

A  
DESCRIPTION  
OF  
UKRAINE,

*by*

**Guillaume le Vasseur Sieur de Beauplan**

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UKRAINIAN CULTURE ABROAD

I.

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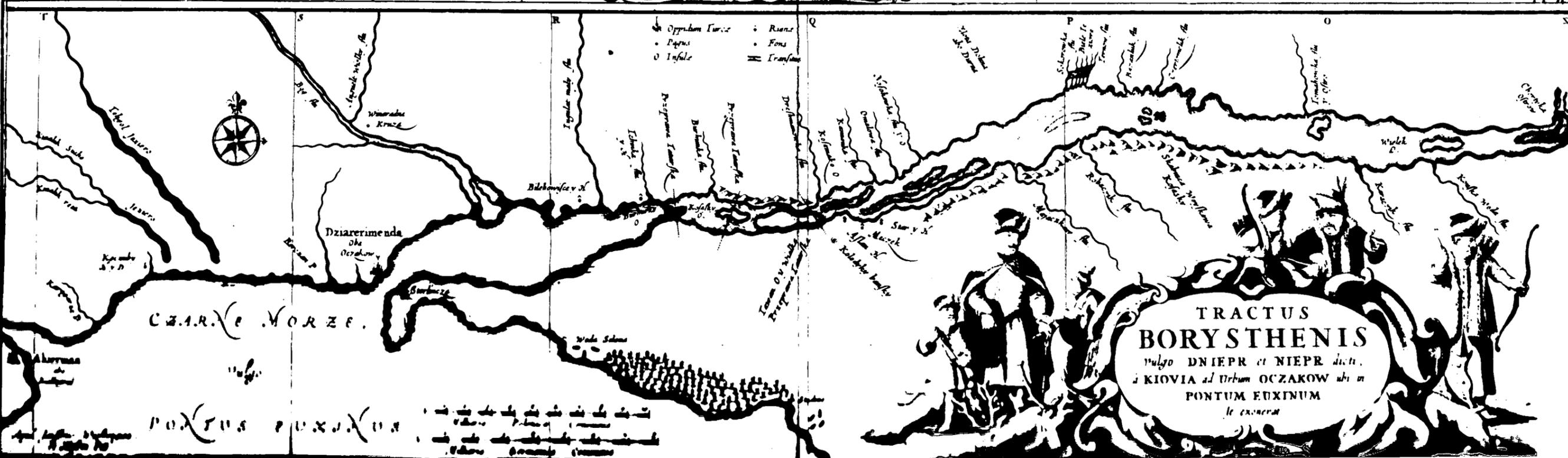
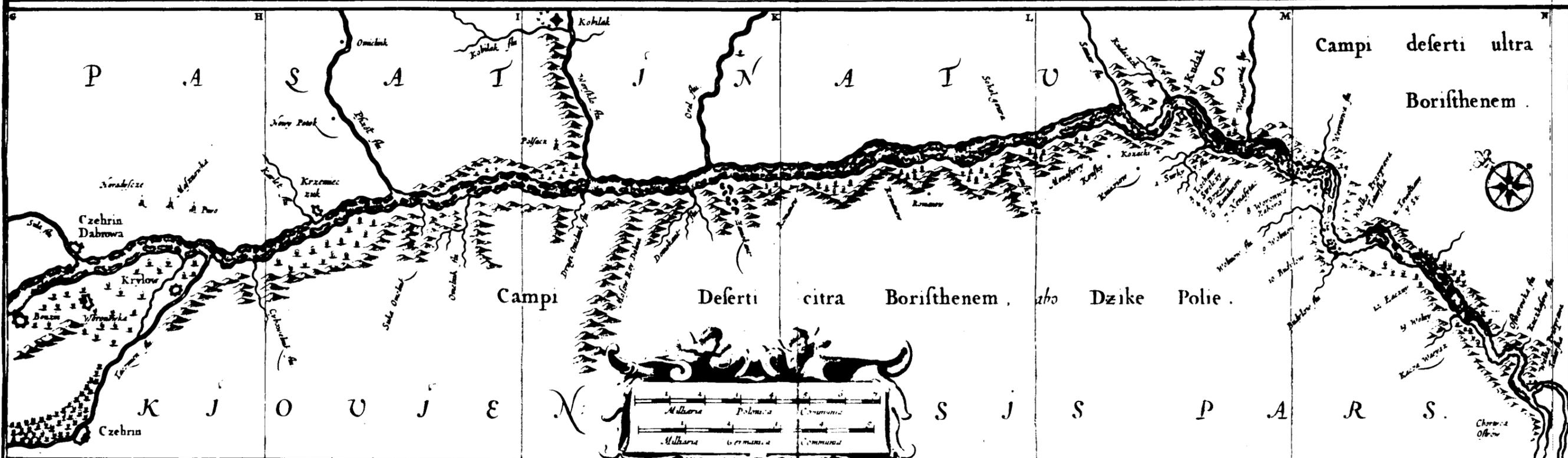
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# INTRODUCTION TO G. LE V. SIEUR DE BEAUPLAN'S "DESCRIPTION OF UKRAINE".—By J. T. Petryshyn

**S**IEUR de Beauplan's "Description of Ukraine," whose reproduction we present to the reader here, depicts Ukraine and its people as the author saw them in the XVIIth century.

De Beauplan, a Frenchman, happened to live in that country from October or November, 1630, to March 29, 1647. (K. Buczek, *Beauplaniana*.)

As is known, Ukraine suffered under Polish imperialism at that time.

King Sigismund (Zygmunt III, 1566-1632) ruled in Poland until 1632. From that year to 1648 the political power was in the hands of Wladyslaw IV Sigismund (Zygmunt Waza, 1595-1648). The latter urgently appealed to the Ukrainian Kozaks to help him in his struggle against Muscovy. He promised to reward the Kozaks generously. Wladyslaw's dream, to tell the truth, was to take possession of the Muscovite crown. The Kozaks accepted his proposition. Yet after a short period of time the treacherous king made peace with Moscow at Polanivka in 1634. Instead of recompense for their help the Kozaks were paid with ingratitude. Wladyslaw imposed military limitations upon the Kozaks and an inhuman oppression upon the Ukrainian citizenry. The number of the registered Kozaks was reduced to 6,000. Wladyslaw's fraud caused the Kozaks to flee and join the free Zaporizhya. In order to stop this movement, the Polish government authorized de Beauplan to erect a fort in Kodak. Says de Beauplan: "Within a cannon-shot lower is Kudac, which is the first porouy (read: porih—J.P.), that is, a ridge of rocks running quite cross the river, and hindering navigation. There is a fort which I caused to be erected in July 1635, . . ." (p. 452.)

The fort was destroyed by the Kozaks under the command of the patriotic Hetman Ivan Sulyma who was caught by the Poles and quartered in Warsaw. De Beauplan describes it as follows: ". . . but in August following, after I was gone, one Solyman (read: Sulyma—J. P.), general of certain rebellious Cossacks, in his return from the sea, perceiving that castle obstructed his return into the country, surprised it, and cut the garrison in pieces, which then consisted of about two hundred men under the command of Col. Marcon: and Solyman, after taking and plundering the fort, returned with the Cossacks to Zaporouy . . ." (read: Zaporizhya—J. P.). The independent fort of the Cossacks—Zaporizhya was taken by the Poles under the command of Koniempolski. ". . . and lastly, that general (Sulyma—J.P.) of the rebels was taken with all his followers, and carried to Warsaw, where he was quartered." (p. 452.)

The Kozaks were insulted and outraged. In 1637, a revolution broke out under the command of Pavlo Pavliuk. (According to the Crown Hetman Mikolaj Potocki all the territory of Zaporizhya was populated by the Kozaks at that time.)

After a terrible battle near Kumeyky, overwhelming forces of the invaders defeated the Kozaks. In Borovytsya the latter were forced by Potocki to declare loyalty. In terms of Beauplan's description it happened thus: "The Polanders afterward neglected that fort, which made the Cossacks insolent, and gave them the means to revolt in the year 1637. When we met them, being eighteen thousand strong, in their tabort at Komaiky (read: Kumeyky—J.P.), on the 16th of December the same year, about noon; and though our army consisted but of four thousand fighting men, we fell on and routed them. The fight lasted till midnight; of them about six thousand were killed upon the spot, and five pieces of cannon taken; the rest escaped by the assistance of the night then very dark, leaving us masters of the field. We lost about a hundred men, and had a thousand wounded, and among them several commanders. Monsieur de Morueil a French gentleman, who was a lieutenant colonel, lost his life, together with his ensign. Captain Juskesby was killed, and the lieutenant to Monsieur de Crosade, besides several other strangers."

In 1638, the Ukrainian free Kozaks were organized by Dmytro Hunya and Yakiv Ostryanyn on the left bank of the Dnieper (Livoberezhya). A revolution against Poland, which ended in disaster for the Ukrainians, was gaining followers. Hunya's army lost the fight near Starets, and Ostryanyn went abroad with the survivors (900). He settled near Chuhayiv.

Persecutions and terrorism were applied by Wladyslaw in Ukraine.

That period, which lasted until 1648 (the national revolution under the command of Bohdan Khmelnytsky), is known in Polish history as the "golden peace." Sieur de Beauplan describes that merciless dictatorship of the Polish king Wladyslaw on page 449.

So much for the historical background of de Beauplan's "Description of Ukraine."

If the reader wishes to become familiar with the bibliography of Ukrainian history, and with that of the Kozak period in particular, it is recommended that he consult "Ukrains'ka Zahalna Entsyklopediya" (Editor: I. Rakovsky), Lviv-Kolomyia-Stanyslaviv; "Entsyklopediya Ukrainoznavstva" (Editors: V. Kubyovych and Z. Kuzelya), Part I, Munich-New York, 1949; Hrushevsky, M., "Istoriya Ukrayiny-Rusy," 10 volumes, Lviv-Kiev, 1910-1937. The above sources are available in all the large libraries of this country.

As the reader of de Beauplan's work will see, the author describes many facets of life in Ukraine. A wealth of geographic and ethnographic material will be found in this book. Religious, military and cultural conditions of the country are treated here by de Beauplan. Many other aspects will also be traced by the reader in this historical document.

Whatever the reason, it is obvious that the French writer centers his attention in the first place

place upon the Ukrainian Kozaks. The American reader will learn who they were.

To this description a note may be added to tell our American countrymen and friends that the Kozaks are considered by the Ukrainian people the very symbol of liberty and of sacrifice for liberty. In the opinion of the Ukrainians, these gallant knights were protectors of one of the oldest European civilizations and cultural traditions as well as defenders of the Western European culture against attacks of uncivilized tribes.

In the Middle Ages, and especially in the XIth century, the civilization of Ukraine reached its peak.

As is known, the princes of Kiev, ancestors of the Kozaks, have clearly illustrated what niveau of civilization the Ukrainians can reach if they are free. The Kiev Empire was respected and admired by every European sovereign and every civilized nation. To be related to Kiev by the intermarriage of his children was the dream of every European king.

Awareness of these traditions inspired the Ukrainians in the course of their history. The greatness of their forefathers was the source of their exceptional energy and courage demonstrated so often in many hard-fought battles with invaders.

It is understandable now why the Europeans of those days considered the Kozaks the bravest and the most courageous soldiers.

It is quite superfluous to give the reader a description of the Kozaks for Beauplan has done that brilliantly and objectively.

As far as the author's life is concerned, we do not have much definite data. Yet the sources suggested below help to create a fairly clear picture of this French writer.

Guillaume le Vasseur, Sieur de Beauplan was born in Normandy, France. The exact date of his birth is not known to us. It is believed, however, that Sieur de Beauplan was born at the beginning of the XVIIth century, i.e., about 1600. The date of his death is given by most sources as about 1670. Yet we know today that de Beauplan died in the year 1678. (See: "Beauplan," *Polski słownik biograficzny*, Kraków: PAU, 1935, I, pp. 384-386.)

He was a geometrician, geographer, architect, engineer and mathematician. In the Polish service de Beauplan was captain of artillery stationed in Ukraine.

"Description of Ukraine" was based upon the author's stay in Ukraine for many years.

The work was published in several languages.

The first French edition appeared in Rouen, France, in 1651. The second edition followed nine years later (1660), the third—1661 and the last was published by A. Golitzin in Paris—1861.

There were also three London editions (in English): 1704, 1732 and 1744, the present edition being the fourth English and the first American.

The Germans printed de Beauplan's report in their language. (J. W. Moeller, Breslau, 1780).

The book was translated into Polish in 1822. (J. U. Niemcewicz, Warsaw.)

The Russian editions are dated: 1832 (T. Ustryalov, Petersburg); 1896 (K. Melnyk, Kiev); 1901 (V. Lyaskoronsky, Kiev).

A Latin translation was published in Warsaw in 1761 (Mitzler de Kolof).

The original third English edition of 1744 has been reproduced without any changes here. The pagination has also remained unchanged. Besides the description of Ukraine, the author also treats ". . . the Crim Tartary" as well as legislative minutiae relative to the election of the Polish king. (This chapter was added to the book later.)

As is known, the English translation of Sieur de Beauplan's work forms part of a large collection of voyages and travels. That collection was compiled by London booksellers Awnsham Churchill (d. 1728) and John Churchill (fl. 1695).

To the present edition we have added:

1. Three maps by de Beauplan (Courtesy of Mr. B. Krawciw):
  - a) *Delineatio Generalis Camporum Desertorum, vulgo Ukraina . . .* (1651);
  - b) *Carte d'Vkranie . . .* (1660);
  - c) *Tractus Borysthenis vulgo Dniepr et Niepr dicti . . .* (1680).
2. The title page of "A COLLECTION OF VOYAGES AND TRAVELS . . ." 1744. (Courtesy of the New York Public Library).

This work has been brought to publication with the advisory and financial assistance of Professor I. F. Vovchuk, president of the O.D.F.F.U.

Bohdan Krawciw, a well-known Ukrainian author, whose concern was with the profound studies on de Beauplan's maps, adds a masterly contribution to this volume on the following pages.

I am also obliged to Mr. W. Davydenko, member of our Editorial Board, for his constant cooperation and genuine helpfulness reflected in a multitude of ways.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Alexander Sokolyshyn, without whose encouragement and valuable suggestions such a publication as this would have been impossible.

I deem it my duty to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Alfred Berstein, Acting Chief of the Slavonic Division of the New York Public Library, for the pains he took in locating materials and his friendly advice.

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This edition is number one of the series:  
"UKRAINIAN CULTURE ABROAD."

J. P. PETRYSHYN



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# GUILLAUME LE VASSEUR SIEUR DE BEAUPLAN'S "DESCRIPTION OF UKRAINE" AND HIS MIL- ITARY MAPS OF UKRAINE. — By Bohdan Krawciw

**T**HE name *Rus'* (in Latin *Russia*, *Ruthenia*) which during the 10th and 12th centuries referred to the Kievan State — at first only to the Kiev land and later to the whole territory from the Syan and Buh rivers in the West to the Volga in the East — toward the end of this state's existence and particularly after the rise of the Halych-Volhynian State (1199) and the destruction of the Kievan Empire by the Mongols (1240), was attached to the western lands of Ukraine—Halych land and Volhyn.

Established on these territories during the 13th century and the first half of the 14th century, this name remained even later, after the invasion of Halych land by the Polish king Casimir. In the understanding of West European geographers and cosmographers of that day and of later times, as well as of Polish chroniclers and cartographers, *Rus'*, although it lay within the Polish boundaries, was a separate political, ethnic and cultural territory. In their writings and maps they distinguished it from Poland proper, from Polish ethnographic territories. For instance, on Marcus Beneventanus first map of Central-Eastern Europe entitled *Tabula Moderna Polonie. Vngarie. Boemie. Germanie. Rvssie. Lithvanie.* which was included in Ptolemy's *Geography*, published in 1507 (Rome, Bernhardus Vinetus de Vitalibus), or on the map of the eminent scholar and geographer of the early 16th century, Martin Waldseemüller, entitled *Tabula Moderna Sarmatie Evr. sive Hvngarie, Polonie, Rvssie, Prvssie et Valachie* (Johannes Schott, Strassburg) found in Ptolemy's *Geography* published in 1513, *Rus'* was defined in the titles of the maps as a separate territory, equal not only to Poland, Lithuania and Wallachia but to Germany, Hungary and Bohemia as well.

Both maps, as is verified by contemporary researchers (Birkenmajer, Kordt, Piekarski, Buczek, Chowaniec) were published on the basis of maps and information compiled by the Cracow canon and historian Bernard Wapowski († 1535), who at the beginning of the 16th century lived in Rome and enjoyed friendly and academic association with Marcus Beneventanus in Rome and Martin Waldseemüller in Saint-Die, author of several maps in the Strassburg edition of Ptolemy's *Geography*.

*Rus'* was treated—according to tradition—as a separate political and ethnic territory by the well-known cosmographer Sebastian Munster (1489-1552), publisher of several issues of Ptolemy's *Geography* (beginning in 1540 in Basel) and author of the widely-known *Cosmography* published first in 1542 and reprinted more than a score of times during the 16th and 17th centuries in German, Latin, Italian and other languages. In all these publications the description of *Rus'* (*Russia*), also referred to as *Ruthenia* and *Podolia*, is

differentiated not only from the description of Poland but also from the description of Muscovy (*Moscowiters Lands*). Even Polish cartographers of the second half of the 16th century defined *Rus'* (*Russia*) on their maps as a separate territory within the borders of Poland, with distinct boundaries, as for instance Waclaw Grodecki in a map published in 1558 and included in 1570 in Abraham Ortelius' atlas entitled *Poloniae finitimarumque locorum descriptio. Auctore Veceslao Godrecio Polone.*

In accordance with such traditional treatment and with such an understanding of the name and concept of *Rus'* (*Russia*), all cartographers and publishers of atlases at the end of the 16th century and of the 17th century—Gerard Mercator, Jodocus and Henry Hondius, Johannes Blaeu, Jan Janson, Moses Pitt and others, if they published maps of Poland in their atlases, showed only its ethnographic territory—without *Rus'* (*Russia*) and Lithuania. *Rus'* was treated by them as a separate country together with Lithuania, which for a time (beginning in 1370 until 1569) encompassed Ukrainian lands—Volhyn, Podilya and Kiev province. In all these atlases there were separate maps for Lithuania and *Rus'*. *Rus'* was also treated as a separate land—administratively and ethnically.

In the descriptions of Poland of the Polish writer and historian Szymon Starowolski (1588-1656) printed in various publications and reprinted in all four editions of Joannes Blaeu's *Atlas Maior* the description of *Rus'* is differentiated from the description of Poland and Lithuania. In the Spanish translation of this description from the Spanish edition of Blaeu's *Atlas Mayor* (the description is in the collection of this writer), S. Starowolski, dividing *Rus'* into *Russia Roxa o Roxolania* and *Russia la Blanca*, includes in the first place all Ukrainian territory from Lancut, Ryashiv, Syanok, Krosno and Zamostya in the West to Kiev in the East. That is, he includes in *Rus'* the territories of Lviv, Kholm and Belz as well as Volhyn, Podilya and all of Kiev land. All these lands became known at the end of the 16th century under the name *Ukraina*, first applied on the large map of Lithuania of Tomasz Makowski (1575-1620?), published by Hessel Gerritsz in 1613 *cura et impensis* of the Lithuanian-*Rus'* prince Mikolaj Christophor Radziwill, in the inscription "*Volinia Vltior quae tum Vkraina tum Nis ab aliis vocitatur.*"

Wider knowledge of Ukraine as a territory subject to the personal authority of Polish kings but ethnically and culturally separate was brought into world geography and history by the geographer, cartographer and military engineer-architect Guillaume le Vasseur de Beauplan with his *Description d'Ukraine* and his general and special maps

maps of Ukraine. What really established this name in the world was the uprising of Bohdan Khmelnytsky against Poland in 1648, which was crowned by the creation of the Ukrainian Kozak State and brought Ukraine onto the scene of world history. From the time of Khmelnytsky's revolt the name Ukraine entered into general use in the West. In all descriptions of Ukraine printed in those days, as in almost all maps of contemporary cartographers the Rus' of that time—Russia Rubra, Volhyn together with Kiev land, Podilya—was already specified as Ukraine. On the maps of the French geographer Nicolas Sanson (1600-1667) and of his sons and later on the maps of Guillaume de l'Isle (1675-1726) and the English cartographer John Senex (+ 1740), this name was written in French as *Ukraine Pays de Cosaques* or in English as *Ukraine or the Lands of Cosaques*. A separate map of Ukraine (two editions) of the German cartographer Johann B. Homann (1664-1727) gives this name: *Ukrainia, quae e[st] Terra Cossaccorum*. Similar maps of Matthias Seuter (1678-1756) and his successor Conrad Tobias Lotter (1717-1777) are entitled *Amplissima Ukrainiae Regio*. A map of the Dutch cartographer Pierre van der Aa was published in 1729 under the title: *Ukraine, Grand Pays de la Russie Rouge*, (Homann's, Lotter's and Aa's maps of Ukraine are all in the collection of this writer).

Guillaume le Vasseur was born about 1600 in Rouen in the French province of Normandy, the son of the French geographer and mathematician Guillaume le Vasseur senior. Receiving the Beauplan estate upon his marriage, as his wife's dowry, he took the name of Beauplan. In October or November of 1630, as presented by K. Buczek on documented facts in his article *Beauplaniana*, published in *Wiadomości Sluzby Geograficznej*, Warsaw, 1934, No. 1, pp. 1-36, Guillaume le Vasseur de Beauplan arrived in Poland during the rule of King Sigismund III and began service as a military engineer-architect in the Polish army under the command of the Hetman Stanislaw Koniecpolski. In this service, carried out largely in Ukraine and specifically in Podilya and Kiev land (the usual place of residence and point of departure during his settlement there was the town of Bar in Podilya), Beauplan occupied himself not only in the building of forts and castles (Novyi Konetzpol, Kremenchuk, Kodak, etc.) and the establishment of new settlements, but also in geographic explorations and mapping of lands, until then defined as *loca deserta*.

Beauplan spent 16 years and 5 months in military service in Ukraine (K. Buczek, *op. cit.*, p. 3), gathering materials continuously for a proposed description of Ukraine in which, to all appearances, the author planned to include not only description of explored and mapped-by-him Ukrainian lands, but also a general and special map of Ukraine, an additional special map of the highly important (at that time) artery of communication, the Dnieper river and its rapids, as well as plans of certain towns and forts.

The work begun on the general map was completed about 1638, as indicated by the copy of this map drawn to a scale of 1:1.550.000 by the Swedish military engineer Fredericus Getkant in the year 1638 and included under the title *Tabula Geographica Ukrainiska* in his hand-written atlas preserved in K. Krigsarkivet, Stockholm (See: Leo Bagrow, *The First Maps of the Dnieper*

*Cataracts, Imago Mundi*, X:92 and reproduction of Getkant's map on p. 91). There is reason to believe that in the succeeding years and no later than 1645 Beauplan completed other material for his description, in particular his large special map of Ukraine, because in that year he received a privilege from King Vladyslaw IV to publish maps of Ukraine.

Beauplan resigned from Polish service on March 29, 1647 for reasons not definitely known, but presumably because of the death of his patron, Hetman Koniecpolski, and the advent of a new Hetman Mikolaj Potocki, who was rather unfriendly toward him. Potocki's act concerning Beauplan's resignation from service in the Royal army was published by K. Buczek. ("*Beauplaniana*," *Wiadomości Sluzby Geograficznej*, 1:35-36, Warsaw, 1934.)

Beauplan was unable to realize his full plan to prepare a basic description of Ukraine with detailed maps of Ukrainian territory. Discharged from military service in March, 1647, 14 months before Bohdan Khmelnytsky's uprising, Beauplan sojourned briefly in Warsaw and toward the end of 1647 travelled to Danzig (Gdansk), where he became associated with the engraver Wilhelm Hondt (Guilhelmus Hondius), a member of a distinguished family of Dutch cartographers and the cartographer of the Polish king Wladyslaw IV. He submitted to Hondt for engraving his maps of Ukraine—the large, special map and the small general map, together with a not-too-carefully prepared general map of all Poland. Beauplan remained in Danzig for several months in 1647-48, supervising the preparation of plates by Hondt and constantly correcting them. In the first half of 1648 he was obliged to interrupt this work and return to Rouen, presumably in connection with matters involving his estate.

Hondt, who did not rush with the engraving of the maps, had not even completed the printing of the general map of Ukraine when Beauplan arrived again in Danzig in 1650, even though the uprising of Bohdan Khmelnytsky and his war with Poland made its publication urgent. The map was finally published in 1651, as indicated by references on it to the battle of Loyiv in 1649 and the battle of Berestechko in 1651, under the title *Delineatio Generalis Camporum Desertorum, vulgo Ukraina, Cum adjacentibus Provinciis. Bono publico erecta per Guilhelmum le Vasseur de Beauplan, S.R.M-tis Architectum militarem et Capitaneum*.

Beauplan returned to France in 1651, apparently with originals of his two maps or at least their proofs, but without the expected copies of one of these maps that he had hoped to include in his description of Ukraine, as indicated occasionally in the text of this description.

The first edition of his "Description d'Ukraine," prepared for print, Beauplan was obliged to publish without maps. It appeared immediately after his return to Rouen from Danzig in 1651, without the name Ukraine in the title page but with several references to this name in the text. One hundred copies of this 79-page edition were printed, entitled *Description des contrees dv Royavme de Pologne, contenvës depvis les confins de la Moscovie, iusques aux limites de la Transylvanie. Par le Sieyr de Beauplan, A Roven, Chez Jacques Cailloüë . . . MDCLI*.

The general

The general map of Ukraine, dated 1648 and published in 1651, had been very carelessly prepared. The north is placed at the bottom of the map, which embraces all the territory of the present-day Ukraine and on which are marked in detail all the rapids of the Dnieper. It was drawn to a scale of 1:1,800,000. Copies of it were preserved until 1939 in the Royal Library in Dresden and in the collection of L. Bagrow in Berlin. V. Kordt included reproductions of this map in his work *Materialy po istorii russkoi kartografii* (Materials for the History of Russian Cartography), Vol. I, Part 2, Kiev, 1910 under the No. IX, and Leo Bagrow included it in his works entitled: "Die ersten Karten der Ukraine," *Anecdota Cartographica* I. Berlin, 1935, and *Geschichte der Kartographie*, Berlin, 1951, plate 100. The photostat of this map given in our publication is that of V. Kordt's reproduction.

Beauplan was not successful with the publication of his large special map of Ukraine, drawings of which he had given to Wilhelm Hondt for engraving in 1647. In view of the numerous changes, corrections and additions made by the author on each of his trips to Danzig, the work of publishing this map was much delayed. Its appearance was hindered on one hand by the death of Wilhelm Hondt (1653) and on the other by the departure of Beauplan himself in 1652 or 1653 to the West Indies (Antilles) to which Beauplan, who was a Huguenot (see: Elie Borschak, *L'Ukraine dans la litterature de l'Europe occidentale* . . ., Paris, M.CM.XXXV, p. 155), was apparently forced by the political situation in France at that time. Meanwhile, the Polish king Jan Kazimierz was engaged in a bitter war with Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky in Ukraine and was interested in this map because of its importance for military operations in that country. Possibly worried that this par excellence military map as well as other materials of Beauplan (particularly the special map of the Dnieper and its rapids which was unusually important from a military standpoint) might fall into the wrong hands, he retrieved from Hondt's widow all materials which had been in Hondt's possession as well as the engraved plates of the special map of Ukraine, and gave them in 1654 together with his special privilege to the Danzig bookseller and publisher Georg Forster and his associate Joachim Pastorius for completion. But neither were they successful in completing the work begun by Beauplan and Hondt: in 1655 war broke out between Poland and Sweden and during military operations specifically at the time of the evacuation of Danzig and the flight of Forster and Pastorius from that city, all the cartographical materials and hand-written manuscripts of Beauplan, as well as the plates of his maps of Ukraine, disappeared without a trace. Returning from the West Indies to France, in 1659 or 1660, Beauplan was unable to obtain a thing from Danzig, as he confirms in the foreword to the second edition of his "Description of Ukraine."

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maps of Ukraine. What really established this name in the world was the uprising of Bohdan Khmelnytsky against Poland in 1648, which was crowned by the creation of the Ukrainian Kozak State and brought Ukraine onto the scene of world history. From the time of Khmelnytsky's revolt the name Ukraine entered into general use in the West. In all descriptions of Ukraine printed in those days, as in almost all maps of contemporary cartographers the Rus' of that time—Russia Rubra, Volhyn together with Kiev land, Podilya—was already specified as Ukraine. On the maps of the French geographer Nicolas Sanson (1600-1667) and of his sons and later on the maps of Guillaume de l'Isle (1675-1726) and the English cartographer John Senex († 1740), this name was written in French as *Ukraine Pays de Cosaques* or in English as *Ukraine or the Lands of Cosaques*. A separate map of Ukraine (two editions) of the German cartographer Johann B. Homann (1664-1727) gives this name: *Ukrainia, quae e[st] Terra Cossaccorum*. Similar maps of Matthias Seuter (1678-1756) and his successor Conrad Tobias Lotter (1717-1777) are entitled *Amplissima Ukrainiae Regio*. A map of the Dutch cartographer Pierre van der Aa was published in 1729 under the title: *Ukraine, Grand Pays de la Russie Rouge*, (Homann's, Lotter's and Aa's maps of Ukraine are all in the collection of this writer).

Guillaume le Vasseur was born about 1600 in Rouen in the French province of Normandy, the son of the French geographer and mathematician Guillaume le Vasseur senior. Receiving the Beauplan estate upon his marriage, as his wife's dowry, he took the name of Beauplan. In October or November of 1630, as presented by K. Buczek on documented facts in his article *Beauplaniana*, published in *Wiadomości Sluzby Geograficznej*, Warsaw, 1934, No. 1, pp. 1-36, Guillaume le Vasseur de Beauplan arrived in Poland during the rule of King Sigismund III and began service as a military engineer-architect in the Polish army under the command of the Hetman Stanislaw Koniecpolski. In this service, carried out largely in Ukraine and specifically in Podilya and Kiev land (the usual place of residence and point of departure during his settlement there was the town of Bar in Podilya), Beauplan occupied himself not only in the building of forts and castles (Novyi Konezpol, Kremenchuk, Kodak, etc.) and the establishment of new settlements, but also in geographic explorations and mapping of lands, until then defined as *loca deserta*.

Beauplan spent 16 years and 5 months in military service in Ukraine (K. Buczek, *op. cit.*, p. 3), gathering materials continuously for a proposed description of Ukraine in which, to all appearances, the author planned to include not only description of explored and mapped-by-him Ukrainian lands, but also a general and special map of Ukraine, an additional special map of the highly important (at that time) artery of communication, the Dnieper river and its rapids, as well as plans of certain towns and forts.

The work begun on the general map was completed about 1638, as indicated by the copy of this map drawn to a scale of 1:1,550,000 by the Swedish military engineer Fredericus Getkant in the year 1638 and included under the title *Tabula Geographica Ukrainiska* in his hand-written atlas preserved in K. Krigsarkivet, Stockholm (See: Leo Bagrow, *The First Maps of the Dnieper*

*Cataracts, Imago Mundi*, X:92 and reproduction of Getkant's map on p. 91). There is reason to believe that in the succeeding years and no later than 1645 Beauplan completed other material for his description, in particular his large special map of Ukraine, because in that year he received a privilege from King Vladyslaw IV to publish maps of Ukraine.

Beauplan resigned from Polish service on March 29, 1647 for reasons not definitely known, but presumably because of the death of his patron, Hetman Koniecpolski, and the advent of a new Hetman Mikolaj Potocki, who was rather unfriendly toward him. Potocki's act concerning Beauplan's resignation from service in the Royal army was published by K. Buczek. ("*Beauplaniana*," *Wiadomości Sluzby Geograficznej*, 1:35-36, Warsaw, 1934.)

Beauplan was unable to realize his full plan to prepare a basic description of Ukraine with detailed maps of Ukrainian territory. Discharged from military service in March, 1647, 14 months before Bohdan Khmelnytsky's uprising, Beauplan sojourned briefly in Warsaw and toward the end of 1647 travelled to Danzig (Gdansk), where he became associated with the engraver Wilhelm Hondt (Guilhelmus Hondius), a member of a distinguished family of Dutch cartographers and the cartographer of the Polish king Wladyslaw IV. He submitted to Hondt for engraving his maps of Ukraine—the large, special map and the small general map, together with a not-too-carefully prepared general map of all Poland. Beauplan remained in Danzig for several months in 1647-48, supervising the preparation of plates by Hondt and constantly correcting them. In the first half of 1648 he was obliged to interrupt this work and return to Rouen, presumably in connection with matters involving his estate.

Hondt, who did not rush with the engraving of the maps, had not even completed the printing of the general map of Ukraine when Beauplan arrived again in Danzig in 1650, even though the uprising of Bohdan Khmelnytsky and his war with Poland made its publication urgent. The map was finally published in 1651, as indicated by references on it to the battle of Loyiv in 1649 and the battle of Berestechko in 1651, under the title *Delineatio Generalis Camporum Desertorum, vulgo Ukraina, Cum adjacentibus Provinciis. Bono publico erecta per Guilhelmum le Vasseur de Beauplan, S.R.M-tis Architectum militarem et Capitaneum*.

Beauplan returned to France in 1651, apparently with originals of his two maps or at least their proofs, but without the expected copies of one of these maps that he had hoped to include in his description of Ukraine, as indicated occasionally in the text of this description.

The first edition of his "Description d'Ukraine," prepared for print, Beauplan was obliged to publish without maps. It appeared immediately after his return to Rouen from Danzig in 1651, without the name Ukraine in the title page but with several references to this name in the text. One hundred copies of this 79-page edition were printed, entitled *Description des contrees dv Royavme de Pologne, contenvës depvis les confins de la Moscovie, iusques aux limites de la Transilvanie. Par le Sieyr de Beauplan, A Roven, Chez Jacques Cailloüé . . . MDCLI*.

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home in France the original of his map of the Dnieper. From the materials he had on hand, the hand-written manuscript of "Description," and the originals of the maps or the proofs of the plates engraved by Hondt, he began attempts to realize his previous plan, the publication of the description of Ukraine with all available cartographical material that pertained to it. These attempts were apparently made by Beauplan in several ways after his return to France from West Indies about 1660.

First of all he prepared for print the second edition of his "Description of Ukraine," supplementing it with chapters about the climate of Ukraine, the election of the Polish king and the manners of the Polish nobility. This description, appearing with the name Ukraine in the title, which was made timely by events in Ukraine, foremost by the uprising of Bohdan Khmelnytsky and the creation of the Kozak State, was published in 1660 in Rouen under the title: *Description d'Ukraine, qui sont plusieurs Prouvinces du Royaume de Pologne. Contenvës de vis les confins de la Moscovie, jusques aux limites de la Transilvanie. Ensemble leurs moevrs, façons de viures, et de faire la Guerre. Par le Sieur de Beauplan. A Rouen, Chez Jacques Cailloüe', dans la Cour du Palais. M.DC.LX.*

Included in this second edition of the "Description of Ukraine" (his third Paris edition of 1661 was only a revised title page added to the unsold copies of the second edition) was the general map of Ukraine, prepared under Beauplan's supervision by his friend Jean Toutaing and published under the title: *Carte d'Ukraine contenant plusieurs Prouvinces comprises entre les Confins de Moscovie et les Limittes de Transilvanie dressée par G. L. V. sieur de Beauplan Ingenieur et Capitaine de l'Artillerie du serenissime Roy de Pologne. A Rouen Chez Jacques Caillove dans la Cour de Pallais.* This map followed in strict detail the map engraved by Hondt in Danzig, omitting only the captions referring to the battles of Loyiv and Berestechko. The photostat of this map given in our publication is that of V. Kordt's reproduction in his work "Materialy po istorii russkoi kartografii. Kiev, 1899, Vol. I, Part 1, No. XXXII.

The treatment given to the "Description of Ukraine" in the *Atlas Maior* published in Dutch, Latin, French and Spanish by one of the most prominent Dutch cartographers and publishers of maps, atlases and globes, Joannes Blaeu of Amsterdam, is the most complete of any and most closely follows Beauplan's original plan. All these editions included Beauplan's description of Ukraine from his first publication (1551) with insignificant abridgement, divided into the description of the Dnieper (Borysthenes) and the manners and methods of fighting of the Zaporozhyan Kozaks, and the description of the Taurica Chersonesus or Perekop Tartary and Crimea. In the Latin edition of this atlas (vol. II, 1662), this description was printed under the title: *Descriptio Borysthenis fluvii, vulgo Niepr, sive Dniepr dicti: simul & moribus Cosacorum Zaporoviorym.* In the footnotes to it and to the description of Crimea and Tartary Minor it is clearly pointed out that it was translated *tota* from Beauplan's book. Beauplan's authorship is likewise emphasized in the Dutch edition of this atlas (*Grooten Atlas*, 1664-1665). In the Spanish edition of the *Atlas Mayor* 1659-1672, which also includes the above-mentioned

description of the Borysthenes, Tartary and Crimea, no mention is made of Beauplan. (The French edition of Blaeu's *Le grand Atlas* (1667) we have not yet had the good fortune to see.)

Great value and importance is given to these descriptions of the Dnieper, which are actually descriptions of Ukraine, by the three maps of Ukraine included in all four editions and very accurately and tastefully drawn by Joannes Blaeu himself with artistic vignettes. These maps cover the Dnieper's entire route from Kiev to the Black Sea: 1. *Tractus Borysthenis vulgo Dniepr et Niepr dicti, a Kiovia usque ad Bouzin*—drawn to scale of 1:226,000; 2. *Tractus Borysthenis vulgo Dniepr et Niepr dicti, a Bouzin usque ad Chortyca Ostrow*—1:226,000 and 3. *Tractus Borysthenis vulgo Dniepr et Niepr dicti, a Chortica Ostro[w] ad urbem Oczakow ubi in Pontem Euxinum se exonerat*—1:452,000. (All these maps together with the Latin text of "Descriptio Borysthenis" are in the collection of this writer.)

The author's name is not marked on these three maps, but when it is noted that these maps are included in the text of Beauplan's description of Ukraine, and the names shown on them are compared with the names on other Beauplan maps of Ukraine and with the names in the description itself, then Beauplan's authorship is unquestionable. The authorship of Beauplan is confirmed by all the most outstanding researchers of his maps (V. Kordt, L. Bagrow, K. Buczek, R. Jacyk). Some researchers surmise (L. Bagrow) that Blaeu may have received Beauplan's maps of the Dnieper from V. Hondt or his widow, but this is improbable, especially when one considers the competition in trade and publishing and also the enmity that existed between the families of Hondt and Blaeu. Our conjecture is that Blaeu received the original Dnieper map directly from Beauplan himself. Its anonymous publication can be explained thus: Beauplan, bound by the royal license (privilege) and considerations of his former service in the Polish royal army, could not publish these maps (which were top secret because of the military aspect of the time) without special permission. These maps of the Dnieper were so perfect for their time that Peter I, having them in his possession, gave up the mapping of that river, although he took care at the same time to see that a very close mapping was made of other districts and rivers, as for instance of the Don. All three maps of the Dnieper were incorporated on one sheet by the English publisher Moses Pitt and included under the title: *Tractus Borysthenis vulgo Dniepr et Niepr dicti, a Kiovia ad urbem (!) Oczakow ubi in Pontum Euxinum se exonerat* in his first volume of *English Atlas*, published by him in Oxford in 1680. (We have included in this publication a photostat of the Dnieper map, made from an original map which is found in our collection.) Included—we believe by mistake—in all the above-mentioned descriptions of the Dnieper in all of Blaeu's atlases is a fourth map of the Dnieper entitled: *Tractus Borysthenis vulgo Dniepr et Niepr dicti. A civitati Czyrkassi ad ostia et Ilmien lacum, per quem in Pontum Euxinum se exonerat* which has nothing to do with Beauplan. Its author was Tomasz Makowski, and at first it was inserted in Makowski's large map of Lithuania published by Hessel Geritsz in 1613.

An abridgement of Beauplan's "Description of Ukraine" (on 4 folio pages) was printed in Moses Pitt's

Pitt's *The English Atlas*, Oxford 1680 under the title *Of the Boristhenes and the Ukrain*. It was the first description of Ukraine published in English. In the reprint of a part of this "English Atlas" with preface by Prof. O. Halecki (New York, 1943) containing "A Description of Poland" only, the description "Of the Boristhenes and the Ukrain" was not included.

With the maps of the Dnieper, J. Blaeu inserted in several copies of his *Atlas Maior* (1658-1672) Beaulplan's special map of Ukraine on four sheets, reducing the third, fourth, seventh and eighth sheets (Kiev land) of his *Delineatio specialis* to one under the title *Ukrainae pars quae Kiovia vulgo dicitur*. On the three other sheets Joannes Blaeu showed the territory of Pokutya (*Ukrainae Pars quae Pokutia vulgo dicitur*), Podilya (*Ukrainae Pars quae Podolia vulgo dicitur*) and Bratslav land (*Ukrainae Pars quae Barclavia Palatinatus vulgo dicitur*), omitting the regions of Lviw, Kholm and Volhyn. These four maps of Ukrainian territory, each indicating Beaulplan's authorship in its title, were later reprinted and included in several copies of the atlases of Moses Pitt and Jansonio Waesbergii, I. Ottens, Covens & Mortier, Homann and others. The accuracy and thoroughness of the drawings, the correctness of names, costumes of the Ukrainian Kozaks and villagers in their vignettes—all this proves that they must have been executed in Blaeu's workshop with Beaulplan's direct approval, perhaps even with his personal cooperation.

Beaulplan's "Great Map" (*Delineatio Specialis*) of Ukraine became the basis also of a series of Ukrainian maps published by the French cartographer H. Sanson and his sons in Paris in 1665, as Czeslaw Chowanec mentions, with the permission of Beaulplan himself. These maps embrace Black Rus' (*Russie Noire*) with the Rus' voyevodships, the lands of Kholm and Belz, Pokutya and a portion of Volhyn, Upper Volhyn (*Haute Volhynie*) or the Lutsk voyevodship, Lower Volhyn (*Basse Volhynie*) or the Kiev voyevodship, Upper Podilya (*Haute Podolie*) or the Kamyanets voyevodship, and Lower Podilya (*Basse Podolie*) or the Bratslav voyevodship. All were copied entirely or to a large extent from Beaulplan's large

map, "*de Grande Carte D'Ukraine du S-r Le Vasseur de Beaulplan*," as is noted in the title of each.

As for the separate maps and plans of different cities and forts, which were to be included in Beaulplan's Description of Ukraine and which until recently were presumed lost, some were found in the public library in Danzig, as reported in the Parisian periodical "*L'Ukraine*," 1952, 7:596. Among these maps and plans was a plan of the Kodak fortress built by Beaulplan. This plan was prepared by Beaulplan himself and bears the title: *Delineatio Fortality Kudak ad primam Cataractam seu Lamem Borysth. extractum per Vladislaum IV Reg. Pol. invictis. An. 1635*.

Beaulplan's maps of Ukraine, in particular his general map which after 1660 was re-drawn with the north at the top and published several times with the title *Typus Generalis Ukrainae sive Palatinatum Podoliae, Kioviensis et Braczlaviensis terras nova delineatione exhibens*, as well as his map of the Dnieper river, became the basis for maps of this territory which were prepared and published by European cartographers during the second half of the 17th and the entire 18th century.

The Description of Ukraine itself, in connection with which all the above-mentioned maps were created and for which they were designated, was published during Beaulplan's lifetime, as we have already mentioned, in three (actually two) editions. After Beaulplan's death (in 1673) this description, translated into several languages, became one of the main sources of information about Ukraine, its natural phenomena, people and customs.

Beaulplan's Description of Ukraine and his maps of that country are the outstanding historical monument of 17th century Ukraine, country of the Kozaks. That country, which by its revolt against Poland in 1648 and the creation of the free Ukrainian Kozak State of Bohdan Khmelnytsky, and later through participation of the Ukrainian Hetman Ivan Mazepa in King Charles XII's war with Muscovy, imprinted itself permanently on the pages of world history.

BOHDAN KRAWCIW





A  
 DESCRIPTION  
 OF  
 UKRAINE,  
 Containing Several  
 PROVINCES  
 OF THE  
 Kingdom of Poland,

Lying between the Confines of *Muscovy*,  
 and the Borders of *Transylvania*.

Together with their Customs, Manner of Life,  
 and how they manage their Wars.

*Written in French by the Sieur DE BEAUPLAN.*

Printed for HENRY LINTOT; and JOHN OSBORN, at the *Golden-Ball* in *Pater-*  
*noster Row.*

**T**HE *Sieur De Beauplan*, author of this small account, had a long time to make himself perfect in it, having served as he tells us, seventeen years in the Ukraine as engineer to the king of Poland. He gives a particular account of the manners of the Poles and Cossacks, with whom in so many years he could not but be extraordinary well acquainted: he describes their persons, particularises much upon their manner of making war, which was his profession, sets down to a tittle the manner of the Cossacks making their irruptions into Turkey and Tartary by way of the Black Sea, describes the country, and particularly the river Boristhenes, with that exactness, as may be expected from a mathematician who had viewed all those parts, and made special observations, not only for his own curiosity, but to fulfil the Duty of his Employment, which was to erect forts, and even build towns in convenient places. Though he calls this only a description of Ukraine, yet he stops not there, but sets down the manner of electing the kings of Poland, the greatness of their nobility, and way of treating in solemn feasts. Nor is this all, but he runs into Tartary, and besides describing the country of Crim and Budziak, takes his course quite round the Black Sea, observing all places of note upon it, and not only acquaints us with the manners and customs of both those people, but very particularly informs us, how they make their irruptions into Poland and the Ukraine, both in summer and winter, and how they do to avoid coming to battle when pursued. Nothing is wanting, but the map which in some places he refers to; but in a short advertisement he informs the reader, that all his papers and draughts, which it seems he had left to be engraved in Poland, had been there seized by the king, which has deprived us of the satisfaction of so exact a map as we might reasonably expect from him.

*A Description of Ukraine, and the River Boristhenes, commonly called the Nieper, or Dnieper, from Kiow down to the Sea into which it falls.* BEAU-PLAN.

The city  
Kiovia.

**K**IOW, otherwise called *Kiovia*, was one of the ancientest cities in *Europe*, as may be seen still by the remains there of antiquity: as for instance, the height and breadth of its ramparts, the depth of its ditches, the ruins of churches, the old tombs of several kings found within them. Of the churches, only two remain as a memorial, which are those of *S. Sophia* and *S. Michael*; for of all the rest there is nothing left but ruins, as of that of *S. Basil*, whose walls are yet standing five or six foot high, with *Greek* inscriptions on them of above fourteen hundred years standing upon alabaster stones, but now almost worn out with age. Among the ruins of those churches are to be seen the tombs of several princes of *Russia*.

The churches of *S. Sophia* and *S. Michael* have been rebuilt after the ancient manner. That of *S. Sophia* makes a fine front, and looks graceful on every side, for the walls are adorn'd with several histories and *Mosaick* figures: which work is made of very small bits of several colours, shining like glass; and so well put together, that it is hard to discern whether it is painting or tapestry: the arch is made only with earthen pots fill'd and plaister'd all about. In this church are the tombs of several kings; and the *Archimandrita* or chief of all the monks resides there. *S. Michael's* church is called the *Golden Roof*, because it is cover'd with gilt plates. The body of *S. Barbara* is shewn there, said to be brought thither during the wars of *Nicomedia*.

This ancient city is seated on a plain that is at the top of a hill, which commands all the country on the one side, and the *Boristhenes* on the other, that river running along the foot of the hill; between which and the water stands *New Kiow*, a town at present but little inhabited, there being not above five or six thousand people in it. It is about four miles in length along the *Boristhenes*, and three miles in breadth from the *Boristhenes* to the hill, being inclosed with a scurvy ditch twenty five foot wide. Its shape is triangular,

encompassed with a wooden wall, and towers of the same materials. The castle stands on the ridge of a hill commanding the lower town, but commanded by *Old Kiow*.

The *Roman* catholicks have four churches in this town, which are, the cathedral, that of the *Dominicans* in the market-place, the *Bernardines* under the hill, and of late years the *Jesuits*, who have taken up their quarters between the *Bernardines* and the river. The *Greek Russians* may have about ten churches, which they call *Cerkuis*; one of which is near the town-hall, where is an university or academy, call'd by them *Bracha Cerkuis*, and another at the foot of the castle, called *S. Nicoly*: if I mistake not, the rest are in several parts of the town, which I don't particularly remember.

This town has but three good streets, all the others being neither streight nor regularly bending, but running in and out like a labyrinth. It is look'd upon as divided into two towns, one of which is called the *Bishop's Town*, where the cathedral is; the other the *Common* or *Publick*, in which the other three catholick and *Greek* churches are. There is a good trade, considering the country: the principal commodities are corn, furs, wax, honey, tallow, salt, fish, &c. There belong to it, a *bishop*, a *palatin*, a *castellane*, a *tarosta*, and a *god*. And there are four several jurisdictions, or courts; that of the bishop, that of the palatin or *tarosta*, which is the same; the third of the *wouyt*, and the last of the consuls or sheriffs.

The houses are built after the manner of *Muscovy*, all upon a floor, low enough: and seldom above one story high. They used candles made of sticks of wood, so cheap, that for a double, which is less than a farthing, there are more of them than will serve the longest winter night. The chimneys are sold in the market, which is very comical, as is their manner of dressing meat. Their weddings, and other ceremonies, we shall speak of hereafter. And yet from hence came that brave people, known at present by the name of *Zaporousky*

BEAU-  
PLAN.  
Zaporouf-  
ky Cof-  
facks.

*Zaporoufky Cof-facks*, spread of late years into fo many places along the *Boriftbenes*, and the neighbouring parts, whofe number at prefent amounts to 120000 difciplin'd men, and ready in lefs than eight days upon the leaft command they receive from the king, Thefe are the people, who very often, and almoft every year, make excursions upon the *Euxine Sea*, to the great detriment of the *Turks*. They have feveral times plander'd the *Crim Tartary*, ravag'd *Anatolia*, sack'd *Trebifond*, and run to the mouth of the *Black Sea*, within three leagues of *Constantinople*, where they have put all to fire and fword, and then returned home with a rich booty, and fome flaves, which are generally young children, whom they breed up to ferve them, or prefent them to fome lord of their country; for they keep none that are grown up, unlefs they think them rich enough to pay a good ranfom. They are never more than between fix and ten thoufand men when they make their ravages, and crofs the fea miraculoufly in pitiful boats they make themfelves, and of whofe fhape and ftructure I fhall fpeak hereafter.

Having mentioned the bravery of the *Cof-facks*, it will not be amifs to give an account of their manners and employment. It is therefore to be underftood, that among thofe people in general there are men expert in all forts of trades neceffary for human life, as houfe and fhip-carpenters, cartrights, fmiths, armourers, tanners, curriers, fhoe-makers, coopers, tailors, &c. They are very expert at preparing of falt-peter, whereof there is great plenty in thofe parts, and make excellent cannon-powder. The women fpin flax and wool, whereof they make cloth and ftuffs for their own ufe. They all underftand tilling, fowing, reaping, making of bread, dreffing of meal, brewing of beer, making of *hydromel*, *breba*, *aqua vitæ*, &c. There is no body among them, of what age, fex, or condition foever, that does not ftrive to outdo another in drinking, and caroufing effectually; and no Chriftians trouble themfelves lefs for t'morrow than they do.

There is no doubt but all of them in general are capable of all arts; yet fome are more expert than others in certain profefions, and others there are more univerfally knowing than the common fort. In fhort, they are all ingenious enough, but they go no further than what is neceffary, and profitable, particularly in country affairs.

The land is fo fruitful, it often produces fuch plenty of corn, they know not what to do with it, becaufe they have no navigable rivers that fall into the fea, except

the *Boriftbenes*, which is not navigable fifty leagues below *Kiow*, or *Kiowia*, by reafon of thirteen falls on it, the laft of which is feven leagues diftant from the firft, which makes a good day's journey, as may be feen in the map. This it is that hinders them carrying their corn to *Constantinople*; and is the caufe of their floth, and that they will not work but juft when neceffity obliges them, and that they have not wherewithal to buy what they ftand in need of, chufing rather to borrow of the *Turks*, their good neighbours, than to take pains to earn it. So they have meat and drink, they are fatisfied.

They are of the *Greek church*, which in their language they call *Rus*; have a great veneration for festivals, and fasting-days, which take up eight or nine months of the year, and confift in abftaining from flefh. They are fo pofitive in this formality, that they believe their falvation depends on this diftinction of meats: and I believe there is no nation in the world like this for liberty in drinking; for no fooner is one drunken fit off, but they take a hair of the fame dog. But this is to be underftood when they are at leafure; for whilft they are in war, or projecting fome enterprize, they are extraordinary sober. Nothing belonging to them is fo coarfe as their habit, for they are fubtile and crafty, ingenious and free hearted, without any defign or thought of growing rich; but are great lovers of their liberty, without which they do not defire to live: and for this reafon it is, they are fo fubject to revolt, and rebel againft the lords of the country, when they fee themfelves crush'd, fo that they are fcarce feven or eight years without mutinying againft them. In other refpects they are a faithlefs people, treacherous, perfidious, and not to be trufted but upon good fecurity.

They are of a ftrong conftitution, able to endure heat and cold, hunger and thirft; indefatigable in war, bold, refolute, or rather rash, not valuing their lives.

They fhew moft valour and conduct when they fight in their \* *tabords*, and covered with their carts (for they are very expert at their fire-arms, their ufual weapons) and in defending ftrong places. At fea they are not bad, nor very good a horfeback. I remember I have feen two hundred *Polifh* horfe, rout two thoufand of their beft men: true it is, a hundred of thefe *Cof-facks*, under the fhelter of their *tabords*, do not fear a thoufand *Polanders*, nor as many *Tartars*, and were they as brave a horfeback as they are afoot, I fhould think them invincible. They are well made, ftrong and finewy; love to be well clad, and make it appear when they have been plundering

Their religion.

\* A fort of carts with which the *Cof-facks* hem themfelves in when they march up on plain ground

plundering among their neighbours, for otherwise their garments are indifferent enough. Naturally they are very healthy, and free enough even from that distemper peculiar to *Poland*, which the physicians call *blica*; because all the hair of the head is sensible of it, tangles and clots together in a most unaccountable manner; the people of the country call it *gofches*. Few there die of sickness, unless they be of a very great age, most of them dying in the bed of honour, being kill'd in war.

Russian nobility.

The nobility among them, whereof there is but a very small number, hold of that of *Poland*, and seems to be asham'd to be of any other religion but the catholick, to which they daily go over; tho' all the great men, and those that are called princes, are come out of the *Greek* church.

Peasants, their duty to their lords

The peasants there are very miserable, being obliged to work three days a week, themselves and their horses, for their lord; and to pay, proportionably to the land they hold, such a quantity of wheat, abundance of capons, pullets, hens and goslings; that is, at *Easter*, *Whitsentide* and *Christmas*: Besides all this, to carry wood for the said lord, and a thousand other jobs they ought not to do; besides the ready money they exact from them, as also the tithe of their sheep, swine, honey, and all sorts of fruit, and every third year the third beef. In short, they are obliged to give their masters what they please to demand; so that it is no wonder those wretches never lay up any thing, being under such hard circumstances. Yet this is not all, for their lords have an absolute power, not only over their goods, but their lives; so great is the prerogative of the *Polish* nobility (who live as if they were in heaven, and the peasants in purgatory) so that if it happens that those wretched peasants fall under the servitude of bad lords, they are in a worse condition than galley-slaves. This slavery makes many of them run away and the boldest of them fly to the *Zaporowys*, which is the *Cossacks* place of retreat in the *Boristhenes*; and after having pass'd some time there, and been once at sea, they are reputed *Zaporowsky Cossacks*; and this sort of differtion much increases the number of their troops. This the present revolt sufficiently testifies; these *Cossacks* after the defeat of the *Polanders*, rising in rebellion to the number of 200000; who being masters of the field, have possessed themselves of a country above a hundred and twenty leagues in length, and sixty in breadth. I had forgot to observe, that in time of peace, hunting and fishing are the usual employments of the *Cossacks*; and this is what I had to say in general of the manners and customs of these people.

VOL. I.

Now to return to the matter in hand: <sup>BEAU-PLAN.</sup> It is believ'd that at the time when the <sup>The country along the river Boristhenes.</sup> ancient *Kiow* or *Kiovia*, was in its splendor, the channel in the sea which runs to *Constantinople* was not open; and there are grounds to conjecture, or rather certain proofs, that the plains on the other side the *Boristhenes*, which stretch out as far as *Muscovy*, were once all under water, as appears by the anchors and other tokens found of late years about *Lofficza*, upon the river *Sula*. Moreover all the towns built on those plains, seem to be new structures erected within some few centuries. I had the curiosity to inquire into the histories of the *Russians*, thinking to learn something concerning the antiquity of those parts, but without success; for having asked some of the most knowing among them, I could only be inform'd that the great and bloody wars which have always harass'd their country from end to end, had not spar'd their libraries, which even from the beginning had been burnt, but that they remember'd it was deliver'd to them by ancient tradition, that formerly the sea cover'd all those plains, as has been said, which was about two thousand years since; and that it was about nine hundred years since *Old Kiow* had been totally ruined, excepting those two churches before mentioned. Another powerful reason is alledged to prove that the sea extended as far as *Muscovy*, which is, that all the ruins of old castles and ancient towns in those parts are upon high places, and mountains, and not so much as one on the plain, which gives cause to believe it was under water. Besides all this, in some of those ruins there have been found cellars full of a sort of copper coin with this impression.



However it was, I shall only add, that all the plain reaching from the *Boristhenes* to *Muscovy*, and further, is very low and sandy, except only the northern bank of *Sula*, and those of *Worsko* and *Pseczol*, as may be seen much better in the map. It is farther to be observed, that the motion of these rivers is almost undiscernible, and much like a standing water: and if you add all these reasons to the violent and rapid motion of the channel in the *Black-Sea*, which running before *Constantinople*,

BEAU- nople, falls into the *White-Sea*, you will  
PLAN. find it no difficult matter to grant that  
these places have been formerly under  
water.

Let us go on with the description of our *Boristhenes*. A league above *Kiow*, and on the other side of it, the river *Desna* falls into the *Boristhenes*, which comes from near the city *Moscko*, and is above a hundred leagues in length.

Half a league below *Kiow* is a burrough, and in it a great monastery, the usual residence of the metropolitan, or patriarch. Under the mountain, that is, near the monastery, there are abundance of caves in the nature of mines, full of great number of bodies, preserved there these fifteen hundred years, in the nature of the *Egyptian* mummies. It is believed the primitive Christian hermits digged those subterraneous places to serve God there in private, and lived peaceably in those caverns during the heathen persecutions. There they shew a certain *S. John*, who is intire down to the waste, being so far buried in the ground. The religious men of that place told me, that the said *S. John* finding the hour of his death draw near, digged his own grave, not at length after the usual manner, but in depth. His time being come, for which he had long before prepared, and having taken leave of his brethren, he put himself into the earth; but Divine providence so ordained it, that he could go but half way in, though the hole was deep enough. There is also to be seen one *Helen*, whom they hold in great veneration, and an iron chain, wherewith they say the devil beat *S. Anthony*; and that it has the virtue of expelling those wicked spirits out of such bodies as are bound with it. There are also three mens heads on dishes, from which there daily distils an oil of sovereign use for curing of certain distempers. In those places are kept also the bodies of several persons of note, and among the rest those of twelve masons, who built the church; and these are preserved like so many precious relicks to be shewn to curious persons, as they did to me several times; I having once my winter quarters at *Kiow*, where I had leisure to learn all these particulars. For my part, as I said before, I find no great difference between these bodies and the *Egyptian* mummies, but that their flesh is neither so black, nor so hard; and I believe it is the nature of those caves or mines that preserves them from corruption, they being of a sort of petrified sand, hot and dry in winter, and cold and dry in summer, without any dampness. There are abundance of monks in that monastery, where, as has been said, the patriarch of all *Russia* resides, and owns

no superior but him of *Constantinople*. Before this monastery there is another where a great many nuns live, to the number of a hundred, who work at their needle, and make abundance of fine works on curious handkerchiefs, to sell to those that come to visit them. They have the liberty to go abroad when they will, and their usual walk is to *Kiow*, about half a league distant from their monastery. Their habit is all black, and they go two and two together, as most catholick religious men do. I remember I have seen as fine faces among those nuns as any in all *Poland*.

On the mountain that looks towards the river between *Kiow* and *Piecharre*, there is a monastery of *Russian* monks, which has a very fine prospect, and is called *S. Nicoly*. Those monks eat nothing but fish, but they have the liberty to go abroad when they please, to divert themselves, and make visits.

In a bottom under *Piecharre*, is a burrough, which they call *Tripoly*.

Below that is *Stayky*, on the top of a mountain; the town is antient, and there is a ferry-boat to pass over the river. Then follows *Richow* seated in the same manner on a mountain. This is a place of consequence, and deserves to be fortified, because the river there is easy to pass.

Lower yet is *Tretemirof* a monastery of *Russians*, seated amidst precipices, encompassed with inaccessible rocks. Thither it is the *Cossacks* convey their best goods; there is another ferry over the river.

A league from thence, on the other side, you come to *Pereaslaw*, a town that seems not to be very antient, because standing low, yet very considerable for its situation, naturally strong, and there might easily be built a considerable citadel, to serve as a place of arms against the *Muscovites* and *Cossacks*. The place has about six thousand houses, and the *Cossacks* keep a regiment there.

Lower towards *Russia* is *Kaniow*, a very antient town and castle, in which a regiment of *Cossacks* always keep garison, and there is a ferry.

Below still on the other side are *Bobunska* and *Domonton*, places of small note.

Lower yet, and still on the side of *Russia* stands *Cirkacre* a very antient city, well seated, and easy to be fortified. I have seen it in its splendor, when it was in a manner the center of the *Cossacks* places of refuge, the general residing there; but we burnt it in the year 1637, on the 18th of *December*, two days after we had gain'd a victory over the said *Cossacks*. During that war they kept a regiment of theirs in this place, and there is a ferry upon the river.

Further

Further yet are *Borowiche*, *Bougia*, *Woronowka*; and on the other side *Czereben*, about a quarter of a league from *Ambrowa*: as also *Krilow*, on the *Russian* side upon the river *Ytazemien*, a league from the *Boristhenes*.

Lower still on the side of *Muscovy* is *Kremierkzow*; there are some ancient ruins, on which I designed a castle in the year 1635. This place is very pleasant and convenient to live in, and is the last town, for beyond it is all a desert country.

River  
Pieczol. A league below it is the mouth of *Pieczol*, a river abounding in fish; and beyond it on the side of *Russia* is a little river they call *Omelnick*, which falls into the *Boristhenes*, and is very full of crayfish. Lower on the same side is another little river, called *Drug Omielnik*, like the other very full of crayfish. Opposite to it is *Worsko*, a good large river, abounding in fish, and runs into the *Nieper*; and on the same side is *Orel*, still richer in fish than the others. At the mouth of this river it was I saw above two thousand fishes taken at one draught of a net, the least of which was a foot long.

Lakes. On the other side, which is next *Russia*, there are several lakes, so very full of fish, that the great quantity which dies for want of room in that standing water, causes an extraordinary corruption, which infects the very water. They call those places *Zamokam*, about which I have seen dwarf cherry-trees two foot and a half high, or thereabout, which bear very sweet cherries, as big as plums, but are not ripe till the beginning of *August*. There are whole thickets of these little cherry-trees, very thick, and sometimes half a league in length, but not above two or three hundred paces over. It is pleasant at that time of the year to see those little groves of cherry-trees, whereof there are many in the plains, and for the most part in the bottom of valleys. There are also abundance of dwarf almond-trees, but wild, and the fruit very bitter; nor are there such numbers as to make one of those little woods, as there is of the cherries, which are as good as if they were cultivated. I must confess that my curiosity prevailing with me to transplant some of those cherry and almond-trees to *Bar*, my usual place of residence, the fruit grew bigger and better relished, and the tree outgrew its natural smallness. Above those places is a small river, called *Demokant*, full of crayfish, above nine inches long. There they gather water-nuts, which are like water-colthropps, very good to eat boil'd.

Lower still is *Romanow*; which is a fort of a mount where the *Cossacks* sometimes meet to consult together, and bring their

troops into a body. It would be a convenient and pleasant place to build a town.

Below this is an island half a league long, and one hundred and fifty paces over, which in spring is overflowed; they call it *Romanow*; several fishermen from *Kiow* and other places put in there. At the end of this island, the river has its full breadth, without being any more divided or stopped by islands. For which reason the *Tartars* are not afraid to pass over there, being in no danger of ambushes, especially above the island.

Lower still on the *Russian* side, is a place called *Tarenski Rog*, one of the pleasantest I ever saw to live in, and of great consequence to build a fort, which would command the river; for there it has its full breadth, and is not above two hundred paces over, and I remember I shot a carbine, which carried from one bank to the other. The farther bank is somewhat higher, and is called *Socogura*; to add to the conveniency of the place, it is all encompassed with channels abounding in fish, which run among the islands.

Below is the island of the monastery, all hemmed in with rocks, and very high, with precipices all round twenty five or thirty foot high, save only toward the upper end, where it is lower, and for that reason it is never overflowed. There was formerly a monastery in it, whence the name was given it. Were not this island commanded from the shore, it would be good living there; the length of it is about one thousand paces, the breadth eighty or a hundred: In it there are abundance of snakes and other serpents.

Next is *Konesky Ostro*, near three quarters of a league long, and a quarter over at the upper end, full of woods and bogs, and flooded in spring. In this island there are abundance of fishermen, who for want of salt, preserve their fish with ashes, and dry a great deal. They fish in the river *Samar*, which on the other side falls into the *Nieper*, upon the right of the upper end of *Konesky Ostro*. This river of *Samar* and its territory is very considerable, not only for its plenty of fish, but for the honey, wax, deer, and wood for building, whereof it has greater store than any other. Thence was brought all the wood used to build *Kudac*, of which place we shall soon speak. This river runs very slow because of its windings; the *Cossacks* call it the holy river, perhaps on account of its fruitfulness. I have seen herrings and sturgeons caught there in the spring, for there are none at any other time.

Below the end of *Konesky Ostro*, is *Kniarow Ostro*, a little island all of solid rock about

BEAU-  
PLAN.  
Islands on  
the Bo-  
rithenes.

**BEAU-** about five or six hundred paces long, and  
**PLAN.** one hundred broad, free from being flood-  
 ed, as is *Koracky Ostro* still lower, all  
 rock too, without wood, but full of  
 snakes.

Within a cannon-shot lower is *Kudac*, which is the first *porouy*, that is, a ridge of rocks running quite cross the river, and hindering navigation. There is a fort which I caused to be erected in *July* 1635, but in *August* following, after I was gone, one *Solyman*, general of certain rebellious *Cossacks*, in his return from the sea, perceiving that castle obstructed his return into the country, surprized it, and cut the garrison in pieces, which then consisted of about two hundred men under the command of col. *Marcon*: and *Solyman*, after taking and plundering the fort, returned with the *Cossacks* to *Zaporouy*; yet they continued not long masters of it, being besieged and taken by the other loyal *Cossacks*, under the command of the great *Koniek-spolsky* castellan of *Cracosky*; and lastly, that general of the rebels was taken with all his followers, and carried to *Warsaw*, where he was quartered. The *Polanders* afterwards neglected that fort, which made the *Cossacks* insolent, and gave them the means to revolt in the year 1637. when we met them, being eighteen thousand strong, in their *tabert* at *Komaiky*, on the 16th of *December* the same year, about noon; and though our army consisted but of four thousand fighting men, we fell on and routed them. The fight lasted till midnight; of them about six thousand were killed upon the spot, and five pieces of cannon taken; the rest escaped by the assistance of the night then very dark, leaving us masters of the field. We lost about a hundred men, and had a thousand wounded, and among them several commanders. *Monsieur de Morueil* a *French* gentleman, who was a lieutenant colonel, lost his life, together with his ensign. *Captain Juskesby* was killed, and the lieutenant to *Monsieur de Crofade*, besides several other strangers. After this defeat, the war with the *Cossacks* lasted till *October* following, and then peace was concluded. That great and noble *Koniespolsky* went in person to *Kudak* with four thousand men, and continued there till the fort was made tenable, which was done in a month, or thereabouts: Then the general went away carrying along with him two thousand men, and commanded me with some forces and pieces of cannon to take a view of the country as far as the last *Porouy*; and at my return ordered me to come up the river in their boats with my lord *Ostrorok* great chamberlain, which gave me the opportunity of seeing thirteen falls of the water, and of making

This col.  
 Marcon  
 was a  
 French-  
 man.

the map as you see it. In those parts one hundred men nor a thousand can travel in safety; nor ought armies to march out in good order, for those plains are the usual abode of the *Tartars*, who having no settled place to be in, are continually ranging up and down those vast plains, and never go fewer than five or six thousand, and sometimes ten thousand in a body. We leave it to another place to give an account of their manners, and way of making war. In this place I will only say, that I have seen and observed all the thirteen falls, and passed over them all in one single boat, going up the river, which at first sight seems impossible; some of those falls we have made way thro', being seven or eight foot high; judge whether those were not places to ply the oars. Among them none can be admitted as a *Cossack* that has not gone up all the *Porouys*; so that by their rule I may be a *Cossack*, and that is the honour I acquired by that voyage.

To give you the true definition of the word *Porouy*, I must inform you that it is a *Russian* word signifying a stone or rock; and this *Porouy* is a ridge of such stones reaching quite cross the river, whereof some are under water, others level with the surface, and others eight or ten foot above it. They are as big as a house, and very close to one another, so that it resembles a dam or bank to stop the course of the river, which then falls down five or six foot in some places, and six or seven in others, according as the *Boristhenes* is swollen. For in spring when the snow melts, all the *Porouys* are covered with water, except the seventh, called *Nienastites*, which alone obstructs navigation at that time of the year. In summer and autumn when the waters are very low, the falls are sometimes ten or fifteen foot; and between these thirteen falls there is but one place, which is betwixt *Budilou* the tenth and *Tarwolzane* the eleventh, where the *Tartars* can swim over, the banks there being very easy to get up. In all the distance from the first to the last *Porouy*, I observed but two islands that are not flooded: The first is athwart the fourth fall called *Strelczi*, which is all rock thirty foot high, all precipices quite round: It is about five hundred and eighty paces long, and seventy or eighty over: I know not whether there is any water in it, for no creature goes into it but the birds, yet all about it is covered with wild vines. The second is much bigger, all rock too, but not so full of precipices as the other. The place is naturally strong and pleasant to dwell in. In this island there grows abundance of *Tavala*, which is a red wood as hard as box, whose quality is to make horses stale.

*Porouys*,  
 falls on  
 the *Bo-*  
*risthenes*.

The island is call'd *Tawolzano*, the name of the eleventh fall, as has been said before. The thirteenth *Porouy* is call'd *Wolny*, and is a very convenient place to build either a town or fort.

A cannon-shot above it is a little rocky island called by the *Cossacks* *Kaczawanicze*, which signifies boiling of millet, to express their satisfaction for being come down all the falls in safety; therefore they feast in this little island, and it is with millet that they treat themselves on their voyages.

Below *Kaczawanicze*, and as far as *Kuoc-kosow*, there are pleasant places to inhabit. *Kuoc-kosow* is a little river which falls into the *Nieper* or *Boristhenes* on the side of *Tartary*, and which gives name to a neck of land inclosed by the said *Boristhenes*, and hemm'd in by two inaccessible precipices, as appears in the map, so that there is no coming at it but on the land-side through a place about two thousand paces in breadth and low enough. It were need only to close up this place to make a fine strong town. It is true that the ground not being plain, it makes a sort of hollow, so that the *Tartar* banks command these places, and they again command the *Tartar* banks. These places are very high, the river is there free and undivided, and very narrow, especially towards the south, which you will find marked down in the map by pricks. Those are the narrowest parts I have so marked, and I have seen *Polanders* with a bow shoot across the river, and the arrow has fallen above a hundred paces beyond the bank. There is the best and safest ford the *Tartars* have, for there the channel cannot be above a hundred and fifty paces over; the banks are easy, and the country open, so that they have no ambushes to fear: This pass is also called *Kuiskosow*. Half a league lower is the head of *Chortizca*, but I having gone no further on that side, shall only tell you what I learn'd by information from others, and therefore I do not deliver it as undeniable. They say that island is considerable because of its great height, and being almost hemm'd in with precipices, therefore not very accessible. It is two leagues in length, and half a league in breadth, especially towards the upper end, for it grows narrower and lower towards the west: it is not subject to floods, has abundance of oaks, and would be a very good place to build a town, which would be as it were a watch-tower over the *Tartars*. Below this island the river grows very wide.

Below it is *Wielky Ostro*, an island two leagues long, and all plain; it is of no great consequence, because in spring it is flooded, only about the middle, where there remains a place dry of about one thousand

and five hundred or two thousand paces diameter. Opposite to this island on the *Tartar* side there rises a river which falls into the *Nieper*, and is called *Konfekarwoda*, very rapid, makes a channel apart, and holds its own till two leagues below the island of *Tawan*, along the *Tartar* banks; sometimes it breaks out of the river, then returns to it again, leaving great banks of sand between its course and the *Nieper*.

*Tomabowka* is an island about the third part of a league diameter, or thereabouts, almost round, very high and lofty, like a half globe, all cover'd with wood: From the top of it may be seen all the *Nieper* from *Chortika* to *Tawan*. This island is very pleasant, I could not learn after what manner the banks of it are, but that it is nearer *Russia* than *Tartary*. *Ckemijlky* had made choice of this place for his retreat when he was threaten'd with a siege, and it was there they began to rendezvous when they rebell'd and took the field in *May* 1648, and won the battle on the 26th of *May* near *Korsum*.

A little below the river of *Czertomelik* about the middle of the *Nieper* is a pretty big island, with some ruins. It is encompass'd by above ten thousand other islands, lying every way in a very confused and irregular manner, some of them dry, others fenny; besides they are all covered with great reeds like pikes, which obstruct seeing the channels that part them: and into those confused places the *Cossacks* make their retreat, which they call *Scharbniza Woyskowa*, that is, the treasure of the army. All these islands are drowned in spring, and only the place on which the ruins are remains dry. The river is full a league between the two banks. In these places it is that all the power of the *Turks* can do no good; many *Turkish* gallies have been lost there as they pursu'd the *Cossacks* returning from the Black Sea: for being got into this labyrinth, they could not find their way back, and the *Cossacks* with their boats play'd upon them, drawing them in athwart the reeds. Ever since then the gallies do not go up the river above four or five leagues. It is believ'd that there are many pieces of cannon in *Scobnicza Woyskowa*, hid there by the *Cossacks* in the channels, and none of the *Polanders* could find them out: for besides that they do not go into those parts, the *Cossacks* who are very close will not reveal the secret to them, and there are but few *Cossacks* that know it. All the cannon they take from the *Turks* they sink; nay their money is hid there too, and they only take it out as they have occasion, every *Cossack* having his particular hiding place. For after pillaging among the *Turks* they divide the

BEAU- spoil, when they return to these parts; then  
PLAN. every one hides his little concern, as has  
been said, that is, such things as will not  
decay under water.

Cholna is In these places they make their *Cholna*,  
a boat in that is, boats to cross the sea, which are  
which about sixty foot long, ten or twelve in  
they go to breadth, and eight in depth, with two  
sea. rudders as we shall shew in their draught.

*Kair* is an island five or six leagues long,  
all plain, and cover'd partly with reeds,  
and partly with willows: when the channel  
runs on the *Russian* side, the island is larger  
towards *Tartary*. The west side is never  
drowned.

*Wielesky Woda*, that is, the great water  
opposite to *Skoruke*, where there are but  
few islands, and in the midst of the river  
an empty space without any.

*Nofokouka* is an island above two leagues  
long, without any wood, and drowned in  
spring. The *Tartars* pass over across this  
island, as they do across *Kair Kosmaka*,  
which is but half a league. Betwixt this  
island and *Russia* is a channel call'd *Kosma-*  
*ka*, down which the *Cossacks* slip when they  
go to sea, for fear of being discover'd by  
the guard kept at the antient ruins of the  
castle of *Aflan Korodicke* upon the strait of  
*Tawan*, for there the *Turks* always keep  
guard.

*Tawan* is a streight and great passage of  
the *Tartars*, because there the river runs  
all clear without interruption, and is not  
above five hundred paces over. The *Russi-*  
*an* side is very high and steep, but the  
other bank is low, which is the island of  
*Tawan*, yet not subject to be drowned,  
and is a proper place to erect a fort, to  
curb the *Cossacks* and prevent their going  
to sea. The river runs all together, that is,  
it makes but one channel till two leagues  
below, where it begins to spread and make  
islands and channels again.

The island of *Tawan* is about two leagues  
and a half long, and a third part of a  
league over. The channel between the  
said island and *Tartary* is *Konskowoda*,  
whereof we have spoken. When the ri-  
ver is not swollen, it is fordable; about half  
the island floods on the west-side.

The island *Kosaky* is about half a league  
long, but drowned.

The island *Burbanka* about the same  
length, and flooded, but is a place where  
the *Tartars* pass over, tho' there are three  
channels there, viz. the *Konskawoda*, and  
the *Dnieper* twice, and none of these chan-  
nels are fordable.

Fords the Between *Kuockasow* and *Orzakow* there  
Tartars are five places where the *Tartars* may pass  
pass over. over.

The first is *Kuczkasow*.

The second *Nosowka*: This pass is very

troublesome, being at least three quarters  
of a league over; being full of islands and  
reefs troublesome to pass, and several chan-  
nels: Besides, the *Tartars* are afraid of  
the *Cossacks*, who are not generally far  
from those parts, and lay ambushes for  
them.

The third and best is *Tawan*, being  
the most convenient, as well in regard it  
is but a day's journey from *Crim Tar-*  
*tary*, as because the passage is easier, there  
being but two channels; the first *Konska-*  
*woda*, commonly fordable in that place;  
then the *Dnieper*, that must be swam, but  
it is not very wide, yet may be about five  
or six hundred paces.

The fourth is *Burbanka*, not so good as  
the last; there are three very large chan-  
nels to cross, viz. *Konskawoda* and the *Dnie-*  
*per* twice, all three not fordable.

The fifth and last is *Oczakow*, which is  
the mouth of the *Dnieper*, a large *French*  
league over. The *Tartars* pass it thus,  
they have flat boats, across which they  
lay poles, to which they tie their horses  
one before another, and as many on the  
one side as on the other to balance equally;  
they put their baggage into the boats, make  
the beasts swim: the horses so ty'd, follow,  
and easily cross the mouth of the river;  
it puts them out of breath, but being tied  
short to the pole which bears them up,  
and the boats going gently along, they  
get over with ease; this is to be understood  
in fair calm weather. In my time the  
*Turks* pass'd all their cavalry over in this  
manner, and it consisted of forty thousand  
horse, when the grand seignior sent to  
besiege *Ozow*, or *Azak*, a town upon the  
*Don*, which the *Muscovite Cossacks* had taken  
the year before, which was 1642, from  
the *Turks*, and he carried it.

Three leagues above *Donczakow* is the  
mouth of *Bog*, where there is a triangular  
island half a league long opposite to *Se-*  
*menwiruk*. River Bog.

Above *Semenwiruk* on the *Bog*, is *Wina-*  
*radnakricza*, which is a fountain of water  
on a precipice; a pleasant place, and fit to  
be inhabited, as well for the conveniency of  
wood, as for the mills that might be made  
there. *Andre Ostro* is an island about a  
league long, and a quarter over, full of  
wood. *Piczane Brod* is very fordable, the  
river does not carry there above three foot  
of water, is narrow, and the banks of an  
easy ascent, so that heavy cannon might pass  
over there. Below that place the river is  
navigable, and above fordable in many  
places, as may be observed in the map.

*Krzeminczow* is an island about one thou-  
sand and five hundred or two thousand  
paces in length, a thousand in breadth,  
and between twenty and twenty five foot  
high;

high; upright on the north side, and low on the south. Wood for building is but half a league off towards *Oczakow*. North of the said island on the shore, there is a convenient place enough to erect a castle or fort, encompassed with deep valleys like precipices. *Oucze Sauram*, or *Konespol Nowe*, is the last dwelling-place the *Polanders* have towards *Oczakow*, which I founded in the year 1634, and in 1635 I caused a fort royal to be built there; a good place of arms might be there made against the *Turk*.

Oczakow  
a Turkish  
garrison.

Let us return to *Oczakow*, to inform the reader, that it is a town belonging to the *Turk* upon the mouth of the *Dnieper*, called in the *Turkish* language *Dziancrimenda*. This town secures the galleys that guard the mouth of the *Boristhenes*, to hinder the *Cossacks* from running down into the *Black Sea*. There is no harbour, but only good anchoring. Under the castle there are two towns seated on a hill inclining on one side, and an absolute precipice on the other, well secured from the south-west to the north-west. The walls of the castle are about twenty five foot high, but those about the town are much lower. In the town there are about two thousand inhabitants. South of those towns there is another little castle in the nature of a platform, on which some pieces of cannon are planted to shoot cross the river to the other side of the *Boristhenes* (which is at least a league wide of the mouth) where there is a tower in which the *Turks* keep guard to discover the *Cossacks* at a distance on the sea, and give the signal to the galleys. But the *Cossacks* laugh at that, for they can pass and repass, as I shall shew hereafter.

About a league from *Oczakow* towards the south-west there is a good harbour, called *Berezan*, the mouth of it is at least two thousand paces over; there is no passing it without a boat; it is deep enough for galleys, which can run two leagues up the river that makes the harbour, its name is *Anczakrick*.

*Jezero*, that is, lake *Teligol*, is eight leagues along, and between the 7th and 8th part of a league over; there is a natural dike or bank along the sea-shore to hinder the lake and sea from mixing. It breeds such abundance of fish, that the water stinks for want of an outlet.

*Jezero Kusalik* is two thousand paces from the sea, and is as full of fish as the other. There go caravans to these two lakes from above fifty leagues off for fish. There are carps and pikes of a wonderful bigness.

*Bielegrad* is seated a league from the sea upon the river *Niester*, which the *Turks*

call *Kiermon*. This town is also subject to the *Turk*. BEAU-PLAN.

*Kilia* is another *Turkish* town, walled round, and with a counterscarp. The castle is seated above the town upon the river *Danube*, a league from its mouth. On the other bank opposite to it is old *Kilia*, of which some ruins are still to be seen. Kilia another garrison.

*Budziak* is between *Bielegrad* and *Kilia*, where is a plain about twelve leagues in length, and five or six in breadth, whether the mutinous *Tartars*, who own neither the *Cham* nor *Turk*, retire. There are about eighty or ninety villages of those libertine *Tartars*, who daily run into the desert plains to steal Christians and sell them to the galleys, for they live upon rapine like birds of prey. They sometimes break into the *Ukraine* and *Podolia*, but make no long stay there, and are forced to retire hastily, because they are not above four or five thousand *Tartars*; but they are continually upon the borders, and in the desert places. Their villages are moveable, and their houses built upon two wheels, like the shepherds huts in *France*; for when they have eaten up the grass in one valley, they raise the camp and remove, as I shall at last relate.

*Tendra* is an island three or four leagues from the mouth of the *Dnieper*, but plain, with some bulhes: In it there is very good fresh water, and all about it good anchoring.

Two leagues from the mouth of the *Danube* is a low island about two leagues in compass, in which there is also fresh water; the *Turks* call it *Illanada*, that is, island of serpents.

*Smil* is a *Turkish* town, not walled: A league above *Smil* is the place where *Osman* the great *Turk* laid a bridge over, in 1620, when he came into *Podolia* with six hundred thousand fighting men; it is a cannon shot below *Oblizicza*, and yet he did nothing but take a poor castle called *Kofin*, which is upon the river *Niester* in *Walachia*; and the *Polanders* delivered it up on condition the *Turk* should return to *Constantinople*; which he did, after losing above eighty thousand men, either by the sword or distempers that raged in his army. The river in that place is very narrow, not above five or six hundred paces over, for the *Turks* with their bows shoot over it. Below that bridge the *Danube* divides into several branches, and the chief channel runs down to *Kilia*. A Smil on the Danube.

Between *Rene* and *Oblizicza* are two islands, as may be seen; *Palleco* is a small island between the *Danube* and the sea, about two thousand paces in circumference, being round and encompassed with precipices, and all wooded; but every year the *Danube*

BEAU-PLAN. *Danube* carries away some part, its current being very rapid, and the island of a sandy soil.

*Galas* is in *Walachia*, the inhabitants *Greek Christians*; it is seated on the *Danube* betwixt the mouths of the rivers *Seretk* and *Prut*.

South of it is *Warna*, a port on the *Black Sea* in *Bulgaria*: There is no other place in the *Black Sea* till you come to *Constantinople*, but only the towers of the *Black Sea*, which are upon the mouth of the *Strait* three leagues from *Constantinople*.

### Of the Crim Tartary.

Tartars. **C** R I M is a great peninsula in the *Black-Sea*, south of *Muscovy*: It is full of *Tartars* come out of the great *Tartary*, who have a king whom they call *cham*, who holds of the great *Turk*; and these are the *Tartars* who so often make inroads into *Poland* and *Muscovy*, to the number of eighty thousand, who burn and ravage all they find in their way; and then return home with fifty or sixty thousand *Russian* slaves, and sell them to serve aboard the galleys, for these people live only upon rapine.

Descripti- on of Crim Tartary. This peninsula's isthmus is not above half a league over, which if cut it would be an island: Upon it there is a pitiful town without any wall, with only a ditch about it twenty foot wide, and six or seven foot deep, half fill'd up, encompass'd with a poor rampart six or seven foot high, and about fifteen foot thick. This town is seated about three hundred paces from the eastern shore; has a stone castle, inclos'd within another castle, which encompasses it round. And from this town to the western shore there is about half a league, and a ditch that reaches to the sea. In the town there are not above four hundred inhabitants: The *Tartars* call it *Or*, and the *Polanders*, *Perecop*, that is in *English*, a land trench'd about; for which reason geographers call that part of *Tartary*, *Tartaria Precopenfis*.

*Kofesow* is an ancient town eastward, belonging to the *cham*; it may contain about two thousand inhabitants, and has a harbour.

*Gopetorkan*, or *Cherfonne*, is an ancient ruin'd place.

*Baciefary* is the *cham* of *Tartary's* place of abode, and has about two thousand inhabitants.

*Alma*, or *Foczola*, is a village where there is a catholick church dedicated to *St. John*, it contains about fifty houses.

*Baluclawa*, a port and town, where they build the grand seignior's ships, galleys, and galleons. The mouth of the harbour is about forty paces over, the port itself about eight hundred paces in length and four hundred and fifty in breadth: What water it has I could not learn; or what bottom, whether sand, owze, or rock;

but it is likely to be above fifteen foot, since vessels of above five hundred tun go in loaded. This borough has not above one hundred and twenty houses. It is one of the pleasantest places, and best harbours in the world, for a ship is always afloat in it; and whatever storm blows, it is not toss'd, for it is sheltered from all winds by high mountains that inclose the harbour.

*Mancupo* is a pitiful castle, upon a mountain called *Baba*: All the inhabitants are *Jews*, and there cannot be above sixty houses.

*Cassa* is the capital city of *Crim Tartary*, Cassa is where there is a *Turkish* governor for the the capital grand seignior. The *Tartars* do not much of *Tartary* live in this city; but most of the inhabitants are Christians, served by slaves they buy of the *Tartars*, who take them in *Poland* and *Muscovy*. In this town there are twelve *Greek* churches, two and thirty of *Armenians*, and one of *Catholicks*, call'd *S. Peter*: It may contain five or six thousand houses, but there are in it thirty thousand slaves, for in that country they make use of no other servants. This is a city of great trade, and deals to *Constantinople*, *Trebisond*, *Sinope*, and other places; and in short to all parts, as well within the *Black Sea*, as throughout all the *Archipelago* and *Mediterranean*.

*Crimenda* is very ancient, belongs to the *cham*, and has about an hundred Other houses.

*Karafu* also belongs to the *cham*, and has about two thousand houses.

*Tusla*, where the salt-pits are, has about eighty houses.

*Combas* about two thousand houses.

*Kercy* about one hundred houses.

*Ackmecery* about a hundred and fifty houses.

*Arabat*, or *Orbossec*, is a stone castle which has a tower seated on the neck of a peninsula, inclosed by the sea of *Limen* and *Tineka Woda*; and this neck is not above half a quarter of a league over, and is palisado'd from sea to sea. The peninsula is called by our *Cossacks*, *Cosa*, because it is shaped like a scythe; there it is the *cham* keeps his breed, which is accounted to amount to above seventy thousand horses.

*Tinkawoda*

*Tinkawoda* is a strait between the continent and *Cosa*, is but two hundred paces over, and fordable in calm weather. The *Cossacks* pass over in the *tabort*, when they go to steal the *cham's* horses, as we shall mention hereafter.

From *Baluclawa* to *Cassa*, the sea-coast is very high, and perpendicular, all the rest of the peninsula is low and plain. On the south side towards *Or* there are abundance of moving villages of *Tartars*, living upon carts with two wheels like those of *Budziak*.

The mountains of *Baluclawa* and *Carofu*, are called mountains of *Baba*, whence spring seven rivers that water all the peninsula, and are all shaded with trees.

The river *Kabats* produces vines.

On the river *Sagre* are abundance of gardens, and much fruit.

The strait between *Kercy* and *Taman* is not above three or four *French* leagues over.

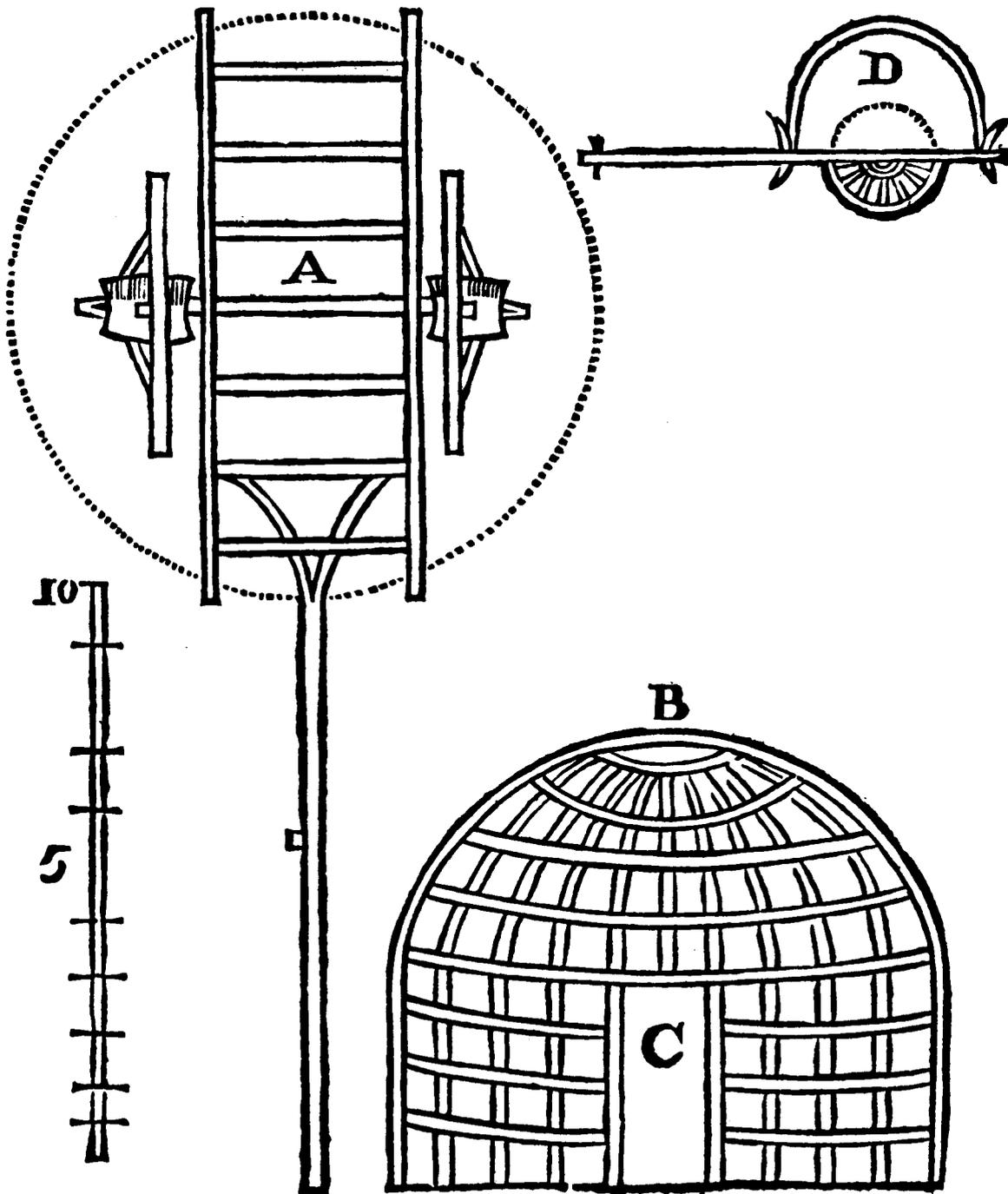
*Taman* is a town belonging to the *Turks*, in the country of *Circassia*. This borough has a poor castle, where about thirty *Hannichares* keep guard; as is the like at *Temruk*, that secures the pass at *Azak*, or at *Zouf*, which is a town of note. At the mouth of the river *Donais*, east of *Taman*, is the country of the *Circassians*, who are Christian *Tartars*, and look'd upon as the faithfullest.

Of the Crim Tartars.

**S**INCE we are upon the *Tartar* country, I think it will not be amiss to say somewhat of their manners, way of living, how they make war in the field, what order they observe in marching through an enemy's country, and how they make their retreats into the desert plains.

Nature  
and quali-  
ties of the  
Tartars.

The *Tartars* for several days after they are born, do not open their eyes, like the dogs and other creatures; their stature is low, for the tallest of them are scarce above our midling men; they are rather slender than gross, but lusty and bony, their stomach high and large, their shoulders thick,



BEAU- their neck short, their head big, their  
PLAN. face almost round, their forehead high,  
their eyes narrow, black and long, their  
nose short, their teeth as white as ivory,  
their complexion fallow, their hair black  
and harsh, like a horse's mane. In short,  
they have quite another physiognomy than  
Christians, and a man may know them at  
first sight. Their shape and countenance  
is somewhat like that of the *American In-*  
*dians* about *Maragnon*, and of those they  
call *Caraibes*. They are all of them lusty  
and bold soldiers, hardy to endure fatigue,  
and all the sorts of weather. For from  
seven years of age when they come out of  
their *cantares*, that is, their houses or huts  
upon two wheels, they never lie under any  
other roof but the canopy of heaven, and  
after that age they never give them any  
thing to eat but what they fetch down  
with their arrows. Thus they teach their  
children to hit a mark, and when they  
come to twelve years of age they send them  
to the wars. It is their mothers care when  
their children are very young, to bathe  
them every day in water that has salt dis-  
solved in it, to harden their skin, and make  
them less sensible of the cold, when they  
are forced to swim rivers in winter.

Crim Tar-  
tars.

We shall take notice of two sorts of *Tar-*  
*tars*, the one called *Haysky*, and the other  
*Crimsky*; these last are of that peninsula  
we have mentioned, in the *Black Sea*,  
commonly called *Scythia Taurica*. But  
those of *Nabaysky* are divided into two  
sorts, that is the great *Nabaysky*, and the  
little *Nabaysky*, both of them inhabiting  
between the river *Don* and that of *Kuban*,  
but moving, and as it were savage; part  
of them are subject to the *cham*, or king  
of *Crim Tartary*, and others to the *Musco-*  
*vites*. There are some of them subject to  
no body. These *Tartars* are not of so ge-  
nerous a temper as those of *Crim Tartary*,  
nor these so brave as those of *Budziak*.  
They are clothed after this manner; they  
wear a short shirt of cotton, which reaches  
but half a foot below their waste, drawers  
and close cloth breeches, and the common  
sort of cotton cloth pinked; the finest among  
them have a *caffetan* of pink'd cotton cloth,  
and over it a cloth gown, lined with fox-  
skins, or fables, their cap of the same, and  
their boots of red *Turky* leather without  
spurs.

Their ha-  
bit.

The common sort wear only a cassock of  
sheep-skins, with the wool outwards in hot  
or rainy weather; and to meet them unex-  
pectedly in the field in this garb is frightful,  
for a man would take them for white bears  
a horseback. But in winter and cold wea-  
ther, they turn their cassock, wearing the  
wool on the inside, and make a cap of the  
same skin, and in the same manner.

Their weapons are a scymitar, a bow  
and quiver, with eighteen or twenty ar-  
rows, a knife stuck in at their girdle, a  
flint to strike fire, an awl, with five or six  
fathom of small leather thongs, to bind  
the prisoners they catch. Every one of  
them carries a sun-dial in his pocket. Only  
the richest wear coats of mail, the others  
for want of better provision go to the  
war without any armour. They are all  
good horsemen, and resolute, but sit ill,  
their legs being bent, because they ride  
short, and so they sit a horseback as a  
monkey would upon a hare; yet for all  
that they are very active a horseback, and  
so expert, that as they ride a large trot,  
they will leap off one horse when he is  
tired upon another they lead, that they may  
fly the better when pursued, and the horse  
as soon as eas'd of his master's weight  
comes about to his right hand, and keeps  
along even with him, to be ready to re-  
ceive him again when he has occasion to  
mount him, according to their usual man-  
ner of activity. Thus are the horses taught  
to attend their masters. In other regards  
the horses are ugly and ill shaped, but  
good to endure fatigue; for those *Baque-*  
*males* (so they call that sort of horses) that  
have a very thick mane, and hanging  
down to the ground, and their tail in the  
same manner, are the only beasts for run-  
ning twenty or thirty leagues without draw-  
ing bit.

Most of the common sort of those that Their  
remove from place to place do not eat <sup>diet.</sup>  
bread, unless they be among us. They  
had rather eat horse-flesh than beef, yew-  
mutton, or goats, for they know nothing  
of weather-mutton; and they kill no horse  
till he is very sick, and no hopes left of  
his being ever serviceable; and though  
the horse should die naturally of any dis-  
temper whatsoever, they will not forbear  
eating him, for it is to be conceived  
that they are not at all dainty. They  
that go to war live after the same manner,  
and join ten in a mess; and when any  
horse among them is not able to travel,  
they cut his throat; and if they can get  
any meal they mix it with the blood, as if  
it were hogs-blood to make puddings;  
then they boil it in a pot, and eat that as  
a curious dish. The flesh they dress thus,  
they quarter the horse, and lend their  
comrades that want three quarters, keeping  
for themselves only a hind-quarter, which  
they cut out in as large slices as they can  
in the fleshiest part, and only an inch or  
two thick; this they lay upon their horse's  
back, and the saddle over it, girding him  
as tight as they can: then they mount,  
ride three or four hours a gallop, for all  
the army goes the same pace. Then they  
alight.

alight, unfaddle, turn their slice of meat and stroking up the horses sweat with their hand, baste the flesh with it, that it may not grow dry; then they faddle again, and girt hard as before, riding on three or four hours longer, and by that time the flesh is drest to their mind, as if it were stewed, and this is their dainty cookery. As for the rest which cannot be cut into slices, they boil it with a little salt, but never skim it, for they are of opinion that in skimming the pot they throw away all the juice and relish of the meat. Thus that miserable people lives, drinking fair water when they can meet with it, which is but very seldom, for all the winter they drink nothing but melted snow. Such as are able, as for instance the *morzas*, that is, gentlemen, and others who have mares, or she-asses, drink their milk, which serves them instead of wine and brandy. The horse's fat they mix with millet or barley, or buck-wheat meal, for they lose nothing; and of the hide they make thongs, bridles, saddles, whips (being skilful at all these trades) to put on their horses, for they wear no spurs. Those that do not go to war, eat as it happens, or according to the season, ewe, ram, kid, hens, and other fowl, (as for swines-flesh, they eat none of it no more than the *Jews*) if they can get meal, they bake cakes in the embers; and their most common food is millet, barley, and buck-wheat meal. These sorts of grain are sowed among them, and they eat rice brought from abroad. As for fruit they have very little, but honey is common among them, and they are great lovers of it, and make a sort of drink, but not boiled, so that it causes terrible gripes. Those that dwell in towns are more civilized, they make bread somewhat like ours; their common drink is *Breba*, made of boiled millet. This liquor is as thick as milk, and will make a man drunk. They also drink brandy brought them from *Constantinople*. There is another sort of liquor which the poor who cannot buy *breba*, make thus: They put cow's, sheep's, and goat's milk into a churn, and churn it very well, make a little butter, and keep the butter-milk to drink; but this soon growing sour, they make fresh every day. They are a sober people, eat little salt with their meat, but a great deal of spice, and among the rest *Guinea* pepper. They make another sort of liquor, like that used by the people of *Madagascar*, which is when they boil their meat with a little salt without skimming, as has been said, they keep the broth, and call it *chourbe*, warming it when they drink. When they roast, they spit a whole ewe or ram; when roasted, they cut it into pieces a foot long, and four inches broad. Thus those people feed.

Since we have said how they live in the BEAU-PLAN. field, we will now give an account how they enter an enemy's country to pillage and burn, and carry away slaves.

When the *cbam*, their lord, receives orders from the grand seignior to break into *Poland*, he with all expedition gathers his troops, that is, eighty thousand men, when he goes in person, for at other times their armies consist but of forty or fifty thousand men, when a *morza* commands them. Their irruptions are generally about the beginning of *January*, but always in winter, that they may meet with no obstacles in their way, and that the rivers and marshes may not hinder them from ranging where-soever they are directed. Being assembled and mustered, they advance; but the reader must observe, that tho' *Crim Tartary* lies between 46 and 47 degrees of north latitude, yet the desert plains that lie north of them, are covered all the winter with snow till *March*, and this encourages them to undertake such a long course, because their horses are not shod, and the snow saves their feet, which could not be were the ground bare, for the hardness of the frost would batter their hoofs. The greatest and richest men among them shoe their horses with horn, and fasten it to the hoof with leather; but that is not lasting; for which reason they dread a winter when the snow does not lie, and the frost, where their horses that are best shod will slip. Their marches are but short, generally about six *French* leagues, and so move on day after day, laying their business so that they may be back before the frost breaks, and make their retreat in safety. Thus they come to the frontiers of *Poland*, still travelling along the valleys they are acquainted with, and which seem to succeed one another: and this they do to secure themselves in the open country, and prevent being repulsed by the *Cossacks* who lie in wait in several places to discover when they come, and what way they take, to alarm the country. But the *Tartars* are so cunning, as I observed, that they travel through the deep valleys only, and at night when they encamp, they make no fire; for the same reason they send out parties to discover, and endeavour to take some *Cossacks* that may give them intelligence of their enemies: so the watchfullest and cunningest surprizes his enemy. Thus the *Tartars* march one hundred in front, that is three hundred horses, for every one of them leads two, which serve for relays, as has been said before: their front may extend eight hundred or a thousand paces, and they are eight hundred or a thousand in file, which reaches three long leagues, or four, when they keep close, for at other times they extend above ten leagues.

Manner of making war.

BEAU-  
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leagues. This is wonderful to those that have not seen it, for eighty thousand *Tartars* make up above two hundred thousand horses: Trees are not thicker in the woods than horses are at that time in the field; and to see them at a distance, they look like a cloud rising in the horizon, which increases as it rises, and strikes a terror into the boldest, I mean those who are not used to see such multitudes together. Thus these mighty armies march, halting every hour, about half a quarter of an hour, to give their horses time to stale; and they are so well managed, that they do it as soon as they stop; then the *Tartars* alight and piss too. They remount immediately, and go on, all which is done only by the signal of a whistle; and when they are come within three or four leagues of the borders, they lie still two or three days in some place chosen on purpose, where they think they are concealed; there they give out orders, and refresh their army, which they dispose in this manner. They divide it into three parts, two thirds are to compose one body, the other third is subdivided into two parts, each of these two making a wing, one on the right, the other on the left. In this order they enter the country. The main body moves slowly (which in their language they call *Chocbe*) with the wings, but continually without halting day or night, allowing but an hour to refresh, till they are got sixty or eighty leagues into the country without doing any harm. But as soon as they begin to march back, the body holds the same pace: then the general dismisses the two wings, which have liberty each on its own side to stray ten or twelve leagues from the main body, but that is to be understood half of the way forward, and the other half sideways. I had almost forgot to say, that each wing, which may consist of eight or ten thousand men, is again subdivided into ten or twelve squadrons, of five or six hundred men each, who run up and down to the villages, incompass them, making four *corps de garde* about each village, and great fires all the night, for fear any peasant should escape them: then they fall to pillaging and burning, kill all that make any resistance, and take and carry away all that submit, not only men, women, and sucking babes, but the cattle, horses, cows, oxen, sheep, goats, &c. As for the swine, they drive and shut them up in a barn or such like place, and fire the four corners, so great is the loathing they have for those creatures. The wings being allowed to stray but ten or twelve leagues (as has been said) return with their booty to the main body, which is easily done; for they leave a great track, marching above fifty in front, so that they

have nothing to do but to follow; and in four or five hours they join their body again, where as soon as they are come, two other wings, consisting of the like number as the former, go out on the right and left to make much the same havock: then they come in, and two others go out, and so continue their excursions without ever diminishing their body, which, as has been mentioned, makes two thirds of the army, and move gently, to be always in breath, and ready to fight the *Polish* army, if they should meet it; though their design is not to meet but avoid it, as near as possible. They never return the same way they broke in, but take a compass, the better to escape the *Polish* army: for they always fight in their own defence, nay and they must be forced to it, without they knew themselves to be ten to one; and yet would they consider of it before they fell on; for these robbers (so we may call the *Tartars*) do not enter *Poland* to fight, but to pillage and rob by way of surprize. When the *Poles* meet them, they make work, forcing them to get home faster than their usual pace. At other times, after they have sufficiently strayed, plundered and robbed, they enter upon the desert plains of the frontiers, thirty or forty leagues in length; and being in that place of safety, make a great halt, recovering breath, and putting themselves into order, if they were in any confusion on account of meeting the *Poles*.

That day sev'night they bring together all their booty, which consists in slaves and cattle, and divide it among themselves. It is a sight would grieve the most stony heart to see a husband parted from his wife, and the mother from her daughter, without hopes, of ever seeing one another, being fallen into miserable slavery, under *Mabometan* infidels, who use them inhumanly. Their brutish nature causing them to commit a thousand enormities, as ravishing of maids, forcing of women in the sight of their parents and husbands, and circumcising their children in their presence, to devote them to *Mabomet*. In short, it would move the most insensible to compassion to hear the cries and lamentations of those wretched *Russians*; for those people sing and roar when they cry. These poor creatures are dispersed several ways, some for *Constantinople*, some for *Crim Tartary*, and some for *Anatolia*, &c.

Thus the *Tartars* gather and carry away above fifty thousand souls in less than a fortnight, thus they use their slaves when they have shared them, and then sell them if they think fit, when they return into their country.

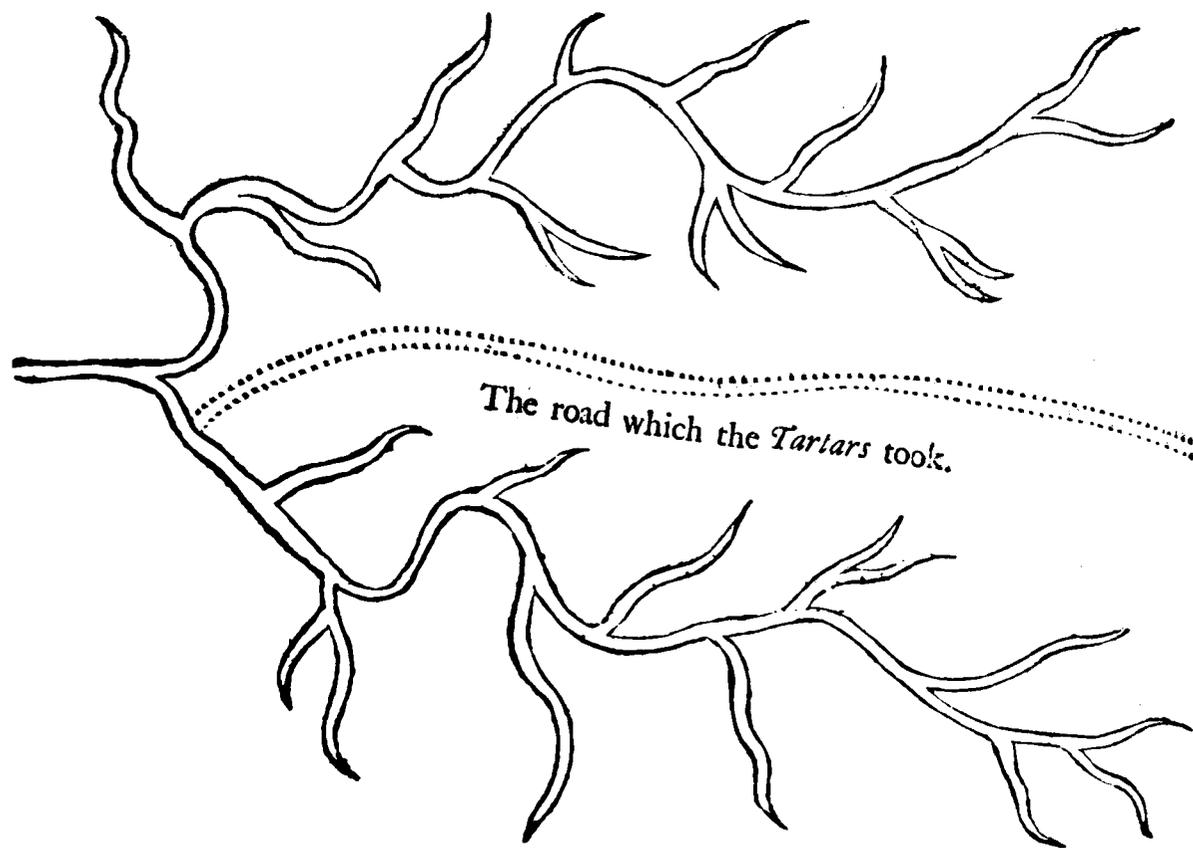
Now let us relate how the *Tartars* enter *Poland* in summer, being generally but ten

or twelve thousand strong, because if they came in a greater number, they would be too soon discover'd. Thus it is.

Their  
summer  
expediti-  
ons.

When they are within twenty or thirty leagues of the frontiers, they divide their army into ten or twelve squadrons, each of them containing about a thousand horse: five or six of these troops they send to the right, about a league or a league and a half distant from one another; the other five or six squadrons doing the same on the left, that their front may extend ten or twelve leagues, sending out careful scouts above a league before them to get intelligence, that they may know how to proceed. In this manner they travel athwart, keeping close together, appointing to meet again upon a day prefix'd at a certain place of rendezvous, two or three leagues from the frontiers, like several beams joining to one common center. The reason why they march in several distinct bodies, is, that if the *Cossacks*, who lie two or three leagues out in the plains as centinels to observe

their motions, should spy them, they may not judge them to be so great a number, being able to give an account but of the squadron they see. For these *Cossacks* having discover'd the *Tartars* at a distance, immediately retire to alarm the country, and seeing but a thousand or thereabouts, are not much frighted at that number, but are surpriz'd some days after they have received the news. The *Tartars* enter upon the frontier after this manner, they run along between two great rivers, and always keep the upper country, seeking the heads of little rivers that fall into the great ones, some into one and some into another: by this means they meet with no obstruction in their inroads, plunder and savage as the others do in winter, but never go above ten or twelve leagues up the country, and immediately return. At most they stay but two days in the country, and then retire as we said before, divide the spoil, and every one returns home.



These *Tartars* are libertines, who obey neither the *Cham* nor *Turk*, and live in *Budziak*, which is a plain lying between the mouths of the *Niester* and the *Danube*, as we said before, where in my time there were at least twenty thousand of them that had fled, or were banish'd thither. They are braver than the *Tartars* that dwell in *Crim-Tartary*, being better exercis'd, and daily upon action: They are also better mounted than the others. The plains lying between *Budziak* and the *Ukraine* are generally stor'd with eight or ten thousand *Tartars*, who live divided in troops

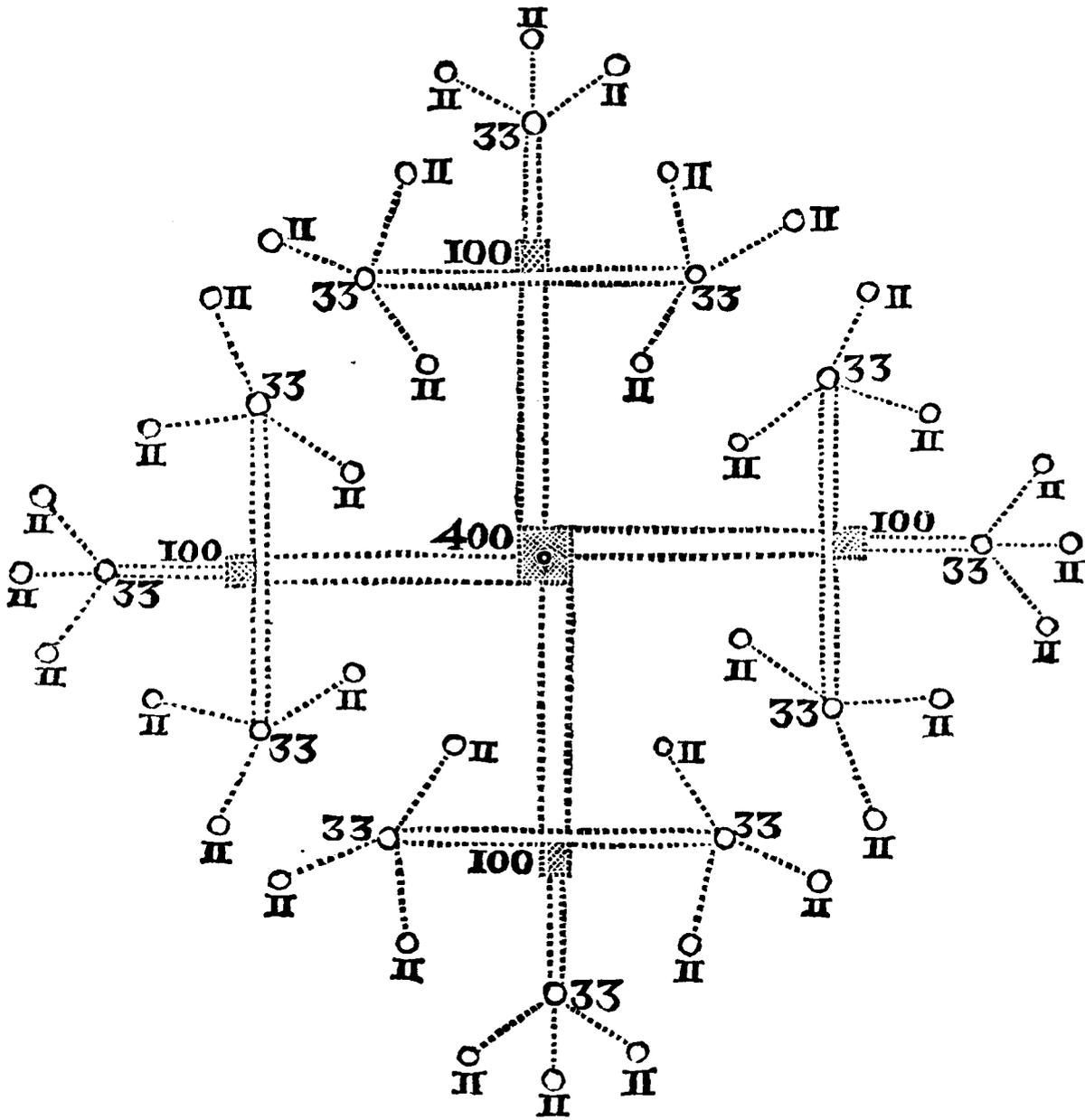
of about a thousand each, ten or twelve leagues asunder, to seek their fortune: and because of the danger there is in crossing those plains, the *Cossacks* go in *taborts*, that is, they travel in the middle of their carts, which march in two files on their flanks, eight or ten of them in the front, and as many in the rear: they themselves are in the middle with firelocks, and half-pikes and scithes upon long poles; the best mounted among them about their *taborts*, with a centinel a quarter of a league before them, another at the same distance behind, and one upon each flank. If these discover

Tabort is  
the same  
we call a  
caravan.

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*Tartars*, they make a sign, and the *tabort* halts. If the *Tartars* are discovered first, the *Cossacks* beat them; and if the *Tartars*, discover the *Cossacks* first, they give them a fierce assault by way of surprize in their *tabort*. In short, they who travel over those plains must have, as the *Italians* term it, good feet and good eyes. I have often met them in the field at least five hundred together, who assaulted us in our *tabort*; and though I had but fifty or sixty *Cossacks* with me, they could do us no harm, nor could we gain any advantage over them, for they would not come within the reach of our arms; but after making several essays as if they would fall upon us, and let fall showers of arrows on our heads, for they shoot flights twice as far as our arms will carry, they go off and cunningly hide themselves in the plains to surprize some *Caravan* before they are discover'd. You must understand that those

plains are cover'd with grafs two foot high, so that they cannot go without treading it down, which leaves such a track as it is easy to guess what number they were, and which way they went; and therefore for fear of being pursued by a greater power, they have found out this contrivance, that if there are four hundred in a troop, they will make four ranks of about an hundred men each, some march north, others south, others east, and others west: every one of them goes about a league and a half strait on its way, and then each little parcel divides into three of about thirty three in a company, who move, as is mention'd before, excepting towards the river; then at about half a league distance they divide into three again, and so travel till they come to be but ten or twelve together, as may be better conceiv'd by the draught than can be explain'd by words.

How the  
Tartars  
shun the  
Cossacks.

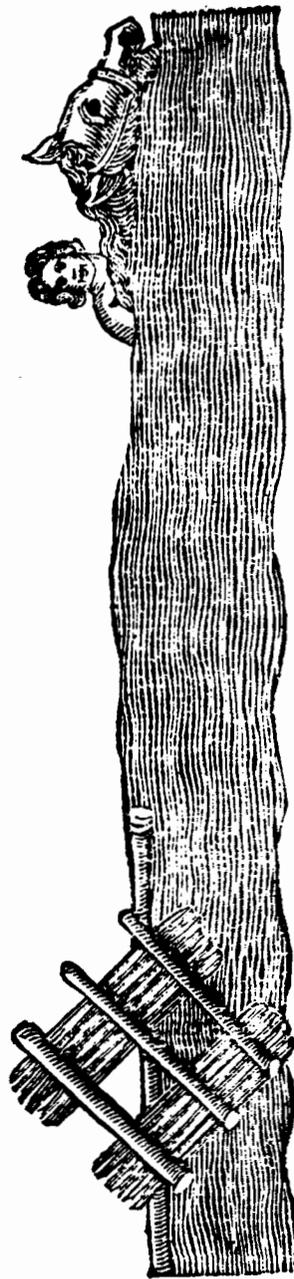
All this is done in less than an hour and a half, and riding a large trot; for when they are discover'd they can never make haste enough; they have all of these tricks at their fingers end, and know all

the plains as well as pilots know their harbours. Every little squadron of ten or eleven crosses the country at discretion, without ever meeting in their range, but at a day appointed they rendezvous ten

or twelve leagues from the place where they broke up, in some bottom where there is water and good grass, for there they lie. Every little troop travels by itself, some have but a little way to the rendezvous, but others by reason of their windings and the compass they take, have a long journey; and the grass trod but by eleven horses, rises again the next day, so that no sign remains. When together they lie hid some days, then move in a body, and fall upon some open town on the frontiers, which they surprize and carry; which done, they fly, as has been said before. This crafty method have the *Tartars* found out to conceal themselves in the plains, and the better to delude the *Cossacks*, who pursue them hotly, knowing they are not above five or six hundred: the *Cossacks* mount to the number of one thousand or twelve hundred, pursue them, seek the tracks, and having found them, follow them to the maze abovemention'd, where their measures are broken, and they know not where to look for them, because the track goes every way, which obliges them to return home, and say they could see nothing. You see how difficult a matter it is to find those *Tartars*, unless they light upon them by chance, eating or drinking, or resting at night, but always upon their guard. Their eyes are sharper and clearer than ours, because they are not so open, and therefore the rays are stronger, and they see better than we do: They discover us before we do them, and policy, not strength, carries it. If they meet in the morning or evening an hour before sun-rising, or after his setting, they both contrive to have the fun on their back, as two ships at sea strive for the wind. If the *Polanders* fall in with the *Tartars*, and they find they are not strong enough to stand them with sword in hand, they will scatter like flies, and run every one a several way, shooting with their bow as they gallop full speed, so dexterously that they never miss their man at sixty or a hundred paces distance. The *Polanders* cannot pursue them, their horses being shorter winded than the *Tartars*. These rally again a quarter of a league off, and give a fresh charge upon the *Polanders*, and when drove disperse again, shooting over their left shoulder, for they cannot over the right, and so tire the *Polanders* that they are forced to go off: and this is when the *Tartars*, as I said before, perceive they are ten to one, otherwise they go clear off without looking back. Thus those people made war in that country.

How they fight.

Now let us give an account how the *Tartars* swim rivers, and those the biggest in *Europe*. All their horses swim well,



especially in that country which is cold, and the water heavier than ours in *France*, as not being so well purg'd by the sun: but I am satisfied that were their horses brought into *France*, they would not cross the *Seine* as they do the *Boristhenes*; for, as I said, the water is heavier, and consequently bears other bodies better, as I have found by experience. When their army would cross the *Boristhenes*, which is the greatest river in that country, they seek out where the banks are easiest on both sides, and every one provides rushes, or reeds, as they find, and make two little trusses, three foot long and ten or twelve inches thick, about a foot distant from one another, and join'd together with three sticks well bound at top, and one under from corner to corner, well fastened and tied to the horse's tail. Then the *Tartar* puts his saddle upon his float, strips himself, lays his clothes on the saddle, and on that his bow, arrows and scymitar, all well bound and fastened together; then enters the river stark naked with a whip in his hand, and drives on his horse with his bridle on his neck, which yet

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yet he holds sometimes with one hand and sometimes with the other, together with the mane; and so putting on his horse, makes him swim, and he swims with one hand, holding the mane with the other, and the bridle which he never quits; and thus leads his horse, putting him on with the whip till he has passed the river. Then when his horse finds his feet upon the other side, and the water reaches but to his belly, he stops him, takes the float from his tail, and carries it ashore. All of them pass together in this manner, for they make a front half a league in length upon the river. All the cattle pass in the same manner. This is what I could learn of the *Tartars*.

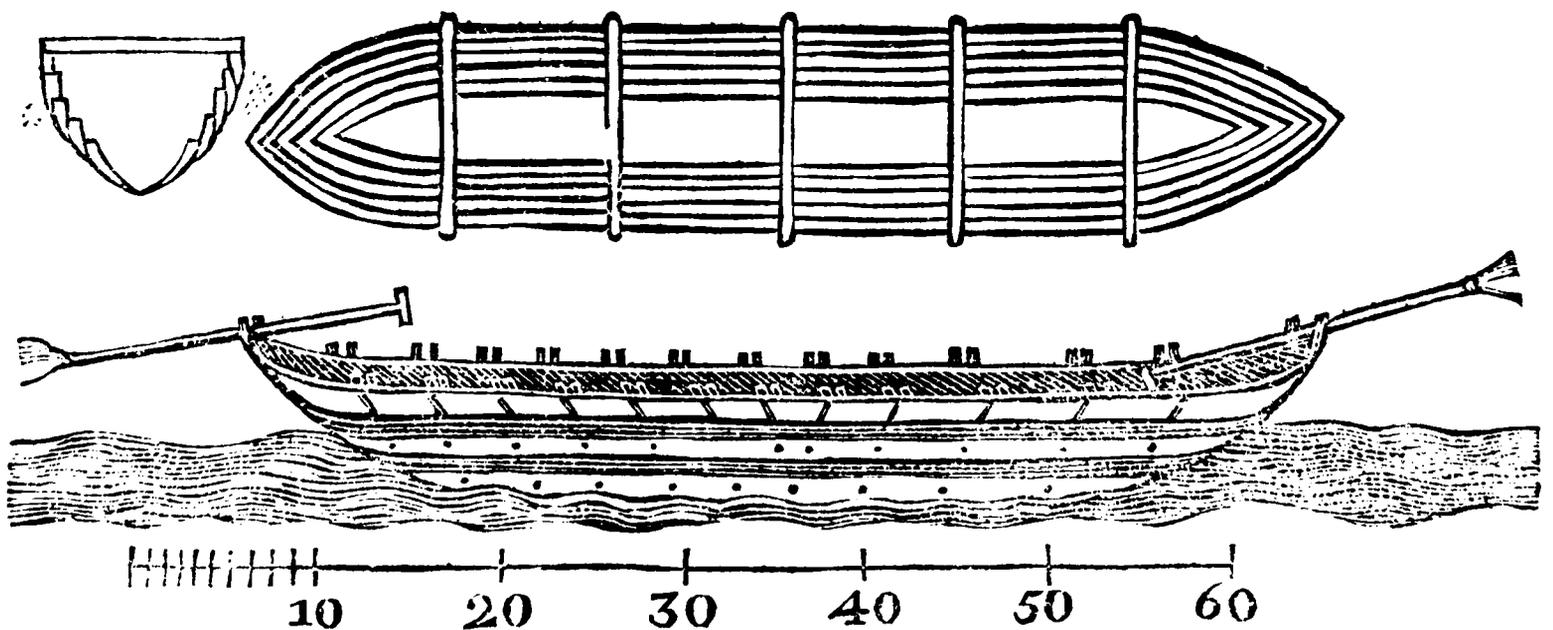
How the  
Cossacks  
choose  
their ge-  
neral.

It remains that we perform what we promised before, which is, how the *Cossacks* choose their general, as also how they make their excursions, crossing all the *Black Sea* even to *Anatolia*, to make war upon the *Turks*. Thus it is they choose their general: when all the old colonels and ancient *Cossacks*, who are in esteem among them, are assembled together, every one gives his vote for the man he thinks fittest for the employment, and he that has most voices carries it. If he that is chosen will not accept of the place, excusing himself as being incapable of it, or for want of experience, or his great age, that does him no good, for they make no other answer, but that he is not worthy of that honour, and immediately kill him upon the spot as a traitor; and it is they themselves that are treacherous in so doing, which you may remember I said they were when I spoke of their manners and frequent infidelity. If the *Cossack* elected accepts of the generalship, he thanks the assembly for the honour done him, though unworthy and incapable of that post, yet protests he will use his utmost endeavours to be-

come worthy to serve them either in general or in particular, and that his life shall be always exposed for the service of his brethren (so they call another:) having spoke these words, they all shout, *Vivat, vivat, &c.* then they go in order to pay their respects to him, and the general gives them his hand, which is the manner of saluting one another among them. This is the manner of choosing their general, which is often done in the desert plains. They are very obedient to him, and in their language he is called *bettman*. His power is absolute, and he can behead and impale those that are faulty. They are very levere, but do nothing without the council of war, which they call *ruds*. The general may fall into disgrace, if he have not such conduct when he leads them out to war that no disaster befall them, and if he does not appear brave and politick upon any unexpected or unlucky accidents; for if he commits any act of cowardice, they kill him as a traitor. Immediately they choose another among themselves in the usual manner, as was said before. It is a troublesome employment to lead and command them, and unfortunate to him it falls upon; for during seventeen years I served in the country, all that had this post died miserably.

When they intend to go to sea, it is without the king's leave, but they take it of their general, and then they hold a *ruds*, that is, a council, and choose a general to command them during that expedition, observing the same ceremonies we have mentioned in the election of their great general, but this now chosen is but for a time. Then they march to their *Sczabewisza Worskowa*, that is, their place of rendezvous, and there build boats about sixty foot long, ten or twelve foot wide, and twelve foot deep; these boats have no keel, but

How the  
Cossacks  
go out to  
rob on the  
Black Sea.



but are built upon bottoms made of the wood of the willow about forty five foot in length, and raised with planks ten or twelve foot long, and about a foot broad, which they pin or nail one over another, like the common boats upon rivers, till they come to twelve foot in height, and sixty in length, stretching out in length and breadth the higher they go. This will be better understood by the rough draught I have inserted here. You may observe they have great bundles of large reeds put together as thick as a barrel end to end, and reaching the whole length of the vessel, well bound with bands made of lime or cherry-tree; they build them as our carpenters do with ribs and cross-pieces, and then pitch them, and have two rudders one at each end, as appears in the draught, because the boats being so very long, they should lose much time in going about when they are forced to fly back. They have commonly ten or fifteen oars of a side, and row faster than the *Turkish* galleys: they have also one mast, which carries an ill-shaped sail made use of only in very fair weather, for they had rather row when it blows hard. These vessels have no deck, and when they are full of water, the reeds above-mentioned tied quite round the boat, keep it from sinking. Their bisket is in a tun ten foot long, and four foot diameter, fast bound; and they take out the bisket at the bung. They have also a punchon or half tun of boiled millet, and another of dough dissolved in water, which they eat mixed with the millet, and make great account of it: this serves for meat and drink, and tastes sourish; they call it *salamake*, that is, a dainty food. For my part, I found no delicacy in it, and when I made use of it upon my voyages, it was for want of better. These people are very sober, and if there be a drunkard found among them, the general causes him to be turned out; therefore they are not permitted to carry any brandy, being very observant of sobriety in their expeditions and enterprizes.

When they resolve to make war upon the *Tartars* in revenge for the mischiefs received from them, they take their opportunity in autumn. To this purpose they send all necessaries for their voyage and enterprize, and for the building of ships and other uses, to the *Zaporouys*: then five or six thousand *Cossacks* all good able men well armed take the field, and repair to *Zaporouy* to build their boats: sixty of them go about a boat, and finish it in a fortnight; for, as has been said, they are of all trades. Thus in three weeks time they make ready eighty or a hundred boats, such as I described above; between fifty and seventy

men go aboard each vessel, with each of BEAU- them two firelocks and a scymitar, carry PLAN. four or five falconets upon the sides of the vessel, and provisions proper for them. They wear a shirt and drawers, have a shift, a pitiful gown, a cap, six pounds of cannon powder, and ball enough for their small arms and falconets, and every one carries a quadrant. This is the flying army of the *Cossacks* on the *Black Sea*, able to terrify the best towns in *Anatolia*.

Thus provided, they run down the *Boristhenes*; the admiral carries his distinction upon the mast, and generally has the van, their boats keep so close that the oars almost clash. The *Turk* has commonly notice of their coming, and keeps several galleys ready at the mouth of the *Boristhenes* to hinder their coming out; but the *Cossacks*, who are cunninger, slip out in a dark night about the new moon, lying hid among the reeds that are three or four leagues up the *Boristhenes*, where the galleys dare not go, having far'd ill there formerly, and think it enough to wait their coming out, in which they are always surprized: yet the *Cossacks* cannot slip by so swiftly but they are discovered, then all the country takes the alarm, and it runs as far as *Constantinople*. The grand seignior sends expresses all along the coast of *Anatolia*, *Bulgaria*, and *Romania*, that all people may be upon their guard, giving them notice that the *Cossacks* are at sea. But all this is to no purpose, for they make such use of their time, that in thirty six or forty hours time they are in *Anatolia*, where they land with every man his firelock, leaving but two men and two boys to keep each boat: There they surprize towns, take, pillage and burn them, and sometimes go a league up the country, but return immediately, and go aboard with their booty, hastening away to try their fortune in another place. If by chance they meet with any, they fall on; if not, they return home with their booty. If they find any *Turkish* galleys or other ships, they pursue, attack and make themselves masters of them, which they do in this manner: their boats are not above two foot and a half above water, and they discover a ship or galley before they themselves can be perceived by them: Then they strike their masts, observe how the enemy winds, and endeavour to have the sun upon their backs at night; then an hour before sun-setting they row with all their might towards the ship or galley till they come within a league of it, for fear of losing sight of it, and so continue: Then about midnight (the signal being given) they pull up again amain towards the vessel, half the crew ready to fight, only expecting when they come together

They set not out till after mid-summer, to be back the latest at the beginning of autumn.

BEAU- to board. Those in the ship or galley are  
PLAN. astonished to be attacked by eighty or a  
hundred vessels, which fill them full of men,  
and in a moment bear all down: this done,  
they pillage what they find in silver, or  
goods of no great bulk, that cannot be  
spoil'd by the water, as also the brass guns,  
and what they think can serve them, then  
sink the vessel and men in it. This is the  
practice of the *Cossacks*: had they skill to  
manage a ship or galley, they might carry  
it away, but they have not that knack.  
When they are to return home, the guards  
are doubled upon the mouth of the *Boristhenes*;  
but tho' weak they laugh at that, for when  
they have been forced to fight, they have  
often lost many men, and the sea has  
swallowed some of their vessels, for they  
cannot be all so good, but some must  
fail. Therefore they land in a creek, three  
or four leagues east of *Oczakow*, where  
there is a valley very low, about a quarter  
of a league in length, the spring tides  
sometimes overflowing it half a foot deep,  
and is about three leagues over to the  
*Boristhenes*: there two or three hundred  
*Cossacks* draw their boats across one after  
another, and in two or three days they are  
in the *Boristhenes* with their booty. Thus  
they avoid fighting the galleys that keep  
the mouth of the river of *Oczakow*. To  
conclude, they return to their *Karbenicza*,  
where they share the spoil, as was said  
before. Besides this, they have another  
refuge, they return by the mouth of *Don*,  
through a strait that lies between *Taman*  
and *Kercy*, and run up the mouth to the  
river *Mius*, and as far as this river is  
navigable, from whence to *Taczawoda* is  
but a league, and *Taczawoda* falls into  
the *Samar*, which runs into the *Dnieper*  
a league above *Kudac*, as may be seen  
in the map. But they rarely return this  
way, because it is too long for them to  
return to *Zaporouy*. Sometimes they go  
this way out to sea, when there is a  
great force at the mouth of the  
*Boristhenes* to obstruct their coming  
out, or that they have but twenty or  
twenty five boats.

When the galleys meet them at sea in  
the day time, they set them hard with  
their guns, scattering them like so many  
rocks, sink several, and put them in  
such a consternation, that those who  
escape make haste to put in wheresoever  
they can. But when they fight with the  
galleys, they do not ply their oars, which  
are lashed to the side by withs; and when  
they have fired a musquet, their comrades  
give them another ready loaden to fire  
again, and thus they ply it without  
ceasing, and effectually. The galleys  
are not able to board one of them, but  
their cannon does them much harm. Upon  
these occasions they com-

monly lose two thirds of their men, and  
seldom come off with half, but they bring  
rich booty, as *Spanish* pieces of eight,  
*Arabian* sequines, carpets, cloth of gold,  
cotton, silks, and other commodities of  
great value. Thus the *Cossacks* live, and  
these are their revenues; for as for trades  
they use none, but drinking and debauching  
among their friends when they return home.

To proceed in the performance of what  
I promised, something must be said of the  
customs they observe in some of their  
marriages, and how they make love, which  
will seem odd and incredible to some  
persons. There, contrary to the practice  
of all other nations, the maids make love  
to those young men they take a liking to;  
and a certain superstition they have among  
them, and observe punctually, is the cause  
they seldom miss of their aim, and they  
are more sure to succeed than the men  
would be, if application were made by  
them. This is the manner of it.

The maid that is in love goes to the  
young man's father's house, at such a time  
as she judges she may find the father,  
and gallant together. Coming into  
the room, she says, *Pomagaboa*, that is,  
God bless you, the common salutation  
used at entering their houses. Having  
taken her place, she compliments him that  
has won her heart, and speaks to him in  
these words, *Juan, fediur, demitre, woitek,*  
*mitika, &c.* (in short, she calls him by one  
of these names, which are most usual  
among them); perceiving a certain goodness  
in your countenance, which shews you  
will know how to rule and love your wife;  
and hoping from your virtue that you will  
be a good *Despodorge*: These good qualities  
make me humbly beseech you to accept of  
me for your wife. Then she says as much  
to the father and mother, praying them  
to consent to the match. If they refuse  
her, or make some excuse, saying, he is  
too young, and not fit to marry; she  
answers, She will never depart till she  
has married him, as long as he and she  
live. These words being spoken, and the  
maid persisting, and positively asserting  
she will not depart the room till she has  
obtained her desire; after some weeks the  
father and mother are forced, not only to  
consent, but also to persuade their son to  
look favourably upon her, that is, as one  
that is to be his wife. The youth  
perceiving the maid fully bent upon  
loving him, begins to look upon her as  
one that is in time to be mistress of his  
inclinations, and therefore intreats his  
father and mother to give him leave to  
place his affections upon that maid.  
And thus amorous maids in that  
country cannot miss of being soon  
provided, for by persisting they force the  
father, mother,

ther, and son, to comply with them; and this, as I said above, for fear of incurring God's wrath, and that some disaster may not befall them; for to thrust the maid out would be an affront to all her kindred, who would resent it; and in this case they cannot use violence, without incurring, as I was saying, the indignation and punishment of the church, which is very severe in these affairs, imposing, when such a thing happens, penances, and great fines, and declaring the family infamous. Being kept in awe by these superstitions, they, as near as may be, avoid the misfortunes they believe, as firmly as they do their articles of faith, will befall them, by refusing to give their sons to those maids that demand them. And this custom holds only among people of equal rank, for in that country the peasants are all rich alike, and there is but little difference as to their worth.

Now I will speak of other unequal amours between a peasant and a gentlewoman, allowed by ancient custom and privilege kept up among them.

How a peasant may marry a gentlewoman.

It is the custom in all the villages of that country, for all the peasants, with their wives and children, to meet at the usual place of rendezvous, every Sunday and holiday after dinner. The place of rendezvous is the tavern, where they spend the rest of the day a merry making together; but only the men and women drink, while the youth spend their time in dancing to a *douda*, that is, a horn-pipe. The lord of the place is usually there with all his family to see them dance. Sometimes the lord makes them dance before his castle, which is the most usual place; and there he dances himself, with his wife and children. At that time the gentry and peasants mix together; and it is to be observed, that all the villages of *Podolia* and *Ukraine* are for the most part encompassed with underwoods, where there are lurking-places for the peasants to retire in summer, when they are alarmed with the coming of the *Tartars*. These underwoods may be half a league over; and though the peasants are kept under like slaves, nevertheless they have this ancient right and privilege of conveying away, if they can, out of this dancing assembly, a young maiden gentlewoman, though she were their own lord's daughter, provided he does it so dexterously as to come off well, otherwise he is a lost man, and that he can fly into the neighbouring copses, where if he can lie hid four and twenty hours, without being discovered, he is cleared of the rape committed; and if the maid he has stole will marry him, he cannot refuse her without losing his head; if not, he is acquitted of

the crime, and cannot be punished: but if it happen that he is taken within the twenty four hours, his head is immediately chopt off, without any form of law. Though I lived there seventeen years, I never heard that this was once done. I have seen the maids make love to the young men, and often succeed, as I said above; but this last practice is too dangerous, for a man must have good heels to carry away a maid by force, and run away with her in sight of a considerable company, without being overtaken; and it would be yet harder, unless the maid was consenting to it; besides that at present the peasants are more kept under than they were formerly, and the nobility is grown more haughty and imperious. It is likely this privilege was granted the peasants when the *Polanders* at the election of their kings, preferred him that ran swiftest barefoot, looking upon him as the bravest and best man; as if valour and worth consisted in swiftness and activity of body. Hence I suppose it came too, that the nobility make the king swear the day after his election, before the altar, that he will imprison no nobleman for any crime whatsoever, except treason against the state, or himself, four and twenty hours after the fact committed, to shew they had a great value for those that ran well and were nimble. And this may be further observed by the great value they put upon fleet-horses, for that is all they look for, and give any thing for them, so they run well: and this, I guess, is that they may overtake a flying enemy, and fly themselves swiftly when pursued.

Since we have spoken of the amours of the *Russians*, let us say somewhat of the wedding-feast and ceremonies observed at it.

The nuptial ceremonies are these: The youth on both sides are invited, and have orders from the bride and bridegroom to bring all their kindred, to be present at the *Wesellé*, that is, the wedding; to authorize them for performing this duty, each of them has a garland of flowers given him, which he puts upon his arm, carrying a list of all the guests invited, to whose houses they go the day before the wedding, by two and two. The first of them who delivers the message, and makes the speech, has a rod in his hand. I shall not spend time to give you an account of the dishes, and what varieties are served up to table; I shall only inform you, that the bride being well dressed after their manner, that is, in a long gown of a sad colour'd cloth hanging on the ground, stiffen'd with whalebone all round, which makes her spread, and laced with broad laces, half silk, and half woollen, her head bare, her hair

BEAU-PLAN.

Of their weddings.

BEAU-  
PLAN. hair spread on her back, shewing nothing naked but her face, and a garland of such flowers as the season will afford on her head; her father, brother, or nearest kinsman, leads her to church, a violin, hornpipe, or cimbal going before. After she is married, one of her near relations takes her by the hand, and leads her home again with the same musick. I omit the rejoicings at the wedding-entertainment, tho' they are extraordinary, and wherein they are nothing inferior to other nations; and shall only observe, that what encourages them the more to debauchery, to which they are naturally inclined, is, that upon weddings, and christnings of their children, the lord of the place gives them leave to brew beer, which liberty makes them drink it the cheaper, and much more extravagantly: for it is to be observed, that at other times the lords have common brew-houses, where all his vassals are obliged to buy their store.

When it is time to put the bride to bed, the bridegroom's female kindred carry her into a room, where they strip her stark naked, and search her all round, even her ears, hair, between her toes, and other parts of her body, to see whether there is no blood, pin, or cotton dipped in some red liquor hid about her; and should they find any such thing, it would discompose the wedding, and cause much disorder: but if they find nothing, they put her on a fine smock of cotton cloth very white and new; and then lay her between two sheets, making the bridegroom steal to bed to her. When they are together, they draw the curtains, and yet most of the people at the wedding come into the room, with the horn-pipe, dancing and every one with a glass in his hand. The women dance and skip, and clap their hands, till the matrimony be absolutely consummated; and if she makes any demonstration of joy at that happy moment, all the company leaps, and clapping their hands, give great acclamations of joy. The bridegroom's kindred are still watching about the bed to hear what is doing, waiting to draw the curtain as soon as the sport is over. Then they give the bride a clean smock, and if on that they take from her they find the tokens of a maiden-head, they make the house ring with joyful acclamations, in which all the kindred joins. After that, when she is dressed, it is after the fashion of women, into which number she is admitted, that is, her head is covered, which is only allowed to them, for maids never wear any thing but their hair, and would look upon it as a disgrace.

Next day another no less comical part is acted, which to those who have not seen it

must seem very strange, which is, that they run a staff through both the smock sleeves, turning it the wrong side outwards, and so in great state walk with it all about the town, like a banner bearing the honourable tokens of the combat, that all the people may be witnesses, both of the bride's virginity, and the bridegroom's manhood. All the guests follow with the musick, singing and dancing more eagerly than before. And in this procession, the young men leading the young maids that were at the wedding, walk all about the town; all the multitude runs out, hearing the noise, and follow them till they return to the house of the new-married couple.

But if on the other side they should not find the marks of honour, every man throws down his glass, and the women forbear singing, for then the feast is spoil'd, and the bride's kindred disgraced, and out of countenance. There ends the wedding: then they commit a thousand extravagancies in the house, make holes in the pots the meat was dressed in, break off the mouths of the earthen cups they drank out of, put a horse collar about the bride's mother's neck; then set her upon a table, and sing a thousand filthy beastly songs to her, giving her to drink in one of those broken-mouthed cups, and upbraid her unmercifully for not having been watchful in preserving her daughter's honour. In short, after having used all the vile language they can think of to her, every one goes home vexed to have been at so disagreeable an entertainment. Especially the kindred of the bride keep in their houses as if they absconded, and continue there some time without stirring abroad, because of the shame of that misfortune. As for the husband, it is left to his choice to keep or leave her; but if he will keep her, he must resolve to put up all affronts that shall be offered him upon that account.

I must add this one word more upon this subject, concerning the manners of their women, and allow them the honour of being chaste when fasting; but the liberty allowed them of drinking *aqua vite*, and their liquor made of honey, would render them more easy of access, were it not for fear of publick shame, and the dishonour done to maids if they will marry, as has been shewn above, without having the tokens of their virginity.

Before I conclude this discourse, I will say something of the ceremonies they observe at *Easter*. Upon holy saturday they go to church (which they call *cerkeil*) to be present at the ceremonies performed there, which are putting an image of our Saviour into a sepulchre, whence they draw it out with great solemnity: which representation

sentation being ended, all the men, women, and children go in their turns, and kneel down before the bishop (whom they call *wladik*) and present him an egg painted red or yellow, speaking these words, *Cbristos vos Cbrist*; and the bishop lifting up each person says, *Oystinos vos Cbristos*, and at the same time kisses the women and maids. Thus the bishop, in less than two hours, gathers above five or six thousand eggs, and has the satisfaction of kissing the handsomest women and maids in his church: true it is, it would be some trouble to him, and displeasing, to kiss the old women; but he has ways to make a distinction between them; for when he does not like the faces, he only gives them his hand to kiss. The metropolitan called *Moquilla*, who is head of all the bishops, exercised this function at *Kiow*, as do all the meanest curates, whom they call *dospodé*.

For eight days there is no going about the streets, without a quantity of those painted eggs, to give such of your acquaintance as you meet, saying the same words they do to the *wladik*, or *dospodé*. Then the friend, whether man or woman, answering as above, they embrace one another and kiss; and he or she thus saluted, is obliged to return another egg, performing the same ceremony over again.

On *Easter* monday, very early in the morning, they have another pleasant custom, which is, that several young fellows go about the streets together, and take up all the young maids they meet, whom they carry to the brink of a well to bathe them, throwing five or six pails of water over their heads, that they may be wet all over. This sport is only allowed till noon.

On *Tuesday* following the maids have their revenge, but more cunningly: several of them hide themselves in a house, with each of them a pitcher full of water ready, and have a little girl that stands sentinel, and gives notice by some sign, when a young man goes by; then all the maids run out into the streets, and seize the man with great shouts; which the neighbours hearing, all the maids flock to their assistance; and two or three of the strongest holding him, the rest pour all their pitchers of water down his neck, and let him not go till he is well washed. -- This is the sport between young men and maids at *Easter*.

The men play another game on *Easter Monday*, which is, that they go in the morning in a body to the castle to meet the lord, who devoutly expects them; and after making their obeysance, every one draws near, and presents him with pullets, or some other sort of fowl. The lord in return for these offerings, treats his vassals

with *aqua vite*, causing the head to be beat out of a cask, which is set upon the other head in the middle of the court: then all the peasants make a ring about it, and the lord comes with a great ladle, which he fills, and drinks to the eldest in the company; then gives the ladle to him he drank to; so they all drink round, and begin again till the cask is out; and if it be out before night (which often happens) the lord must cause another full cask to be brought instead of the empty one, for he is bound to treat them after this manner till sun-set, if the peasants can hold out; but after sun-set they sound a retreat. Those that are able go home, those that cannot lie down in the street and sleep it out, unless their wives and children have so much charity as to lay them on a hand-barrow and carry them home; but they who have overcharged themselves, remain in the court of the castle to sleep their fill. It is an odious thing to see those wretches so drunk, without having eaten a morsel of bread, rolling in their filth like swine: and I have seen one of those brutal fellows carried away dead upon a cart, and it was not then above two a clock in the afternoon. Those are strange customs which make men die miserably; and how brutish is the proverb they have always in their mouths. *That a man had as good drink fair water if he does not feel the effects of drinking?* Those people can hardly sleep after their common meals, but when they are drunk they sleep sound; so that the next morning they remember nothing that happened the day before, drunkenness so drowning their reason that they have nothing left but the shape of men. Upon these occasions, such as design to get any thing from them by way of gift, do pretend to be drunk with them; and when they see them hot-headed (for then they are very free-hearted) they beg something they have a mind to of them, which is immediately granted and delivered, which he that receives takes and sends away; but in the morning they are surprised, for having forgot what they did, and not finding what they gave away, they grow sad, being concerned at their prodigality, but comfort themselves with the hopes of catching another the same way to make up their loss.

Since we are entred upon the subject of our *Russians*, or *Cossacks*, it will not be amiss to relate what more we know of them, and speak of their manner of behaviour upon several other occasions. I have seen *Cossacks* sick of a fever, who take no other medicine but half a bandeleer of cannon-powder, and dissolve it in half a pint of *aqua vite*; and having stirred it well together, drink it off, and go to bed

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ken cu-  
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Cure of  
the Cof-  
sacks.

**BRUV-** upon it, and rise in the morning in perfect health. I had a coachman whom I have seen do it several times, and who has often cured himself with this drench, which the physicians and apothecaries would never think on. I have seen others take ashes, and mix them with *aqua vite*, tempered as above, which they have drank with success. I have often seen them wounded with arrows, and being far from surgeons, dress themselves with a little earth, tempered in their hand with their own spittle, which healed them as well as the best salve; which shews that necessity exerts ingenuity as well in this country as any other.

This puts me in mind of a *Cossack* I once met upon the river *Samar*, who was boiling fish in a wooden bowl, which the *Poland*ers and *Cossacks* carry behind them on the saddle to give their horses water: to do this he heated flat stones in the fire, and threw them into the bowl; which he did till the water boiled, and the fish was ready; an invention which at first sight has but an indifferent aspect, and yet is ingenious enough.

I remember I once made mention of a disease they call *goschest*, to which they are subject, and whereof it will not be amiss to speak a few words.

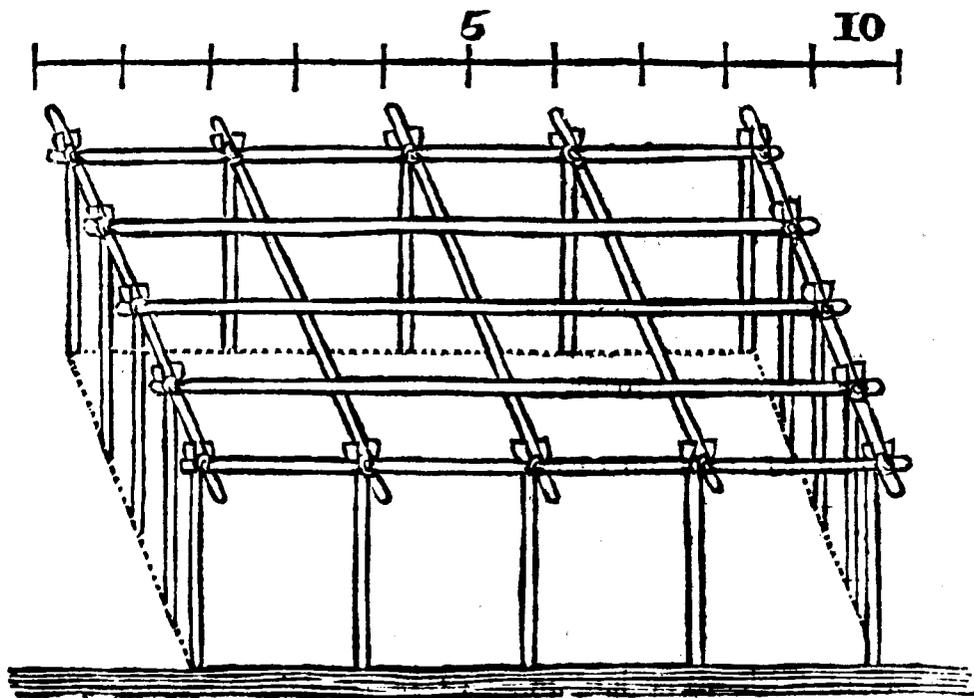
**Goschest a**  
**disease a-**  
**mong the**  
**Cossacks.**

The persons afflicted with this disease (which the *French* call *coltons*) are lame of all their limbs for a year, as if they were struck with a dead palsy; but endure great pains in all their sinews, so that they are continually crying out. After a year is expired, their head falls some night into a great sweat, so that in the morning they find all their hair clung together, and flat, like a tail of salt-fish. Then the sick person finds much ease, and some days after is perfectly well, nay better in health than

ever he was before, only that his hair looks scurvily, and cannot be comb'd; and if he should happen to cut it off within two days, the humour that purges out at the pores of the hair would fall upon his eyes, and he would be quite blind.

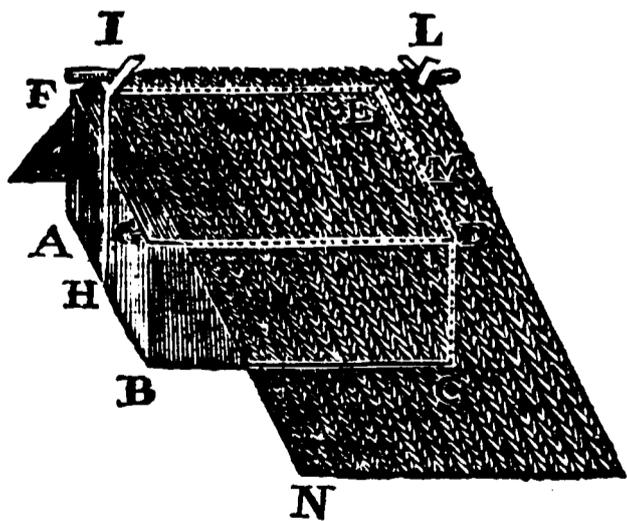
Among them they look upon this disease as incurable, but I have cured several after the same manner as we do the pox in *France*. Some perceiving this disease come upon them, go away for a while into other countries for change of air, which is another remedy that cures them insensibly. This disease is not got by drinking out of the same glass with those that have it; but if one person lies with another that has it, the husband gives it his wife, and the wife the husband. The physicians make a distinction between male and female, and say, that old *Babas*, as they term them, poison the men and give them this distemper, making them eat of certain cakes. Others giving it in the steam of hot water; so that he who receives it, finds his brain disturbed, and falls ill within a few days after. There are children born with their hair clotted together; but that is a good sign, for as they grow it loosens, and those children can never after have this distemper.

I must further add, as a thing very remarkable in that country, that there is an infinite number of flies along the banks of the *Boristhenes*. In the morning there are those of the common sort which do no harm; at noon others as thick as a man's thumb, which trouble horses very much, and sting them through the skin, so that they are all over bloody; but at night it is still worse along that river because of the gnats, and other insects, so that there is no sleeping without a *polené* as the *Cossacks* call it, which is like a little tent, under



which they lie to secure themselves against those vermin, and without which in the morning their faces would be all swollen. I once felt it, and can give an account of it; three days passed before my face came to itself, I could scarce see or open my eyes, for my eye-lids were swelled, and I looked monstrously. But, as I said, the *Cossacks* have a *Polené* made after this manner: They cut sixteen little forks of hazle, about an inch thick, and two foot and half long, or thereabouts: these they fix in the ground about two foot one from the other, and breadth-way a foot distance. Then they lay five cross pieces of the same hazle upon the forks, and five more athwart them, and bind all together with a withy. Over this they lay a cotton-cloth made on purpose, and sewed, to fit this bigness; which covers not only the top, but all the sides, about a foot or more lying on the ground, which is tuck'd in under the quilt or bed for fear the flies should get in: thus two persons lie very well. Only principal officers use this, for all people have not the little tent or pavilion. When they see it will rain, they cover themselves as in the following draught, which will better demonstrate it than all I can say. In short, they are so persecuted in that country, that they are fain to make a fire continually, that the smoke may drive away the insects.

ABCDEF G is the *Polené* covered with cloth, HI and LM are two forks on which a cross pole IL rests, which supports the *Turkey* carpet made of twisted thread, which the rain cannot pierce, and serves as a roof to the *Polené*.



Of locusts.

After the flies, let us talk of the grasshoppers, or locusts, which are there so numerous that they put me in mind of the scourge God sent upon *Egypt*, when he would punish *Pharoah*. I have seen this plague for several years one after another, particularly in 1645 and 1646: those creatures do not only come in legions, but in whole clouds, five or six leagues in length,

and two or three in breadth, and generally come from towards *Tartary*, which happens in a dry spring; for *Tartary* and the countries east of it, as *Circassia*, *Bazza*, and *Mingrelia*, are seldom free from them. These vermin being drove by an east, or south-east wind, come into *Ukraine*, where they do much mischief, eating up all sorts of grain and grass: so that wheresoever they come, in less than two hours they crop all they find, which causes great scarcity of provisions; and if the locusts remain there in autumn, and the month of *October*, which is the time when they die after laying at least three hundred eggs apiece, which hatch next spring if it be dry, then the country is three hundred times worse pestered. But if it rains when they begin to hatch, they all die, and the country escapes that year, unless they come from other parts. It is not easy to express their numbers, for all the air is full and darkned; and I cannot better represent their flight to you than by comparing it to the fleaks of snow in cloudy weather drove about by the wind: and when they alight upon the ground to feed, the plains are all covered, and they make a murmuring noise as they eat, where in less than two hours they devour all close to the ground; then rising, they suffer themselves to be carried away by the wind; and when they fly, though the sun shines never so bright, it is no lighter than when most clouded. In *June* 1646, having stayed two months in a new town called *Novograd*, where I was building a citadel, I was astonished to see so vast a multitude; for it was prodigious to behold them, because they were hatched there that spring; and being as yet scarce able to fly, the ground was all covered, and the air so full of them, that I could not eat in my chamber without a candle, all the houses being full of them, even the stables, barns, chambers, garrets, and cellars. I caused cannon-powder and sulphur to be burnt to expel them, but all to no purpose; for when the door was opened, an infinite number came in, and the others went out fluttering about, and it was a troublesome thing when a man went abroad to be hit on the face by those creatures, sometimes on the nose, sometimes the eyes, and sometimes the cheeks; so that there was no opening one's mouth, but some would get in. Yet all this was nothing, for when we were to eat, those creatures gave us no respite; and when we went to cut a bit of meat, we cut a locust with it; and when a man opened his mouth to put in a morsel, he was sure to chew one of them. In short, the wisest men were confounded to see such innumerable multitudes, which were such as cannot be expressed; and they

that

BEAU- that would conceive it, should have seen  
PLAN. it, as I did. After they had destroyed all  
 that grew in the country for a fortnight  
 together, and having gathered strength to  
 fly further, the wind took them up and  
 carried them away to do as much mischief  
 in some other place. I have seen them at  
 night when they sit to rest them, that the  
 roads were four inches thick of them one  
 upon another; so that the horses would  
 not trample over them, but as they were  
 put on with much lashing, pricking up  
 their ears, snorting and treading very fear-  
 fully. The wheels of our carts, and the  
 feet of our horses bruising those creatures,  
 there came from them such a stink as not  
 only offended the nose but the brain. I  
 was not able to endure that stench, but  
 was forced to wash my nose in vinegar, and  
 hold a handkerchief dipped in it continually  
 at my nostrils. The swine feast upon them  
 as a dainty, and grow fat, but no body  
 will eat of them so fatned, only because  
 they abhor that sort of vermine that does  
 them so much harm. These vermin in-  
 crease and multiply thus: They generate  
 in *October*, and with their tails make a  
 hole in the ground, and having laid three  
 hundred eggs in it, and covered them with  
 their feet, they die, for they never live  
 above six months and a half; and though  
 the rains should come then, it would not de-  
 stroy the eggs, nor does the frost, though ne-  
 ver so sharp, hurt them, but they continue  
 till spring, which is about mid-*April*, when  
 the sun warming the earth, they hatch and  
 leap all about, being six weeks before they  
 can fly, without going far from the place  
 where they received life; but when stronger,  
 and that they can fly, they go wherever the  
 wind carries them. If it should happen  
 that the north-east prevails when they first  
 take their flight, it carries them all into the  
*Black Sea*; but if the wind blows from any  
 other quarter, they go into some other  
 country to do mischief. But if the rains fall  
 when they begin to hatch, and continue but  
 eight or ten days, all the eggs are lost, and so  
 in summer eight or ten days continual rain  
 kills all the locusts upon the ground, for  
 they cannot fly, and so the people are deli-  
 vered from them. But if the summer prove  
 dry (which is most usual) they are tormen-  
 ted with them till they die in *October*. This  
 is what I have observed several years in  
 those parts concerning the locusts, which  
 are as thick as a man's finger, and three or  
 four inches long. I have been told there  
 by persons that understand languages well,  
 that these words are writ on their wings in  
*Chaldee* letters, *Boze Gnion*, in *English*,  
*Scourge of God*; for the truth of it I rely  
 on those that told me so and understand  
 the language.

Now let us proceed to what I found  
 most remarkable beyond the *Dnieper*,  
 where there are two rivers, one called *Sula*,  
 the other *Supoy*, which both fall into the  
*Nieper*, between which rivers there are lit-  
 tle creatures which they call *Bobaques*, in  
 shape and bigness much resembling the  
*Barbary* rabbits, which have but four teeth,  
 two above and two below, their hair and  
 colour like a badger. They make bur-  
 rows like rabbits, and in *October* shut  
 themselves up, and do not come out again  
 till *April*, when they run about to feed,  
 and spend all the winter under ground,  
 eating what they have laid up in summer.  
 They are great sleepers, and good mana-  
 gers, nature directing them to lay up their  
 provision, insomuch that one would think  
 there were slaves among them, for they  
 take those that are lazy and lay them on  
 their backs, then lay a great handful of  
 dry herbage upon their bellies, which they  
 hold fast with their paws, or rather hands,  
 because they make use of them almost as  
 the monkeys do; then the others drag  
 those drones to the mouths of their burrows,  
 and so those creatures serve instead of bar-  
 rows, whence they make them carry the  
 provision into their holes. I have often seen  
 them practise this, and have had the curio-  
 sity to observe them whole days together,  
 making them run to their burrows to  
 see their apartments, and have found se-  
 veral holes parted like chambers; some  
 serve for store-houses, others for burying-  
 places, whither they carry the dead; and  
 others for other uses. They live eight or  
 ten in a family together, and every one has  
 its apartment by itself, where they live  
 very orderly; and their government is no-  
 thing inferior to that of the bees or ants,  
 of whom so much has been writ. I must  
 add that all these creatures are hermaphro-  
 dites, and being taken young in *May* are  
 easily tamed. In the market they do not  
 cost above a penny or three half-pence. I  
 have bred several of them, and they are  
 pleasant in the house, being as diverting as  
 monkeys or squirrels, eating the same sort  
 of food.

I had forgot to say that these creatures  
 are very cunning; for they never go  
 abroad without posting a centinel upon  
 some high ground, to give notice to the  
 others whilst they are feeding. As soon  
 as the centinel sees any body, it stands  
 up on its hind-legs, and whistles. Upon  
 which signal they all fly into their bur-  
 rows, and the centinel after them, staying  
 there till they think the people are gone  
 by.

The distance between these two rivers  
 of *Sula* and *Supoy* is not above six leagues;  
 and from the *Nieper* to the borders of

*Muscovy*, is not above fifteen or twenty leagues. These creatures I have describ'd live there, and are not to be found elsewhere. There is no good galloping in those parts, because the ground is full of little burrows (like a warren) and if a horse treads into a hole, he falls and is in danger of breaking his legs; I have been catch'd so several times. In *May* and *June* the peasants catch them after this manner, they pour five or six pails of water into their burrows, which makes them come out, and clapping a sack or net at the mouth of it, take them in it. The young ones, though never so tame, cannot forget their own nature; and in *October*, if they are not secured, they will earth in the house, and hide themselves to sleep a long time; and perhaps if they were let alone, would sleep out six whole months, as the dormice and mountain-mice do. Mice have been hid a fortnight, and after much seeking we found a hole; I caus'd them to be dig'd out, and found them quite wild.

Quails.

There is a sort of quails in those parts with blew feet, which are present death to any that eat of them.

Sounaky  
a Russian  
beast.

In the desert plains towards the *porouys* along the river *Nieper*, I have met a beast about as tall as a goose, but its hair very fine and smooth, and soft as fatten, when it has cast its coat, for afterwards it grows harsher, and is of a chestnut colour. This creature has two white shining horns; in the *Russian* language they call it *Sounaky*. Its legs and feet are very slender, has no bone in its nose; and when it will goes backward, not being able to graze otherwise. I have eaten of it, and the flesh is as good as kid; the horns which I keep as a rarity, being white, shining, and smooth.

Wild  
horses.

In those same parts there are also stags, hinds, troops of wild goats, wild boars of a vast bigness, and wild horses, who keep in flocks of fifty or sixty, and have often alarmed us, for at a distance we took them for *Tartars*. These horses are not serviceable, and the colts tho' taken up and broke, are good for nothing but to eat; their flesh is very dainty to look to, and tenderer than veal; yet in my opinion not so well relished, but unfavoury. Those people who eat papper, as we do pease, took away all its sweetness with their spice; the old ones being no way to be broke, are only fit for the shambles, where their flesh is sold as common as beef and mutton. Besides, their feet are spoiled, for the hoof does so bind their feet that they cannot be shod nor pared down, and consequently cannot run, which shews the providence of God; and that this beast is wholly design'd for the use of man, because when out of his hands, it becomes unfit for use, and unable to run.

There are also along this river birds, **BEAU-PLAN.** that have such a large neck, that within it there is as it were a pond, where they keep live fish, to eat when they have occasion. I have seen some of the same sort in the *Indies*. The other most remarkable birds there, and most numerous, are the cranes, of which there are vast multitudes. As for buffaloes, and other large creatures, they are on the frontiers of *Muscovy*; as are the white hares and wild cats. There are also in that country, but towards *Wallachia*, sheep with long wool, their tails shorter than usual, but much broader and triangular. The tails of some of them have weighed above ten pounds, generally it is above ten inches broad, and more in length ending in a point, all of it excellent fat. The great men of the country have fine horses spotted like leopards, beautiful to behold, which draw their coaches when they go to court.

Strange  
birds.

The greatest inconvenience in that country of *Ukraine* is the want of salt, and to supply that want they have it brought from *Pocouche*, a country belonging to *Poland*, on the frontiers of *Transylvania*, above eighty or a hundred leagues in length, as will appear in the map. In that country all the wells are of salt-water, which they boil, as we do white salt, and make little cakes an inch thick and two inches long, giving three hundred of them for a penny. This salt is very pleasant to eat, but does not salt so much as ours. They make another sort of elder and oak, which is good to eat with bread; they call this salt *Kolomey*. About *Cracow* they have mines of salt, as clear as crystal; that place is called *Wieliczka*. That country is also ill furnished with good water; I believe it is that which in some measure breeds the distemper they call *Goscbets*, whereof we have spoken before.

Notwithstanding those countries are near in the same latitude with *Normandy*, yet the cold is much more severe and sharp than in *France*, as we will make appear. Among other things to be observed there, is the cold, which some years is so violent, and excessive, that it is insupportable, not only for men, especially to those that belong to the army, but to the brute beasts themselves, as horses and other serviceable creatures. Such as are exposed to the rigor of it, if they lose not their lives, come off well with the loss of any part, as fingers or toes, the nose, cheeks, ears, and even that part modestly forbids to be nam'd, the natural heat of which parts is sometimes put out in a moment, and it produces a mortification. Sometimes those parts escape a sudden mortification, but if not speedily relieved are subject to cancerous tumours.

BEAU-  
FLAN.

as painful as those proceeding from a malignant burning humour, which made me sensible whilst I was there that cold has as much power and force to destroy any thing as fire has to consume. The beginning of those tumours is so small, that the place where the pain is at first is not so big as a pea; but in a few days, nay sometimes a few hours, it grows so big, and spreads so that it destroys all the part: and thus two persons I am acquainted with, in a trice lost the pleasantest part of them.

Sometimes, and that very frequently, it seizes men so violently, that there is no possibility of escaping it, especially when both inward and outward precautions have not been used, and it kills two ways. The one is quick, being violent, and may be said to be easy, because a man is not long in pain, and dies in his sleep. For they that are abroad, whether a horseback, in coach, or waggon, if they have not used the necessary precautions, and are not well clad and lined, and naturally of a disposition fit to endure such terrible cold, it seizes the extreme parts of their hands and feet, and by degrees all the rest of those parts, in such manner that being become insensible of the cold, they are taken with a sort of lethargick heaviness, which causes an extraordinary inclination to sleep; which if they are suffered to give way to, they sleep, but never wake again; but if they use all possible means to shake off that drowsiness, they escape death. And thus have I escap'd it several times, being very near it; for my servants who were stronger, and more us'd to the like inclemencies of the air, awak'd me. The other sort of death, tho' not so sudden, is so cruelly painful and insupportable, that it almost distracts those that endure it. This it is that happens to the strongest constitutions, the cold seizes the body on the right side of the reins, and all about the waste, the troopers under their armour; so pinching and straitning those parts, that it freezes up all their belly, especially the stomach and entrails; so that tho' they are always hungry, if they eat such things as are of easiest digestion, such as broths or gravy, when they are to be had, they are forced to cast them up as soon as they have swallow'd them, with such violent pains, and intolerable gripes, as are not to be express'd. Those persons who are thus seiz'd and tormented, are continually complaining, loudly and frequently crying out that all their bowels and other parts of their belly are torn to pieces. I leave it to the ablest physicians to examine into the cause of such horrible pains; and this being none of my province, I shall think it enough to relate what I have seen, assisted by the

curiosity of some of that country, who being desirous to see what was the effect of so violent and irresistible a distemper, caus'd some that dy'd of it to be open'd, the greatest part of whose bowels they found black, burnt up, and as it were glew'd together; which made them sensible that such diseases are generally incurable, and that as their entrails consumed and mortified, they were forced to complain and cry out day and night without respite, which render'd their death terrible, tedious, and without intermission.

This terrible cold assaulted us in the year 1646, when the *Polish* army enter'd *Muscovy*, to expect the return of the *Tartars*, who had made an irruption, to fight and take from them all the prisoners they had seized. The cold was so violent and cutting, that we were forced to remove our camp, with the loss of above two thousand men, most of whom dy'd in the cruel manner abovementioned, and the rest were maim'd. This cold did not only kill the men, but the horses too, tho' much more hardy and strong; for in that campaign above a thousand were spoil'd, that being seiz'd with that cold fit, were never able to go, and among them six horses belonging to lieutenant general *Potoski's* kitchen, he who is now generalissimo and castellan of *Cracow*. This cold came upon us when we were near the river *Merlo*, which falls into the *Boristhenes*. All remedies generally us'd are only by way of precaution, as being well clad and provided with all things that warm and repel such violent cold. For my part being in a coach or waggon, I kept a dog upon my feet to warm them, covering them with a thick woollen blanket, or a wolf's skin, and wash'd my face with good spirit of wine, as also my hands and feet, and wrapp'd them in clothes dipp'd in the same liquor, which I never suffer'd to dry up: and by these means, with the assistance of God, I prevented all the ill consequences before-mentioned, to which a man is more subject if he does not take some hot meat or drink, such as for example what they usually take three times a day; which is made of hot beer, a little butter, pepper, and bread, and serves them instead of pottage, fortifying their bowels against the cold.

The king being dead, the archbishop of *Gnesna* takes upon him the administration <sup>Election of</sup> the king. of affairs; and two or three weeks after the king's death, holds a great assembly at *Warsaw*, where he presides: All the senators meet there to debate and conclude upon the time and place for electing a new king. This point being settled, every senator returns to his palatinate, there to hold a little diet of that territory; that

is, he assembles all the nobility under his direction, at a certain time and place appointed, where none of them fail to come; and being all together, they confer about naming a new king. Every one shews reasons, according to his inclinations; and after all their contests and debates, they fix upon several princes; one of whom the deputies appointed for the election make choice of, and no other, after every one has shewn his commission for being at the election, and consenting to one of those five or six named, so that every one of the senators has done the same thing in his palatinate at the same time. Thus all the deputies of the palatinates, or provinces, are the first voters, and have the plurality of voices in the diets above the palatines; yet they always deliver themselves in the name of all; for before they come there they have all conferred notes, and are agreed upon what is to be done without contradicting one another; so that all depends on them, for nothing can be concluded on there, which all the deputies have not consented to; and if there be but one that opposes, and cries out aloud *Nievolena* (which is, you are not allowed it) all would come to nothing: for they have this power, not only at the election of kings, but may in any diet whatsoever break and disappoint all that the senators have concluded upon; for they hold these as fundamental maxims in their dominions.

1. That no nobleman can pretend to the crown, or name or give his vote for another to be so.

2. That whosoever is chosen king, must be of the *Roman* catholick and apostolick religion.

3. That he who is elected be a foreign prince, that he may have no lands in their dominions: and though the sons of the kings of *Poland* are princes, and born within their territories, yet that does not hinder them from being looked upon as stranger princes among them; and they may not purchase lands of inheritance as the native nobility may: And for this reason they may be chosen kings, as happened to *Uladislaus* the fourth, who was then eldest prince, after the death of *Sigismund* the Third his father, who was succeeded by *John Casimir* his brother now reigning; and yet this is to be no precedent to render the crown hereditary.

The manner of their elections is thus: It is generally made in open field half a league from *Warsaw*, the capital of *Masovia*, where the king usually resides; and in the castle of which place the diets are commonly held, that town being as it were the center of all the provinces belonging to the crown of *Poland*. The place of

election is half a league from *Warsaw* to-<sup>BEAU-</sup>wards *Dantzick*, where there was a small <sup>PLAN:</sup> inclosure made about one thousand or twelve hundred paces in compass, inclosed by a pitiful ditch about five or six foot wide, which serves only to hinder horses from going into the said inclosure; in which there are two great tents, one for the election where all the senators sit, and the other where all the deputies of provinces meet, who confer together before they go into the great audience of the senate. Every one shews his commission, and what he may consent to; and in this conference they all agree upon what they may oppose or grant. They meet thus every day before the audience, which every time lasts six or seven hours; during which time they propose all they can think on towards preserving their liberties. At least a fortnight was spent at the election of the late king *Uladislaus*; during which time there were no less than eighty thousand horse about that little inclosure, all soldiers following the senators; for every one of them had a little army, some greater, some less, as the palatine of *Cracow* who then had seven thousand men; and so others according to their power; for every one is attended by his friends and subjects in the best condition they can; being well disciplined, and with a resolution to fight in case they cannot agree. Observe, that during the time of the election, all the nobility of the country was upon its guard, every one with his foot in the stirrup ready to mount upon the least disagreement or falling out, to fall upon those that should attempt to infringe their liberties. At length, after several sittings and audiences, they agreed upon a prince for their king; every one, or at least the chief of the senators and deputies, put his hand to it, but did not publish it till next day. Then every one returning to his quarters gives orders to his troops to be ready to draw up, according to the great general's command (for then they all put themselves under the great standard of the crown) and were ready to cry, *Long live the king*, calling him by his name. After three shouts they fired volleys of all the cannon and small arms, expressing their satisfaction, and repeating it three times. Then all the senate rose, and the principal senators went to the elder prince who had been chosen king, and was then at a village half a league off. After saluting him in the name of all the republick, they made a speech declaring how they had chosen him for their king, desiring him to accept of it, and to receive them under the government of his wisdom, assuring him they would be his most faithful and most obedient

BEAU-  
PLAN. dient subjects. The king accepting, the senators shew'd him their laws and statutes (tho' he was not ignorant of them) which he promis'd to observe inviolably. Next day they conducted him to *St. John's church at Warsaw*, where before the altar the king took his oath; these that follow were the articles read to him in the presence of all the assembly.

Articles  
the king  
swears to  
observe.

1. *That he shall never enjoy any demesn of the crown but what is assigned him; so they term their state.*

2. *That it shall not be in his power to purchase or possess one foot of land in it.*

3. *That he shall not give out commissions for raising of men, unless they have been appointed in the diet.*

4. *That it shall not be in his power, after the expiration of 24 hours, to cause any Polish gentleman to be imprisoned, unless it be for high treason against his person, or the state.*

5. *That he shall not declare war, nor so much as send an ambassador upon affairs of state, without the consent of the republick.*

6. *That he shall always allow three senators to be near his person to assist him in council; and that they should have an eye upon his actions, for fear he should contrive any thing to their prejudice.* These three senators serve quarterly, so that the king can bring about nothing but what must be presently known.

7. *The king shall not marry, make any alliances, nor go out of the kingdom, without consent of the senate.*

8. *It shall not be in his power to make any commoner noble for any service done, unless it be to the state, and then the senate must consent to it.*

The  
king's  
power.

The king, though thus tied to conditions, yet has the power, not only of bestowing all ecclesiastical benefices, but all lands belonging to the crown, as they fall, but it must be to gentlemen that are subjects of the crown; and particularly to such as have merited by their service, either in war or embassies, or other publick service, that this may be a reward, and make others vie to be useful and virtuous.

He has also the sovereign power to grant leave to burn wood in those lands, and governments he bestows, for making of pot and other ashes, which yield a great revenue, though it destroys much wood.

He has also the right of bestowing all offices, from the highest to the lowest, and that for life; for no man can be removed from his employment without his own consent, or being proceeded against according to law.

He appoints the meeting of diets, which are usually held every two years. When

he goes to war, he may oblige all the gentry of any province to attend him by way of arrier-ban; and whosoever fails, forfeits his head, his race loses its nobility, and his goods are confiscated to the crown.

This is the extent of his power; and though he be a king, his hands are tied up in many cases, not doing as he thinks fit, but being forced to consent to many things against his inclination. Nevertheless he is head of the republick, and all things are done in his name, though he can do nothing of himself.

The Polish nobility are all equal, there being no superiority among them, as is usual in *France, Germany, Italy, Spain, &c.* where there are dukes, marquisses, earls, barons; for they have no other title but that of *tarosta*, which are governments and demesns the king bestows on the nobility; for all the lands of noblemen are held without any mention of feoffee, or under-feoffee, so that the poorest gentleman thinks himself no way inferior to one much richer than himself; but they pay a respect to those that are officers of the crown. The meanest of them pretend they are capable of being senators, when it shall please the king; and to this purpose they all from their infancy learn *Latin*, because all their laws are writ in that language. They all aspire to hold some lands belonging to the demesn of the crown; and this makes them strive to outdo one another in virtue, and to appear in the army, and there to perform some notable exploits upon occasion, that they may be taken notice of by their general, and be recommended to the king, who rewards them with some of those estates.

The nobility, as has been said, has the power of chusing their king, who cannot after 24 hours, imprison any of them for any crime whatsoever, except treason. Nor can any of them be imprisoned till his cause be tried, judgment given, and he thrice summoned to appear. So that the nobility have liberty to come and go, to make interest with their judges, and be present at the examination of witnesses who depose against them, without fearing to be apprehended before sentence is past; after which they have time to withdraw into a monastery, which very often is the sanctuary of wicked men, who are not able to support themselves by main force; for the great lords laugh at justice, and travel with company enough to oppose them that have caused them to be convicted. The sentence is usually to be beheaded, and their goods forfeited. Then they are three times summoned by a crier to appear, and come before the court of justice in an hour: But they are not such fools to put themselves

themselves into the hands of the hangman, knowing they are condemned to die. They not appearing, infamy is added to the sentence; that is, any one that meets, is authorized and allowed to kill them; and they that eat or drink with them are accounted guilty of the same crime. Then the plaintiff being too weak for the party condemned, comes to some composition, and for a sum of money discharges the other: After which the criminal may sue out the king's pardon, which costs two or three thousand livres; by which he is cleared of his crime, and of the infamy, and restored to his goods. But when the criminal is not so powerful as the party grieved, he must fly the country to save his life, and his goods are forfeited to the crown. These are the benefits the king cannot enjoy, and which he gives the nobility for life. But, as they say, guilt wears out in time; for after some years past, friends endeavour to make up the business, either because the party concerned is dead, or that he relents and forgives, or through some other means, after which the criminal may easily recover his goods, if he has any interest.

It is not so among soldiers, for upon the least offence they are secured, without being looked upon as gentlemen, but as soldiers, and are accordingly tried by a council of war, and judgment no sooner given than executed.

The nobility may farm land without any disparagement, and sell the product of the earth; but they are not allowed to trade, any more than in *France*.

No single duels.

In private quarrels they are not obliged to seek satisfaction of the wrong done them, man to man. When they think themselves injured, they gather all their friends, and the most resolute of their vassals, and march out with the greatest strength they can make, to attack and worst their enemies wheresoever they can meet them, and do not lay down their arms till they have fought, or else some friends have interposed and reconciled them, and instead of a scymitar put into their hands a great glass full of the liquor they call *toquaye*, to drink one another's health.

They have also the liberty of wearing little crowns over their arms, as being petty sovereigns, to cast as much cannon as they please, and to build as considerable forts as they are able, without being obstructed by the king or republick; and they only want the privilege of coining, to be absolute sovereigns. Formerly money was coin'd in the name of the republick, at present in the king's name only. In short, it appears at the beginning of this relation, that they have sovereign and ab-

N<sup>o</sup>. 30, Vol. I.

solute authority over the peasants that hold of them; that is, who are their vassals in their hereditary possessions: for they have not such full power over the peasants that live upon crown-lands, which they hold only for life; for of these they can put none to death without legal process, nor seize their goods without shewing a reason for it; the peasants of the crown, when molested, having their complaints heard before the king, who protects them, and keeps their privileges.

A gentleman cannot be condemned to death for killing a peasant belonging to another gentleman, but is by law to pay forty *grivenes* to the heirs of the party killed to have their discharge; a *grivene* is worth thirty-two *sols*. In these cases the testimony of two gentlemen is sufficient to condemn a peasant, but there must be fourteen peasants to convict a gentleman.

Strangers may not purchase land there, nor the native peasants, who never can possess any of their own; but they and their children hold their farms for life, pay great rents to their lords, and cannot sell or mortgage, but the lord can enter upon them when he pleases. In towns the burghers may buy houses and gardens, about the same towns within their liberties. By this it appears that all the lands in that republick are possessed by the nobility, who are very rich, excepting only the lands remitted to the crown (which are not hereditary, like those we have spoken of) where there are certain villages depending of the crown, which the kings have given to *boyars*, who are a sort of people inferior to the gentry, and above the trading sort, to whom the king has given estates for them and their heirs, who enjoy them upon condition they shall serve in the wars at their own expence, as often as the great general requires, and do all they are commanded for the service of the state. Tho' most of these are very rich, yet there are some among them poor enough; but the nobility is rich, as has been said. In *Masovia*, where there is a great number of them, being at least the sixth part of the inhabitants, they are not so well to pass; for which reason a great many of them go to plow, and serve great men as gentlemen-followers, which is more honourable than to be coachmen, as the most stupid of them are forced to be. Of this sort were two that served me as coachmen several years, whilst I was in that country employed as first captain of the artillery, and the king's engineer, though they were gentlemen of good birth.

The patrimony of the nobility is free from winter-quarters and garrisons; and the army is only permitted to march thro',

6 F

being

BEAU-  
PLAN.Manners  
of the  
Polish no-  
bility.

being never allowed to be in garrison, but upon the demesns of the crown.

When several brothers are coheirs, the eldest divides, and the youngest chuses.

A widow marrying again, may, if she pleases, give all she has to him that marries her, and so disappoint her children: This law makes children obedient to their parents.

The *Polish* nobility are humble, and complaisant enough towards superiors, such as the *palatines*, and other officers of the crown; courteous and well-bred to their equals and countrymen, but haughty and insolent to their inferiors; affable to strangers, whom yet they do not much affect, or willingly converse with: as for instance, the *Turks* and *Tartars*, whom they seldom see but in war, and with sword in hand. As for the *Muscovites*, by reason of their brutality, they do not associate, or deal with them; nor with the *Swedes* and *Germans*, for whom they have so great an aversion that they cannot bear with them, but hate them mortally; and whensoever they make use of *Germans*, it is for very great need. On the contrary, they call the *French* brothers, sympathizing with, and being allied to them in behaviour, as well in their free way of delivering themselves without dissimulation, as in their easy jovial temper, which inclines them to laugh and sing without any melancholy. So the *French* who converse with those people, have a great esteem for them, because generally they are good-natured, generous, void of malice, not given to revenge, witty; and those that apply themselves, improve mightily. They have excellent memories; are magnificent, honourable, expensive in their habit, wearing rich linings; and I have seen some of tables worth about two thousand crowns, adorned with large gold buttons set with rubies, emeralds, diamonds, and other precious stones. They carry abundance of servants after them; are very courageous, resolute and skilful at their weapons, wherein they outdo all their neighbours, as making it their common exercise; for they are seldom or never without war against some of the powerful princes of *Europe*, as the *Turks*, *Tartars*, *Muscovites*, *Swedes*, *Germans*; and sometimes two or three of them together, as happened in the years 1632 and 1633, when they were at war with the *Turks*, *Tartars*, and *Muscovites*, and came off very well, after several victories obtained over them, followed by that over the *Swedes* in 1635.

After which peace was concluded be-

tween the two crowns of *Sweden* and *Poland*, by the mediation of monsieur *Davy*, his most Christian majesty's ambassador, to the satisfaction of both kings. Besides their generosity in other respects, they entertain their friends in their houses very civilly, being honoured and visited by them; nay, they are most obliging to strangers they never saw before in their lives, and treat them with the same civility as if they had been long acquainted.

There are in that country some very rich lords, for there are those whose personal estates amount to 800000 livres *per annum*, without reckoning those that hold by gift of the crown, which are the sixth part of the kingdom; and the cause of this great wealth is, because the peasants can have no inheritance, so that all belongs to the nobility, being fallen in to them, either by conquest, or by confiscations from rebels and turbulent persons, whose estates have been confiscated, and annexed to the demesne. The nobility, fearing lest the king, if possessed of such vast estates, might make himself absolute, they obstruct his being master of them, and are themselves gainers by it.

These people, when they go to war, serve after a strange manner; and should we see such as them in our armies, we should rather gaze at than fear them, though they are loaded with all sorts of offensive arms. I will give a description of them by what I saw myself in the person of monsieur *Deczeinsky*, *Rostemaster* (a) of a troop of *Cossacks* (b), who was thus armed. In the first place he had his scymitar over his coat of mail, his head-piece, which is a steel cap, with labels of the same sort as his coat of mail, hanging down on both sides, and behind over his back, his carbine, or else his bow and quiver; there hung about his waste a *czidela* (c), a steel (d), a knife, six silver spoons made to lie one within another in a purse of red *Turkey*-leather; a pistol in his girdle, a fine handkerchief, a purse of dressed leather that folds, holding about a pint and half, which they use to take up water to drink in the field; *sabletas* (e), a *naiyque* (f), two or three fathom of silk rope about the thickness of half a man's little finger to bind the prisoners they take. All these things hang on the side opposite to the scymitar; and besides all this, a horn to drench their horses. There also hung by the saddle, on the off-side, a wooden bowl that would hold half a pail to water his horse; also three *noganst* (g) of leather to hold his horse whilst he feeds. Besides, when he had not his bow, instead of it he

(a) That is, a captain (b) Who are horsemen with bows and arrows. (c) An awl. (d) This steel serves to sharpen his scymitar and knife, and to strike fire. (e) It is a great flat pouch of red cloth to carry papers, their combs and their money. (f) A little leather whip to put on his horse. (g) Leather letters, holding three of the horse's legs as he feeds.

carried his carbine at his belt: he had, moreover, a *ladonnequis* (a), a worm for the carbine, and a flask. Judge whether a man thus loaded be in a condition to fight.

The *boufarts* are lancers, and all of them gentlemen of considerable estates, as far as 50000 livres a year; are excellently mounted, the worst of their horses worth two hundred ducats, being all *Turkish* horses brought from *Caramania*, a province in *Anatolia*. Every one of them serves with five horses, for in a company of a hundred lancers, there are but twenty masters, who all march in the front being file-leaders; and the four other ranks are their servants each in his file. Their lances are nineteen foot long, the spear hollow, the rest of solid wood. At the point of their lances they wear a streamer or flag of red and white, or blue and green, or black and white, but always of two colours, four or five ells long, which, I suppose, is to fright the enemies horses; for when they have couch'd their lances, running with all the swiftness their horses heels can carry them, these streamers twirl about, and discompose the enemies horses they are to charge. They are armed back and breast, arms, head, &c. By their side they have only their scymitar, a palache under the left thigh; and on the right side of the pomel of the saddle is fasten'd a long sword, broad at hand, and tapering downwards with a square point, which is to run a man thro' as he lies on the ground, if he is not yet dead; and therefore this sword is five foot long, and has a round pomel that they may the better thrust against the ground to pierce the coat of mail; the *palache* is to cut flesh, and the scymitar to hack and hew the coats of mail. They also carry battle-axes, weighing at least six pounds, made like our square pick-axes, well temper'd, with a long handle to strike upon the helmet, and enemy's armour, which they pierce with these instruments.

Polish entertainments.

As their armour and manner of waging war seems to us very different from ours, we will let you see, by what follows, that their banquets and their behaviour at them, is different from what is used by most nations in the world. For the lords, who value themselves most upon this particular, the people that are very rich, and those that are in a medium, treat very splendidly according to their ability; and I can with truth affirm, that their common meals do much exceed our feasts in all points, by which sensible men judge what they do when they debauch and make extraordinary treats. The great lords of the kingdom, and other officers of the crown,

upon leisure days, when they are excus'd from going to the senate, and hold the diet at *Warsaw*, have made entertainments that have cost fifty, and even sixty thousand livres, a very great expence, considering what is served in; and how it is served. For it is not there as in those countries, where amber, musk, pearls and costly dressings arise to prodigious sums. All that is serv'd here is very ordinary and coarsely dress'd, but in prodigious quantities, though it be but for a small occasion. But the waste their servants and family make, as shall be shewn hereafter, is what enhances the charge. Now that you may guess at the value of the whole by a small sample, I must inform you upon my own knowledge, that very often (according to the bills of expence which I have seen) there has been one only article which mentioned a hundred crowns in glasses only, and they were not curious ones but only a penny a-piece. When they begin, they are generally only four or five lords senators, and sometimes the ambassadors that are at court join with them, which is but a small number for so great an expence as we have spoke of, but increased by the number of their gentlemen followers, to the number of twelve or fifteen, who are all bid welcome, and in all make seventy or eighty persons, who all sit down to a table, made of three tables put end to end, and near a hundred foot in length, generally covered with three fine large table-cloths, and all the service gilt; upon every plate a loaf under a very little napkin, no bigger than a handkerchief, with a spoon but no knife. These tables so placed are commonly in a spacious hall, at the end of which is a sideboard full of plate, with a rail about it, within which no body is to go but the butler and his assistants; upon that sideboard there are often eight or ten heaps of silver dishes, and as many plates as will reach the height of a man, and they are no short ones in that country. Opposite to this sideboard, and generally over the door, is a gallery for the musicians, as well vocal as instrumental, which are not to be heard confusedly all together, but begin with the violins, which are followed by cornets in a proportionable number, after them come the voices with children that make an harmonious consort enough. All these several sorts begin again alternatively, and last as long as the feast. The musicians have always eaten and drank before the feast begins, during which, being bound to attend their business, they could have no leisure to eat or drink. All things being thus in order, the tables are covered with all sorts of varieties; then the lords are led into the hall,

in

(a) A cartridge box for carbine and pistol.

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in the midst whereof there are four gentlemen, two of whom hold a gilt basin, at least three foot diameter, to wash in, and the ewer proportionable to it. The gentlemen drawing near the lords, give them water for their hands, and withdrawing, give way to the other two, who hold a towel about three ells long, each holding an end, and offering it to the lords, who dry their hands. After this, the master of the house having performed the honours due, gives to every one his proper place, according to his rank and dignity. Being thus seated, they are served by gentlemen-carvers, three at each table, and treated with the varieties which are dressed and seasoned after their manner, that is, some with saffron, whose sauce is yellow; others with juice of cherries, which makes the sauce red; others with the juice of prunes, and that sauce is black; others with juice of boil'd onions strain'd, and this makes a greyish, and is by them called *gonche*. All these sorts of meat in their several sauces are cut into bits as big as a ball, that every one may take what he pleases. No soup is served up to table, because the meat has its broth with it in the dishes, among which there are some pasties. Every one of the guests eats according as the sauce pleases him, which are never any more than those four we have mentioned, besides the several sorts of meat. They serve up beef, mutton, veal and pullets without sauce, well seasoned according to the custom of that country, with salt and spice, and so well that they have no need of salts, which are therefore never used. As soon as one dish is emptied, they set on another, as salt-cabbage, with a piece of salt pork, or millet, or boiled dough (I suppose dumplings) which they eat as a great dainty. They make another sort of sauce of a root they call *crefen*, which they bruise and steep in vinegar, and has the relish of delicious excellent mustard, fit to eat either with fresh or salt beef, and with all sorts of fish. The first course being thus over, and the dishes emptied, most of the meat not eaten by the guests but their servants, as we shall mention more fully hereafter, they take off, and not only the dishes, but the first table-cloth with them, and then comes the second course of roast-meat, as beef, mutton and veal, cut into large pieces, capons, chickens, pullets, gossins, ducks, hares, venison, kid, wild-boar, and all other sorts, as partridges, quails, larks and other small birds, whereof they have great plenty. As for pigeons, they never use them, because they are rare in that country, as are rabbits and woodcocks. All these sorts are served up without any order, but confusedly, intermixing them with several salads

of divers sorts. This second course is attended by an intermixture of several sorts of strained pease with a good piece of bacon, whereof every one takes part and cuts it into bits, which they eat with a spoon, dipping in the soup, and look upon it as a dainty dish, swallowing it without chewing; and the value they put upon it is so great, that they think they have not been well treated if it be wanting; as also if they have not millet buttered, and husked barley dressed in the same manner, which they call *cacha*, and the *Dutch*, *gru*. They have also bits of paste like macaroons fry'd in butter full of cheese: and another sort made of buck-wheat, like very thin cakes, which they dip in the juice of white poppy-seed, which I suppose they eat to fill them up quite, and dispose them to sleep. This second course being taken away, as the first was, the desert is brought in, such as the season and opportunity will allow of, as cream, cheese, and many other things I cannot at present call to mind. All which dishes and dainties are so far inferior to the meanest of ours, that I should value one *French* dish above ten of theirs. But for fish they understand it wonderful well, for they not only have that which is very good, but dress it to perfection, and give it so fine a relish that it will raise a decay'd appetite, wherein they exceed all other nations, not only in my opinion, but by the general consent of all *French* and other strangers, who have been entertained by them. Nor is it any wonder, for they spare neither wine, nor oil, spice, currans, pine-apple kernels, nor any other thing which with their ingenuity can contribute to season it well. During dinner they drink but little, to lay a good foundation, and what they drink is beer out of long round glasses as big as a *French* pot, into which they put toasted bread sprinkled with oil. It was above-mention'd, that though the dishes of the first and second course were taken from table almost empty, yet the guests had eaten the least part; which is very true, for it is to be observed that every one of those that is at table has one or two servants, and when they would have clean plates, they fill their foul ones with what is next them, and give them heaped to the said servants, who being well provided, get together to devour it in some corner of the room, as it were by stealth, making an indecent noise, which yet their masters do not hinder, but cause it by supporting such a custom. After the masters have eaten heartily at table, without much drinking, and the servants gormandized what their masters have given them in the corners of the hall, then they begin in earnest to drink one another's healths.

healths, not in beer, as before, but in their wine, which is the best and noblest in the world; and though it be white, yet it makes their faces red, and enhances the expence of their treats, for they consume abundance, and it costs four livres a pot, paying so much rather for its goodness than scarcity. When one has drank his friend's health, he gives him the same glass of that wine that he may pledge him, which they do easily without the help of servants, the tables being covered with great pots of wine and glasses, which are as soon filled as emptied: so that an hour or two after this pleasant work begins, it is no less pleasant to see the vast number of glasses every one has before him, to such a prodigious quantity that it is impossible he should drink them off, than to observe the forms and figures they stand in, for sometimes they are squares, sometimes triangles; sometimes oblongs, and sometimes circles; and these glasses are so variously moved, and in so many several forms, that I cannot believe the motion of the planets can be more irregular and disagreeing than that which is caused by that excellent pleasing white-wine. When they have spent four or five hours at this notable but not laborious exercise, some of them overcome, fall asleep; others go out to make water, and return more able to carry on the work; others discourse of their brave actions on the like occasions, and of what advantages they gained over their companions. But all the masters do is nothing, compared with the behaviour of the servants, for if they were expensive in eating, they are so much more in drinking, and destroy ten

times as much wine as their masters, and consequently they commit unparallel'd insolencies, rubbing the dirty greasy plates against the hangings, though never so rich, or else against their masters hanging-sleeves, without any respect to them or their rich garments; and to crown the work, they all drink to such a pitch that none of them goes off without feeling the effects of wine, for masters, servants and musicians are all drunk. Yet they that have the charge of the plate, are not generally so gorged, but that they take care, as near as they can, that no man shall get out of the house till all the plate be secured by those to whom it is committed: but these officers generally making use of their time, cannot perform their duty so well as they should, so that there is generally something lost.

To conclude; this is what at present I can call to mind of what I have seen and heard in that northern country, as to its situation, the people inhabiting it, their religion, manners, and way of making war; if my memory, which has furnished me with what hitherto I have found to divert you, shall bring to light any thing else I shall think worthy to present you with, I shall not forget my duty, but will most willingly acquaint you with it, hoping that if this I have presented you with does not answer your expectation, you will easily excuse my inability to write more politely, which I thought improper for a soldier, who has spent all his days in throwing up works, casting of cannon, and burning of salt-petre.

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