

## BOOK FOURTH.

### WARS AMONG THE TARTAR PRINCES AND SOME ACCOUNT OF THE NORTHERN COUNTRIES.

XXII., p. 488.

#### RUSSIA.

“ It seems that Russia [Chinese *A-lo-sz'* = Mongol *Oros*; the modern Chinese name for Russia is *Wo-lo-sz'*] was unknown to the nations of Eastern Asia before the Mongol period. In the Mongol and Chinese annals the Russians are first mentioned after Subutai's invasion of Southern Russia in 1223. The *Yüan chao pi shi* terms Russia or the Russians *Orus*, as they are called even now by the Mongols. The Chinese of the Mongol period write *A-lo-sz'*, sometimes also *Wa-lo-sz'* or *U-lu-sz'*. All these names evidently render the Mongol appellation *Orus*.

“ In the *Yüan shi* Russia is frequently mentioned. . . . I may notice here some other instances where the Russians are spoken of in the *Yüan-shi*. We read in the annals, *s.a.* 1253, that the Emperor Meng k'o (Mangu) ordered Bi-dje Bie-rh-k'o to be sent to *Wu-lo-sz'* in order to take a census of the people.

“ It is an interesting fact recorded in the *Yüan shi* that there was in the first half of the fourteenth century a settlement of Russians near Peking. In the annals, chap. XXXIV., *s.a.* 1330, it is stated that the Emperor Wen Tsung (Tob Timur, 1329-32, the great grandson of Kubilai), formed a regiment composed of *U-lo-sz'* or Russians. This regiment being commanded by a *wan hu* (commander of ten thousand of the third degree), received the name 'The Ever-faithful Russian Life-guard.' It was placed under the direct control of the council of war. Farther on in the same chapter it is stated that 140 *king* of land, north of *Ta tu* (Peking) was bought from the peasants and allotted to these Russians, to establish a camp and to form a