

## Appendix A, Monarch Vignettes

### *King Louis XIV of France*

“I am the state.” The sun is my symbol, shining light on all of France and all the world. Come to Versailles, my palace and my home, and you will see how brightly I really shine. I need no state representatives, no Estate General. The people bow to me because I am the King, because God has ordained my rule. The sun is at the center of the solar system, and I am at the center of this nation. My intendants collect taxes and represent me out in the lands of France, but I am still the only king. France is the wealthiest state in Europe thanks to me, and my levee is the highlight of every day for the people of France. Through me, everyone can come together and France can be the greatest power in the world.

### *Frederick the Great*

“Prussia is not a state which possesses an army, but an army which possesses the state.” My military leader is not wrong in what he says. Like any dedicated soldier, I begin my day early and do not cease to work all day. My troops know by always seeing me in my military uniform that I am dedicated and serious. Prussia does not need the hassle of competing nobles, so I included them all in my army and in the government. That leaves more power and control to me! It is important to me that my son take over and lead the army well when I am done as king. “His tutor must take the greatest pains to imbue my son with a sincere love for the soldier’s profession and to impress upon him that nothing else in the world can confer upon a prince such fame and honor as the sword.”

### *Peter the Great*

The West is a place of great invention, technology, and progress. We have learned much here in Russia from the rest of Europe. I must be such a strong king to show my people how to live in this day and age. With a strong military and greater territory, there is much in Russia to control. The church creates divisions within the people, so I took them under my wing to make sure there were no problems with this. My nobles know that I support them and their lands, but they still must answer to me. Intelligence and trade are important to make Russia a great Western nation. St. Petersburg will be our ticket to the West, our very own London or Paris. I will do what I must to make Russia a modern nation, moving our borders as far to the east and west as we can.