

**THE ROMANCE OF A REGIMENT:
BEING THE TRUE AND DIVERTING
STORY OF THE GIANT GRENADIERS OF
POTSDAM, HOW THEY WERE CAUGHT
AND HELD IN CAPTIVITY, 1713-1740**

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The romance of a regiment: being the true and diverting story of the Giant grenadiers of Potsdam, how they were caught and held in captivity, 1713-1740 by J. R. Hutchinson

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J. R. HUTCHINSON

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A GREAT GRENADIER.

25840



THE ROMANCE OF A REGIMENT

Germany.

BEING THE TRUE AND DIVERTING STORY OF
THE GIANT GRENADIERS OF POTSDAM,
HOW THEY WERE CAUGHT AND
HELD IN CAPTIVITY



1713—1740

BY

J. R. HUTCHINSON, B.A.

"That unique giant regiment, of which the world has
heard so much in a vague, half-mythical way."—
CARLYLE.

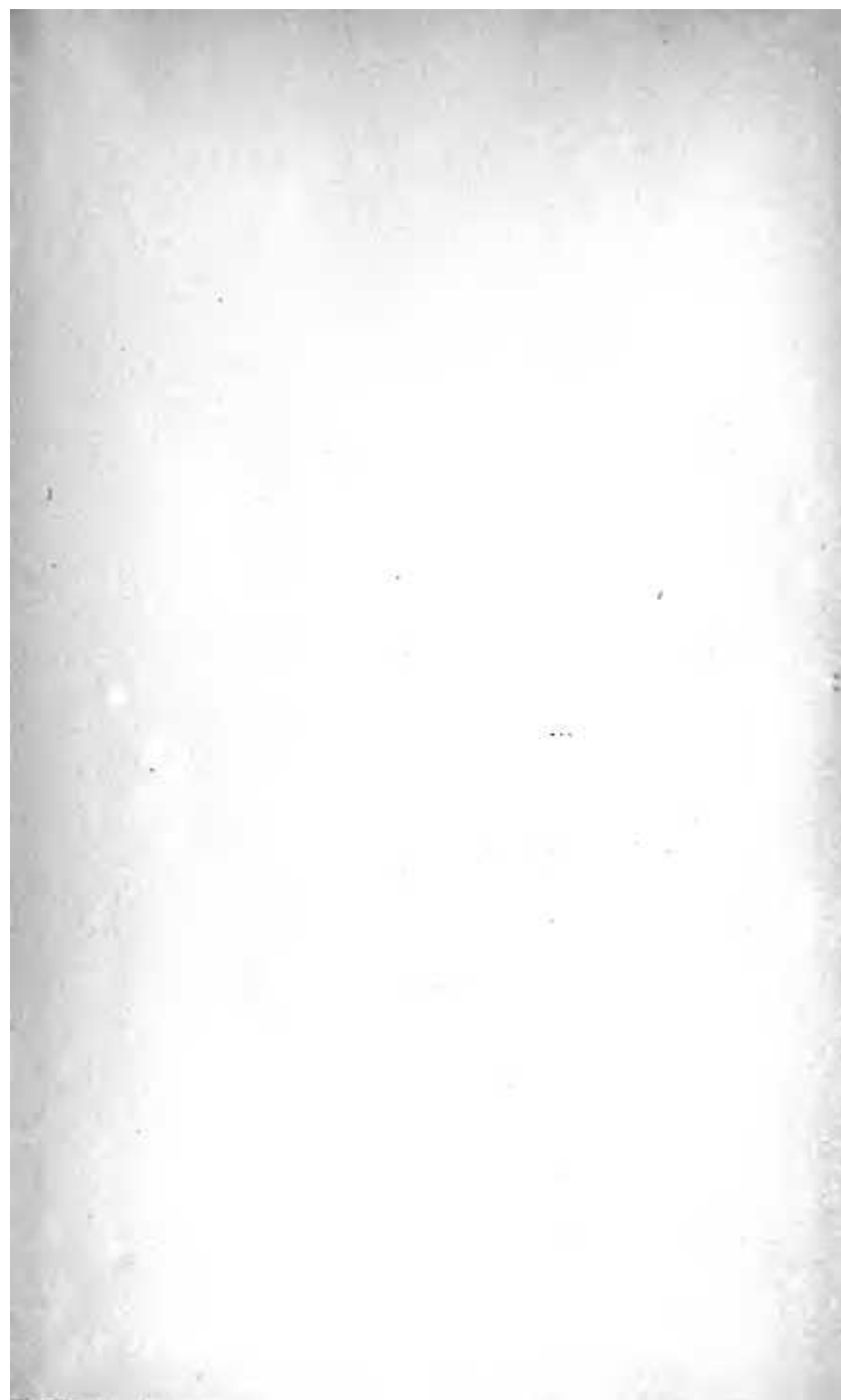
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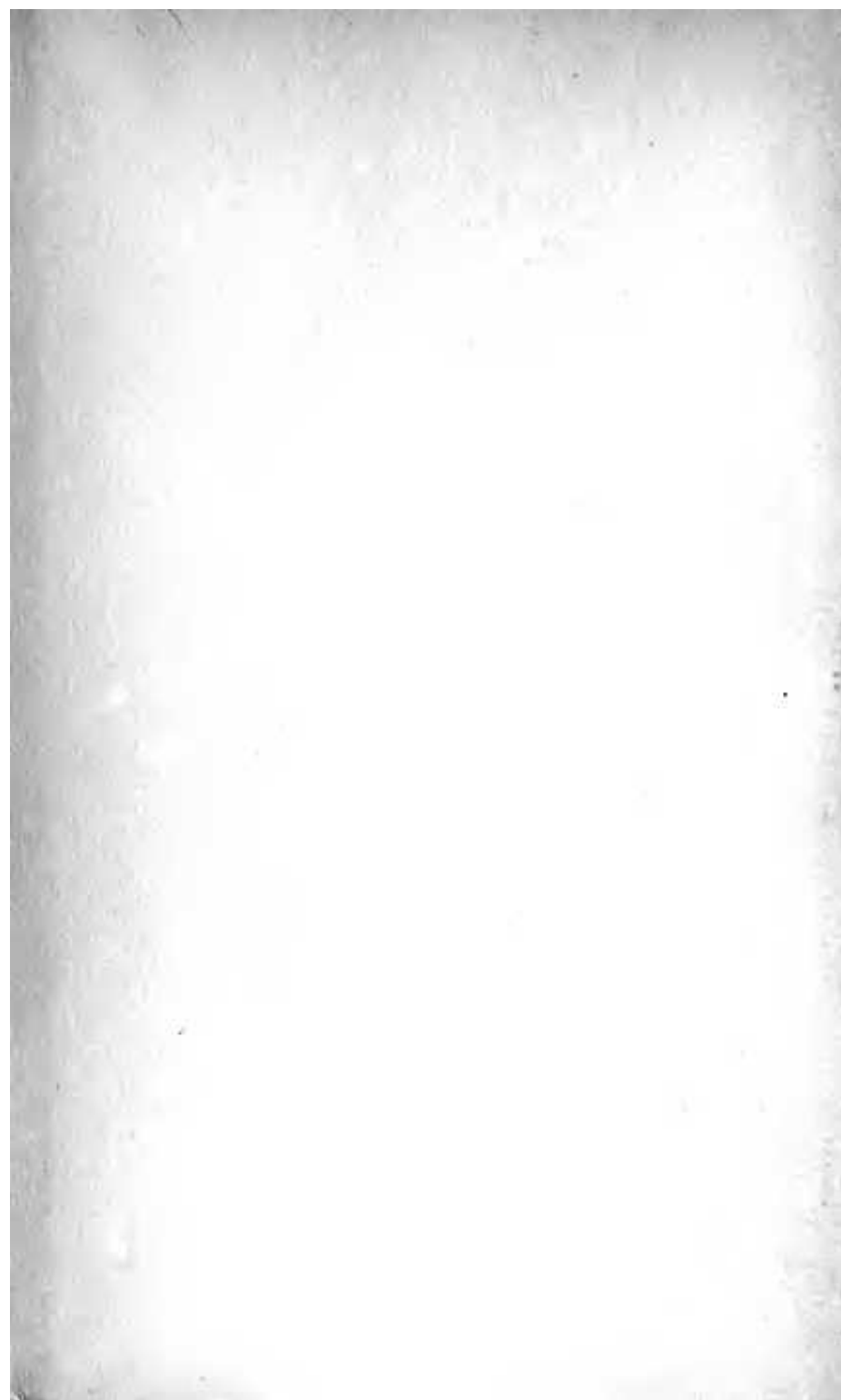
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THE
ROMANCE OF A REGIMENT

CHAPTER I

THE MASTER AND HIS MANIA

SCARCELY had English Anne ceased to touch for the old King's-evil at the Court of St. James, when a King's-evil of a more virulent type began to show itself at the Court of Berlin.

It was the spring of 1713, and King Frederick William, the first of that name, had but just ascended the throne of Prussia. Reared in the lap of a Court as pusillanimous as it was extravagant, he already, although only five-and-twenty years of age, enjoyed a well-established home reputation for that love of fat money-bags and strapping soldiers which was yet to make him the by-word and jest of the civilized world ;