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Subject: new document collection: Ukaznye gramoty 1613-1626

Ukaznye gramoty gorodovym voevodam i prikaznym liudiam 1613-1626 gg.
Otvetstvennyi redaktor I[van] V[asil'evich] Pugach. Moskva: Krug, 2012.
608 pp. ISBN 978-5-7396-0248-0. 450 copies.

This is a large format collection of more than 950 decrees, apparently all previously unpublished, sent from the *Ustiuzhskaia chetvert'* office in Moscow to a dozen towns under its jurisdiction in the period 1613-1626. The editor, Ivan Vasil'evich Pugach, has been working on this material for some time; his publications include a monograph, which I have not seen (*Ustiuzhna Zhelezopol'skaia: gorod i vlast'. Ocherki sotsial'no-ekonomicheskoi istorii XVI-pervoi poloviny XVII vv.* LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2012).

While generically the material undoubtedly contains few surprises for those who study the administrative and especially the fiscal history of Muscovite administration in the 17th century (the present writer is not one of those), there is nonetheless a great deal of interest here. The collection (drawn from RGADA ff. 137 and 141), is part of the effort made right after the disastrous Moscow fire of 1626 to re-construct the lost parts of the state archive. So these documents are copies ordered to be made from the original decrees deposited in the local archives and sent back to Moscow. As Pugach notes in his introduction, such copies have been preserved only for the *Ustiuzhskaia chetvert'* among the territorial fiscal departments (that is, there are none for the Novgorodskaiia or Vladimirskaiia Galitskaiia chetverti). The towns included in the document collection are: Ustiuzhna Zhelezopol'skaia, Tot'ma, Sol' Vychegodskaiia, Rzheva Volodimerova, Luki Velikie, Staritsa, Mozhaish, Gremiachii, Epifan', Poshekhon'e, Ustiug Velikii and Charonda. The distribution is very uneven—by far the largest number of documents is for the first three towns (325, 295 and 122 respectively), whereas the last three are represented by only three documents each.

The great majority of the documents deal, as one might expect, with fiscal matters, revenue collection from various obroks but especially from the government alcohol monopoly and from local customs collections. In alcoholic Muscovy, the income from taverns looms very large indeed. The government undertook strenuous efforts to prevent bootlegging and, when a tax farm became vacant, to ensure that a new administrator for it would be found. Several documents suggest (e.g., pp. 464-5, 504-5, 519-20) that there were not always eager takers for the obligation: a public announcement would be made in the market over a period of days, and then if there was no response, the local community was expected to elect a person to take on the responsibility. While for the most part revenues were sent directly to Moscow (in the years immediately following the Smuta, there was a problem with arrears in payment), in a good many instances, the directives from Moscow were

to allocate a portion of the revenues locally for salaries (e.g., of members of the local garrison). Among those supported out of local revenues from Ustiuzhna Zhelezopol'skaia was Dar'ia Alekseevna (née Anna Koltovskaia), the widow of Ivan Groznyi, the direct compensation at least in part in lieu of revenues she might have enjoyed (even in her convent) from landholdings that had been laid waste during the Smuta. One of the documents (p. 13) pertains to the arrangements for her to move to the Rozhdestvenskii convent in Ustiuzhna from her previous residence in Tikhvin. Local revenues were to be used for purchase of substantial quantities of furs in Tot'ma that were to be sent to the Crimeans and Nogais (pp. 201-2). Other important groups of documents pertain to disputes over land holdings or the reallocation of lands which had become vacant. Apart from *obrok* from agricultural land, the government collected revenue for fishing and hunting rights, from bathhouses, for the privilege of having a stall in the market... Clearly in the post-Smuta period, there was concern to review (presumably with the idea of rescinding) earlier immunities, such as those granted to the monasteries in Tot'ma (p. 252). There are instructions about blocking direct access by foreign merchants to the fur-producing areas in western Siberia (pp. 211-12, 324, 336-7, 353-4).

Of particular interest to me are scattered documents pertaining to the *iamskaia gon'ba* – who could use it without paying, where the routes went and what local communities were responsible for supporting them (see, e.g., pp. 316-17, 529-31). Abuses of the system by government officials seem to have been a problem (e.g., pp. 158-9). Also of interest regarding Muscovy's transportation infrastructure is a set of several documents from Rzheva Volodimerova pertaining to the establishment and maintenance of the ferry across the Volga (pp. 423ff).

Isolated examples of documents (which illustrate the range of possible "finds" one might make in this collection) include one from 1619 (p. 206) about compensation to those in Tot'ma who had fed two different herds of camels (total number 75) which were being sent from Tobol'sk to Moscow via Tot'ma apparently as part of the booty obtained from a campaign against the Kalmyks. Another document (dated 1620 from Velikii Ustiug, p. 526) involves the granting of permission to the Stroganovs to take a supply of limestone from a location on the lower Sukhona River for use in building the cathedral in Sol' Vychegodsk. One document (p. 195) concerns the public announcement and celebration in Tot'ma of the news of the signing of the Stolbovo treaty with Sweden in 1617; another (p. 207), celebration of the truce with Poland in 1619. Two documents pertain to distribution/sale in Tot'ma of copies of newly printed volumes of the Menalogion in 1623 (p. 248) and 1624 (p. 278). A decree sent to Sol' Vychegodskaia in 1625 (p. 384) concerns the adoption of the new state seal.

The texts have been edited according to the standard rules for publishing early Russian documents. The introduction describes in detail the manuscript sources and provides a descriptive summary of the diplomatic form which most of the texts follow. There is a content index, giving the complete descriptive headings for each document arranged in chronological order for each town; also indexes of personal and geographical names and of the central government departments mentioned in the texts. The index of persons includes their

occupation or title, where it is known. Unlike most scholarly text publications, this one is illustrated with images (many well known) from miniatures or foreign travel accounts of Muscovy. To the degree that this may suggest an appeal to an audience broader than the handful of academic specialists who might consult the volume, one might wish that a glossary had been included for those not familiar with Muscovite fiscal and administrative terminology. A map also would have been helpful.

The volume should occupy an honored place alongside the well-known earlier collections of Muscovite documents and is of particular interest for what it can tell us about conditions in the provinces in the dozen or so years after the Smuta.