in 1710. thirteen Ships on the Don finish'd viz.

One Ship of . . . . 80. Guns decay'd

four . . . . . of . . . 70.

five of . . . . . 50.

two Dutch Ships rebuilt of } 44.
the Sperna of . . . }

& one of . . . . . 16.

In all . . . . 13.

On the Stocks at Tovarroff

four of . . . . 60. Guns.

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+Besides these Regts. there are 2 other not on the foreign Footing, they amount to 24,000. Men.

Also two Regts. of Militia near Casan ... 2000. Men.

Independant Companys in garrison in Ingria. 3383.

Artillery Garrison'd in Ingria ... 767.

Recruits excercising in different parts of the Country about 10,000.

Ninety Regts of Dragoons ... 109,650.

Total ... 150,800.

There were also six Germans Regts in the Prussian Service amounting to 10,000.

Never above 30,000. Cossacks & Tartars were at a time employ'd in War.

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GEO ADDL MSS 32/459

Ready to Launch at Tovarroff

three . . . of . . . . 44.

& one . . . . . of . . . . . 24.

There were several More Ships, but most of them old & unfit ~~unable~~ for Service

To improve the Shipping & Trade, a Communication ~~was taken~~ to be cut between the Rivers Don & Wolga, between the Don & Occa, & between the Wolga & the Ladoga; we are not ~~there~~ ~~whether~~ this has ever been executed ~~been done~~ ~~in quite~~

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State of Russia
extracted from Ld Whitworth's
account in 1710.

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GEO ADDL MSS 32 1460

Extract of the Manifesto
in the names of the Empress of all the Russias,
the King of Prussia, and the Empress Dowager
Queen of Hungary &c. delivered at the
Court of Warsaw in Sept.r 1772.

The troubles in which the Powers bordering on Poland have been involved almost at every vacancy of that Throne, led the Court of Petersburgh to take every possible measure on the last occasion to unite the Citizens of Poland in favour of the candidate who should appear most worthy of the Throne, most agreable to his fellow citizens, and neighbouring powers, and at the same time tried to rectify many abuses and defects in the Constitution, equally prejudicial to Poland and her neighbours; the Court of Berlin seconded these attempts; and the Court of Vienna desirous of contributing to the success of such laudable views thought the remaining neuter the most wise conduct, as it avoided the danger of augmenting the difficulties and intricacies by multiplying the number of those who openly undertook that work, and continued to hold that conduct when the War was kindled on the subject between Russia and the Porte.

But the Empress of all the Russias, the Empress Dowager Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and the King of Prussia find themselves under a necessity of taking a decisive part in circumstances so very critical, to re-establish tranquility and good order in Poland, they therefore have determined among themselves to assert their antient rights and lawful claims; they have agreed each to take immediate and effectual possession of such parts of the territories of the Republic, as may serve to fix more natural and sure boards between Poland and the three powers; the said powers engage to give

hereafter

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hereafter an exact specification of their respective quotas, and to renounce from the present moment any claims on account of damages sustained, on the possessions or subjects of the Republic.

Extract of the letters concerning the present state of Poland

Dantzig Sept. 22. 1772. No. 1.

My Dear Sir

The enclosed Manifesto of the three Courts must excite both indignation and contempt.

Peter the Great having gloriously concluded the War with Sweden, took the title of Emperor of all the Russias, the proposal was received with great repugnance; Poland in particular refused to acknowledge this title, as some of her Provinces went under the name of Russia; but during the Interreg. mium 64. the reigning Empress obtained this title on declaring, and consenting to its being inserted in the Acts of the diet that, "by it she did not mean to arrogate, any claim to the "districts or territories, which going under the name of Russia "were actually in possession or subject to the authority of the "Kingdom of Poland, and Dutchy of Lithuania, but on the "contrary would guaranty to the said Kingdom and Dutchy "all the immunities, lands, and districts which they ought "by right to possess, or did actually possess, and would ever "maintain them in the full and free enjoyment thereof, "against any attempts to dispossess them of the same.

The History of Poland shews that their Kingdom becoming Elective, and the choosing foreign Princes, were the sources of all its misfortunes, it awakened the ambition and rapacity of its neighbours, which created on every election troubles,

and

and gave the powers bordering on Poland under pretext of securing their own frontiers, an opportunity of entering Poland and dictating to the Republic whom she should chuse, least the forces of the foreigner they elected might be employed to enslave them, every new election was marked by new Laws, which though under the appearance of restraining the power of the future King, and securing the independency of each individual, served only to weaken the State and enslave the whole. The neighbours went farther, and under pretence of securing the freedom of elections, the liberties of the people and the rights of the different orders and classes of citizens, they took the title and Office of Guarantees of the Government of Poland

No. 2.

Dantzig Oct. 1st 1772.

My Dear Sir

The King of Prussia has in effect laid an embargo on our Ports, by erecting a new Office at Stoltzemberg which has ruined that established by the King of Poland at Dantzig, and increased his own Revenues at the expence of that unfortunate Prince. His emissaries insinuate to the Magistrates of the Town that they will receive no succour or protection from other Courts, who have neither power nor inclination to afford it, that must voluntarily surrender to the King of Prussia, who is ready to grant them an honourable and advantageous capitulation, they add that He is too religious an observer of his engagements to make use of open violence, but that his new acquisitions give him so many means of vexing and oppressing the Town, that in the end it will be the same as if he took it by storm.

The

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The Town of Thorn is if possible in a worse situation, it is also free if the King of Prussia is to be credited.

On the Election of the present King of Poland the House of Austria acknowledged him; but no sooner had the malcontents taken up Arms, but their chiefs were permitted to fix their head quarters in Hungary; the infamous manifesto of Bar, which declared the throne vacant, the King an Usurper, excited his subjects to take away his life by any means, was printed in the Empresses dominions in the beginning of Augt. 1770. nor did She change her conduct towards the malcontents till that horrid attempt on the life of the King of Poland which did not happen till Novr. 1771. then She expressed an abhorrence and detestation of this wicked transaction.

The plague appearing in Poland furnished Austria and Prussia with a pretext of advancing their troops in 1769. into Poland to secure their own dominions from the contagion of that dreadful distemper.

The foundation of the present agreement of the three Courts was probably laid at the interview between the Emperor and the King of Prussia at Neiss in 1769.

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