

314-2-17 <sup>A</sup> 578 / 42.  
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By W. R.

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"The writer of 'Savage and Civilized Russia' holds a very strong and not altogether unjustifiable view of the aggressive tendencies of Russia. His own opinion may be fully expressed in the words of the same historian (Karamsin), who said:—

"The object and character of our military policy has invariably been to seek to be at peace with everybody, and to make conquest without war; always keeping ourselves on the defensive, placing no faith in the friendship of those whose interests do not accord with our own, and losing no opportunity of injuring them without ostensibly breaking our treaties with them,—and he goes far to make good his position. . . . Philanthropy has been the constant pretext of Russia, for wars during which human nature was outraged by the cruelties which were perpetrated, and although the stories of some of these atrocities are now old, human nature stands aghast that men could perpetrate such barbarous crimes. No Nation has succeeded in making war so utterly horrible and revolting as the Russians. They have given examples, these philanthropic people, which human beings will do well to avoid."

"He is not so well-informed as to the country, as Mr Wallace, but he seems to have read, with care, the literature which bears upon the traditional and present policy of Russia. His book professes to be a handbook of the subject, and the various opinions of which it is mainly composed, seem to have been carefully collected."

"But, if we come to a conclusion adverse to that of Mr Wallace, and in accord with that which 'W. R.' would impress upon us, if we believe that Russia is an aggressive and grasping power, which, although its hands are already too full of lands and countries—the spoils of the Nations—is still to continue its career of territorial robbery, and is now clutching at Turkey with its inordinate avarice and with its vindictive voracity, then it becomes a question of importance to determine on which side the chances of success really lie. . . . If she still aspires to a career such as that which she has already achieved by dishonesty and violence, her history will find a place in some future Newgate Calendar of the Nations."

1873  
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SAVAGE AND CIVILIZED

RUSSIA. 319-2-19

BY

(W. R.)

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SECOND EDITION.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY THE

REV. FREDERICK ARNOLD,

OF CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.



LONDON:

LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.

1879

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Cambridge :  
PRINTED BY C. J. CLAY, M.A.  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

Государственная  
Библиотека  
СССР  
им. В. И. Ленина

U 12702-50

## P R E F A C E.

IN presenting this volume to English readers, the author gladly acknowledges the primary assistance obtained from almost every available source of information, on Russian affairs, within his reach: nearly fifty separate authors having been diligently searched for materials germane to the various topics treated.

The earlier chapters are principally derived from Russian sources. The life of IVAN THE TERRIBLE contains a literal translation of selected portions from KARAMSIN, "THE RUSSIAN LIVY."

Russia has had her stages in development—savagery, subjection, triumph, and aggression. But no handy book is now extant embracing these questions. The necessary information is scattered over so vast a field of English and foreign literature as to be practically inaccessible to the busy reader of to-day.

That this work may be found to fill up a manifest gap is the earnest desire of the writer. The subject is full of an abiding interest. Russia, on her war path, must one day be confronted by the power of England to arrest her march.

Feb., 1879.