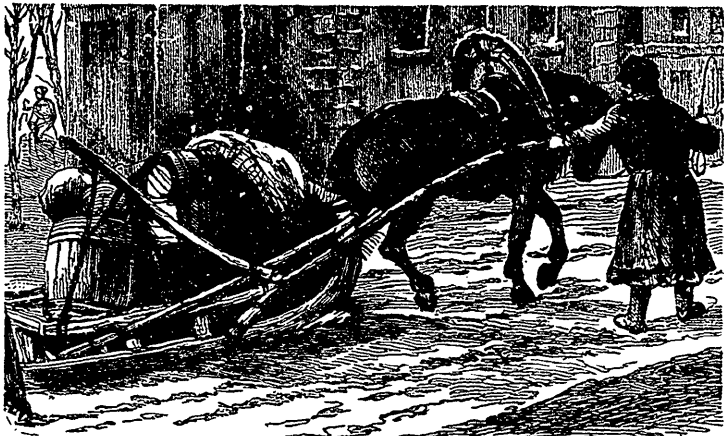


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“HOLY RUSSIA.”

II.



WINTER STREET SCENE, MOSCOW.

“PETER the Great,” says the historian Motley, “understood thoroughly the position of his empire the moment he came to the throne. Previous Czars had issued a multiplicity of edicts forbidding their subjects to go out of the empire. Peter saw that the great trouble was that they could not get out. While paddling in his little skiff on the Yausa, he had already determined that this great inland empire of his, whose inhabitants had never seen or heard of the ocean, should become a maritime power. Accordingly, before he had been within five hundred miles of blue water, he made himself a sailor, and at the same time formed the plan, which he pursued with iron per-