

and is considered the most beautiful city in Europe.

4. The other principal towns of Rus'-si-a are Mos'-cow the ancient capital, Ri'-ga a considerable port on the Bal'-tic Sea, *Ark-an'-gel on the White Sea, and O-des'-sa on the Black Sea.

5. The nobility of Rus'-si-a are in general very wealthy, and live in great splendour; but the peasantry are in the most abject state of slavery; they can neither write nor read, they live in houses of the most wretched description, and are bought and sold with the estates; yet with all these disadvantages, they are robust, and patient under hardships.

6. The government of Rus'-si-a is despotic, but mild in its administration; its religion is that of the Greek Church.

7. The exports of Rus'-si-a are immense, chiefly in timber, hemp, tallow, hides, and tar.

8. Rus'-si-a has to boast of some noble rivers; the principal in Europe are the Vol'-ga the Don, the Dnie'-per,† the Dwi'-na, and the Ne'-va.

EXERCISES ON CHAP. V.

1. What does Russia comprise? Its population?
2. What are its general features?

* Ark-an'-gel.

† Nee'-per.