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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1906 Excerpt: ... across the Volga at Yaroslav, and it has to be crossed in little boats in summer; in winter it is so firmly frozen over that goods trains pass over the ice. Passengers from Moscow to Archangel have to cross the river in sleighs and take the train at a station on the opposite bank, for passenger trains are not allowed to cross. It was on a beautiful autumn afternoon that we arrived at the little station of Kostroma, which stands by a forest of birch trees on the opposite bank of the Volga to that on which the town of Kostroma is situated. A wide avenue of fine birches runs inland from the river bank for thirty versts; it has a double row of these trees on either side, and is a sight which calls forth the admiration of every traveller. The bank of the river, which was rather high and steep opposite the town, was composed of rich brown soil, and enlivened with a few wooden houses scattered here and there. The sunset lights upon the water were very fine, and the houses, churches and monasteries of Kostroma sparkled on the opposite shore; the brilliance of the golden cupolas was dazzling. A short distance from the town, and close to the water's edge, stood the historical Ipatieff monastery, founded in the eleventh century by an ancestor of the Godonoff family, and rebuilt in the seventeenth. Here it was that Marfa, the wife of Philaret, lived with her son Michael for two years, and it was from this monastery that Michael was called to ascend the throne of Russia; for some years previously Marfa had lived in a convent for women on the other side of the town. In the Romanoff House at Moscow there is an old picture of the election of Michael; he is represented as quite a child, and, indeed, he was only sixteen years of age. Behind him is a crowd of nuns, and among...

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