

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### THE MAPS OF STRAHLENBERG AND RENAT.

Among the Swedish officers who, after the battle of Poltava were sent as prisoners to Tobolsk and other places in Siberia, was Lieutenant-Colonel PHILIPP JOHANN VON STRAHLENBERG, born in Stralsund 1676. After a stay of 13 years in Siberia, he returned to Sweden in 1723, and died there in 1747. No more than his comrades was he broken down by the long and tedious years of Siberian captivity, but used his time to work out a great map of Northern and Central Asia, a work in which he had great assistance from Captain JOH. ANTON MATERN and Lieutenant-Colonel PETTER SCHÖNSTRÖM, both Swedes.

It would take us too far to pay due attention to Strahlenberg's wonderful life. In this connection we are only concerned with his work. I have already mentioned<sup>1</sup> the important part played by Schönström and Strahlenberg in connection with BENTINCK's *Histoire Généalogique des Tartars*, where the author of the explanatory notes is Strahlenberg. These notes were afterwards published as a separate article: *Relation de la Grande Tartarie, Dressée sur les Mémoires Originaux des Suédois Prisonniers en Sibérie, pendant la Guerre de la Suède avec la Russie*.<sup>2</sup> In d'Anville's Atlas, Haag 1737, an article accompanies the maps: *Description de la Boucharie Par un officier Suédois qui a fait quelque séjour dans ce Pays*. According to AUG. STRINDBERG this officer was again Strahlenberg, who dictated the article to a friend, probably Bentinck.<sup>3</sup>

Then follows the most important of Strahlenberg's works, which, according to Strindberg, was first published in Leipzig 1730, under the title *Historie der Reisen in Russland, Sibirien und der grossen Tartarey*. The edition at my disposal was printed at Stockholm the same year, and was translated into several other languages.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 227, note.

<sup>2</sup> Recueil de Voyages au Nord. Tome X. Amsterdam MDCCXXXVIII, p. 1 et seq.

<sup>3</sup> August Strindberg: Philipp Johann von Strahlenberg och hans karta öfver Asien. Svenska Sällskapet för Antropologi och Geografi, Geografiska sektionens Tidskrift, 1879. Band I, N:o 6, p. 1 et seq. And Kulturhistoriska studier, by the same, Stockholm 1881, p. 18 et seq.

<sup>4</sup> The full title runs: Das Nord- und Ostliche Theil von Europa und Asia, In so weit solches Das gantze Russische Reich mit Sibirien und der grossen Tatarey in sich begreiffet, In einer Historisch-