

study on the history of some ancient textiles. According to this author, the *dorógi* of the Russians were striped silken fabrics, which came from Gilan, Kašan, Kizylbaš, Tur, and Yas in Persia. DAL' says in his Russian Dictionary that this silk was sometimes interwoven with gold and silver. In 1844 VELTMAN proposed the identity of Russian *dorógi* with the Anglo-French term. BEREZIN derived it from Persian *darādža* ("kaftan"), which is rejected, and justly so, by Inostrantsev. On his part, he connects the word with Persian *dārāi* ("a red silken stuff"),<sup>1</sup> and invokes a passage in VESELOVSKI'S "Monuments of Diplomatic and Commercial Relations of Moscovite Rus with Persia," in which the Persian word *dārāi* is translated by Russian *dorógi*. This work is unfortunately not accessible to me, so I cannot judge the merits of the translation; but the mere fact of rendering *dorógi* by *dārāi* would not yet prove the actual derivation of the former from the latter. For philological reasons this theory seems to me improbable: it is difficult to realize that the Russians should have made *dorógi* out of a Persian *dārāi*. All European languages have consistently preserved the medial *g*, and this cannot be explained from *dārāi*. Another prototype therefore, it seems to me, comes into question; and this probably is Uigur *torgu*, Jagatai *torka*, Koibal *torga*, Mongol *torga(n)*, all with the meaning "silk."<sup>2</sup> It remains to search for the Turkish dialect which actually transmitted the word to Slavic.

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<sup>1</sup> Mentioned, for instance, in the list of silks in the *Ain-i Akbari* (BLOCHMANN'S translation, Vol. I, p. 94).

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *T'oung Pao*, 1916, p. 489.