

section devoted to the tour to Bath and Bristol is most reminiscent of Princess Dashkova's aforementioned *Puteshestvoie*, published in 1773. Overall, the account is more comparable to Prince Aleksandr Kurakin's *Souvenirs de voyage en Hollande et en Angleterre* (1772-3), which was published in a tiny edition in St Petersburg in 1815, and Vasilii Zinov'ev's letters (1786-7), published virtually a century later, although both these travellers enjoyed much more extensive itineraries. (a)

The traveller was generally impressed by his visit. His enthusiasm for London – “J'ai vu presque toutes les villes de l'Europe, mais Londres seule m'a étonné” (f. 9v.) – recalls that of Kurakin a decade earlier; indeed they share similar delight in English landscape gardens and in the beauty of English women, as well as a similar mixed reaction to Shakespeare and a dislike of the weather. Both are prone to sentimental effusions, not least at the moment of departure, and produce the pros-and-cons summing-up of their experiences that Karamzin – and not only he – was also to reprise. See the long paragraph that begins:

Voici le jour ou je quittai une ville qui m'a non seulement procuré de l'amusement , mais encore bien d'idées neuves. J'ai vu des hommes, donés de grandes vertus et de grands

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(a) *Arkhiv kniazia F.A. Kurakina*, V (Saratov, 1894), 376-425; VI (1896), 205-39; 'Zhurnal puteshestviia V.N. Zinov'eva po Germanii, Italii, Frantsii i Anglii v 1784-1788 gg.', *Russkaia starina*, XXXIII (1878), 421-40, 593-98.