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## **А.Е. ИЗМАЙЛОВ И КАЗЕННАЯ ПАЛАТА ТВЕРСКОЙ ГУБЕРНИИ, 1800-1860**

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Статья посвящена проблеме внутренней стратификации провинциального чиновничества дореформенной России. На основе архивных документов и художественной литературы анализируется кадровый состав чиновников казённой палаты Тверской губернии первой половины XIX в., характер служебных взаимоотношений внутри учреждения и с курировавшим его вице-губернатором А. Е. Измайловым. Изучение данных послужных списков, социально-родственных связей служащих позволило выявить высокую продолжительность срока их службы в данном учреждении и формирование нескольких династий, которые нередко были связаны родственными или дружескими отношениями. Такие связи, по мнению автора, стали препятствием для руководства казённой палатой тверским вице-губернатором А. Е. Измайловым. В заключении автор приходит к выводу о стремлении чиновников к социальной обособленности и к корпоративной замкнутости не только на региональном уровне, но и в рамках одного учреждения.

**Ключевые слова:** *бюрократия, чиновничество, казенная палата, Тверская губерния, Александр Измайлов.*

On March 25, 1834 a group of bureaucrats from the provincial treasury chamber (*kazennaia palata*) in the city of Tver' published a brief memorial in *Moskovskiiia vedomosti* for the poet and former vice-governor of Tver' province, Aleksandr Efimovich Izmailov (1779–1831). While it is true that tributes rarely paint their subjects in a negative light, this memorial expresses a particularly deep respect for Izmailov. The authors recount how they held a memorial service in his honor at Zheltikov Monastery, which ended with the words: «Peace upon you, noble man. Let your memory live in the hearts of all who knew and appreciated you. In eternity, accept the reward worthy of your virtues»<sup>1</sup>.

The fact that these bureaucrats published a tribute to Izmailov presents a bit of a puzzle. Not only did he serve for a relatively brief period in Tver', he also left the city on particularly poor terms, departing while still embroiled in a number of serious disputes with local elites and officials. Izmailov's falling out with fellow officials partially accompanied the collapse of his rela-

<sup>1</sup> «Iz Tveri, Fevralia 5» // *Moskovskiiia vedomosti*. March 25. 1834. 1065.

tionship with the governor<sup>2</sup>. However, Ivan Kubasov (1875–1931) – a librarian at Pushkinskii dom during the 1920s and the biographer responsible for collecting a large amount of Izmailov's correspondence – also writes about the tensions that developed between Izmailov and his subordinates. Kubasov notes that the poet experienced increasing frustration with middling officials, especially in the treasury chamber. As vice-governor he presided over the chamber and referred to it in his correspondence as a «real nest of scoundrels»<sup>3</sup>. Izmailov complained that the officials there had little intention of working and only the lowliest of clerks readily responded to his will. Moreover, he saw himself as distinctly alienated from their personal politics and «corrupt» activities.

Izmailov's frustration with officials in the treasury chamber and his inability to affect their behavior reflected the serious limitations that he faced as an outsider who had been charged with running an institution deeply rooted in the local community. Three types of bonds bound together bureaucrats in the treasury chamber in a manner that isolated them from an outsider like Izmailov: bureaucratic dynasties in the institution, close ties between officials from the chamber outside of work, and tendency of officials to serve in the chamber for extended periods. Historians have explored the first two types of bonds in some detail when examining the caste-like qualities of bureaucrats in provincial Russia during the nineteenth century<sup>4</sup>. However, the third bond has yet to receive considerable attention, in large part because previous scholarship examines a cross-section of bureaucrats from multiple administrative institutions, as opposed to a single institution. By looking at Izmailov's experience with the treasury chamber of Tver' province and personnel records from the chamber the following paper will show that the bonds that fostered the growth of a caste-like group of bureaucrats in the

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<sup>2</sup> *Aleksandr Izmailov. Babushka i vnuchka // Aleksandr Izmailov. Izbrannye sochineniia. M., 2009. P. 150.*

<sup>3</sup> Ivan Kubasov. Vitse-gubernatorstvo basnopitsa Izmailova v Tveri i Arkhangel'ski (s 1827 po 1829 god) Etiud po neizdannym materialam // *Aleksandr Izmailov. Op.cit. P. 341.*

<sup>4</sup> *Troitskii S. M. Russkii absoliutizm i dvorianstvo v XVIII veke: formirovanie biurokratii. M., 1974; Riumiantseva M. F. Istochniki o sotsial'nom sostave sluzhashchikh mestnykh gosudarstvennykh uhrezhdenii v poslednej hetverti XVIII veka // Issledovaniia po istochnikovedeniiu istorii SSSR dooktiabr'skogo perioda: Sbornik stat'ei. M., 1983; Demidova N. F. Biurokratizatsiia gosudarstvennogo apparata absoliutizma v XVII–XVIII vv. // Absoliutizm v Rossii, XVII–XVIII vv.: Sbornik statei k semidesiatiletiiu so dnia rozhdeniia i sorokariatiletiiu nauchnoi i pedagogicheskoi deiatelnosti V. V. Kafengauza / ed. N. M. Druzhinin, N. I. Pavlenko and L. V. Cherepnin. M., 1964; Liubina T. I., Smirnov S. N. Chinovnichestvo v sisteme mestnogo upravleniia Tverskoi gubernii v kontse XIX – nachale XX veka: pravovoi status i sotsiokul'turnaia kharakteristika. M., 2008; Walter M. Pintner. The Evolution of Civil Officialdom, 1755–1855 // *Russian Officialdom: The Bureaucratization of Russian Society from the Seventeenth to the Twentieth Century / Walter M. Pintner and Don Rowney eds. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1980; Marasanova V. M. Mestnoe Upravlenie v Rossiiskoi Imperii (na materialakh verkhnego povolzh'ia. M., 2004.**

provinces, also led to the growth of clans within particular administrative structures like the treasury chamber in Tver'.

### The Outsider

Izmailov was a self-proclaimed outsider in Tver'. Still recovering from an illness that had delayed his departure from St. Petersburg for several weeks, he arrived in Tver' on December 26, 1826, tired, but optimistic about his new appointment. Initially, he got along well with the provincial governor, Vasilii Borisov, noting that "daily, hourly I thank God that I serve with such a respectable and noble individual"<sup>5</sup>. However, Izmailov's attitude towards his fellow officials and local society in Tver' soured quickly. He became embroiled in several conflicts with locals, ostensibly related to his literary works and attempts to combat corruption<sup>6</sup>. Finally, on March 31, 1828, the Senate dismissed him from his position in Tver' and dispatched him to the city of Arkhangel'sk to take up a second vice-governorship. Reflecting on the unfortunate direction of his career in a letter to Sir Walter Scott – composed in June of 1828 – he complained that because of his terrible experience there, he had "died in Tver'"<sup>7</sup>.

The first hints of Izmailov's disappointment with life in Tver' emerge in his cultural critique of the city's elites. Izmailov thought of himself as an enlightened individual from St. Petersburg whose cultural and social background made him superior to many individuals in provincial Russia<sup>8</sup>. Though he was born in the Vladimir province to a noble family, he spent most of his life in St. Petersburg, where he both served in the Finance Ministry and actively participated in literary and intellectual circles, such as the Free Society for Lovers of Literature, Science and Art (*Vol'noe obshchestvo liubitelei slovesnosti, nauk i khudozhestv*). He readily proclaimed his status as a poet

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<sup>5</sup> Aleksandr Izmailov. Letter from March 2, 1827 // *Kubasov Ivan*. Vitse-gubernatorstvo basnopistsa. P. 335.

<sup>6</sup> *Kubasov Ivan*. Aleksandr Efimovich Izmailov, 1779–1832 gg, // *Ruskaia starina*. 103 (1900). P. 64.

<sup>7</sup> There is no record of how Scott reacted to Izmailov's letter, which the poet composed in French and sent to Scott via Scottish merchants working in the port of Arkhangel'sk. However, Izmailov seemed convinced that the great romantic novelist would understand the difficulties incumbent to living in a city such as Tver', see: *Alekseev M. P.* V. Skott i russkie pisateli // *Literaturnoe nasledstvo* / ed. M. N. Bychkov. M., 1982. T. 91: *Rusko-angliiskie literaturnye sviazi (XVIII – pervaiia polovina XIX veka)*. P. 362–363; *Aleksandr Izmailov*. Pis'mo V. Skottu ot 3 iulia, 1828 g. // *Tver' v khudozhestvennoi literature i publitsistike: antologiia* / ed. L. N. Skakovskaia and A. V. Trushchenkova. Tver', 2010. P. 33.

<sup>8</sup> *Sorochan A. Iu., Stroganov M. V., Stroganova E. N.* Pisatel' u vlasti: Tverski vitse-gubernatory XIX veka // *Knigi biblioteki istoriia: Stat'i publikatsii, soobshcheniia*. Tver': 2009. Vypusk 10: *Materialy kruglovo stola «Kraevedenie i ego rol' v razvitiu regional'nogo soobshchestva»*, September 19, 2007, Tver'. P. 63.

and became well-known for his work with the *basnia* (satirical fable) genre<sup>9</sup>. Much of the poetry he composed in Tver' reflects his low opinion of locals and though he found a handful of individuals to socialize with—including the local bishop – his self-identified status as an outsider in Tver's social circles would remain consistent throughout his time in the city.

In contrast to Izmailov's critique of elites in Tver', when speaking about officialdom in the city he initially portrayed himself as part of a «family». He characterized the bureaucracy in Tver' as a patriarchy led by Borisov, the provincial governor<sup>10</sup>. In fact, he went as far as to call the governor and his wife as his adopted parents. However, with time his positive impression of the governor and other local officials became less and less affirmative and he came to see himself as an outsider in the «family» of local officialdom as well.

The circumstances surrounding the fracturing of Izmailov's relationship with local officials in Tver' are decidedly murky. However, it is clear that his disappointment with life and work in the provinces helped spoil his vision of fellow bureaucrats. On the one hand, he had expected that the pace of work in the provinces would be more relaxed than it had been in the capital<sup>11</sup>. Yet, he struggled to find any time for himself or his family, particularly when the governor left Tver', thereby temporarily passing all gubernatorial duties to the vice-governor. According to Izmailov, when Borisov was out of town «I did not sleep peacefully for a single night, only saw my family during meals, and sat in my office, almost never leaving, as if I were in prison»<sup>12</sup>.

On the other hand, the political and institutional culture of the treasury chamber also vexed Izmailov. In particular, he complained repeatedly about its ubiquitous «disorder». While he never defines what constituted this lack of order, he likely reacted negatively to the informal institutional and political culture in the chamber. Procedurally, the chamber seems to have operated haphazardly. Its protocols from 1840 underscore the erratic pace at which it dealt with business and the absence of formal structures that undergirded its decision making<sup>13</sup>. In contrast to records from the 1860s – when the chamber convened to make decisions at regular intervals and justified decisions with reference to statute—the chamber in 1840 often did not cite regulations and put off most decisions until the end of the year; half of all protocols in 1840

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<sup>9</sup> Aleksandr Izmailov // Entsiklopedicheskii slovar / ed. F. A. Brokgauz and I. A. Efron. St. Petersburg, 1894. T. XIIa: Zemper-Imedokisloty. P. 852.

<sup>10</sup> Stroganov M. V. Chinovniki i pisateli: Tverskaia Guberniia v 1820–1860-kh gg. // Lazhechnikov i Tverskoi krai / ed. A. Iu. Sorochan. Tver', 2006. Vyp. 2: Literator v provintsii: Stat'i i materialii. P. 40.

<sup>11</sup> Kubasov Ivan. Aleksandr Efimovich Izmailov. P. 58.

<sup>12</sup> Aleksandr Izmailov. Pis'ma Aleksandra Efimovicha Izmailova k Ivanu Ivanovichu Dmitrevu, 1816–1830 // Russkii arkhiv 9 (1871). P. 997.

<sup>13</sup> The State Archive of the Tver Region (GATO). F. 312. Op. 4. D. 8666. L. 1–143.

relate to decisions reached from December 20<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>.

The lack of strong institutional structures in local financial institutions also manifested itself as informal deal making or outright institutional graft. Investigations of financial practices in Tver' province in the 1850s revealed that officials routinely «borrowed» money from state coffers, either via informal agreements or blatant embezzlement. Supposedly, one of Izmailov's successors, the novelist Ivan Lazhechnikov, was accused of «borrowing» several thousand rubles from the province's Office of Public Welfare (*prikaz obshchestvennogo prizreniia*)<sup>14</sup>. It would be misleading to assert that Izmailov's reservations about these practices amounted to an outright condemnation of corruption, given that he himself joked about receiving «bribes» as vice-governor<sup>15</sup>. However, the manner in which local officials conducted business clearly unsettled him. In fact, Kubasov goes as far as to say that Izmailov's refusal to stop bothering the governor about the issue of «disorder» in the chamber accelerated the poet's dismissal from Tver'<sup>16</sup>.

### **The Treasury Chamber Clan**

The informal and «disordered» political culture in the treasury chamber of Tver' province that troubled Izmailov likely reflected the centrality of personal, as opposed to professional bonds that flourished between the officials who served in it. An analysis of personnel and confessional records related to officials from the treasury chamber in Tver' province shows these links developed on three levels: dynastic links between relatives serving in the institution, social ties outside of work between families with connections to the chamber, and relationships between officials who served together for most of their careers in the chamber. The growth of these bonds and the social mechanisms that accompanied them gave officialdom in the chamber an insular, clan-like character.

The Khitrovs, one of several families who had lasting connections to the treasury chamber of Tver' province, embody each of these bonds. First and foremost, several generations of the Khitrovs served in the chamber. In 1806 Anton Mikhailovich Khitrov, the son of a priest, took up service there at age 23. Five years later, his brother Aleksei Mikhailovich joined the same institution at age 21. By 1830 both Khitrov brothers were serving in the same branch of the chamber along with Anton's son, Matvei, who joined the chamber in 1823 at age 13<sup>17</sup>. By 1840 Anton had risen to a supervisory position and his son had taken up the post of accountant in the same branch of the chamber. Aleksei no longer appears in the chamber's records in 1840. Yet, his

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<sup>14</sup> *Stroganov M. V.* I. I. Lazhechnikov i Tver' (po materialam Tverskogo arkhiva) // *Lazhechnikov i Tverskoi krai: Stat'i i materialy* / ed. A. Yu. Sorochan. Tver', 2005. Vyp. 1. P. 12–13.

<sup>15</sup> *Kubasov Ivan.* Vitse-gubernatorstvo basnopistsa. P. 332.

<sup>16</sup> *Kubasov Ivan.* Aleksandr Efimovich Izmailov. P. 64.

<sup>17</sup> GATO. F. 312. Op. 4. D. 7610. L. 22ob.–8, 58ob.–60, 60ob.–61, 67ob.–68.

two sons, Mikhail and Vasili, now served under their uncle: Mikhail took up service there in 1831 at age 13 and his younger brother in 1834 at age 17<sup>18</sup>. In other words, over the course of 30 years two generations of the Khitrov family not only served in the treasury chamber; they served in the same office within the chamber. The Khitrovs were, in every sense of the word, a «dynasty» of bureaucrats.

During nineteenth century, several dynastic lines developed in the treasury chamber of Tver' province. All told, from 1808 through 1861, records indicate that at least twenty sets of fathers and sons served together in the chamber, and on at least eighteen occasions brothers served simultaneously with one another<sup>19</sup>. Furthermore, at least six families – the Khitrovs, Klebnikovs, Peshkovs, Gamburtsevs, Petrovskii, and Ivanovs – had a presence in the chamber for 20 years or more<sup>20</sup>. In the end, multiple generations of the major dynastic lines in the chamber occupied a wide range of positions in the institution, thereby extending a web of personal connections throughout the chamber that was not readily accessible to outsiders.

A second level of connections developed between officials in the treasury chamber as a result of their lives outside of work. Many of these ties emerged because officials from the chamber lived close to one another in Tver'. During the nineteenth century Tver' consisted of four districts: the Zavolzhskii, the Zatmanskii, the Zatveretskii, and the Gorodskoi. Both Anton and Aleksei Khitrov indicate that their families owned homes in the Gorodskoi district, the central part of Tver' where the treasury chamber was located. Unfortunately, the personnel records from the chamber do not list the address of any given official's home. However, a survey of property holdings in the city from 1857–1858, shows that Anton's son, Matvei lived in a wooden home on Mironositskaia street and rented out an older home in a neighborhood just north of the chamber<sup>21</sup>. It is difficult to know for certain, but these were likely the homes owned by Anton and Aleksei.

Many fellow officials also lived in the same district as the Khitrovs. In 1830, at the peak of the Khitrov dynasty, 75% of the houses reported as property by bureaucrats in the chamber were located in the Gorodskoi district. Five out of the eight homes owned by officials who worked with the Khitrovs in the district treasuries office (*kaznacheistvo otdelenie*) were located in this district and all desk heads (*stolonachal'niki*) in the chamber reported that they held property there<sup>22</sup>. Moreover, the property survey from 1857–1858 demonstrates that officials from the treasury chamber not only lived in the Gorodskoi district, but they did so in clusters. Of the twenty-one officials from the chamber who owned property at that time, fifteen lived in a five-

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid. D. 7620. L. 119ob.–122, 130ob.–131, 137ob.–138, 139ob.–140.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid. F. 466. Op. 2. D. 2094; F. 312. Op. 4. D. 7608, 7610, 7620, 7629, 7638.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> GATO. F. 27. Op. 1. D. 5679. L. 263.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid. F. 312. Op. 4. D. 7610. L. 48 ob.–49, 58ob.–60, 59 ob.–61, 69 ob.–72.

block area, with multiple officials often living on the same street<sup>23</sup>.

Historians argue that the material and social context encountered by local bureaucrats encouraged them to live close together in any given city. Recent scholarship on bureaucrat families in Tver' during the nineteenth century demonstrates the overwhelming majority of these homes, roughly 80%, were located in the Gorodskoi district. The dense concentration of officials in this region reflected the balance that officials needed to strike between their meager material means – which impelled them to live in traditional wooden homes and keep their own livestock – and an impulse to reside in prestigious sections of Tver' near their offices.

Because the officials from the chamber lived alongside their colleagues, they also attended church together. For example, the Khitrov brothers had deep roots in two parishes in Tver'. Confessional records indicate that from 1824 to at least 1840 Anton attended Il'ia Prorok church, which was located in the same city block as the chamber<sup>24</sup>. Fellow parishioners there included the vice-governor Gluchikov<sup>25</sup>. Aleksei, for his part, attended Zhen Mironositsa church, which was located on Mironositskaia street<sup>26</sup>. Fellow parishioners there included the patriarch of the Khlebnikov dynasty and treasurer (*kaznachei*) of Tver' district (*uezd*), Semion Stepanovich Khlebnikov<sup>27</sup>. Two of Khlebnikov's older sons served in the treasury chamber and one other son served in the treasurer's chancellery of Tverskoi district<sup>28</sup>. Beyond the Khitrov's many officials from the chamber attended church with one another. Confessional records from 1824 indicate over 50% of the staff in the chamber attended churches in the Gorodskoi district, with the largest number of officials attending Simeon Stoletnik church<sup>29</sup>.

The fact that officials lived in close proximity to one another and attended the same churches multiplied their personal connections to one another. Because these connections played a crucial role in any given official's career, the families of local bureaucrats sought ways to improve their standing with other officials, most notably by intermarrying. Historians have shown that there was a broad tendency among bureaucrats to wed the daughters of either nobles or other officials<sup>30</sup>. Unfortunately, the personnel records for the treasury chamber in Tver' province only sporadically report the social background of wives, making it difficult to discern any long-term patterns.

In addition to the bonds between officials in the chamber discussed

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<sup>23</sup> Ibid. F. 21. D. 5678, 5679, 5681, 5685.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid. F. 160. Op. 1. D. 17048. L. 322; D. 17055. L. 174.

<sup>25</sup> GATO. F. 160. Op. 1. D. 17055. L. 174.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid. D. 17048. L. 28.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

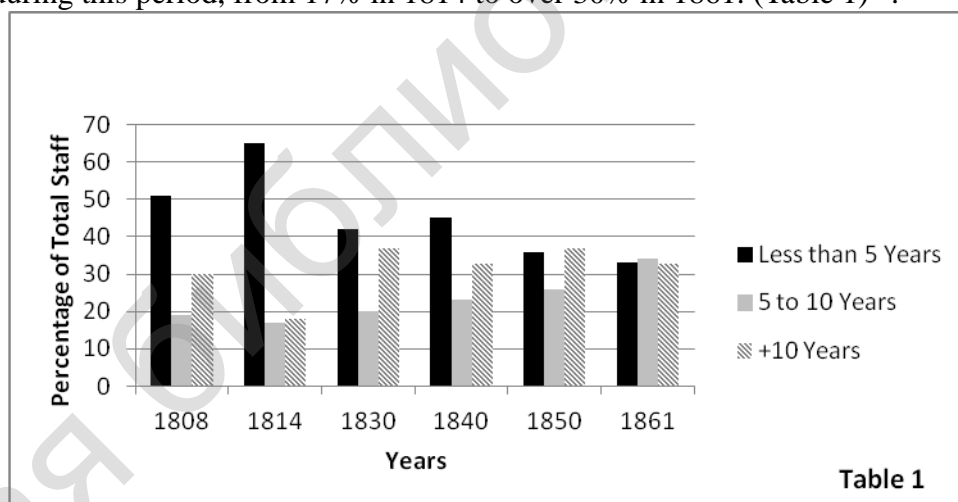
<sup>28</sup> Ibid. F. 312. Op. 4. D. 7608. L. 13ob.–14, 27ob.–28, 63ob.–64.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid. F. 160. Op. 1. D. 17048. L. 28, 74, 107, 126, 132, 136, 150–51, 197, 322, 334, 398.

<sup>30</sup> Arkhipova T. G., Rumiantseva M. F., Senin A. S. *Istoriya gosudarstvennoi sluzhby v Rossii XVIII–XX veka*. M., 1999. P. 63.

above, a third type of connection also contributed to the insular quality of officialdom in the chamber: namely, the tendency of officials to work there for extended periods, if not their entire careers. Returning to the case of the Khitrovs, each of the brothers and their sons served for many years in the chamber: Anton, the eldest brother, served there for at least 34 years, his younger brother Aleksei worked alongside him for 19 years, and Anton's son Matvei served for an equally lengthy 17 years.

The Khitrovs were by no means the only officials who served for long periods in the treasury chamber. An examination of 519 personnel records from 1808, 1814, 1830, 1840, 1850, and 1861 reveals that during the first half of the nineteenth century individuals – officials with rank (*chinovniki*) as well as clerks without rank (*kantseliarskie sluzhtel'i*)—served in the chamber for longer and longer periods. In 1808 over 50% of the chamber's staff had worked there for less than five years. The percentage of the staff that belonged to this group rose to 65% in 1814, a change that could reflect the effects of the War of 1812 or new educational requirements. However, by 1861 only 33% of officials had served for less than five years. These numbers are even more pronounced for bureaucrats with rank, of whom only 11% in 1861 had served for less than five years in the institution. The percentage of individuals who had served from 5 to 10 years in the chamber consistently grew during this period, from 17% in 1814 to over 30% in 1861. (Table 1)<sup>31</sup>:



At the same time, the percentage of the staff that had served for its entire career in chamber grew during this period. In 1830 40% of all bureaucrats in the chamber had served their entire career there. By 1861, this number grew to 60%<sup>32</sup>.

The tendency to serve for extended periods in the treasury chamber supplies further evidence of the high value placed on personal relationships

<sup>31</sup> GATO. F. 466. Op.2. D. 2094; F. 312. Op. 4. D. 7608, 7610, 7620, 7629, 7638.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.



in Russian provincial officialdom during the nineteenth century. In the world of local bureaucrats, the fact that officials saw advantage in building a network of personal connections underscores how their material and social position encouraged them to live as a collectivist and caste-like group. What's more, the proliferation of personal ties between members of the staff in the treasury chamber fostered kin-like solidarities more consistent with those present in a clan, as opposed to a bureaucratic institution. In this sense, the tendency to serve in a single institution for most of their careers served as a logical step in a system that placed primary importance on the strength of personal loyalties to one's immediate peers, as opposed to institutional structures.

### Conclusion

As an outsider as an outsider charged with leading the treasury chamber in Tver' province, Izmailov faced a distinct disadvantage. He may have been correct to presume that provincial officialdom could be conceived of as a family. However, he failed to find a means to encourage the family of local officials in the city to adopt him. In contrast to his experience, leaders with stronger personal ties to Tver' province remained in the local bureaucracy for lengthy periods of time. For example, Aleksei Pavlovich Poltaratskii – a local noble—served as the chair of the chamber for over twenty years, from 1838 until at least 1861<sup>33</sup>. The fact that Poltaratskii possessed long-term ties to Tver' meant that he was already familiar with the nature of provincial officialdom and thereby survived longer in that environment.

Izmailov's experience reflects the emergence of an increasingly insular and independent provincial bureaucracy in the Russian empire. The depth of his disappointment with local officials underscores the very real divides that opened up between the rulers and the ruled in the Russian empire's government apparatus. What's more, the fate officials like Izmailov also may have contributed to a shift in the type of officials appointed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to provincial governorships. In fact, in the last decades of the century the Ministry increasingly selected governors and vice-governors who had served previously in the provinces<sup>34</sup>.

At the same time, the memorial to Izmailov published by officials from the treasury chamber demonstrates that the rifts and divides in provincial officialdom were by no means static. In 1828, officials in the chamber felt impelled to push for Izmailov's dismissal from his post in Tver'. However, by 1831 they went out of their way to highlight his connections to their treasury chamber by having the memorial printed in a Moscow-based newspaper, as opposed to an analogous publication Tver'. In some ways this shift stands as an ironic conclusion to Izmailov's experience in Tver'. After all, his struggles with the clan-like

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<sup>33</sup> Ibid. F. 312. Op. 4. D. 7638. L. 1 ob.–12 ob.

<sup>34</sup> *Richard G Robbins*. Choosing the Russian Governors: The Professionalization of the Gubernatorial Corps // *The Slavonic and East European Review*. Vol. 58, No. 4 (Oct., 1980). P. 549–555.

atmosphere in the chamber culminated, after his death, in the clan's decision to claim him as one of its own.

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**E. IZMAILOV AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TREASURY-  
CHAMBER CLAN OF TVER' PROVINCE,  
1800-1860**

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This article concentrates on the internal stratification of Russian officialdom during period leading up to the Great Reforms. Using archival records, personal documents, and literature it analyzes the composition of the treasury chamber's staff in Tver' province, links between members of the staff in the chamber, and the supervision of the staff by the vice-governor Aleksandr Izmailov. By studying personnel records and the spectrum of social and familial ties that developed among members of the chamber's staff, the author illuminates the emergence of dynastic lines that were often linked by family ties or friendships and the tendency of officials to serve in the institution for extended periods. These links – reminiscent of those present in a clan – likely became an obstacle for Izmailov, who had arrived from St. Petersburg to serve as vice-governor, but was soon thereafter forced out of his post in Tver'. The author ultimately concludes that the Russian imperial bureaucracy during the first half of the nineteenth century possessed an insular quality not only on the regional level, but on the institutional level as well.

**Keywords:** *Bureaucracy, officialdom, treasury chamber, Tver' province, Aleksandr Izmailov.*

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