

**RUSSIA;
PP. 2-226**

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Russia; pp. 2-226 by W. R. Morfill

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W. R. MORFILL

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RUSSIA.

BY

W. R. MORFILL.

Горе тому, у кого языкъ лепечетъ
А голова не вѣдаетъ.

Russian Proverb.

(Woe to him whose tongue chatters, but his head knows nothing.)

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

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PREFACE.

A FEW words may be necessary as preface to this little work. My object has been to give, in a small compass, an account of the present condition of the Russian Empire, based upon original authorities. I have endeavoured to judge the country fairly, and not merely from an English point of view. I have attempted a genial, perhaps even a sympathetic sketch, and hope not to have failed utterly. To avoid mistakes, I will add that I have freely made use of my own occasional contributions to English periodical literature. It was necessary to say thus much to avoid charges of plagiarism. I hope what Montaigne declared of his book may be true of mine, "C'est un livre de bonne foy, lecteur."

W. R. MORFILL.

OXFORD.

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JEROME B. LANDFIELD



JOSEPH McDONOUGH
RARE BOOKS
SABAN

Turkey ; on the W., Moldavia, Austria, Prussia, the Baltic Sea, and Sweden.

M. Reclus calculates that Russia is ten times the size of France, and its possessions in Asia constitute one-third of that continent ; the population is, however, comparatively speaking thinly scattered ; in European Russia it probably amounts to 81,000,000, and in Asiatic to 14,000,000, which give a total of 95,000,000. We can thus form some idea of the brilliant prospects of the Russian language, which, instead of being limited to the narrow area of Welsh and Hungarian, is constantly expanding itself. It is fast absorbing the Finnish dialects of the Baltic provinces, and the various languages of Siberia ; Lithuanian is yielding before it, and Polish has now almost entirely disappeared from that duchy. But it probably will not so easily absorb the latter, a highly cultivated tongue, which, including Posen, belonging to Prussia, and Galicia to Austria, is still spoken by 9,492,162 persons.¹

Coast-line, Harbours, and Islands.

Russia possesses a seaboard on the Baltic, the

¹ See Budilovich *Statisticheskia Tablitz*. St. Petersburg, 1875.
