

Volotoshok had been made to connect the Gulf of Finland with the remote harbours of the Caspian. This commercial impulse, to which Russia is so largely indebted as the means of her emancipation, was greatly, if not principally, contributed through her intercourse with Great Britain : her commercial transactions with this country greatly exceeded those with all other nations, and though her jealousy of Great Britain did not incline her to admire, she yet imitated what was within her reach, and, from an insignificant beginning by Peter the Great, by degrees formed a navy, which, before the present war, had grown up to such dimensions, as to have awakened grave suspicion on the part of other European powers.

Krusenstern was happy in living in an age in which the character of his Sovereign cast a lustre upon the country of his birth. The series of rapid changes which distinguished the dark period of Russia from that in which she has begun to run the race of civilization with other European nations, was precipitated by a ruler, who, beyond his race, was pre-eminently fitted for the administration of public affairs,—his temperate habits and indefatigable