

YOL IV.]

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Sights in Russia. BY THE EDITOR.

RUSSIA presents the largest connected empire in the world. Extending 0,000 miles from west to cast, and 2,300 miles from south to north-more than twice the size of the whole of Europe or the United States---it covers one-sixth of the land surface of the globe. But a large proportion of this vast extent consists of treeless steppes and inhospitable wastes. Its population, here is no appeal. The coronation of the wastes interpretation of the text, "Not that broduces a bewildering effect. It is what goeth into the mouth," as strong drink, "defileth a man; but that three miles long, and dominated by the

Sevthians.

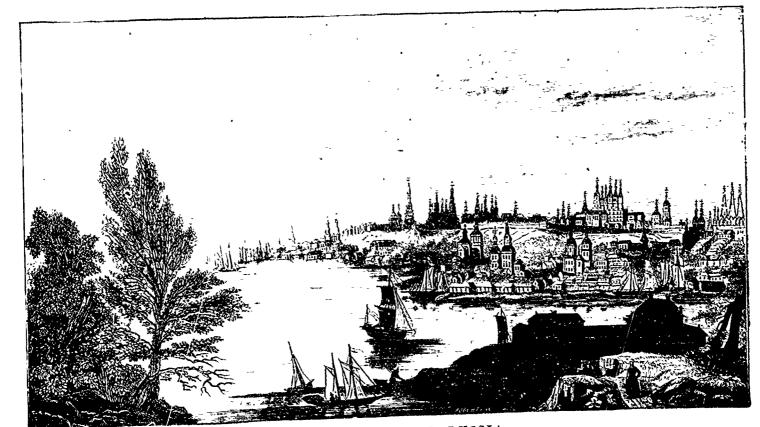
The Russian Church is emphatically a State Church. It is not merely connected with the State, like the Churches of England and Scotland, but enters into and forms a part of the State. The Czar is the father and founder of whole ccclesiastical community. the The veneration for him at times is almost as though he were Christ Him-"God and the Prince will"-

name Russian. They may have de- not as works of art, but as emblems of scended in part from the Finns and the instruction, is thus engendered beyond all example in other countries. In the army there is not a man but carries in his knapsack a gaudy picture, with which he never parts; and wherever he halts he sets it on a piece of wood and bows down before it.

The Russian priests strongly con-demn the use of tobacco, while very tolerant the use of tobacco, while very tolerant of the still greater evil of strong drink. But they discriminate in favour of the latter by a fanciful interpretation of the text, "Not that

empire; rather Asiatic than European, and yet compounded of both.

Moscow has a population of over 600,000, of many-mingled nations. It is described as at once magnificent and mean, splendid and grotesque, beautiful and sordid, and unequalled in pictur-Its hundreds of spires, esqueness. domes and minarets, diverse in form and colour; the strange intermingling of pagodas, temples and churches, of Chinese tea-houses, French cafes, Turkish bazaars, and Russian market-places,



THE CITY OF KAZAN, RUSSIA.

of tribes and nations. Their number exceeds a hundred, and they speak over Tho imforty different languages. mense majority are Slavs-56,000,000 - and Poles, 4 800,000.

Among the great nations of modern times, Russia is far the most recent in its origin. Instead of running back, like France, Spain, Italy, and Germany, to the opening of the Christian era, or earlier, it dates only to the sixth or seventh century. Its Church was established two or three hundred years later. Reppes of Eastern Asia, and its people of the birthday present, of the ances-were called the *liossi*, whence came the tral portrait. A passion for pictures, The nation had its origin in the vast steppes of Eastern Asia, and its people

the chief ruler is not a more ceremony, but rather a solemn religious corsecra-

tion The Russians have not only a liking for pictures, they have a religious ven-eration for them. They are the mainstay and support of their religious faith and practice. On the wall of every room, at the corner of every street, over gateways, in offices, in steamers, in stations, in taverns, is the picture hung, with a lamp hung before it. In the domestic life it plays the part of the family Bible, of the wodding gift,

cometh out of the mouth," as tobacco smoke, " this defileth a man. The most sacred city of Russia is

Moscow, the seat of the chief patriarchate, and the ancient, semi-Oriental capital. Most *bizarre* and fantastic it is with its vast turreted and venerable Kremlin; its countless churches, with their flashing spires and clustering and their masning spires and clustering and turbaned minarets glittering in green, purple and gold; its mosques, with the cross supplanting the crosscent; its streets swarming with bearded mer-chants and ferocious Janizaries, while its female population were immured and invisible, was a true type of the

great sacred fortress, the Kremlin, encompassed by a massive wall, sixty feet high, a mile and a quarter in extent, and entered by five sacred gates, two of them of peculiar sanctity.

The Kremlin comprises the principal buildings, such as the gorgeously decorated cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin; the cathedral of the Archangel Michael, containing all the tombs and portraits of the Czars, down to Peter the Great; the church of the Annunciation, the floor of which is paved with jaspers, agates and carnelians; the tower of John the Great, two hundred feet in height, surmounted by a mag-

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