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## Two new source publications

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*Rossii i Prussia v seredine XVII veka. Tom 1. Posol'skaia kniga po sviaziam Rossii s Brandenburgsko-Prusskim gosudarstvom 1649-1671 gg.* Sostavitel' P. I. Prudovskii. Moskva: Drevlekhranilishche, 2013. 576 pp. ISBN 978-5-93646-220-7.

This is a noteworthy publication of documents pertaining to Muscovite foreign policy, and an indication (one may hope) of a relatively new approach to such editions. The book joins a growing list of important monographs and source publications pertaining to Muscovite foreign policy.

Older document series such as *Pamiatniki diplomaticheskikh snoshenii Rossii s derzhavami inostrannymi* and *Sbornik Imperatorskogo Russkogo istoricheskogo obshchestva*, while still valuable for their publication of Muscovite diplomatic files, were very selective in their choice of texts and often somewhat arbitrary in what they condensed. More recent volumes have tended to be thematic and, again, very selective (e.g., concentrating on material pertaining to economic relations). The major work of making available in proper editions the huge and as yet unpublished Muscovite foreign affairs files still lies ahead. While we have significant published runs of the documents for relations with Poland, England, and the Habsburg Empire, among others, there are significant lacunae, one of them being the files for relations with Brandenburg Prussia (RGADA, f. 74). As the compiler/editor of this volume, P. I. Prudovskii points out, relations with this emerging German power were in fact extremely important in larger context of Muscovite relations with Poland and Sweden in the mid-17th century. One can see this, for example, in the recent monographs by his mentor (and the responsible editor here) B. N. Floria.

What Prudovskii has provided is a complete publication of the first *Posol'skaia kniga* (ambassadorial book, which I shall abbreviate PK) in the files of relations with Brandenburg-Prussia (RGADA, f. 74, Op. 1, Kn. 2). Such ambassadorial books, as Prudovskii explains, were retrospective compilations and selections from the raw material of diplomacy that would always first be recorded in rolls (*stolbtsy*). The books then would serve as the first choice for reference in ongoing relations with a given polity. Had Prudovskii stopped with just the PK, his accomplishment would have been much less. Instead, he has combed the other relevant archival files to supplement PK with a listing of all the documents not included in it but also pertaining to the embassies (coming and going) that PK covers, and, in cases where those other documents are of particular interest, publishes as well their complete texts. Those texts include non-Russian originals of documents provided to Muscovite diplomatic officials and their contemporary Russian translations. He references each and every document contained in PK to the original archival copy (*stolbets*) which has still been preserved, which is true of most of them. There are

some noteworthy exceptions where PK has the unique preserved copy of an ambassadorial report, the original for some reason having been lost.

In other words, what we have here is as complete as possible a picture of the full documentation pertaining to the several embassies encompassed by the PK. Where Prudovskii merely lists headers for the original documents, they are primarily for the routine government communications with its voevody and other officials responsible for meeting an incoming embassy, accompanying it to Moscow, and/or dealing with matters of supplying it while there. In a separate appendix he explains the principles for Muscovite selection of material to include in the PK. Most of this material is previously unpublished, the main exception being several documents which appeared in the valuable (and difficult to locate) volume compiled under Floria's supervision, *Russkaia i ukrainskaia diplomatiia v mezhdunarodnykh otnosheniakh v Evrope serediny XVII v.* (M.: Gumanitarii, 2007).

A long essay by Prudovskii discusses Muscovite relations with Brandenburg-Prussia for the period covered by PK and their significance in the large context of Muscovite foreign relations during the wars with Sweden and Poland of the 1650s and 1660s. Another section of the edition provides commentary to the text, in the first instance identification of the individuals or locations mentioned in it. Apart from all else, we can be thankful as well that there are good indexes of personal and geographic names.

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*Prikhodo-raskhodnye knigi Solovetskogo monastyria 1571-1600 gg.* Sostavitel' E. B. Frantsuzova. Moskva-S.-Peterburg: Al'ians-Arkheo, 2013. 688 pp. ISBN 978-5-98874-085-8.

While the 16th-century income and expense books of the Solovki Monastery have long been known and used (e.g., by A. A. Savich, studying the monastery's economy, and, as the editor here acknowledges, by Jennifer Spock in her Yale dissertation on piety and patronage), this is their first full publication. Included here are all 19 of the preserved books for the sixteenth century, the series beginning from the time of the appointment of Varlaam as hegumen in 1570 following a two-year hiatus in that position as a consequence of the investigations connected with the condemnation of its former hegumen and then Moscow metropolitan Filipp. It is known that such account books existed earlier at Solovki, but, as Frantsuzova suggests, those from the 1560s presumably were removed during that investigation in the hope of finding evidence of malfeasance that could be used against Filipp. The extant books are all the clean copies made from the draft copies (which have not been preserved) at the time when the monastery treasurer was being audited (generally when his term of service came to an end).

As Frantsuzova notes, their preservation was something of a saga, from their re-discovery in an endangered state in 1916 by B. D. Grekov, through their subsequent housing in Arkhangel'sk and then transfer to Perm' where they were moved around for safekeeping during the Civil War. They were finally restored in the 1940s and 1950s in their present home in RGADA, f.

1201. Two of them remained in the personal possession of A. A. Savich and were turned over to the archive by his widow in the 1980s.

As Frantsuzova warns readers, one cannot expect to find here information about the entire economy of the monastery. The treasurer did not have direct access to the main treasury, but rather was in charge mainly of current expenditures and smaller revenues. Larger donations normally might be deposited directly in the main treasury and not fall under his purview. That said, the books contain rich information about transactions in cash and kind, individuals both within or without the monastery, relations with the local and more distant communities that interacted with it, and information on an important ongoing economic activity such as the salt trade. Since much of that trade was conducted in Vologda, it is of particular interest that four of the books were compiled by the monastery's agents sent there; another of the books pertains to the activities of the monastery's representative in Moscow. The last of these contains valuable evidence regarding Moscow prices and other economic matters there.

There is an archaeographic description of the manuscripts and extended indexes of personal and geographic names. With regard to the personal names, Frantsuzova warns the reader that a single name may in fact refer to more than one individual; geographic designations may be to an administrative district, not to a specific town within it.

The book complements the publication of *Akty* of the Solovki Monastery in the two volumes which appeared in 1988 and 1990 covering the period from 1479 through 1584, and the 2003 publication of the monastery's inventories (*opisi*). Solovki has also been the focus of several substantial volumes in the series *Knizhnye tsentry drevnei Rusi*. While a significant part of the most important Russian monastic archives up through the 16th century has now been published, it is imperative that such publication now continue for the seventeenth century and beyond. This volume sets an impressive standard for such editions.