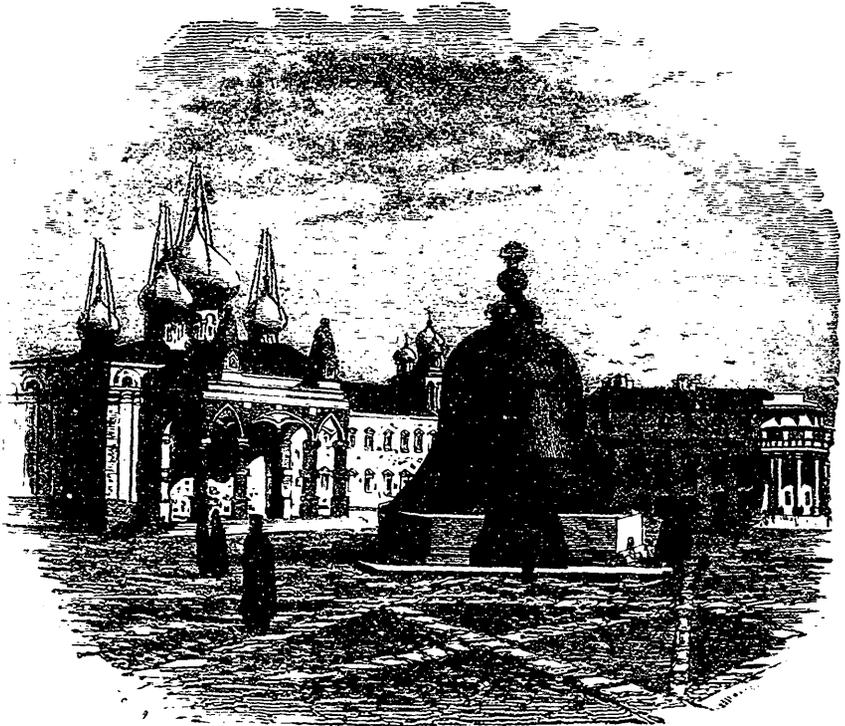


devoutly spoken of as 'the dread of perjurers and the comforter of suffering humanity.' In ancient times in front of it oaths were administered to witnesses in the courts.

"To describe the view from the summit of the tower of Ivan, 325 feet high, is to describe Moscow. I would only say that three hundred and fifty churches can be seen, including thirty-eight chapels, fourteen monasteries, seven convents, two hundred and thirty-three parish churches, and seventeen chapels at cemeteries, besides many private chapels and public buildings of all kinds.



THE GREAT BELL OF MOSCOW.

"Most persons have heard of the wonderful great bell at Moscow. The circumference of its mouth was fifty-four feet, and its sides were two feet thick. In 1706, in a fire, it fell to the ground. It was recast in 1733. The ladies of Moscow threw their jewels and treasures into the liquid metal.

"A piece in the side of the bell was knocked out when it fell during another fire. It remained buried in the ground until 1836, when the Emperor Nicholas had it set upon a pedestal. The following are the dimensions of this great bell, whose ringing, one would think, might shake the earth: it weighs four hundred and fifty-four thousand pounds; its height is twenty-six feet and four inches, and its circumference sixty-seven feet eleven