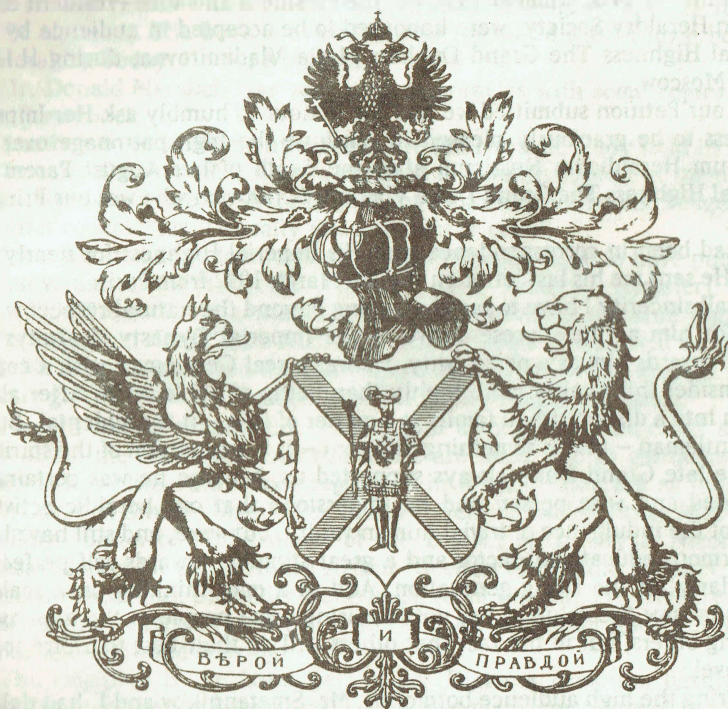


# THE RUSSIAN HERALD



AN ENGLISH SUPPLEMENT TO THE GERBOVED  
AN HERALDIC QUARTERLY MAGAZINE  
PUBLISHED BY  
THE RUSSIAN HERALDRY SOCIETY

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**EDITORIAL**

Looking through the previous, No 1, issue of the Gerboved our readers undoubtedly took notice of the Petition placed on Page Two.

On the 4th of September 1992 we, the President and Vice-President of the Russian Heraldry Society, were honoured to be accepted in audience by Her Imperial Highness The Grand Duchess Maria Vladimirovna, during H.I.H.'s visit to Moscow.

In our Petition submitted we had the honour to humbly ask Her Imperial Highness to be graciously pleased to continue the high patronage over our Collegium Heraldicum Russicum after the death of her August Parent His Imperial Highness The Grand Duke Vladimir Kirillovich who was our Princely Patron.

I had been in correspondence with His Imperial Highness for nearly two years. He sent me his last letter on the 3th March 1992 from Paris.

In all sincerity I have to say that, going beyond the natural respect which I had for him as the representative of the Imperial Dynasty, I always felt delight towards him as a personality. He was a real Gentleman with a capital G. I consider this quality more highly than being of noble birth. After all, to be born into a distinguished family is a matter of fate – it is accidental. But to be a gentleman – that is something different – it is a condition of the spirit.

The late Grand Duke always supported us, because he was certainly a far-sighted and wise person and he understood that our heraldic activities were not the indulgence of trivial human vanity, but were, and still have been an enormous educational factor and a great stimulus towards self perfection particularly for the rising generation. And as a man thinking on a scale of nations he saw the value to lie, not in raising some people at the expense of belittling others, but in the fact that others will do their best to aspire to the same level.

During the high audience both of us, Mr. Smetannikov and I, had delight in listening to most kind and gracious words uttered by H.I.H. The Grand Duchess Maria Vladimirovna in perfect Russian.

At the audience were present Their Imperial Highnesses The Grand Duchess–Dowager Leonida Georgievna and The Grand Duke George Mikhailovich. The ceremony was also attended by numerous representatives of various strata of society headed by Prince Andrew Golitsyn, Marshal of the



Russian Nobility Assembly. At the end of the audience Her Imperial Highness was pleased graciously to grant the Collegium Heraldicum with her princely autograph manu propria.

Item. On the 22nd of May 1992 at the Metropol Hotel, Moscow, we had a friendly collegial meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Mandich of the U.S.A. who visited this country during their travelling across the world. I have been in correspondence with Mr. Donald Mandich since 1989 when he with the assistance of Mr. Joseph Placek began compiling "Russian Heraldry and Nobility", an invaluable reference book based on the General Armorial of the Noble Families of the Russian Empire, published serially by the Russian Government from 1797 until 1840 in 10 volumes. All the arms are illustrated on 260 pages of plates and full blasons are given. There are also biographical notes on the families and an index of names in English and in Russian Cyrillic alphabet. The book is available from the world-wide known booksellers Heraldry Today, United Kingdom.

Mr. Donald Mandich was very kind to grant us with some copies of his magnificent book.

Another event worth mentioning is the 6th Heraldic Rally held in Volgograd in early October 1992. Over a hundred of heraldists, most of them being badge collectors, gathered there to exchange information, books, badges, pins and other collectables. The rally was a success as usual.

Item. We are happy to inform our readers that we hope to have published the first volume of the *Matricula Armorum* (our Armorial Register) before April 1993. The book will contain the first one hundred of the arms registered by the Collegium Heraldicum Russicum. All the coats of arms will be illustrated in black and white, and the full blasons in Russian and in English will be properly given. There will be also some coloured plates of the arms.

I would like to remind the readers that among the armigerous persons entered into the *Matricula Armorum* there are some foreign gentlemen who wished to have their arms duly registered in Russia. They are as following: Count Cav. don Silverio Signoracci, of Italy; General Bailey Bruce McCune of Coll-Earn, Baron of Elphinstone, of the U.S.A.; A. L. Bryan Nicolson of Taransay, son of Sir David Henry Arthur Nicolson of that Ilk, Baronet, Baron Carnock, of Scotland; Chevalier René le Clère, of Canada; Mr. David Scholes, of Canada; Mr. Donald Mandich, of the U.S.A.; and other good gentlemen. Applications continue arriving.

The following is the Latin part of our *Diploma Armorum* destined for Count Cav. don Silverio Signoracci, who helped me in compiling of the text.

"Omnibus et singulis praesentes has Litteras inspecturis notum et testatum sit tam praesentibus quam futuris quod Collegium Heraldicum Russiae composuit, pinxit et descripsit gentilis tesseram honestissimi nec non illustrissimi Domini cui ipsius nomen est Serenissimus Comes Italicus don Silverius Signoracci atque ipsius gentilis tessera et nomen in *Matricula Armorum* sub numero X inscripti sunt, scilicet: scutum diametro dentato in aream argen-

team ac caeruleam divisum, cum tribus clavis nigris ad modum fasciae ordinatis in summo scuti; super scutum et super galeam ipsius coronae comitis positae sunt; apex est angelus precans albatus; lemnisci caerulei et argentei sunt; adminicula scuti duo leones sunt; inscriptio: IN DOMINO CONFIDO.

Datum Mosquae die X octobris anno MCMXCI. Valerius Egorov Rex Armorum Sancti Apostoli Andreae pinxit, scripsit et signavit.

I feel that I ought to add some explanation to the blazon of the Russian Imperial Arms published in No 1 issue of the Russian Herald. One can ask question about some rather odd points which my translation of the blazon contains. The matter is simply that that when translating the text I had before my eyes and used the official description taken from the Full Collection of the Russian Imperial Laws.

I myself was very much astonished at finding some strange and unusual order of blazoning, for example, that of the united arms of Principalities and Provinces of Great Russia, etc.

However, I decided to preserve everything as it was in the original papers. There are some other much less important peculiarities and differences between the picture and description. For example, the long cross which St. Archangel Gabriel holds in his sinister hand is described as being Gold, while the artist, for unknown reason, has painted it Argent. So, I am not to blame, however.

True, I must admit that my own invention of "chevron-like base" is wrong and awkward. Of course, it must be blazoned as "enté en pointe".

As to the Russian Heraldry Society's Arms, we have come to a conclusion that we have no right to use the image of the Imperial Eagle as our emblem because of its (Eagle's) belonging to state symbols, while the Society is, of course, a public organization.

**Valery Yegorov,  
St. Andrew Principal Herald Master,  
Vice-President of the RHS.**

### **SUBMISSIONS INVITED**

All members and readers are invited to submit articles, artwork, and photographs on topic relating to Heraldry, Vexillology, Genealogy, etc.

Address: Mr. Valery Yegorov, Sanatorium-5, Monino, Moskovska obl., 141152, Russia.

## INFORMATION

This is to inform all the members of the Russian Heraldry Society and the "Gerboved" and "The Russian Herald" that on 31st December 1992 the Collegium Heraldicum Russiae had the pleasure to appoint Mr. Bernard Charles John GOWING of Chelmsford, Essex, Great Britan, St. John Custodian Herald Master of the College of Arms. As is known, Mr. Gowing has been the International Treasurer of the Russian Heraldry Society as well. Our congratulations!

## SUMMARY OF THE GERBOVED No TWO

"Russian State Eagle" (p. 9) by Vladimir Lavrenov, Assistant of the Historiographical Department of the Tver State University. This rather interesting article reports about the origin and history of the Russian double-headed eagle.

In 1897 Russia solemnly celebrated the quatercentenary of the State Arms. The earliest State Seal, on the obverse of which was placed a double-headed eagle, and on the reverse a mounted warrior, a so called "yezdets" (rider) slaying a dragon, dated from 1497.

Late in the fourteenth century, the Ottoman Turks occupied Bulgaria and Serbia, placing these Orthodox states under Islamic authority. In 1453 they captured Constantinople itself, killing the Byzantine emperor Constantine XII and making the Ecumenical Patriarch the virtual prisoner of the Muslim conquerors. Shortly after, in 1472 Ivan III of Moscow married Sophia Paleologue, niece of the last emperor, and subsequently repudiated Mongol domination. Ivan III took the Byzantine double-headed eagle as the symbol of his power.

Russian church theorists saw profound theological significance in these events. Moscow, they declared, had become "The Third Rome". They claimed that the church of Rome fell because of its heresy and was succeeded by Constantinople, the Second Rome. But this city, too, was punished by God by means of the infidel Turks. The monk Philotheus wrote to Ivan's son: "The church of Moscow, the new "third Rome", shines throughout the entire world more brightly than the sun... Two Romes have fallen, but the third stands and a fourth can never be".

Vladimir Lavrenov mentions also another, much less known, version of the Russian Imperial Eagle's origin - that it was allegedly taken from the West under influence of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, which accepted a black double-headed eagle as its own state symbol in 1434.

The author thinks it wise, correct and desirable to revive the black double-headed eagle within the golden shield as the State Arms of Russia as soon as possible.



**"Symbols of the Everlasting Spring Archipelago"** (p. 22). The author of the article, Yury Kurasov, President of the Volgograd Vexillological and Heraldic Centre "Symbol", reports, besides other interesting features relating to heraldic history of Hawaii, about a not widely known fact that once in 1816–1817 the Russian flag was flying over the islands.

A remarkable feature of the Hawaii Kingdom's Arms (c. 1864) is that the supporters, vested in autochthonal coats and with feather crowns on their heads, represented two real persons (which is absolutely unusual in heraldry), the two mighty brothers chieftains of the Archipelago West district.

**"The Foreign Civic Heraldry"** (p. 30) by Valery Yegorov, Vice-President of the Russian Heraldry Society, St. Andrew Principal Herald Master of the Russian Collegium Heraldicum, Honorary Member of the Society of Heraldic Arts (British), etc. The article's principal aim is to show to the Russian readers what a rich heritage and heraldic traditions exist in the West countries. It particularly concerns such armorial features as helmets, mantling and supporters. One can take note that in Russia only the city of Krasnodar (former Ekaterinodar) is known to have two Cossacks as the supporters of these civic arms. The author suggests that a certain system should be accepted regarding the Russian civic heraldry.

**"The Armorial Bearings of the Princes Turkestanov"** (p. 41). The author, Stanislav Dumin, Cand. of Hist., President of the Historical–Genealogical Society in Moscow, retraces the genealogy of the Princes Turkestanov (of Georgian origin) and the history of their arms. It is interesting to know that the title of Prince Turkestanov bears the author's son Fedor (b. 1983) through his mother Olga by the will of her father Prince Alexandre Turkestanov who bequeathed the title to his only grandson.

**"Arms from the Coach Door"** (p. 52) by Peter Kosmolinsky, Herald Master of the Moscow Nobility Assembly, Full Member of the Historical–Genealogical Society in Moscow, Director of the "Leib–Kompanie" LTD. The author received recently an interesting heraldic item from a famous Russian historian Vladimir Zvegintsov, living in France, who asked to determine the belonging of the arms. The item is an oval copper gilt plate with the arms. After a scrutiny of the rare armorial bearings Peter Kosmolinsky came to a conclusion that the arms belonged to the widow of His Serene Highness Prince Michael Illarionovich Count Golenistchev-Kutuzov, the victorious General Field-Marshal who defeated Napoleon in 1812.

**"The Coat of Arms of the Settlement of Zagoryansky"** (p. 66) by Igor Smetannikov, President of the Russian Heraldry Society, St. Michael Herald Marshal Chancellor of the Russian Collegium Heraldicum, Editor of the Gerboved.

Mr. Smetannikov has already designed lots of dozens of coats of arms for towns and settlements in Russia that had not got arms before. In present

account he reports about the history of creation and further development of these arms and their application in different items. The blazon is: Azure, between in the dexter a bee Or, winged Argent, and in the sinister a Zaryanka Cock proper, a Yuri Nikulin Gladiolus proper, issuing out of a base Sable, on which its roots of the second are shaping a kind of a terrestrial globe. On a canton Gules, a Kremlin Tower of the second.

**"Arms and Flag of the Crimea"** (p. 82) by George Yefetov, President of the Simferopol Heraldist Section (Group), one of the designers of the new State Arms of the Republic of the Crimea.

On 24 September 1992 the Republic of the Crimea Supreme Soviet (Council) IX session approved the State Arms and Flag of the Crimea. The blazon is: Gules, a Chersonesus griffin passant Argent, holding in his dexter forepaw an open nacre of the second with a pearl Azure in it. The shield is surmounted by the rising sun, and accompanied at either side by two marble columns proper. On a scroll below tinctured of the flag of the Crimea, this motto: Prosperity in Unity.

The Crimean State Flag is of three horizontal stripes: narrow (1/6 of width) blue, wide (2/3) white, and again narrow (1/6) red stripes.

Since the Crimea never was before recently an independent state or territory, the arms described above are the first emblem to be regarded as that of "the state".

There were three projects of the Crimean Arms submitted to the Supreme Soviet of the Republic. The first one was: Argent, a double-headed Taurian eagle Sable, charged on his breast with an escutcheon Azure with a tamga (sign) of the Ghirei Knans on it. The eagle is accompanied in chief with a trident Or, fimbriated Sable. On a scroll of the first below, this motto: Prosperity in Unity.

The second project was a griffin within a roundel (instead of a shield). It did not look like heraldry at all. Unfortunately, the present attempts to thrust an ugly yellow chickenly double-headed eagle within a red roundel as the state arms of Russia are still going on, too.

The third project already described above was approved at last after some long discussions, being considered as a neutral emblem which did not show belonging to any particular nation: Russian, Ukrainian or Tartar.

**"The Elementary Symbolism of the Universe"** (p. 89) by Igor Voronov, Member of the RHS.

The article runs about some esoteric aspects of different religions. The author shows some fanciful and strange pictures that can, allegedly influence in the health of man. Everything stands rather far from heraldry as such.

The rest space of the Gerboved is filled with various announcements, adverts, accounts, etc.

## THE EAST PRUSSIAN CIVIC ARMS

(see pp.58-65 )

In the middle of the 13th century the territory situated on the Baltic seashore between two rivers, the Vistula and the Niemen, inhabited by the then heathen Prussian tribes was seized by the Teutonic Order. The Prussian tribes were partly annihilated, partly assimilated with the German colonists.

In the 16th century the Military Order was replaced by the Secular State power – first the duchy, afterwards the Kingdom of Prussia. In the course of time it became a German province.

In 1945 according to the Potsdam Conference Protocols some two thirds of the Prussian territory were submitted to Poland, while the Koenigsberg, later on the Kaliningrad region became a part of Russian Federation, the right bank of the Niemen together with the city of Memel (Klaipeda) being passed to Lithuania.

There existed 81 towns in Prussia. 55 of them were founded in the times of the Order before 1525, while the other 26 – during the following four centuries.

Within the Northern part of East Prussia (presently the Kaliningrad region) existed 25 towns which possessed arms.

We offer our readers some brief information over the said towns and the blazon of their arms.

### 1. KALININGRAD (KOENIGSBERG)

Koenigsberg was founded in 1255. As a result of unification of three towns – Alstadt, Lebenicht, and Kneiphof – in 1724 was formed the town of Koenigsberg.

On 14th April 1945 Koenigsberg was captured by storm of the Red Army troops. On 14th July 1946 the town was renamed Kaliningrad. Its population has been c. 400 thousand people.

The Koenigsberg coat of arms is compound. An Eagle displayed Sable, royally crowned proper, armed and membered Or, debriused on the breast and wings with a crescent issuant at each tip a trefoil of the second, and charged on the breast with a golden cypher RFW ensigned with a royal crown proper. The Eagle supports three shields. The middle one is: Per fess, Argent and Gules, in chief a ducal coronet of the second, in base a cross patée of the first (for Alstadt). The dexter shield is: Vert, between two horns Or, a hand vested Azure, issuant out from the base wavy of the third, and holding a ducal coronet of the second (for Kneiphof). The sinister shield is: Azure, between in chief and in base two mullets of six points Argent, a ducal coronet Or (for Lebenicht).



## 2. BAGRATIONOVSK (PREUSSISCH-EYLAU)

Preussisch-Eylau first was mentioned in a manuscript of 1317. It was granted with municipal rights in 1585. The town became known after the famous battle between Russian-Prussian and French armies.

On 10th February 1945 Preussisch-Eylau was seized by the Red Army troops. On 7th September 1946 the town was renamed Bagrationovsk after the name of Russian general who fought there in 1807. Its population has been c. 6600 people.

Arms: Per fess Sable and Argent, in chief a lion Or, armed Gules, issuant from the line of partition, in base three crosses patée of the first.

## 3. BALTIYSK (PILLAU)

The first mention of Pillau goes back to 1257. In 1697 Pillau was visited by the then Russian Tsar Peter the First. The settlement became a town in 1725. In 1945 Pillau was captured by the Red Army troops. On 27th November 1946 the town was renamed Baltiysk, having become a naval base of the Baltic Navy. Its population has been c. 49 thousand people.

Arms: Per fess Gules and Azure, in fess point a sturgeon Argent, royally crowned Or.

## 4. GVARDEISK (TAPIAU)

The first mention of Tapiau dates back to the end of the 13th century. It was granted with municipal rights in 1722.

On 25th March 1945 the town was seized by the Red Army troops. On 7th September 1945 it was renamed Gvardelsk. Its population has been c. 12 thousand people.

Arms: Azure, a hand proper, issuant out of clouds in orle disjointed in chief Argent, holding a sword proper, hilted and pommelled Or, point upwards, accompanied with the Sun issuant from the chief point proper.

## 5. GUSEV (GUMBINNEN)

Gumbinnen was mentioned first in 1554. It became a town in 1724.

On 21st May 1945 it was captured by the Red Army troops. On 7th September 1945 the town was renamed Gusev after Captain Gusev who fell in battle not far from the town. Population is about 30 000.

Arms: Per bend sinister, both fields Gules, in chief an Eagle displayed issuant from the line of partition Sable, armed and membered Or, royally crowned proper, debouched on the wings with a disjointed crescent issuant at each tip a trefoll, and holding in his dexter claw a sceptre terminating in an eaglet, all of the third. In base diapered an arrow in pale pointed upwards of the second.

## **6. DOBROVOLSK (PILLKALLEN, SCHLOSSBERG)**

The first mention of Pillkallen goes back to 1284. It was granted with municipal rights in 1725. The town was renamed Schlossberg in 1938.

On 15th January 1945 Schlossberg was seized by the Red Army troops. On 25th July 1947 it was renamed Dobrovolsk, a settlement belonging to Krasnoznamensky district. Its population has been c. 1540 people.

Arms: Per fess Gules and Vert. In chief three windmills Or. In base a castle wall embattled Argent, masoned Sable, with a portal displayed of the late, and a portcullis half-raised of the third.

## **7. DOMNOVO (DOMNAU)**

It is mentioned since the late 13th century, having accepted municipal rights in 1400. The town was captured by the Red Army in early January 1945. On 17th June 1947 it became a settlement of Domново. Population about 800.

Arms: Gules, an Eagle's claw Or, issuant from the sinister.

## **8. DRUZHBA (ALLENBURG)**

Mentioned since 1272. It was granted with municipal rights in 1400.

On 26th January 1945 the town was seized by the Red Army troops. On 17th June 1947 it was renamed the settlement of Druzhba. Population is about 500 people.

Arms: Argent, an Elk's head Gules, issuant out of canes Vert.

## **9. ZHELEZNODOROZHNY (GERDAUEN)**

Mentioned since the middle 13th century. In 1398 Gerdauen was granted with municipal rights.

On 27th January 1945 it was captured by the Red Army troops. On 17 June 1947 the town was renamed Zheleznodorozhny. Population – 3000.

Arms: Argent, a cathedral with three steeples Gules, two figures habited Azure, a circle of glory over their heads, standing under as many canopies or stalls of Gothic work, aperture displayed of the field, representing St. Paul with a sword point baseward proper in his dexter hand, and St. Peter with a Holy Scripture Gold in his sinister hand, the Saints support a great key erect wards upward Or.

## **10. ZNAMENSK (WEHLAU)**

The first mention of Wehlau dates back to 1255. In 1347 the municipal rights were acquired.

On 21st January 1945 it was seized by the Red Army troops. On 17th June 1947 it was renamed Znamensk. Population – 4500.

Arms: Vert, a stag's head caboshed Argent, attired Or, accompanied between his antlers with a mullet of six points of the late.

## 11. KORNEVO (ZINTEN)

The settlement of Zinten was founded in 1313. As soon as in forty years it was granted with municipal rights.

On 22nd February 1945 Zinten was captured by the Red Army troops. On 25th June 1947 it was renamed a settlement Kornevo belonging to Bagrationovsk district. Population – 2700.

Arms: Azure, a bull's head cabeshed Or, between two towers inclined in saltire Argent, roofed Gules, issuant of a base embattled of the third, masoned Sable.

## 12. KRYLOVO (NORDENBURG)

The settlement first appeared in the early 14th century. In 1405 Nordenburg was granted with municipal rights.

On 26th January 1945 Nordenburg was seized by the Red Army troops. In June 1947 the town of Nordenburg was renamed the settlement of Krylovo belonging to Pravdinsky district. Population is about 700.

Arms: Argent, a horse forcene Sable, between in sinister chief and in dexter base two mullets of six points Gules.

## 13. KUTUZOVO (SCHIRWINDT)

Schirwindt was first mentioned in 1516. It was granted with municipal rights in 1725. It is the most Eastern town in Prussia.

On 17th October 1944 Schirwindt was captured by the Red Army troops. On 17th November 1947 it was renamed the settlement of Kutuzovo belonging to Krasnoznamensky district. There are no constant residents of the settlement.

Arms: within a bordure compony counter-compony Sable and Argent, a wall Gules, masoned of the first, crenellated ajoure Azure, and within a portal displayed of the late, a portcullis raised of the first, a Prussian Eagle proper, with in base of the portal a sun rising Or.

## 14. MAMONOVO (HEILIGENBEIL)

The town of Heiligenbeil was founded in the middle 13th century. It was granted with municipal rights in 1301.

On 22nd March 1945 the town was seized by the Red Army troops. On 27th July it was renamed after Sub-colonel Mamonov, killed in battle before the storm, commander of the infantry regiment that assaulted the town.

In March 1951 it was transformed into the settlement of Mamonovo belonging to Bagrationovsky district.

Arms: Sable, two battle-axes in saltire Argent, staved Or.

In May 1938 a new coat of arms appeared. Namely: per fess Argent and Sable, in chief a wall salient of the late, in base two battle-axes in saltire of the first, staved Or.



## 15. NEMAN (RAGNIT)

An ancient Prussian fortress Ragaine appeared between 1100 and 1200. In 1275 it was captured by the Teutonic Order. In 1772 Ragnit became a town.

On 19th January 1945 it was seized by the Red Army troops, and on 17th June 1947 the town was renamed Neman. Population – 14000.

Arms: Azure, an eagle flying Sable, over a town Argent, with houses and towers roofed Gules, standing over a base per fess wavy Vert and Azure, accompanied in chief with an eye of Providence, surrounded with a glory proper.

## 16. NESTEROV (STALLUPOENEN, EBENRODE)

The first mention of it goes back to 1539. Stallupoenen became a town in 1722. It was renamed Ebenrode in 1938.

On 25th October 1944 the town was seized by the Red Army troops. On 7th September 1946 Ebenrode was renamed Nesterov after S. K. Nesterov, Colonel of the Guards, who was killed in battle in East Prussia. Population – 5000.

Arms: Vert, a table Or, two traverses of which, between its legs, form a figure of voided heart.

## 17. OZERSK (DARKEHMEN, ANGERAPP)

Its approximate date of foundation is about 1380. Darkehmen was first mentioned in 1615. In 1726 it was granted with municipal rights. In 1938 Darkehmen was renamed Angerapp.

On 23rd January 1945 Angerapp was captured by the Red Army troops. On 7th September 1946 it was renamed Ozersk. Population – 7000.

Arms: Per fess triple-arched Azure and Argent, in chief a sun in his splendour Or, faced of the second, in base on a mount Vert, an eagle rising Sable.

## 18. POLESSK (LABIAU)

The first mention of Labiau dates back to 1257. It was granted with municipal rights in 1642.

On 28th January 1945 Labiau was captured by the Red Army troops, and on 7th September 1946 was renamed Polesk. Population – 6800.

Arms: Argent, a tree issuant of a base all Vert, accompanied with an arm vested of the late, issuant of clouds in chief sinister Azure, and holding in the hand a horn Or.

## 19. FRIEDLAND (FRIEDLAND)

Friedland was founded in 1312. According to other reports it was founded in 1335 as a town. It became known since the battle of 1807 which led to the Tilsit Peace Treaty.

On 31st March 1945 Friedland was seized by the Red Army troops, and on 7th September 1946 was renamed Pravdinsk. Population – 4200.

Arms: Or, an eagle's leg erased à la quise Gules, armed Argent, grasping in the claws a fish Azure.

## 20. PRIMORSK (FISCHHAUSEN)

The settlement is known since 1264. In 1305 the town of Bishovenhausen appeared which after 1369 bore the name of Fischhausen.

On 17th April 1945 it was captured by the Red Army troops, and on 7th September 1946 was renamed Primorsk. Population – 1900.

Arms: Azure, a pastoral staff in bend Or, surmounted of a sword in bend sinister point baseward Argent, hilted and pommelled Gold, with in base a fish hauriant of the third.

## 21. SLAVSKOE (KREUZBURG)

Kreuzburg was first mentioned in 1212. It has been a town since 1315.

In 1945 it was seized by the Red Army troops. Since 17th November 1947 it bore a name of Slavskoe. Population – 200.

Arms: Gules, a castle with two towers Argent, standing on a mount Vert. Between the towers a shield inclined to the dexter: Argent, a demi-eagle Gules, impaling Argent, an issuant demi-cross Sable.

## 22. SOVETSK (TILSIT)

Tilsit first was mentioned in 1288. It was granted with municipal rights in 1552. The town became known owing to the Tilsit Peace Treaty concluded between Russia and France in 1807.

On 21 st January 1945 Tilsit was captured by the Red Army troops, and on 7th September 1946 was renamed Sovetsk. Population – 43000.

Arms: Argent, a tower with a part of a wall Gules, masoned Sable, roofed Azure, standing on a base wavy of the late. On the tower's wall a shield of the Hohenzollern: quarterly, Argent and Sable.

## 23. USHAKOVO (BRANDENBURG)

Brandenburg was founded in 1266. It was an intention to transform it in 1725 into a town, but only arms were granted.

In 1945 it was seized by the Red Army troops, and on 25th July 1947 was renamed the settlement of Ushakovo. Population – 700.

Arms: Argent, an eagle displayed Gules, armed Or, charged on its wings with a crescent issuant at each tip a trefoil Gold.

## 24. CHERNYSHEVSKOE (EYDTKUHNEN, EYDTKAU)

Eydtkuhnen was founded in the late 16th century. It became a town in 1922, and was renamed Eydtkau in 1938.

On 18th October 1944 it was captured by the Red Army troops, and was renamed Chernyshevskoe on 25 th July 1947. Population – 700.

Arms: per fess Argent and Vert, a castle with four towers crenellated Gules, naissant from a base, within a portal a sun rising Or, and with in base a railway emblem: a winged wheel of the late.

## 25. CHERNYAKHOVSK (INSTERBURG)

The first mention of it dates back to 1311. In 1583 Insterburg became a town. In 1818 under the town died Field-Marshal Barclay de Tolly.

On 22nd January 1945 it was seized by the Red Army troops. On 7th April 1946 the town was renamed Chernyakhovsk after General I. D. Chernyakhovsky, Commander of the 3rd Bielorussian Front, who was killed in battle in East Prussia.

Arms: Argent, on a mount Vert, a bear passant unmuzzled Sable, armed and langued Gules, accompanied in chief with letters G and F Gold.

The letters are inserted in honour of the Margrave Georg Friedrich who granted Istenburg with municipal rights.

The account of the East Prussia civic arms was written by two authors:

Alexei Gubin, a student of local lore, and Gennady Kretinin, Cand. of Sc. (Military), both of Kaliningrad.

## NEW HERALDIC COLLECTABLES

The Architects Studio "B-13-B" jointly with the St. Petersburg State Mint, some banking institutions, Russian Academy of Sciences, and in collaboration with the Russian Heraldry Society have begun striking of new coin-like medallions. These most attractive collectables are of great interest for those fond of Russian history and heraldry.

Each piece is made of copper-nickel, proof-like, size 42 mm, contained in a special plastic transparent capsule.

On the obverse of every medallion is a historical coat of arms of a city, town, or a settlement of Russian Empire. On the reverse is the Russian Imperial Arms, otherwise a provincial or regional coat of arms respectively to the administrative subordination.

During the next two years an amount of over 600 various series of the heraldic medallions is planned to be issued, each series being of limited edition of 5000 pieces.

Manufacturer: The St. Petersburg State Mint. Availability: please contact Valery Yegorov, Collegium Heraldicum, Sanatorium – 5, Monino, Moskovska obl., 141152, Russia.