

met were the long-serving Vasilii Grigor'evich Lizakevich and the embassy chaplain, the remarkable Iakov Ivanovich Smirnov (1754-1840), who escorted the author and his companions on a boat trip down the Thames (f. 34). (a) A final Russian whom he encountered at the inn in Dover where he stayed before his return to France was "le Prince Chichaskoy", Prince Aleksei Aleksandrovich Cherkasskii, who had just arrived in England (f. 121).

Although he complains that because of Simolin he met fewer people than he had hoped (f. 116), he nevertheless made the acquaintance of a number of interesting and influential people in English society. The ambassador at least took the author and two of his friends on 30 July to the Court of St James's to be presented to the King. Sadly, *The Morning Chronicle* reported the following morning only the presentation, without the naming, of "three Russian Noblemen, lately arrived from Russia" (b) and no court records exist. The Russians then met the Foreign Secretary, Charles James Fox, who had presumably arranged the presentation (ff. 17v.-18). The following day, 31 July, he met Reginald Pole Carew (1753-1835), who had recently returned from extensive travels in Russia, where he had been much in the

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(a) For information on members of the Russian embassy and the Russian church in England at this period, see *By the Banks of the Thames*, chaps 1-2.

(b) *The Morning Chronicle, and London Advertiser*, no. 4432 (Thursday 31 July 1783).