

Italiisky



Description of Arms :

Ensigned with the coronet of a Count proper, per fess : I), Or, detached above a " rendering of the map of Italy " (sic) the Russian Imperial Eagle, double-coronated, holding in its dexter claw a sword in bend sinister and supporting with the other the Imperial Crown, and charged with an escutcheon bearing the Christian name of His Majesty Emperor Paul the First, proper ; II) per pale ; 1) per bend sinister purple and gules, on the dexter a diamond decoration (sic) adorned with feathers bearing the letter "K" representing the City of Kinburn, and on the sinister two swords in saltire each enwrapped with laurel, proper ; 2) per bend azure and argent, on the sinister issuant from the sinister chief point from thundering storm clouds two lightning bolts in bend sinister, collaterally disposed, proper, striking a crescent reversed above a river in bend inscribed with " R. Rymnik ", and on the dexter a heart gules. Surtout on the upper edge of the lower piece an inescutcheon per pale argent and gules, on the dexter a cuirass and on the sinister in saltire a quiver of arrows in bend sinister, proper, within a three-quarter bordure, sans the chief segment, argent, inscribed with the words : For Faith and Loyalty.

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Principal Title : Prince Italiisky, Count Suvorov-Rymniksky.

Creation : Russia, 1799.

Subsidiary Titles : Count.

Family Name : Suvorov-Rymniksky.

Family History : This is an especially interesting story. In 1622, a certain Swedish gentleman, named Suvor, departed his home country to seek fame and fortune in the service of Tsar Mikhail Feodorovich. He became a Russian citizen. His descendants participated in the campaigns in Crimea and other battle areas and received certain tokens of gratitude from the monarchs of their day. In due course Vasilii Ivanovich Suvorov and his son, Aleksandr Vasilievich rose to even greater prominence. The son gained an important and memorable victory over the Turks; this was at a battle on the River Rymnik in 1789, and the leader of the Turks was no less a personage than the Grand Vizier, himself. This feat led to Aleksandr being raised to the rank of Count of the Russian Empire, an honour transmissible to his children. He was also granted the addition, to his surname, of the extra appellation "Rymniksky". By now General-Field-Marshal Count Suvorov-Rymniksky went onto even greater victories, this time in Italy, where he is credited with having "rescued all of Italy from its godless conquerors and re-established there the kingdom and legal authority". This was at the head of the joint armies of the Holy Roman and Russian Empires. In 1799, Tsar Paul I, as a mark of gratitude before the whole world, commanded that the count be raised to the rank of prince and that he take the name and position of Prince Italiisky Count Suvorov-Rymniksky. This style was to extend to all his children, both male and female, and he was also, at the same time, raised to the rank of Generalissimus of the Russian Armies.

And so, strictly, the full title remains to this day - though, for practical reason, members of the family are usually known simply as Prince Italiisky - a thoroughly Russian title, despite its sound.

Italiisky

Suvor, noble Swedish
served Tsar Mikhail Feodorovich (1622)

Suvorov family

Vasilii Ivanovich Suvorov

Aleksandr Vasilievich Suvorov,
Count Suvorov-Rymniksky (1789)

General-Field-Marshal, CountSuvorov-Rymniksky
Prince of Italiisky (1799)