

Title: *The Reporte of a bloudie and terrible Massacre in the Citty of Mosco, with the fearefull and tragicall end of Demetrius the last Duke, before him raigning at this present.*

Author:

[Front Matter]

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the new yeare. But it seemes necessitie made him hasten the celebration of this solemnitie, for verie vrgent reasons. He had about his person, a guard of certaine *Almayne* Halberdiers, which hee brought with him out of *Poloand*: but by reason that this was not the manner and custome of other Princes, vpon their residence within the Citie, they were all presently discharged, as in like manner all souldiers of any strange nation, were licensed, and cashierd: the which was put in execution so confusedly, and sodainely, as divers were very male=content therewith, by reas

after his arrivall: which were vessels of silver, guilt, with a great number of cuppes, and goblets, and two goodly horses, with a faire dogge: having delivered his letters of credence to the Emperours owne hands, who receiving the letter, and perceiving, that vpon the title of direction, there was not mentioned the title of Emperour, and Monarch of *Russia*, he presently reiected the said letter, and delivered it himselfe to the same Ambassadour: wherevpon the Ambassadour replying, answered, that Tc. uca nd fathers, and predecessors, never pretended, nor vsurped any such title, and that therefore, none was enioyned, to entitle him otherwise, then by the name of great Duke: but if he did affect any higher stile then Tc. progenitors, that then Te should endeavour to conquer the Empires of great *Tartaria*, or attempt to subdue vnder himselfe, the scepter of the *Turkish* Emperour, and then Te would be acknowledged of all the world, for an Emperour, and Monarch. At which so sharpe, and stinging an answeare, the *Vayvod*, Father

Bv [pg. 9] to the spouse, was mightilie astonished, and Prince *Demetrius* so enraged, that Te woulde have cast Tc. scepter at the Ambassadors Tead. When this choler was over, some body demaunded of the Ambassadour, whether the scepter was throwne at this head or no? if it had beene (said he) I would have taken it vp, and gone away with the scepter, returning presently into my countrie: notwithstanding, all thc. spleene passed over eastely, and they retryred themselues peaceably, and verie good friends, but the letter. was never read. Mony also was throwne abroad, when the coronation was solemnized, and Friday, which was the 9. of May, that c. to say, the day after the coronation, and consummation of the marriage, the presents of the Ambassadors, and others of the Court, should have beene delivered, but it seemes, that thc. uood *Demetrius*, who it may be (as having beene heretofore a Monke) was too devout vpon Tc. Breviarie, he said too long a Masse with Tc. new mistris, in whose companie, he was so ravished, that Te forgot to rise soone enough in the morning, and so shewing himselfe in publike very late, the same evening also there was no great banqueting at the Court. But on Satterday, which was a very solemne festivall day, so as the *Russians* kept it with greater reverence, then their Easter: it vexed the *Russians* wonderfully, to see thc. day prophaned by their Princes nuptialles, but notwithstanding this, the Emperour, with the Empresse, having their crownes vpon their Teads, were set in a great Hall, where first the Patriarke, and then the *Boyars*, and in the end, Merchants strangers, and other men of qualitie, entred in, kissing the. new Empresses hand, and everie one offering of their presents: amongst whome, was also your brother, and I, but I would to God we had kept our mony in our purses, although

B2r [pg. 10] we did it in hope, to have obtayned some priviledges; thc. we did out of a good intention, according a. we had before received many faire promises from my Lord *Vayvod*: but the disastrous end of all thc. festivitie, did in like manner frustrate vs of our designes. Wherefore presently the tables were in readinesse, and we were invited, and let in presence of our Emperour, at a most sumptuous dinner, and banquet, but after the manner of that countrie, and we strangers were placed at the table, with our face. towards the Emperour, but the *Russians* were not permitted to doe so, but they must sit with their backe. vpon him: thc. feast might wel deserue a prettie treatise apart, but wee must reserue soemthng till we ~~After the feast was ended, by the words of men in gold plate, that they they got not quickly to find~~ their plate dishe. againe, otherwise it miht haue been e supposed, that we received them in recompence of our former presents. There was very excellent musike which was of *Poland*, said Ladie, and thc. was the best pastime we had, but it was a verie short ioy and iubilie.

The Sondag following, there. was yet farre greater feasting, and the King of *Poloniae*. Ambassadour, made it knowne before, that Te would not sit downe at the table, except they did him the

same honour, which was afforded the Ambassadour of *Russia*, in the royal Court of *Cracovia*, where he was set downe at the Kings table, and so he requested, he might likewise have hc place, at the Imperiall table, to which the Emperour would not in the beginning consent, but so he let him, that Te should have hc. place, above al the *Boyares*, and great Lordes of the countrie: the which the

B2v [pg. 11]. said *Polonian* Ambassadour flatlie refused, so that at last viii Emperour permitted him to sit at Tc. table, and so he came thcther with hc. presents, which were farre ritche, then any of the former, and

the banquet continued till it was late in the evening. In the retiring of themselves, a *Polonian* strucek a *Russian* such a blowe, that being sore wounded, he cryed aloud, murder. But the vproare was presently pacified, and the two daies following, there was nothing but sounding of trumpets, and kettle drummes, after the Imperiall manner. It was supposed also, that the guard of the *Boyares*, should have shot off their Harquebuzes, and that the Artillerie, and Chambers laden with balles of artificiall fire, should have beene discharged, in signe of ioy, the Cannon was now drawne out of the Citie, and a Fortresse of wood after the moderne fashion was built for an assault: but all this (as an evill presagement) was given over. On Wednesday, a day, whereon the Russians eate no flesh, all was verie silent, and still, as also the Thursday following, and by reason the Emperour had alittle inckling of what was a brewing amongst the *Russians*, having alwaies his eare, and eye herevpon, he advised all the *Polonians* to stand upon their guard, commanding all those of his owne guard, that they should repaire to the Castle, with their Harquebuzes charged, bullet in mouth, and match light, and in truth, there was to the number of 15000. *Muscovites*, which were now in readines, to effect their enterprize: but by reason that the *Polonians* kept good watch, and shot off many Harquebuzadoes in hearing, making a great rutte with their kettle drummes, the *Russians* durst attempt nothing that present night, which might have served the other well, for an admonition, and fore-sight: as also they might clearely perceive, that the ioy of this marriage sodainely ceased, and

B3r [pg. 12] that all the time passed away, in an vncouth and dead silence, and the Friday after, there was none that would sell them any power, or other warlike munition.

In the meanwhile, the young Emperesse passed the time merrily amongst her damoselles, in measures, daunces, and masking, intending to have come the Sondag following, in a gallant mummerie to find out the Emperour, when he should be at a banquet, with the great Lords, and to present them yet further, with some new recreations, but all this was interrupted: for the *Russians* now plotted, to put in execution, a designe, which long time before they had resolved vpon: which was, the same Saterdag, being the 17. of May, according to the old stile, about seaven by our clockes in the morning. For this conspiracie to kill the Emperour, was projected before the *Vayrods* coming into the countrie with his daughter, they bethinking themselves long before, to entrap all the *Polonians*, which should then be there present, with their armes, and also because by the same meane, they would recover at that instant, all the treasure which had bin sent out of the countrie, to the said *Vayvod*, & his daughter, and thus this tragedie began. On the same day, most terribly, the *Boyars*, with their servants being mounted on horse backe, with harnessse, and coates of male on their backs, hauing lances in their handes, iavelines, and darts, bowes, and arrowes, cymitars, and all other kind of armes, the common people running vp and downe, with their steele mases, stockes, and cymitars in their hands, the number of them being so great, as it seemed, that the *Myrmidons* swarmed as thicke as haile stones, all the world ranne hastily towards the Castle, crying no other thing, along the streetes as they went, but, to the murder, to the fire, kill,

B3v [pg. 13] kill, making one another believe, that the *Polonians* massacred the *Boyars* within the Castle, though verie few of them were lodged within the same: but this was done to no other end, but the more to fleih the rakehell vulgar, against the poore *Polonianse* *JJ-TT4If*

aside their armes, to come & ioyne with them, and take their part, and then they should have no hurt at all, the which they presently did, & willingly yeelded themselues, with their armes laid aside. The *Russians* then ranne vp towards the great Hall, with great presse, the above named *Peter Basmaneuf* going before them, who was a verie faithfull friend of the Emperours, and who, heretofore had a servant, who many times spake very evillie of the Emperour,

B4r [pg. 14] and defamed him amongst the common people; the same was he, who sodainely stroke his old master, in such a sort, that he died.

The great troupe then ranne with like haste, thorow the Chambers, and even to the Emperours owne lodging, who hearing this tumult, leapt out of his bed, putting on his night gowne, and demanding what the matter was: whereupon one of his houshold *Russes* answered, that he knew nothing, and that it might be they cryed out for some fire. No, villainous traytor as thou art (said the Emperour) it is not for fire they thus crie out, but there must needes be some other matter in it, for all the belles, as well of the Cittie, as of the Castle doe ring alarum. Ah (saide he further) doe you thinke you have to doe with an other *Boritz* and so hee made himselfe ready, tucking vp his shirt sleeves very high, and calling for his two edged Curtleaxe, which they were wont to carry before him, to lay about him, within on all sides, but he who had it in keeping, could not finde it: and when hee sawe the enemies troupe to presse forward, to flie vpon him, hee requested his Halberdiers which were before the gate, that they woulde not thus yeelde hime into the *Boyars* handes, shutting the doore himselfe, and so retiring within some other more inward

were robbed of all the iewels and presents that had before beene given them. True it is, that they within the towne defended themselves very valiantly in their Innes, but in the end they were driven to yeelde, and leave the boote to the others. The Lord of *Vituenetskie* onely saved himselfe, and his traine, and killed many *Russes*, though they had planted the canon against his house, and at last seeing himselfe hardly beset, he hung out a white cloth, in signe that hee determined to haue yeilded, causing presently a number of duckats to be scattered before his chamber doore. The *Russians* ranne thicke and threefolde to annoint their fingers herewith, but his people issued out sodainely vpon them, and so slashing and hewing on euery side, they slue aboute an hundred *Russes*, and made an open way for themselues to goe out, when in the meane while, diuers *Boyars* of the Castle came, who tooke the said Lord into their protection, and driue out all the common people, so that in the end, all this allarum was appeased.

A Polish Gentleman called *Nimetskie*, brought thither sundry iewels og great vawew, and had deliuered them to the Emperour but the day before: as a seruant of the Lord *Volskie* did the like, hauing made shew in the Court of diuers goodly tapistries which he brought, all these things were taken from them. But aboute others, diuers Almaine and Italian Merchants are to be lamented,

Cv [pg. 17] amonsgt whom, there was a very honourable aged man, who was called *John Ambrosio Celari* a Mylanese, that had also deliuered out of his handes at the Court, to the vawew of three and twenty thousand Florines, who was there most villainously murdered, by the rascall vulgar. In the same lodging remayned also two seruants belonging to Maister *Philip Henbar*, of *Ausburg*, who were recommended vnto me by my friends at *Croco*, and had also deliuered for the value of aboute 25000 florines in merchandise solde to the Emperour, and yet they had taken from them, besides above 10000 florins more. There is yet her a merchant of *Ausburg*, called *Andrew Nathan*, which was out in the Court, above 200000 florins, being robbed also of an 10000 florins, in goods and merchandise. Here is also a *Russian* Merchant of *Lemberg*, called *Nicholas*, who hath also lost great store of goods. I am afraid they will never recover any repayment thereof; I spake twice wi

The second point was, that he was a Magitian, and that by enchantment he had obtained so many victories, and prosperous successes in attaining to the Crowne,

The third Article was, that he was knowne to be an heretike, that hee neuer obserued their feasts, nor fasts, and that hee made no accompt of their Images and ceremonies.

The fourth Article imputed to him, that hee had entred into a dangerous and pernicious conspiracie with the Pope, against their Religion, wholly to supplant that, and to bring in the Roman rites, euen as there were written Letters of the Popes found to that effect, while hee was emperour, wherein hee was exhorted, to put in execution, what hee had before so oftentimes promised to the saide Pope, perswading him, to procure in such sort, that the Jesuites, and other Romish Priestes, might be established in their Churches, and that Temples and Colleges might be allotted them, to reforme the whole Country.

For the fift imputation, there were Letters brought forth, wherein he had treated and concluded with the *Vayvod*, to giue him the principallitie of *Smolenko*, and to his wife, the principallitie of *Novigrod*, to their sonne the country of *Dibiria*, and that they had plotted together to haue massacred all the *Boyars*, to extirpate their whole race, and to plant in their stead, the Polonian

C4r [pg. 22] *Vayvodes*, and to constitute new *Castelans*, and *Starestes*, *sed hæc non credo*: as also that he had drawn the Canon out of the Cittie, and making shew, as though he intended it for some pastime or triumph, to turn them against the Cittie, and so to haue bestowed on them so many canonadoes crosse, or a thwart, for their disseverance one from another, and thereupon the *Polonians* should haue fallen into the Citie, and killed all those which made any resistance, and so to haue made themselues absolute Lordes of the chiefe Cittie in the Country, which might very well haue beene effected, if the Russians had not stooode well vpon their guard: for, whosoever is maister of that Cittie, he is Lord of the whole country. Howsoever it was, I referre my selfe to a further time, which will discouer all.

Sixtly, they complained greatly, because the *Boyars* and great Lords of the countrie had so little, and in a manner, no accesse at all to the Prince, who did disdain them, and after such a sort, as they were faine to attend before the Pallace gate, and oftentimes, were also repulsed by the Halberdiers, whereas the *Polonians*, entred as often as they would, and being oftentimes outraged, by this *Polonian* nation.

When they made their complaints, *surdo narrabant fabulam*; there was no iustice done, in revenge of the wrongs they endured, ad moreover it was imputed vnto him, that he vndertooke all his affaires, without demaunding their counsalle, or advise in any thing, and when they replied to any point, difficult, or doubtfull, they were driven away with hand blowes, disgraced, and sent into exile.

The seaventh was a complaint: about the great, and excessiue expence he had beene at. He made him a gilded Throne, on each side of the same, there were six Lyons gilded, all of massie silver, the which no other great

C4v [pg. 23]

like poore beasts, if they mumbled but a word betwixt their teeth, that he had beene a monke himselfe:

Hee is interred in the Castell Church of Archangell, amongst the Emperours, and the people ascribe vnto him the working of myracles, which they say are daily perfourmed: and when they happen, generall notice giuen thereof, by the sound of a Belt. They are determined to build a Church ouer him, and to worship him as a Saint.

These be the principallest of such occurences as happened in this Cittie, I beseech God to preserue vs from a greater sedition yet suspected.

The fifteenth day of June the like beganne againe, for this acursed vulgar are euer hungry after boote and spoile, they would faine euery day beginne against their former garboiles, but this last commotion was presently pacified by the *Boyars*.

FINIS.