

company of Prince Potemkin. (a) Pole Carew took him to the British Museum, where he met Paul Maty (1745-87), one of the librarians. In the evening the diarist dined at the home of the Russian Consul Alexander Baxter, where other guests were Mrs Catherine Hamilton, the bosom friend of Princess Dashkova, and Baron Thomas Dimsdale, recently returned from his second visit to Russia to inoculate the young Grand Dukes Alexander and Constantine (ff. 20v.-21). A few days later, he went to Bushy Park, the home of the former Prime Minister Frederick Lord North (1732-92), where among the dinner guests were General Pasquale Paoli (1725-1807), the famed Corsican patriot living in exile since 1769, and his brother (ff. 24v.-25v.). Other Englishmen he names are Lord Clifford, whom he had met at Spa and again at Dover (f.3) and Sir Richard Temple and his family, whom he visited at Chatham (ff. 117-19).

So, finally, to the identity of the author. It seems inconceivable, given the number of clues he gives, that he remains elusive, but he does, at least for me. He was undoubtedly from a family of distinction and consequence. He had letters of introduction to

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(a) Pole Carew had recently entered Parliament. His country seat was at Antony in Cornwall, where he was visited by Prince Viazemskii. On his visit to Russia, see *By the Banks of the Neva: Chapters from the Lives and Careers of the British in Eighteenth-Century Russia* (Cambridge, 1997), pp. 353-5; *Britantsy v Peterburge: XVIII vek* (Spb., 2005), pp. 378-80.