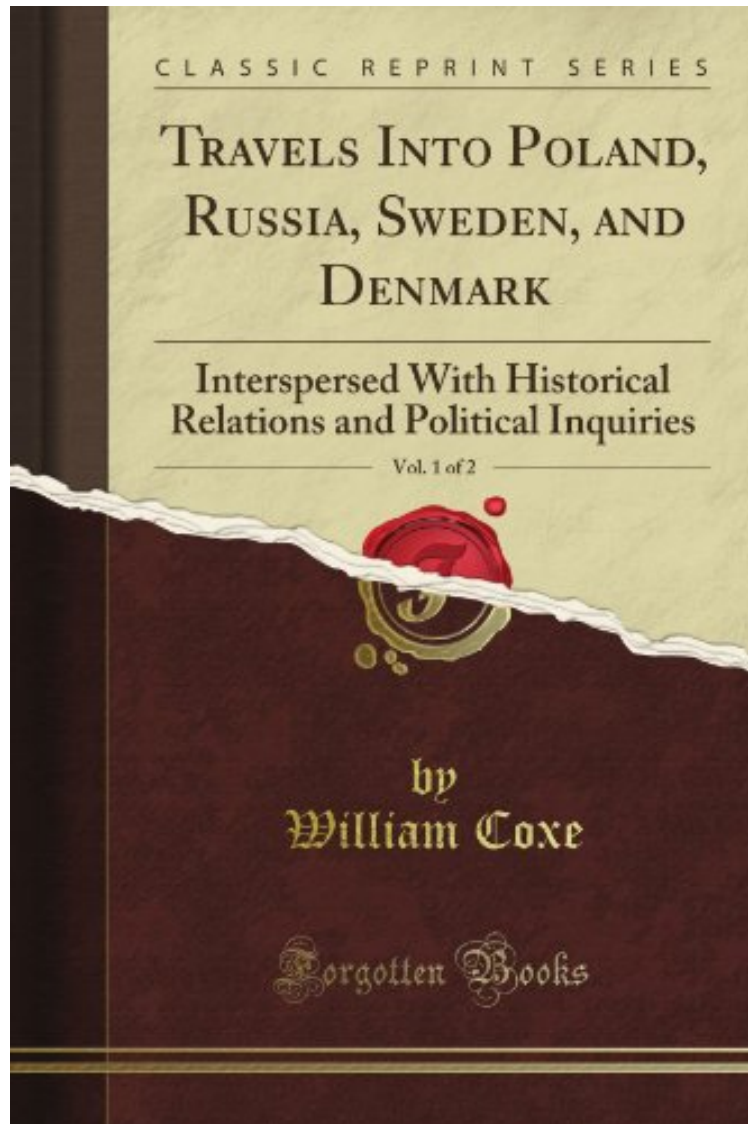


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Northern kingdoms of Europe ;and it is necessary to apprise the reader upon what foundation the principal facts are supported. In regard to Poland, I was honoured with information from persons of the highest rank and authority ;and fortunately obtained possession of some original letters written from Warsaw, before and during the Partition, which have enabled me to throw a considerable light over that interesting period. I presume, therefore, that the account of Poland comprehends many particulars which have not been hitherto presented to the publick. With respect to Russia, as the Empress herself deigned to answer some queries relative to the state of the publick prisons; this gracious condescension in so great a sovereign could not but facilitate my further inquiries. To this I must add, that the late celebrated historian Mr. Muller favoured me with various communications on some of the most important and intricate parts of the Russian annals, and pointed out to me the most approved writers on this empire. The nature of the Swedish government rendered the sources of information easy of access ;and, since my return to England, I have seen Vol. II. p. 84, the order of St. Vladimir, has, in respect to Mr. Muller died in the latter end of his life, conferred a pension on his widow. The Empress, who, in consideration of his services, and ennobled his son. (Typographical errors above are due to OCR software and don't occur in the book.) About the Publisher Forgotten Books is a publisher of historical writings, such as: Philosophy, Classics, Science, Religion, History, Folklore and Mythology. Forgotten Books' Classic Reprint Series utilizes the latest technology to regenerate facsimiles of historically important writings. Careful attention has been made to accurately preserve the original format of each page whilst digitally enhancing the aged text.