

to all the World, were entituled to the Throne of the Russias.)

During the Illness of her said Majesty in 1740, the said Count Osterman made the Regulation, printed and published the 6th of October of the same Year, concerning the Succession after the Demise of her Majesty, by which Regulation she named for her Successor an Infant of two Months old, John, Son of Prince Anthony Ulric and of the most Serene Princess Anne of Mecklenbourg, who could not, either by virtue of his Descent, nor by any other Right, pretend to the Imperial Crown of the Russias, though the Title of Grand Duke was given him in the same Regulation.

Neither was the said Count ashamed to insist upon it, to our greater Prejudice and Mortification, in order to deprive us openly of our Right of Succession, that after the Death of the said Prince John, his Brother should succeed him, and after him the other Princes born of the Marriage of Prince Anthony of Brunswick Luneburg, and the Princess Anne of Mecklenbourg, who have themselves no manner of Right to this Empire.

By virtue of this Regulation, which her late Majesty did not sign till the 5th of October, when she was at the last Extremity, the Prince John was declared, on the 17th of October, (after the Death of the Empress) Emperor of all the Russias, through the Procurement of Count Osterman and the late Felt Marshal Count Munich; and at that time our Guards, as well as our other Troops, were under the Command of the said Count, and of the Prince Anthony Ulric of Brunswick Luneburg, Father of Prince John, and all the military Force being in their Hands, all our faithful and well intentioned Subjects were in that extreme Oppression obliged to take the Oath of Fidelity to Prince John as their Emperor.

At the same time they were obliged to take another Oath of Fidelity concerning the Regency during the Minority, which Regulation had been presented by Count Osterman alone to her Majesty to be signed the 6th of October.

In consequence of these two Regulations, Prince Anthony Ulric and his Consort, flattering themselves that they should be able to preserve for their Son the Imperial Crown of the Russias, subscribed themselves the Oath of Fidelity. But soon after, assisted by the Counts Osterman, Munich, and Michael Galoskin, they slighted their Oaths, and acted openly contrary to what had been regulated concerning the Regency of our Empire, which they took into their own Hands, under the Name of the Princess Anne of Mecklenbourg, who was not ashamed to assume to herself the Title of Grand Duchess of all the Russias, which could in no wise belong to her. Thence came the great Disorders which have happened in our Kingdom; thence the infinite Vexations and Oppressions of our faithful Subjects.

Nevertheless the said Counts Osterman and Galoskin, in Concert with the Prince Anthony Ulric and his Consort, yet farther to encrease the Load of Injustice, and to the evident Danger of our own Person, made a certain Regulation, by which we should be entirely excluded from a Succession which belongs to us by the Laws of all Nations, and by the Blood from which we are sprung. 'Tis by this Regulation that they had pretended to settle on the Throne of the Russias, the Princess Anne, in declaring her Empress, even in the Lifetime of her Son Prince John.

For these Reasons, having taken to Heart the sad Estate of our Empire under this Infant, who is but 14 Months old, and being moreover convinced by so many Misfortunes as our faithful Subjects have hitherto suffered, that they had nothing to expect, during the said Regency, but Troubles and Disorders of all Kinds, whether within, or without the Empire: Considering, lastly, the imminent Danger to which our own Person was exposed, We resolved, with God's Assistance, at the most humble Request of all our faithful Subjects, and particularly of our Guards, to ascend our paternal Throne the 25th of this Month, (as it was published the same Day by a Manifesto.) And although the Princess Anne, as well as her Son the Prince John, and her Daughter the Princess Catherine, cannot, as has been sufficiently proved above, in any manner pretend to the Succession to the Throne of the Russias; nevertheless, in Consideration of the Alliance, on the Mother's Side, between the Princess Anne, Prince Anthony Ulric, and the late Emperor Peter II.; and to give to the said Prince and Princess a Mark of our Imperial Grace, we have given Orders to have them all conducted into their own Country with the Honours that are due to them, generously forgetting, on our Side, all the Steps that they have taken to our Prejudice.

*Petersbourg, Dec. 14.* Yesterday the foreign Ministers had the Honour to pay their Court, and make their Compliments to her Majesty, who, as it was St. Andrew's Day, confirm'd those Knights that had been made by the late Regent, by giving them the Collar of the Order, and created three new ones, the Generals Lewaschaff, Czernescheff and M. Bestuchef, which last Gentleman has been restored to his former Rank of actual Privy Counsellor. The Prince Anthony Ulric, the Princess Ann and their Children Prince John and the Princess Catherine, set out Yesterday Morning at Four, with Mademoiselle Julia Mengden, under a strong Escorte, and it is said, that they made a Halt, at about 30 Versts from hence, where they are to repose to Day, and then proceed on their Journey, as fast as this Escorte and 200 Horses, which they must have at every Stage, will admit of. Prince Lewis is yet here, and, though with a Guard still in his House, he is at Liberty to go abroad, and with an Offer from her Majesty of the Use of her Equipage, both which however he has declin'd, being out of Order.

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