



# Romanov News Новости Романовых

*By Paul Kulikovsky*

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## A procession in memory of Tsarevich Alexei was made for the twelfth time

A two-day procession in honor of the birth of the last heir to the Russian throne - St. Tsarevich Alexei, was made for the twelfth time on August 11-12 from Tsarskoye Selo to Peterhof.

The tradition of the procession was born in 2004 - says the coordinator of the procession Vladimir Znahur - The icon painter Igor Kalugin gave the church an icon of St. Tsarevich. We decided that this icon should visit the Lower dacha, where the Tsarevich was born. We learned that in "Peterhof" in 1994 was a festival dedicated to the last heir to the imperial throne. We decided to go in procession from the place where they lived in the winter - from Tsarskoye Selo. Procession begins with Divine Liturgy at the Tsar's Feodorovsky Cathedral and then prayer at the beginning of the procession. The cross procession makes stops at churches and other significant sites. We called the route of our procession "From Sadness to Joy."

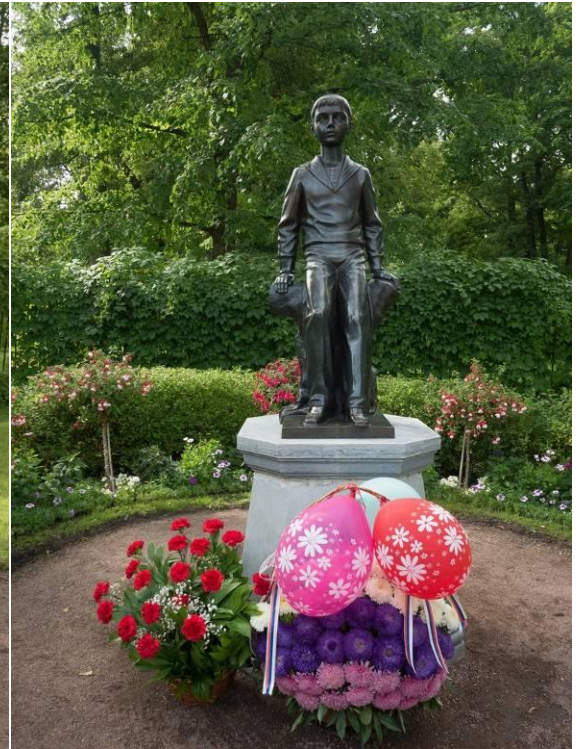


They lived in the Alexander Palace in Tsarskoye Selo, loved it, there was born the Grand Duchess Olga. But this palace became a prison for the last of the Romanovs, where they then went on their way of the cross. It was in this palace the Tsarevich celebrated his last birthday", - says Vladimir.

The next morning, after the Liturgy, we go to the birthplace of the Tsarevich - "Peterhof". Part of the procession was led by the clergy of the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Peterhof, Archpriest Mikhail Teryushov and Vladimir Chornobay. They served a prayer service in honor of Holy Tsarevich near the ruins of the Lower dacha. After the service the cross procession went to the monument of Tsarevich Alexei next to the palace "Cottage" and there was a concert, which was attended by Junior Choir of St. John Damascene.

Video - <http://tv-soyuz.ru/news/v-petergofe-v-usadbe-znamenka-molitvenno-otmetili-111-letie-svyatogo-strastoterpsa-tsesarevicha-alekseya>





## In Novospassky monastery prayer for the health of hemophiliacs was committed



On 12 of August, for the second time the Governor of Novospassky monastery, Vicar of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Bishop Savva made a prayer in the crypt of the Romanov Boyars, to which came from Obninsk, Ivanovo and Moscow children with hemophilia, their parents, relatives, and doctors.

The most famous in the history of hemophilia is the Holy Tsarevich Alexis Romanov. This day marks the 111 years since the birth of the boy, who would later be called "the golden heart of Russia", and who was be killed with his family in the basement of the Ipatiev house. Hemophiliacs are praying to Tsarevich Alexis like to their Patron Saint, praying to him for healing and reducing pain. At the prayer service was brought venerated icon of the Tsarevich from the Society of people with hemophilia, as well as from the Church of the New Martyrs and Confessors Russian in Butovo was taken a relic - part of the shawl that belonged to Alexei.



During the prayer service a representative of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, Chairman of the Moscow branch of IOPS, Sergei Baydakov said:

"Today we remember the Holy Tsarevich Alexei Romanov, the boy who with dignity, generosity and patience lived his short life. Members of the Moscow branch of the IOPS, society, the first heads of which were members of the House of Romanov, particularly pleased to be able to make this day a good deed - to support children who are struggling with a serious illness, to please them with gifts and wish them persistence, patience and the ability to enjoy life."

Video - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jj111dm2EU>

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## **Nicholas II abdication in favor of his brother was not legitimate**

12.08.2015. ITAR-TASS. - According to the laws in force in the Russian Empire, Tsar Nicholas II was not entitled to renounce the throne in 1917 and on behalf of his son. This conviction was expressed by Prince Dimitri Romanovich Romanov.

A direct descendant of Emperor Nicholas I, Dimitri Romanovich believes that from a legal point of view, the last emperor in the House of Romanov was the Tsarevich Alexei / 1904-1918 /, who was born on this day 111 years ago.

"The sovereign abdicated for himself and for his son, but he was not entitled to do so, - said the head of the Romanov Family Association. - The refusal of the emperor's brother, Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich to take the throne in these conditions was logical. He could not agree, because according to the law the son of the reigning monarch inherited the throne, so from a legal point of view, the last tsar - the Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich."

Before reaching adulthood the heir for a practical way of governing the country should have a regent. "The role of regent could be assigned to any of the grand dukes, and it would be a legitimate decision," - said Prince Romanov. According to him, the decision of the Tsar to give up the rights to the throne of his son entirely explained by the serious illness Alexis. "The Emperor did what would do the most loving father," - said a senior among the Royal family.

According to him, only the close circle knew that the heir had hemophilia. "Nevertheless, the family retained the image of Alexei as a fun, cheerful child. If his mother, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, in her youth was English by education, then Alexei - purely Russian, - said the prince. - To my father, he seemed the most normal child: open, cheerful, fun, surrounded by all the attention."

Father of Dimitri Romanovich - Prince of the Imperial Blood Roman Petrovich - was second cousin of Nicholas II. Godson of the tsar, by age, he was closer to the older children of the Sovereign.

"Father recalled that in St. Petersburg for favorite games was collected children of the Sovereign and their cousins, representing the other branches of the Imperial Family - said Dmitry Romanovich. - This communication did not stop in the summer, when the family moved to the Crimea."

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## Prince Dimitri Romanovich visited Crimea

On 25th of August, in the afternoon Prince Dimitri Romanovich, a representative of the imperial Romanov family - great-great-grandson of Emperor Nicholas I, together with his wife, Princess Theodora Alexeevna (Dorrit) stepped off a plane at the airport of Simferopol. He came for 3 days - from 25 to 28 of August - to look at the places associated with the history of his family.

"For decades a bottle with Crimean land kept in our house is, as a relic, - said in an interview Dimitri, who in May celebrated his 89 years, before leaving for Crimea. "My father, Prince of the Imperial Blood Roman Petrovich, second cousin and godson of the last sovereign took it when he was leaving Russia." This goodbye remembered the father of Dimitri Romanovich as "a fatal moment." "Then, in April 1919, for long time he remained on the deck of the cruiser, looking at the Crimean coast" - said the prince. - "He was not destined to return to Crimea, and my trip is a tribute to the older generations of our family, all the relatives."

The fact that a representative of the Romanov family arrived in Crimea for the first time after the reunification of Crimea to Russia was a big story and was reported in many Russian medias and national TV channels.

"The Prince will visit three of the palace in Crimea. In one of them, it will be to make a program (for Russian TV), and in another we will try to arrange for him to meet with journalists, if Dimitri Romanovich would not mind" - said deputy minister of internal policy, information and communication of Crimea Yulia Martynova.

In the airport of Simferopol was arranged a press conference. "We know that this is a long-awaited trip for you. And for us, this is a landmark meeting, - said Deputy Prime Minister of Crimea Dmitry Polonsky. - We are pleased to welcome you here. We sincerely hope that your stay here will be comfortable and happy."

"It is very difficult to talk about the emotions that I feel right now, but it is very nice that the Crimea became Russian again. How nice to see the smiles. Are you pleased



and I am pleased. What they say in the world, I'm not interested" - said Prince Dimitri. "The most important thing, is that the Crimea is now able to move forward. At this point to move forward, not only in economy, but also in tourism and many other things".

Dmitry Romanovich said that he did not feel as a tourists in Crimea - "Here I am at home." Just half an hour on the peninsula, the guest made a loud statement - He would gladly moved to live permanently in the Crimea. "I would love to - Of course, I need to ask my wife. Even to think what to do with our home in Denmark, but we can sell and move here. Of course, I'm happy to come here."

He admitted that he was surprised when he learned that the flight from Moscow to the Crimea will be long. But he accepted it when he was told that the flight is flying around the territory of Ukraine.

Video - 1) <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2656954>

2) <http://www.1tv.ru/news/social/290872>

3) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1485139/>

4) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3G18iJbg-Q>



The fact that a representative of the Imperial House supports the reunification of the Crimea with Russia, was received very positive.

"From the beginning of his visit when communicating the Prince has consistently emphasized the importance of the fact that the Republic of Crimea is now back in the Russian Federation. Therefore, we are on the right track"- said the Crimean Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Polonsky.

From Simferopol the Romanovs went to the southern coast of Crimea, Yalta. On the first day the guests visited the Livadia Palace, the summer residence of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II.

Dimitri Romanovich laid flowers at the monument to Emperor Nicholas II, which appeared in the spring of this year.

He expressed gratitude to the authorities and the public of the Crimea for the tribute to the last Russian emperor. "Russia today cares for its history, restoring the connection to time, - said the prince. - I would like to say thanks to all those who are involved in this work."

Then the Princely couple accompanied by a senior fellow at the Livadia Palace and Park Museum Lyudmila Prokopova walked around the Palace. She said - it is the last building erected in the Russian Empire for the Romanov family. First time Nicholas visited it, he said with admiration about the creation of the architect: "We do not find words to express our joy and pleasure to have a house built exactly as we wanted. The architect Krasnov is a wonderful fellow."

During the construction of the palace Nikolai Krasnov was awarded the title of Architect of Supreme Court, and in 1913 he was elected an academician of the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts. The exhibition "The Romanovs in Livadia" was opened in 1994 - reminded Prokopova. - All those who visit it, feel the warmth and homely atmosphere to the residence of the last of the Royal Family."



"The Livadia Palace is important not only due to the stay on the southern coast of Crimea of the last Russian Emperor, but also a number of cultural and political events, which largely influenced the course of European history," - continued Prokopova. In February 1945, meetings of the Yalta conference of the "Big Three" Prime Minister Winston Churchill, US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Soviet leader Josef Stalin." took place in the palace.

"Russian soldiers defended Europe in two world wars - said Prince in this regard the - "And this no one should forget."

In the huge hall, where famous Yalta conference was in 1945, at the beginning of the 20th century dinner parties took place and in the evening - balls. Father of Prince Dimitri Romanovich attended one of these.

"Everybody got out, and the hall was converted into a dance hall - beautiful ceiling, expensive fireplace, marble columns. Many balls were held in 1913 jubilee year, in honor of the 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty," - said Lyudmila Prokopova.

Above the fireplace of white marble - the emblem of the Romanov dynasty. Crimea, and especially Yalta's popularity is largely due to the Romanovs. Prior to the acquisition of the estate by Emperor





Nicholas I in Oreanda, Yalta was a village with one street and a population of just over 200 people. Glory as a first-class resort came on the Black Sea coast after numerous residences of the Royal Family appeared here.

Video - <http://www.1tv.ru/news/social/290938>

On Wednesday, 26 of August, Prince Dimitri Romanovich and his wife visited the palace Dulber near Yalta. This family estate of the Romanovs is closely connected with it. The palace was built by the Dimitri Romanovic grandfather - Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich, Inspector-General of Engineering Troops of Russia.

"My father, being in exile, always remembered Dulber. For me, this house - a living history of our family"

"At the request of Empress Alexandra in Dulber was arranged a ball, where the main guests was the younger Romanovs. Opening of the ball, one of the last before the (first) World War, turned out to be my father and Grand Duchess Olga, the eldest daughter of the sovereign".

"My father loved Dulber ... My father wanted my older brother Nicholas and I, Dmitry, to remember the most important thing that we are Russian, we are abroad, but he had hoped once we would be in Russia" - said Prince Dimitri.



In 1919, the father of Dmitry Romanovich left from this palace on the southern coast of Crimea Russia forever.

"For me to be here - this is important. My father lived in Dulber, for him it was a paradise, he did not like Petersburg. It is cold and damp, come here - he always said, Ai-Petri here, and it's Ai-Petri? Now I know that Ai-Petri is close to us", - says Dimitri. "Dulber" is translated from the Crimean Tatar - "beautiful." The palace, which was built from 1895 to 1897, was designed in the Moorish style on the sketches made by Grand Duke Peter

Nicholaievich, while traveling in the Middle East. Architect and construction manager was the Yalta architect Nikolai Krasnov, who later became the constructor of Livadia and the Yusupov Palace. Residence "Dulber" was equipped as a fortress, which allowed Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, and the Grand Dukes Alexander Michailovich, Nicholas Nikolaevich Jr. and Peter Nikolaevich, with their families in the post-revolutionary years to "sit out" the attacks by the Bolsheviks and finally to emigrate in 1919 on the British cruiser "Marlboro". Today the palace is a landmark of the southern coast and the Big Yalta.

However, in June this year, the Crimean authorities have decided to put the Romanov family residence up for sale.

About this said Dimitri - "I cannot buy it. But it would be nice if it was purchased by one of the Romanov family. Its members are living all over the world. If I had the chance, I would do it. But the most important moment for me is not the palaces, but that Crimea is Russian. Now it can lift its economy. Why are the Americans or the French, or the Germans telling you what to do? It's just your own business. Because you live in Russia."



August 27, visited Prince Dimitri Romanovich and his wife Sevastopol. The guest of honor on behalf of the Governor Sergei Menyailo was welcomed by Deputy Governor of Sevastopol, Alexander Pushkarev.

Dimitri Romanovich and Princess Dorrit with great interest visited Sevastopol panorama, looking at the painting that tells about the first heroic defense of Sevastopol, and the exhibits, including those related with the royal family.

"It's phenomenal! I did not expect to see this", - said the guest at the sight of the famous paintings by Roubaud.

Panorama "Defense of Sevastopol" - a museum-panorama, the first dedicated to the defense of the city. The maker of the panorama is the founder of Russian panoramic art, professor of the class battle painting, Petersburg Academy of Arts, Franz Roubaud. He used as the basis for the most striking work the epic episode of Sevastopol - the battle on Malakhov Hill June 6, 1855. On this day 75.000 Russian army soldiers successfully repelled the onslaught by 173.000 Anglo-French troops.



According to the Prince, what he saw in the Panorama needs to be shown to the young people. Director of the National Museum of heroic defense and liberation of Sevastopol Alexander Rudometov told the prince, that more than 40% of museum visitors are young people.

Rudometov presented to the guests two albums released on the 100th anniversary of the Panorama.

In the book of honored visitors to the Panoramas the Romanov left a note: "Guardians of the heroic history of Sevastopol. My sincere appreciation and gratitude."

Video - <http://www.1tv.ru/news/social/291028>

While talking to reporters, Prince Dimitri Romanovich stressed the importance of young people to explore the history of the examples of selfless love and devotion to the Motherland.

He recalled that his great-uncle - Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaievich Jr. - was an honorary citizen of Sevastopol. In the First World War, while serving as Supreme Commander, he commanded not only the land, but also the naval forces of Russia.

Prince Dimitri Romanov also said that he intends to publish in Russian the memoirs of his father Roman Petrovich.

"A lot of time it took for my father to write his memoirs. They are published today in the Danish language. Now, I hope they will be published in Russian".

After, the princely couple, was taken to the Count Nakhimov's wharf, where they went onboard on one of the ships of the Black Sea Fleet - the flagship of the Black Sea Fleet Guards missile cruiser "Moscow". They were told about the history of the ship, its combat characteristics and life of sailors and officers.

"It felt strength of the Russian Navy, - shared Prince Dimitri as his impressions of what he saw.

"I am pleased to be in Sevastopol and on this ship. I saw a few years ago, photos of the ship and hoping that someday it'll get. Thanks to all, it is great that I'm here."



The cruiser "Moscow" was built at the Nikolayev shipyard and launched in 1983. Ship's length is 187 meters and a width - 20 meters, it has a displacement of 11 tons. It is designed to destroy large surface enemy forces in remote areas of the ocean. Cruiser carries a helicopter and modern weapons. Now there are 514 service crew members, including 50 officers.

The representative of the imperial family was in the cabins of the ship and talked to the sailors. He described how as a young man he worked in a shipping company in Rome.

"I was a mechanic and worked for three or four years. In my life, I then realized how important is any work. All my life, I realized that it is easy to work together when everyone helps each other," - said Prince Dimitri.

"The Navy has always played a huge role in Russia's history, including the history of our family, - said Dmitry Romanovich. "My elder brother Nikolai Romanovich was fond of history of the domestic fleet, and wrote a book about the Russian battleship".

"Good for the sailors, beautiful ship," - he wrote in the guest book of the cruiser "Moscow".

Two commemorative coins of 10 rubles each, minted in honor of the reunification of the Crimea with Russia sailors in Sevastopol gave to Dimitri Romanovich. On the reverse there are minted the words "Republic of Crimea", on the other - "Sevastopol".

"Both coins symbolize the reunification of the Crimea with Russia. I will always keep this present," - said Dimitri Romanovich.

The Deputy Commander of the Black Sea Fleet, Rear Admiral Yury Orekhovskiy handed him the coat of arms of the Black Sea Fleet with Catherine's monogram.

On 28th of August, the Princely couple completed their visit to the Crimea at the Massandra palace of Emperor Alexander III. Its basement houses one of the largest collections of wine in the world. Dimitri said that the order to allocate for this cellars gave in 1894 Emperor Nicholas II. The first winemaker in Massandra was Prince Lev Golitsyn. He bequeathed to pass after the death his wine collection to Massandra Palace. During World War II, the collection, which consisted at that time of the 57.000 bottles, was almost destroyed by the German occupiers, as only a part of it was the staff able to move to Tbilisi.

Today Massandra cellars holds more than 1 million bottles. The collection still contains wines made 240 years ago - in 1775.



Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0DuYqQfsMA>

Throughout the visit Dimitri Romanovich had attracted the attention of journalists - both federal and local. Cameras accompanied them almost everywhere.

Some of the questions of course were connected to the reunification. One reporter from "Lenta" asked;



"Are you not afraid that you will reproach in Denmark for the trip to the Crimean peninsula, which in Europe are considered "illegally occupied" territory? Will the visit not spoil your relationship with the Queen?"

Prince Dimitri answered - "The Danish Queen never asked what I personally think about politics in Russia. It is not acceptable. It's not a republic, it is a kingdom. And then, fortunately, I have never been involved in politics. Why is that? Because I lived in Italy, France, Egypt - all over the world. A few months ago I saw Mr. Putin in St. Petersburg and said that I agree with the choice of the Crimean people."



In the end of the Crimean visit, Prince Dimitri Romanovich did not abandon his previously made statements about his readiness to move to the Crimea, but said he expects difficulties if the move takes place.

"For us it would be happy, if it is technically possible. I have a house in Denmark, I became Danish. The Danish Queen - my queen. It is not easy to leave one country for another," - he said to reporters while walking through the palace of Emperor Alexander III in Massandra.

The representative of the dynasty, who lives in Denmark, which has not recognized the reunification of the Crimea with Russia and joined the sanctions of the West against Russia, said that he warned the country's Queen Margrethe II of his visit to the island.

"We meet frequently, often. She always asks: "What did you do? Where have you been?" "She knows we're here, it's important for her," - said Romanov.

Question: "In our country there are still supporters of the monarchy. It is known that you are opposed to the restoration of this form of government in Russia?"

Prince Dimitri - "I'm not against the monarchy. I am for the monarchy when it acts as in Denmark, at the same time builds the country successfully, developed both politically and economically. But the Russian monarchy ended. Even 20 years ago to talk about it was illogical, why to talk about it today?"

Question - "In your opinion, how will develop the relations between Russia and Europe?"

Prince Dimitri - "Each country is pursuing its policy. However, I think that little by little the whole of Europe would be together. It was once, when Russia defended Europe from those who have been dangerous. I hope that we will cooperate again."





## Russian Nobel Prize laureates in Rybinsk

On 30th of August in Rybinsk was held the ceremony of opening the memorial signs in honor of the new laureates of the Russian Nobel Prize. The event arranged by the Fund Ludvig Nobel, took place at monument of the scientist, industrialist and philanthropist Ludvig Nobel, on the "Nobel Avenue" in the center of Rubinsk.

The new laureates who got their names in bronze on the avenue was widow after Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Natalya Solzhenitsyn; President of the "Franco-Russian dialogue" Prince Alexander Trubetskoy; Chairman of the Charitable Foundation Borovik, Genrikh Borovik; People's Artist of the USSR Eldar Ryazanov, and the director of the Scientific Center of Children's Health, Alexander Baranov.

The opening ceremony was attended by several other laureates, including Count Peter Sheremetev, Dr. Leonid Roshal, President of the organization "Doctors without Borders" Emanuel Xavier, Chairman of the Russian Children's Fund Albert Likhanov, and many friends, including Paul Rodzianko, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky and the sculptor of the Ludvig Nobel monument Jaroslav Borodin.



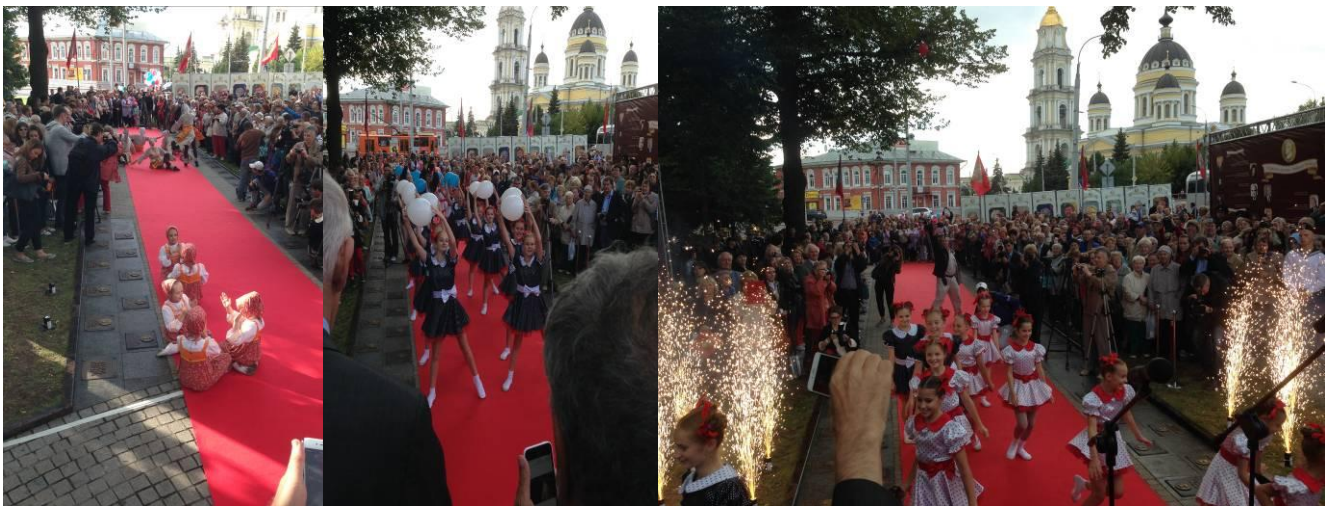
Left - Guests at the ceremony waiting for their presentation, among them Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy (2nd from left) and Count Peter Sheremetev (1st from right). Right - The red carpet leading up to the monument on Nobel Avenue.

First were the Nobel laureates presented over the speakers while walking up the red carpet one by one to the platform in front of the memorial to Ludvig Nobel, then followed the honored guests, including Paul Rodzianko and Paul Kulikovsky, and then last, but not least came the fund managers of the Fund Ludvig Nobel: Anna Yakovleva, Eugene Lukoshkov and Yaroslav Golko.





Count Peter Sheremetev walking up the red carpet to the monument of Ludvig Nobel



As part of the entertainment was several groups of young girls dancing

All the laureates and special guests said a few words, while Prince Trubetzkoy as a new laureate, made a longer speech, dedicating the award to his ancestors, who faithfully serve Russia for centuries. He also touched upon the current political situation in the world.



*Dear Rybintsu! Dear Friends!*

*As a winner of this year award, I want to thank you all for the fact that the memory of a great man which was Ludwig Nobel is kept so bright in the city, where he founded the shipyard and shipbuilding tradition of this very city of Rybinsk.*

*Today, the winners of this year are honored to see our name on the avenue that leads to the monument of the great industrialist and philanthropist, who gave his entire life to the development of Russia. The fact that there is also my last name, I cannot take as a personal merit. This is merit of the Trubetzkoy's clan.*

*Here is what the great Russian minister Speransky wrote:*



***"The family of Prince Trubetskoy, coming from Gediminas, many times with dignity and endurance manifests itself in Russian history. Its generations have always been able to respect the authority and never bending back before it..."***  
**M.M. Speransky**



*I would like my name constantly reminds Russian and non Russian people who walk along the avenue about these words of Speransky. My ancestors have earned respect in Russia particularly by their dignity in the service of the homeland.*

*They gave an example, but each of us must show in his live dignity and restraint. Due to that Russia will not only preserve but also increase its fame and respect throughout the world, in spite of all attempts of the Western powers to humiliate us or even destroy us.*

*On the day when I was awarded the Nobel Prize, I recalled that soon is approaching the fateful anniversary, when a hundred years ago there was a tragedy, which was so wisely described by Kuprin: International landfall on Russia.*

*Russia has to redeem from this International before the fateful century. For me as for a son of those who were forced to leave Russia, losing the most important thing - to live in Motherland, still too many names of towns, streets, monuments and mausoleum resemble the very international.*

*Even in Rybinsk on the pedestal of the monument to the Tsar Liberator Alexander II is one of the founders of the International - Lenin.*

*Nowadays International is brutal in another form, using against Russia, where it can the system of color revolutions, sanctions and military environment on our borders.*

*How could we fight and not allow it, if a hundred years after the revolution, we can't get rid of "our International" and restore the historical truth and justice?*







Paul Rodzianko, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky. Right - The orchestra play at the ceremony.

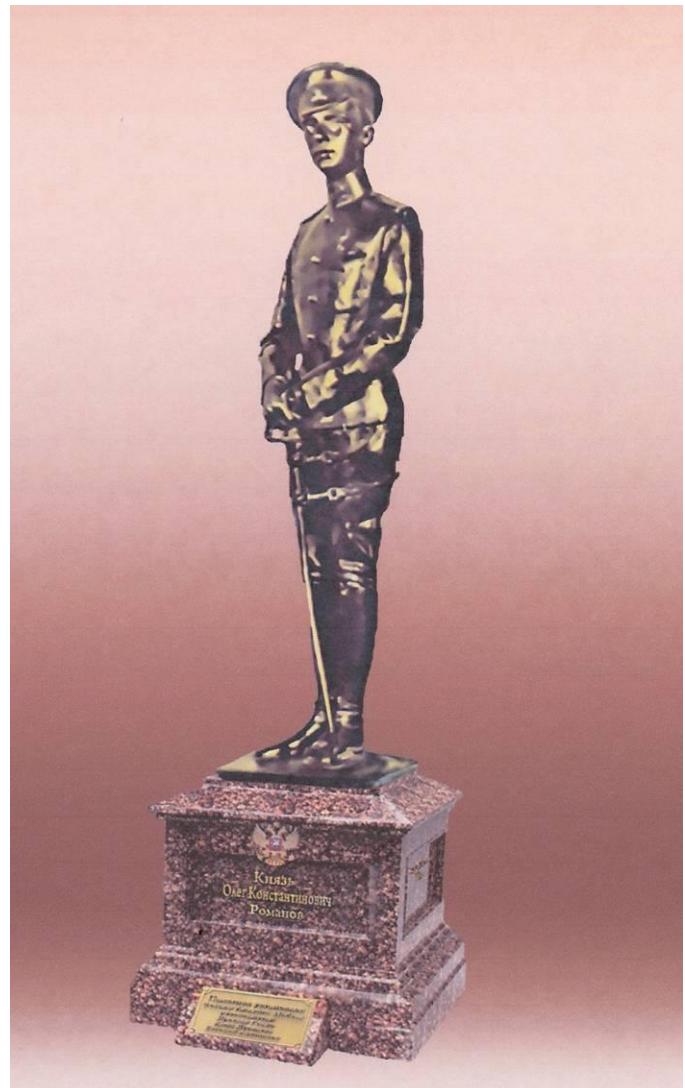
After the ceremony the guests of Fund Ludvig Nobel went to the museum of Nobel in Rybinsk. There are a few objects related to him, his family and his achievements. However it looked like a collection of clutter and in between was seen both Lenin and Stalin, which several guests failed to understand. More work is clearly needed here.





Earlier in the day all the guest had been invited to the city hall to meet the administration. Acting Mayor Leonid Rybinsk Mozheyko welcomed them all to Rybinsk, showed a promotional video of the city and handed over diplomas to the managers of Fund Ludvig Nobel, while the guest could enjoy the lunch served.

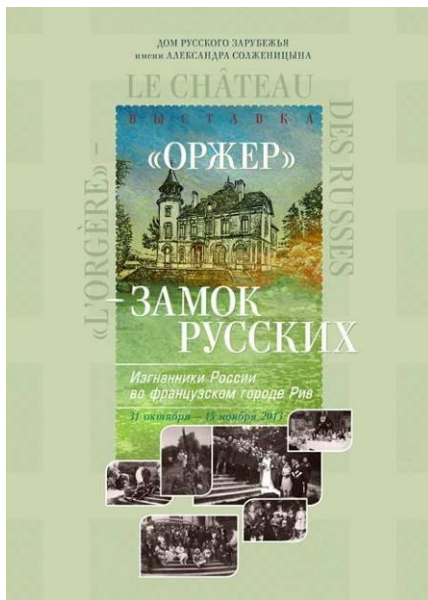
***A monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich is coming***



Fund Ludvig Nobel is in the end of September, in Tsarskoye Selo, going to open a monument to Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich, son of Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich (the famous poet "KR") and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Mavrikiyevny. He died on the 12 October (OS. 29 September) 1914 - only 23 years old.

In a battle on the North-West front in the First World War, he was mortal wounded on 10 October and brought to a hospital in Vilnius, where he died. With the Life Guards Hussar Regiment, he had been chasing a German patrol, which ended up in a fight, where one wounded German lying on the ground shot the Prince.





## "Russian Castle" in Rybinsk

On 30 of August a photo documentary exhibition about the Russian emigrants in the French town of Rives was also opened in Rybinsk. Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy, together with Paul Rodzianko, attended the opening in the social and cultural center of Rybinsk.

The organizers of the exhibition were House of Russians Abroad in the name of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the Administration the city of Rybinsk, and "Alliance Francaise Rybinsk". The idea of the exhibition belong to Count Andrey Musin-Pushkin's, who opened the ceremony with a speech about his family. He was followed by the curator of the exhibition - Igor Domnin (Deputy director of House of Russian Abroad). Acting Mayor of Rybinsk Leonid Mozheyko was speaking and at the end handed gift from the city to the two organisers. A young lady were singing old and new Russian song accompanying herself on guitar, before we finally could see the exhibition.

The exhibition is dedicated to the life of the Russian colony in the town of Rives. Its center was located in the castle Orzher, in which lived up to hundreds of the immigrants who came from refugee camps in the Balkans. The Russian community was there almost half a century: from 1924 to the beginning of the 1970s. This is why the house was called the "Russian Castle."

The exposition is made of mobile version of photos on posters, and is intended to be shown in Moscow, Paris and Rives. It is based on the family archive materials of Andrey Musin-Pushkin, and others whose lives have been associated with Rives. The total number of references exceeds 400. The overwhelming majority of photographs and documents are exclusive and are exhibited (published) for the first time. The exposition reflects the history, lifestyle, scope of activities, interests, aspirations and expectations, the spiritual world, the creativity of the Russian people, living in Rives and its surroundings. Congresses, weddings, staged plays, feast, tea, and friendly evenings was held in "Russian castle".





A separate section is devoted to church life, an extremely important and integral part of Russian life in general and in particular in a foreign land. Church of St. Archangel Michael was housed in the basement of the castle. Among its parishioners was the famous composer Igor Stravinsky and his family.

A special section reflects the military training of Russian youth, who was led by experienced officers; General O. Lebedev, colonels B. Gonorsky, H. Frolov, S. Reznichenko, K. Zrodlovsky, and visitors was the Generals A. Kutepov, E. Miller, and A. Archangelsky.

The fate of the castle is bleak. It's not in use, empty, and is slowly being destroyed. Maybe it still will find good owners. But its mission in the twentieth century - it fulfilled: for half-century it was the "Russian Castle".

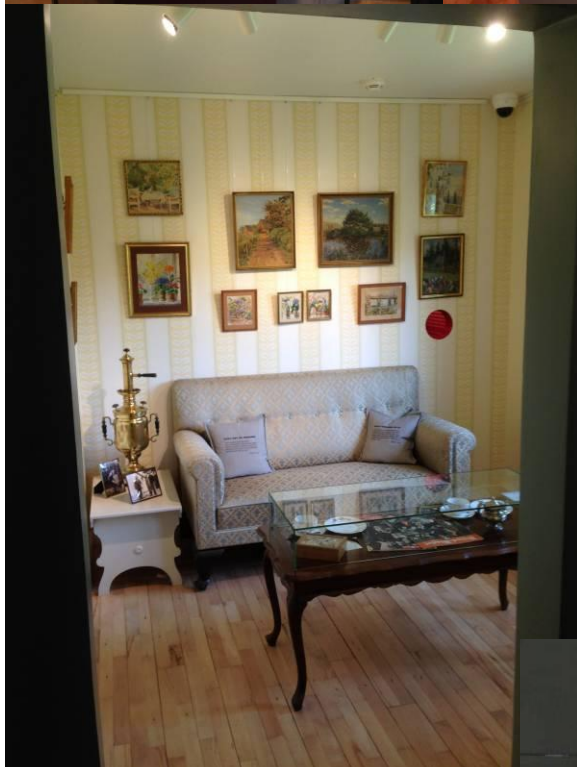




## The Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna exhibition in Ballerup Egnsmuseum



During a travel in Denmark, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky - Great-grandson of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna -, visited the Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna exhibition in Ballerup Egnsmuseum. It was recently re-opened after a redesign of the exposition. It is now looking more modern, interactive, you have to open items to explore the stories told (some are hidden), it ask questions like; where are your roots, what is a home, etc - all questions connected with immigration -, and the captions are in both Danish and English. The main drawback is that of the Museum's collection of more than 100 paintings made by Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna only a little more than 20 are on display.





Being in Ballerup, they also visited the area where once lived Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and her family. There are two streets with names related to her: "Knudsminde Alle" and "Storfyrstinde Olgas Alle". "Knudsminde" was the name of the farmhouse she lived in from 1930 to 1948, and the street is located right at spot where the house once stood. "Storfyrstinde Olgas Alle" is a little bit further away, in the area where once was the garden to Knudsminde.



### There is always more to explore in Hermitage

In July, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy, great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III, visited the State Hermitage Museum, where they saw the objects related to Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievich Sr. and Jr; the newly restored Great Church of the Winter Palace; the Lieb-Guards exhibition in the General Staff building, including the gift from descendents of the guards regiments.

The painting by Alexander Evstafyevich Kotzebue - "Taking of Berlin September 28, 1760" was presented in the Armorial Hall of the Winter Palace.

A. E. Kotzebue depicted the surrender of the Berlin city commandant to the Russian-Austrian troops under the command of Field Marshal Z.G. Chernyshev, General Totleben and Count Franz von Lasse (Austria).



Next to the picture was exhibited a silver trumpet given to the St. Petersburg Carabinier regiment "For the capture of Berlin in 1760" and a medal for the victory at Kunersdorf in August 1759.

Battle of Kunersdorf - one of the most famous battles of the Seven Years' War, culminating in the defeat of the Prussian army of Frederick II and opened the way for the Allies advance on Berlin.







In the hall was also on display Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolayevich the Elder's saber from 1876 - decorated with inscriptions in gold - and his personal standard from the Russian-Turkish war 1877-1878, given to the Hermitage by representatives of the Romanov family (Dmitry Romanovich Romanov and Nikolai Romanovich Romanov) in 2002 and 2014 to the 250th anniversary of the Hermitage.

The standard of Grand Duke Nicholas represents a rectangular cloth with blue ribbon and an Orthodox cross with the inscription "God with us", embroidered with metal threads. On ancient paintings and engravings depicting episodes of the Russian-Turkish war of 1877-1878, this icon can be seen in the hands of the Cossack riding behind the Commander.



Below the equestrian portrait of Grand Duke Nicholas Jr., made in 1915 by Nicholas S. Samokish, are rewards transferred by the widow of the Grand Duke to the Museum of the Life Guards Cossack Regiment of His Majesty in Paris.

These awards was involved in the reburial of Grand Duke Nicholas of France in Russia, participated in the ceremony in the Cathedral of St. Louis of the Invalides in Paris, and accompanied the remains of the Grand Duke to the Chapel of the Transfiguration in Moscow for reburial. After that, the Association Memory Life Guards Cossack Regiment of His Majesty gave permission to exhibit the awards in the State Hermitage.



### ***The Great Church***

When in December 2014 attending the Hermitage's 250 years anniversary, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, had to leave just before the opening of the Great Church in the Winter palace. Now they had the chance to see it first-hand.

Located in the eastern wing of the Winter Palace, it is the larger, and principal, of two churches within the Palace. The Great Church was consecrated in 1763, with a smaller, more private church was constructed in 1768, near the private apartment in the northwest part of the wing.

The Grand Church was designed by Francesco Rastrelli, and has been described as "one of the most splendid rooms" in the Palace.

Construction of the church began on 14 October 1753 on order of Empress Elisabeth. Six years later, the interior design was executed by the Italian artists Carlo Zucci, Francesco Martini, Giovanni Antonio Veneroni and the sculptor G. B. Gianni. Rastrelli was personally in charge of the three-tier



iconostasis where the icons were painted by Ivan Ivanovich Belsky and Ivan Vishnyakov. The Italian Francesco Fontebasso painted the evangelists in the church's spandrels and the "Resurrection of Christ" plafond in the vestibule.

On 12 July 1763, Archbishop Gavriil Kremenetsky of St Petersburg consecrated the Great Church in the name of the Not-Made-by-Hand Image of Our Saviour. This eponymous icon, painted by Feodor Ukhtomsky in 1693, lavishly decorated with gold and diamonds, was placed near the sanctuary.



*The Great Church - then and now - seen from the entrance*

In December 1837, the interiors were greatly damaged by a fire, but was restored "in full compliance with its former image"

For many years this church was the home church of the Imperial family. Since the palace celebrations started with religious services, many important figures of the Russian culture attended this church.

In this church, Emperor Nicholas II married Alexandra Feodorovna on November 26, 1894.

Since 1917, it has been used as museum premises.

On 11 March 1807, following a decree of Emperor Alexander I, the Great Church of the Winter palace was granted the status of a Court Cathedral.





Works on the reconstruction of the iconostasis were conducted from November 2012 through October 2014 and work on the restoration of the interiors and objects of decorative and applied arts were conducted from December 2013 to October 2014. The total area of restored premises is 525 sq. m.

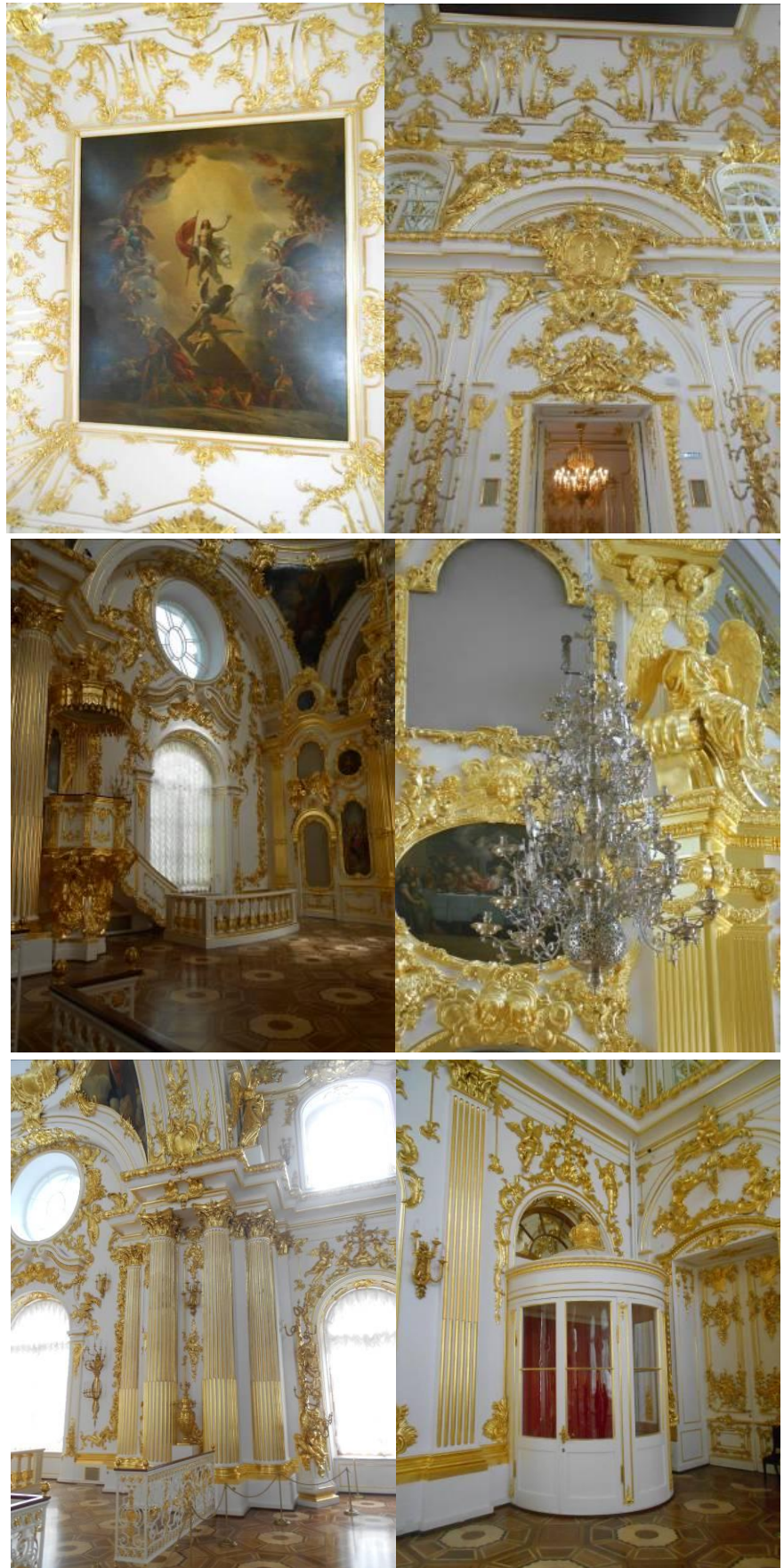
Most of the interior decorative elements of the Great Church of the Winter Palace are made of papier-mache. For historic interiors of XVIII-XIX centuries, such an abundance of papier-mache decoration was a rarity. The process of papier-mache restoration is very time-consuming and difficult. Some lost fragments of papier-mache were recreated and the gilding was restored.

On the basis of iconographic materials and the design, the previously lost wings of two large angels in the Refectory and fragments of the cherubim in the Refectory and in the dome space were re-created. Reconstruction of the altarpiece framing elements was carried out in the Altar area: cover "Cherubim" and "All-Seeing Eye" mouldings and the frame of the picturesque "Ascension" image.

In addition, among the objects of decorative and applied arts, the altar canopy was restored. The canopy is a tent, resting on the entablature borne by paired Corinthian columns, which, in turn, are mounted on four symmetric pedestals. It is richly decorated with sculptures and plaques with floral ornaments.

The church iconostasis deserves separate consideration. It occupied a central place in the artistic interior decoration of the Great Church. The wooden iconostasis was constructed of an inner frame made of beams, and its surface was decorated with architectural and carved gilded details.

The construction work of 1938-1939 was aimed at maximizing





the removal of trim parts of the church which were a reminder of the past purpose of the premises. It was decided to dismantle all the design elements of the church, including the iconostasis. Not much survived from 1939. The State Hermitage Museum funds kept 8 single pieces of carving and 11 fragments of carved frames. Two papier-mache sculptures of "The Crucifixion with Bystanders" composition survived: "Virgin Mary" and "John the Baptist". The main source giving a detailed idea of what the iconostasis looked like was the collection of photographs made in 1938-39 just before and during the disassembly of the iconostasis.

Today, after the restoration, is the Great Church still used as a museum - as a memorial to the Romanovs. There are several artifacts on display, mainly related to the more tragic events in the lives of the Romanovs.



Above, left - A table set, late 1820, made in St. Petersburg, in memory of the death of Emperor Alexander and his wife Elisabeth Alexeievna in 1825. The sarcophagi on the sides contains hair from Emperor Alexander I and his wife, Empress Elisabeth Alexeievna.

Above, right - A cushion with Baptismal crosses and enamelled icons owned by Emperor Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna.



Above - Snuffbox of Count Nicholas Zubov, gold, late 18-century. The one used to kill Emperor Paul I - On the night of 11 March 1801 the plotters broke into Paul's bedroom in Saint Michael's Castle, and Zubov struck the emperor down with his snuffbox, whereupon the emperor was strangled by his accomplices.



Right - Officers uniform of Emperor Alexander II. Modeled after the Life Guard Sapper Battalion. Emperor Alexander II was wearing this uniform when he was assassinated with a bomb on March 13, 1881.





Left - Icon "Our Lady of Korsun" made by 90 years old Abram Klukvin former school teacher of drawing in city Toropets. It was framed by firm of P. A. Ovchinnikov (Moscow. 1867. Oil on wood, silver, bronze, pearl, enamel, gilding, casting, chasing) in honor of miracle saving of Emperor Alexander II in the assassination attempt by Dmitry Karakozov on 4-th of April 1866. Peasant Osip Komissarov (1838-1893) pushed away the hand of the terrorist, who tried to shoot the Emperor. Later Komissarov was granted nobility status to be inherited by his descendents.

Right - On the morning of 20 April 1879, Emperor Alexander II was briskly walking towards the Square of the Guards Staff and faced Alexander K. Soloviev, a 33-year-old former student. Having seen a menacing revolver in his hands, the Emperor fled in a zigzag pattern. Soloviev fired five times but missed. He was hanged on 28 May, after being sentenced to death.

Icon "Saint Right-Believing Prince Alexander Nevsky, Saint Venerable Titus the Wonder-Worker and Saint Martyr Polycarp". Made by company P. A. Ovchinnikov, Moscow. Icon Painted by V.V. Vasilyev. 1879. Oil on wood, silver, pearl, enamel, engraving, punching, gilding.

It was presented to Emperor Alexander II in 1879 and from 25 of December 1879 hanging in the Great Church of Winter Palace.



### ***In the general Staff Building***

In the halls on the third floor of the General Staff building, on the side of the embankment of the Moika river, is opened the first part of the museum of the Russian Guard - "The Russian Guard of the XVIII century" - covering the period from Peter the Great to Catherine the Great.

Visitors can see uniforms and equipment, military banners and standards, as well as gifts - precious relics stored by descendants of Russian officers and returned to Russia after a long stay abroad.

The Russian Imperial Guard, officially known as the Leib Guard, were military units serving as personal guards of the Emperor of Russia. Peter the Great founded the first such units following the Prussian practice in the 1690s, to replace the Streltsy. The Imperial Guard subsequently increased



in size and diversity to become an elite corps of all branches within the Imperial Army rather than Household troops in direct attendance on the Emperor. Numerous links were however maintained with the Imperial family and the bulk of the regiments of the Imperial Guard were stationed in and around Saint Petersburg in peacetime.



The origins of the Imperial Guards is still discussed among historians. Some trace it back to 1683 when a small group of playmates of eleven years old Tsar Peter came together for military exercises in the Moscow suburban village of Preobrazhenskoye. Others think it should be from 1691-92, when Peter formed out of his playmates the Preobrazhensky and Semenovskiy infantry regiments. Some argue that the "Sovereign's Regiment" from the time of Tsar Ivan the Terrible is the first guards.



*Some of the very early banners of the Life-Guards on display in the General Staff building*



Every guardsman took special pride in his regiment, as a special military brotherhood, it united different social classes and different nationalities - Poles, Lithuanians, Georgians, Germans, Scottish, English, Swiss and others.

The Guards regiments revered their sacred traditions, passing them down from father to son. Foremost among these was the commanding officer's constant concern for the lower ranks and the strive to inculcate in their subordinates the highest moral principles and a feeling of pride in serving with the regiment.

In all their actions the guardsmen were driven by the noble feeling of sacrifice in the name of the Fatherland - "Honour dearer than life", always remained their basic motto. This motto inspired a revival of national historic traditions, promoted patriotic sentiments and ensured continuity between generations for the sake of Russia's prosperity.



Peter the Great's overcoat for riding. A Caftan of a guards infantry officer, 1741-61.  
An officer's kolet (short uniform jacket) of Prince Nicholas Yusupov.  
Below - A Grenadier hat of the guards infantry, 1729-61. A hat of a private of the Chasseur company of the Life-Guards Izmailovsky regiment, 1780-90s.





A Cavalier-guard's super-vest, 1742 (Red). A Cavalier-guard's super-vest, 1796 (Blue). Jacket of a private of the Chasseur company of the Life-Guards Izmailovsky regiment, 1780-90s.(Green)



*Empress Catherine the Great's uniform dress, 1789*





Life Guards uniforms, including to the far left a private's dolman of the Life-Hussar Regiments, 1799-1801, and to the far right a Private's uniform of the Life-Guards Preobrazhensky regiment, 1796-97.

### ***A memory restored***

In its own room are displayed the relics from descendant of the Imperial Guards.

The history of the Russian Guard ended many years ago, but its memory has been carefully preserved during all these years, Now some of the remnants of what was once a matter of utmost importance in the life of many Russians are returning to Russia.

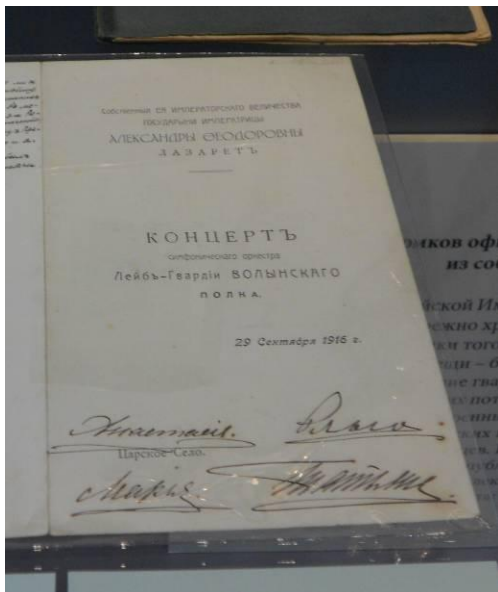
These objects are priceless relics, they are a link to the past, the tiny pieces of memorabilia that Russian officers took with them into emigration, which are now being returned to Russia with the help of their descendents. The unions of officers of guards regiments for years served as focal points for collecting and preserving military artifacts. They were based in many countries.

Among them, is the Union of the Preobrazhensky Regiment. Its members presented regular papers and reminiscences which were published in the Union's journals. The Union possessed a collection of various items of military and everyday use, some of them are included in this exhibition.





Life-Guards banner hanging in the rooms of "gifts from descendants" in the General Staff building.  
Right - Life-Guards Preobrazhensky Regiment, 1742.



Among the Life-Guards relics is a concert program from 29 September 1916, signed by Emperor Nicholas II, and the Grand Duchesses Olga, Maria and Tatiana. Under "Nicholas" is written Tsarskoye Selo.

The program is from Her Imperial Highness Empress Alexandra Feodorovna's lazaret. The concert is with the symphonic orchestra of the Life-Guards Volinsky regiment.



### One of the Lieb Guards - Nikolai Alexandrovich Kulikovsky

Nicolai Alexandrovich Kulikovsky served in Her Majesty's Life-Guards Cuirassier Regiment (Blue Cuirassiers) from 1903 to 1914.

He was born 5 November 1881, in the village Evstratovka in Voronezh province of Imperial Russia. Son of Alexander Nicholaievich Kulikovsky and Evdokia Nicholaevna Kharin. He rode from an early age, became an expert horseman, and was educated at St. Petersburg Real College of Gurevich.

He joined the Cadets in 1900, became a non-commissioned officer 1901, Cornet 1902, Lieutenant 1909, Lieutenant-Captain 1911 and Captain 1914.

Educated at the Nicholas Cavalry School (1900-1902), he started military service with the 37th cavalry regiment (1902-1903), in the Life-Guards Cuirassier of Her Majesty's Regiment (1903-1914), was in



charge of regimental training (1909-1911), the adjutant of Prince P.A. Oldenburg (1911-1914), squadron commander in the 12th Akhtyrsky Hussars Regiment (1914-1915), adjutant of Prince P.A. Oldenburg (1915-1916), 12th Akhtyrsky Hussars Regiment (1916-1917).

He joined the Blue Cuirassier regiment of the imperial Russian cavalry shortly before 1903. Grand Duke Michael, the younger brother of Tsar Nicholas II, was the regiment's honorary colonel. In April 1903, during a military parade at the Pavlovsk Palace, Grand Duchess Olga, the youngest sister of Emperor Nicholas II and Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, saw Kulikovsky and begged Michael to arrange the seating at a casual luncheon so that she and Kulikovsky were adjacent.

At the outbreak of World War I, Kulikovsky was sent to the front with his regiment. In 1916, after Emperor Nicholas II visited his sister Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna in Kiev, and gave her his permission to marry Kulikovsky. The marriage took place on 16 November 1916, in the Kievo-Vasilievskaya Church on Triokhsviatitelskaya (Three Saints Street) in Kiev.

The new government retired Kulikovsky from the army with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

On 12 August 1917, Olga and Kulikovsky's first child, Tikhon, was born in the Crimea.

The British warship HMS Marlborough rescued the Dowager Empress Marie and some of her family from the Crimea, but Grand Duchess Olga and Kulikovsky decided to stay in Russia and travelled to the Caucasus region, where the Bolsheviks had been pushed back by the White Army.

In a rented farmhouse at the Cossack village of Novominskaya Olga and Kulikovsky's second son, Guri, was born on 23 April 1919 - the grandfather of Paul Kulikovsky.



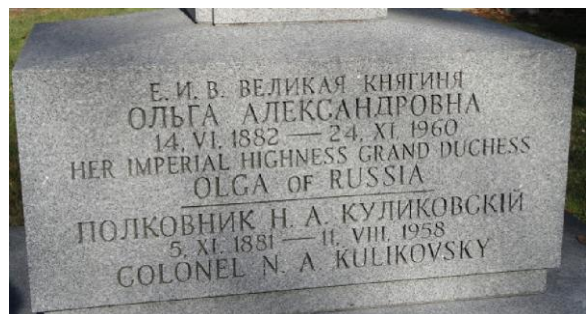
In early 1920, the White Army was pushed back and the Red Army approached, the family saw no other possibility than to leave Russia. The Kulikovsky family arrived in Copenhagen on Good Friday 1920. They lived with Kulikovsky's mother-in-law, Dowager Empress Marie, first at the Amalienborg Palace and then at the estate of Hvidovre. In 1930 they purchased Knudsminde Farm, in several km outside of Copenhagen.

In May 1948, the Kulikovskys travelled via London on their way to Canada, where they had purchased a 200-acre (0.8 km<sup>2</sup>) farm in Halton County, Ontario, near Campbellville.

By 1952, the farm had become a burden to the elderly couple. Kulikovsky suffered increasing back pain and disability, and the farm was sold. They moved into a smaller 5-room house at 2130 Camilla Road, Cooksville, Ontario.

By 1958, Nicholas was virtually paralyzed, and had difficulty sleeping. At the end of his life he was sleeping on the sofa in the living room of the couple's Cooksville house, to avoid waking his wife. He died there on the night of 11 of August 1958.

He was buried in North York Cemetery, Toronto.



## Imperial palaces near the New Holland shipyard

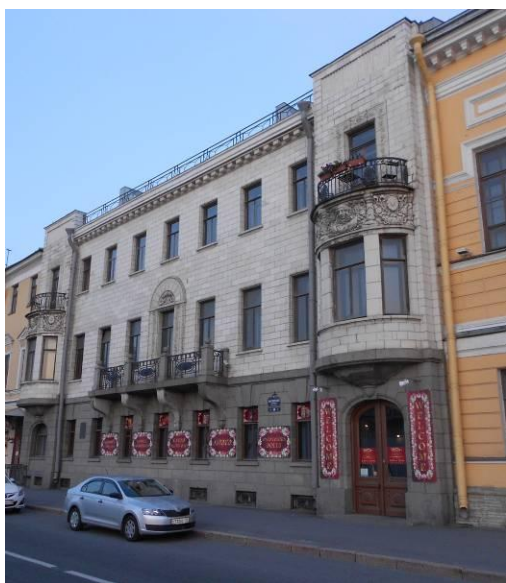
In St. Petersburg, to the west of the Hermitage is the Admiralty building and to the west of that is the New Holland Shipyard. Around it are several Imperial palaces and during the July visit in St. Petersburg, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky went to have a look at some of these palaces.

The first was Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich's palace, shown as (1) on the map to the right, then Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich's palace (2), Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna's palace (3) and finally Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievich Sr.'s palace (4).



### 1) The palace of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich in St. Petersburg

The palace of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich - the son of Alexander III, the younger brother Emperor Nicholas II, a member of the State Council - has a double address, as it is both on the English Embankment no. 54 and on Galernaya Street 55 A in St. Petersburg.



It was built in 1870-1874 by architect K.K. Rajan and was redesigned in 1910-1913 by architect R.F. Meltzer for the Grand Duke.

The facade is faced with light grey ceramic tiles "Carrara" from the English firm "Dulton" and is overlooking the Neva River. The sides are decorated with large bay windows with reliefs motifs (garlands, masks, torches).





The yard of the palace is divided into two parts. Entrance to the first yard is via a gate with iron doors (From Galernaya Street 55 A). The second yard is entered via a long and narrow arch, lined with light tiles. The right wing in the courtyard is equipped with a vast garage, because Michael loved cars. In the capital, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich came rarely, and when on leave he was staying mostly in beloved Gatchina.

During the First World War, Michael gave his palace on the Promenade des Anglais to be used as a hospital for the wounded. The infirmary was named the Grand Duke.

Now the former Grand Duke's mansion, is a House of Culture of the St. Petersburg branch of the Society of deaf-mutes, while a part of the ground level of the house facing Neva is rented out to a souvenir shop.



The interior is in many places with built-in furniture made in the furniture factory of F.F. Meltzer - the father of the architect who redesigned it for the Grand duke.

The main staircase is in curved marble with skylight and walls are blue with gilded moldings. On the second floor is decorated with the Atlanteans and there are "revolution" paintings on the walls.





In the former dining room are preserved paneling, doors, mirror in Art Nouveau style, and even the old batteries. Also have survived three fireplaces of white and colored marble, wide sliding doors of Karelian birch, built-in bookcases, and some interesting details, such as: the elevator cage, wrought iron exterior lights, window fittings and so on. The Ballroom is now made into a theater. The staircase in the "backyard house" is more simple, but still in white marble. There are residential quarters on the third floor and in part of the mezzanine. However, many interiors have been remodeled and disfigured in the post-revolutionary period.







## 2) The palace of Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich

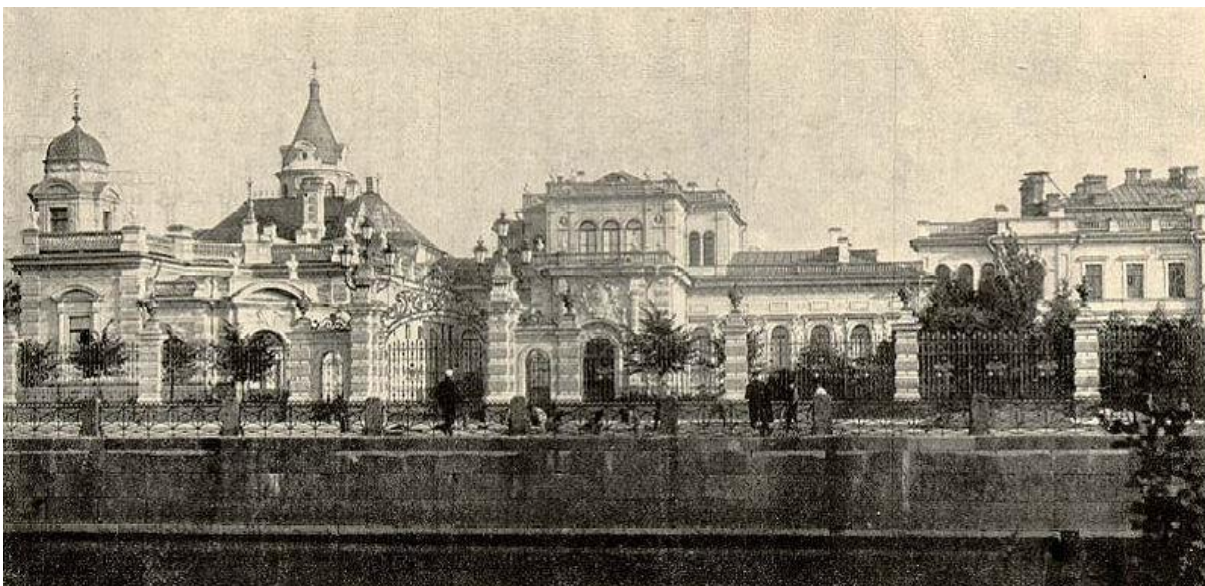


The palace of Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich, brother of Emperor Alexander III is located close to the Imperial shipyard, on 122 Embankment of Moika River. The Grand Duke's life had been tied to the sea since his childhood. He served on many ships and was even a member of a circumnavigation voyage. In 1905 he retired with the rank of admiral and settled down in his palace.

Before 1830 there was no houses in this area, when there appeared the first wooden building. In the beginning of the 1840s Major General K. I. Albreht bought a neighboring plot and the merchant Petrov built four stone buildings. In 1846-48 architect N. E. Efimov rebuilt one of the buildings, turning it into a grand house for a new owner A. I. Saburova.

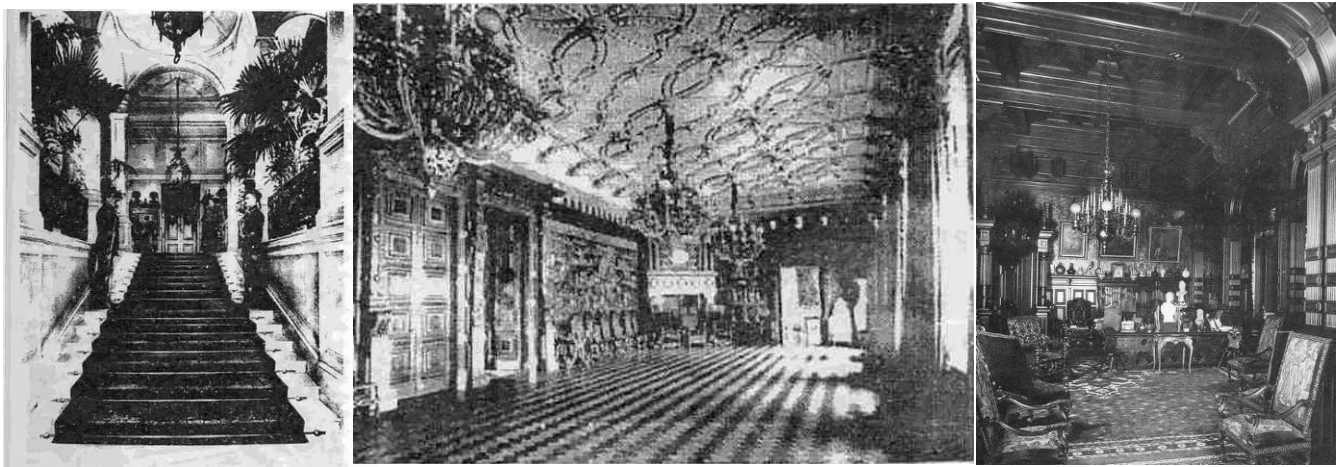
In 1882 Ministry of the Imperial Court acquired the area to build a palace for Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich.

The palace was constructed on the Moika in 1883-1885 by the court architect and interior designer Maximilian Messmacher. The palace is a complex of buildings including a four-story guest house, a workshop, stables, greenhouses, and gardens.





Messmacher made use of all pre-existing buildings on the site, thus significantly saving time and money, and making the complex asymmetrical. At the request of his royal client, Messmacher built the grand residence in the romantic style of a castle of medieval France.



The rooms of the palace were all designed in different styles. From the luxurious entrance hall you can go to the Rococo ballroom, the Red Sitting Room furnished in the style of Louis XV, a Renaissance style study with Baroque elements, or the Flemish Sitting Room with rich tapestries. The palace's largest room is the English Hall, also in Renaissance style. The Chinese Sitting Room is an example of late *choiserie*, with carved rosewood panels and printed fabrics. The eastern wing of the palace is crowned by a large tower with a spiral staircase of 120 steps.



The gate at the Moika Embankment has with an impressive gold monogrammed "AA" wrought-iron fence.

After the death of Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich in 1909, by imperial decree, the heirs were declared his brothers - Grand Dukes Vladimir and Paul, and his nephew Grand Duke Michail Alexandrovich. Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovich died soon after and his part was transferred to his wife Maria Pavlovna, who also became the director of the palace. In 1911, it was rented out to the German Embassy, which occupied it until November 1912. In 1913, the city authorities had intended to buy the palace, to make public magnificent landscaped park. But at this time, a part of the area had already been sold to candy factory owner Georges Bormann and one of the directors of the Russian-American Rubber Manufactory Von der Pals. In 1915 Maria Pavlovna sold the palace with all services and a certain part of the park to K. K. Reshko in exchange for his Crimean estate "Lopatichi."









In Soviet times the building was occupied by various organizations and then stood empty for a long time. In 2005 an extensive restoration program was initiated, after which the palace was handed over to the Music House, a state organization aimed at encouraging young classical musicians with an active program of workshops and educational events, as well as concerts. Today, the historic interiors of the palace are filled with the sounds of musical instruments.



### 3) The palace of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna

On Moika Embankment 106, is located the former palace of Grand Duke Alexander Michailovich and Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna.

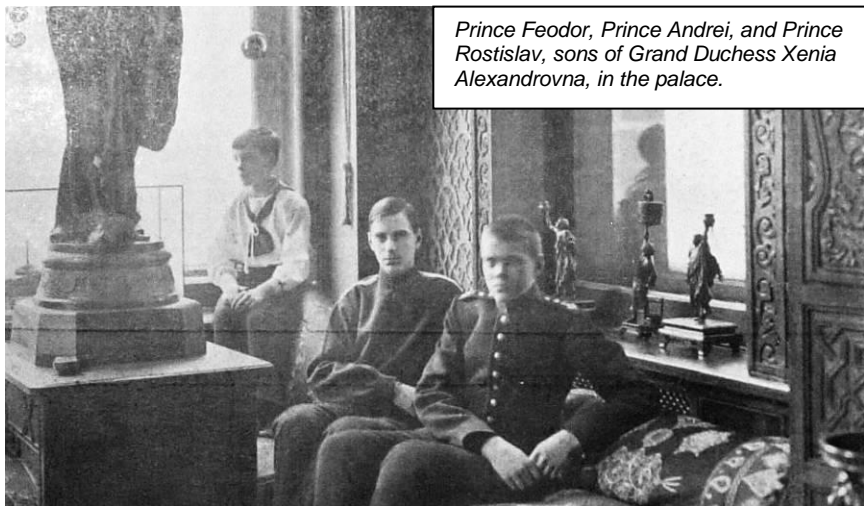
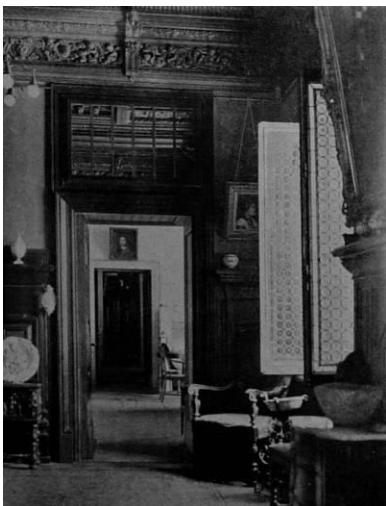
The first owner of the land was Rear Admiral Ivan Akimovich Senyavin, which he received from Emperor Peter I back in 1710s. Then the estate passed on to his son Ivan. In 1765 the site was sold to Narva merchant A.V. Vulfert. In the 1810-ies the estate was bought by merchant Ivan Frost. He built behind the main building, almost right next to it, but slightly to the left, so that both buildings almost touched corners. With further restructuring they have merged into one. In 1828, Frost sold it to Major General Karl Ivanovich Albrecht.

By the mid-1850s the house was sold to Her Highness Princess M.V. Vorontsova, nee Princess Troubetzkoy and it was rebuilt by architect I.A. Monighetti.





In 1894, Princess Vorontsov sold the house to the Ministry of the Imperial Court, and then Emperor Alexander III gave it to Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, on the occasion of her wedding with Grand Duke Alexander Michailovich, on July 25, 1894. During 1895-1897 the house was refurbished by architects N.V. Sultanov and Nikolai de Rochefort.



*Prince Feodor, Prince Andrei, and Prince Rostislav, sons of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, in the palace.*





In front of the palace is square, separating it from the waterfront by openwork lattice, with an luxurious gate decorated with the monogram initials - "KA" for Ksenia Alexandrovna.

The palace facade is rusticated and cut through by tall windows. The building completes the high mezzanine with a balustrade. The interiors have been decorated in different styles.



In the palace was also built a vaulted home church of St. Xenia, with painted ornaments in the style of Andrey Rublev and an iconostasis of hammered copper with enamel.

During the First World War, in one of the wings of the palace was located a hospital for the wounded, arranged at the initiative of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, who took part in the work.

From 1919 in the buildings housed an organisation for physical culture - today called the "National State University of Physical Culture, Sport and Health in the name of Peter Frantsevich Lesgaft, St. Petersburg".

#### 4) The palace of Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievich Sr.

Nicholaevsky Palace on Annunciation Square (now 4 Labor Square), was constructed in 1853-1861 by Andreas Stackensneider (1802-65) for Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolaievich (the elder), the third son of Emperor Nicholas I.

It is a complex incorporating a massive three-storey building, a palatial church, a manege, stables, servants' wing and several outbuildings, separated from the square in front by a cast-iron fence. The facades are accomplished with three tiers of pilasters and decorative details.

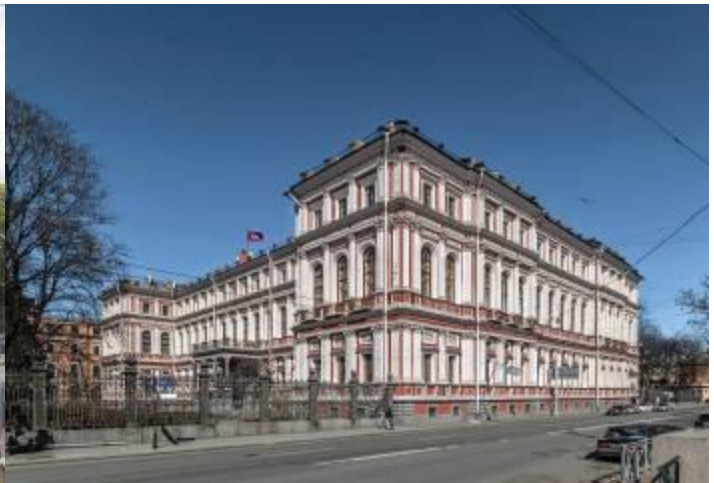
In the north-western part of the mezzanine were dancing and banquet halls. They were two tiers of windows and had a height of 17 meters. The ballroom was decorated with sculptures.







In the eastern part of the palace were private apartments Nicholas and his wife. The windows of the rooms overlook the garden and on Horse Guards Boulevard. In private apartments can be reached via its own entrance from the garden. From here you can go to the billiard room, the room attendant adjutant, reception hall, and office. The walls are decorated with pictures of premises favorite horses of the Grand Duke. Horses were true passion of the Grand Duke, who commanded all the cavalry forces of the Russian Empire. The Grand Duke, not only fond of horses. His other passion was ballet and ballet dancers.





The original decor of the entrance hall, double-flighted staircase and several gala halls have been preserved.



It was the most technically equipped palace at that time. It had equipped kitchen, plumbing, telegraph communications, heating all over (70 fireplaces and 15 pneumatic).



October 24, 1863 the palace's Church of Our Lady the Joy of All Who Sorrow was consecrated, it was decorated by artist L. Tirsch. In 1873-74, a lower side-altar was constructed in the church - a replica of the Ossuary of the Holy Sepulchre (architect F.S. Kharlamov).







In 1882, Nicholas Nicolaievich was put under supervision due to the squandering of his fortune and he went to Alupka palace in Crimea.

On 25 of April 1891 Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievich Sr. died in Alupka and due to his debt was it decided to sell the palace to the Ministry of the Imperial Court.



In 1894, Nikolaevsky Palace was changed to the Women's Institute of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna (architects I. A. Stefanits, R.A. Gedike).

On the ground floor there were offices, households for headmistress of the Institute and accommodation for teachers. The second floor housed the classrooms.

In 1917, the edifice was allocated to Petrograd Soviet of Trade Unions and was renamed the Palace of Labour. The Regional Soviet and several branch trade unions were located there, later they were accompanied by the Higher School for Professional Development, which required the reconstruction of the interiors and led to the destruction of parts of the original eclectic interiors.

Nowadays, a part of the Nikolaevsky Palace premises is used for commercial purposes. In 1999, church services were renewed; it is currently under restoration.

As of 2004, the trade unions are leasing a large part of the edifice to commercial enterprises as offices, and there are almost every day Russian Folk show ("Feel Yourself Russian").

## Monument to Empress Catherine II unveiled in Bogoroditsk

On 29 of August at the central avenue in Bogoroditsk, Tula region, a monument to Empress Catherine the Great was solemnly unveiled. The monument is sculpted and casted in bronze by sculptor Dmitry Vlasov from Tolyatti. The height of the statue is more than two meters, and weight is 10 tons with the granite pedestal.

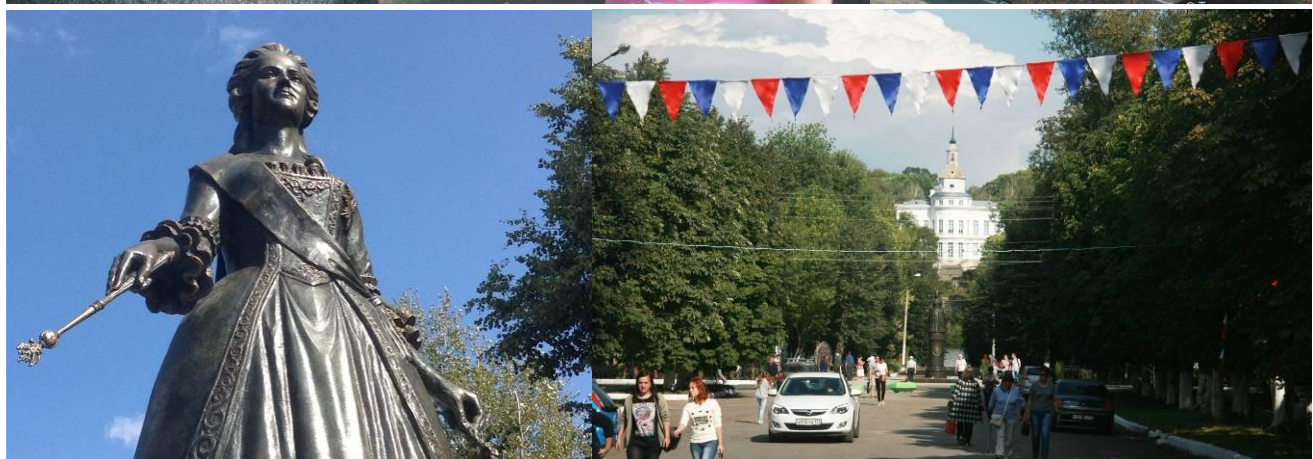


- The memory of the Empress is immortalized in a monumental way. We see her young and beautiful. I am very pleased that work has been done on the restoration of the city park, cascade of ponds and adjacent territory, putting the place in order - as initiated by the Governor Vladimir Gruzdev of Tula region and I congratulate the citizens and guests of Bogoroditsk - said the Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Tula region Tatiana Rybkin.



In 1765, Catherine II issued a special decree on Bogoroditsk and gave it as property to Lieutenant-General Prince S. Gagarin. Later, the Empress gave Bogoroditsk and Bobrikovsky parish to her illegitimate son with Grigory Orlov, Alexei Grigorievich Sitsky, who later received the name Bobrinsky.







## The Russian Liberal Democratic Party proposes to verify the circumstances of the abdication of Nicholas II

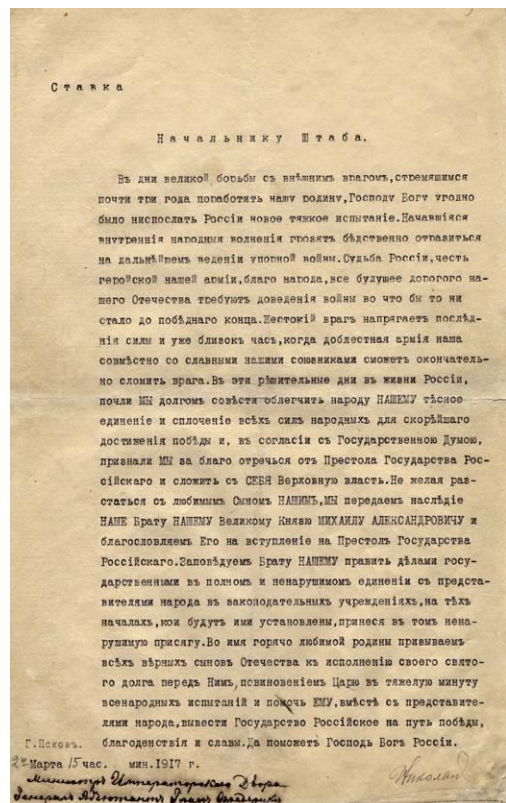
18.08.2015. 5-TV - They specifically addressed the manifesto of the Emperor. Their motivation is simple curiosity. And that, as they say, there are questions. And this despite the fact that in Soviet times was done an examination of the documents, and there is the diary of Nicholas II, where all is described. But attention to the events of a hundred years ago, now has indeed increased.

About Russia often they say that it is a country with an unpredictable past. Almost 100 years have passed since the fall of the Imperial government. It seems to be that all about the events of that time is said, described in scientific volumes and textbooks. But still, some things many people do not leave in peace.

State Duma deputy Mikhail Degtyarev turned to the Russian State Archives. Asking for authenticate Act of abdication of Nicholas II. Elected official believes that there is a need to hold a series of examinations, after the sovereign voluntary action has not been proven.



On the Degtyarev' side there are a number of historians and lawyers, who believe that abdication wasn't legal. In addition, to make any manifest regarding the status of law, it had to be approved by the Senate. That in March 1917 it didn't happen. But the biggest suspicion is the authenticity of the document. Experts says it is a strange manifesto.



So, the emperor refers not to his subjects, that is, to the people of Russia, but to some "chief of staff." Date and time of signing is made by pencil, not printed. The place where should be Fredericks, minister of court 's signature, is previously cleaned up. Plus, all text typed on two different machines. As if this is not the most important state document, but a draft of a student term paper.

From personal diaries of the Emperor it is clear that Nicholas personally worked on the text of the manifesto. Even remade the original version. He abdicated not in favor of his son Alexei, as it demanded by the succession, but in favor of his brother Michael.

However, supporters of the review "the case of abdication" conduct historical parallels and perpendiculars, correlate them with our time, and warn against new errors.

In the State Archives, they believe that the noise is raised in vain. The authenticity of the document cannot be doubted.

Video - <http://www.5-tv.ru/news/99472/>



## Did Nicholas II sign a document of abdication?



Sergey Mironenko, July 24, 2015

Is it possible to reliably talk about the abdication of Nicholas II? About it tells Sergey Mironenko, director of the State Archive of the Russian Federation, Doctor of Historical Sciences.

Nicholas II abdicated on March 2, 1917. This renunciation was published in all the newspapers. Almost a year and a half, he never said it was not his abdication, that it is illegitimate.

It was his real renunciation by the fact that it was countersigned, ie assured by the Minister of the Imperial Court, Baron Frederiks.

Besides the story of how the abdication got to the State Archive of the Russian Federation, confirmed the accuracy of what happened.

The document was in the State Archive of the Russian Federation, together with the People's Commissariat Archives Rabkrin. In 1930 unfolded so-called "academic work", which began with the denunciation that the Academy of Sciences there is a counter-revolutionary organization of monarchists.

The basis for this conclusion was the discovery in the archives of the Academy of Sciences of the envelope with two documents - the abdication of Nicholas II and the act on the rejection of the throne of the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich. The fact that these two documents were in the same place, were stored in the Academy of Sciences, conclusively indicates that they - genuine.



The fact that the signature on the renunciation made by a pencil - is another matter. This can talk and think, but not in the context that the time signature in pencil - it is invalid. Really!

And the fact that the document was signed only one name - Nikolai without titles, says nothing. There are many other documents where he signed that way. And anyway, how could he otherwise sign as abdicated emperor?

There can be no doubt that there has been a renunciation and the manifesto was published in all the papers. And, I repeat, almost half a year before his martyrdom the Emperor never said it was an illegal renunciation. Why is that? This question is to all those who are trying to play obscure political games. They have doubts if in his original diary Nicholas II writes he abdicated? All discussions about it - just stupid! There is no reason for discussion!

If you want, you can, for example, discuss the question of whether Maria Vladimirovna Romanova today is the legitimate heir today to the Russian throne. There are people who recognize her as such, and there is a vast association of the descendants of the House of Romanov, which does not recognize her.

Actually I have met at least a dozen people who claim the Russian throne. But that's what follows from this.

There was a revolution - next, the political system changed. Since then, went a hundred years, we live in a completely different state, of which law of succession can be a question?!

Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, the time of the monarchy in Russia will not return, I think. Although I could be wrong.

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## The "Tsar's Park" in Virolahti, Finland.

Virolahti is an area in the South-Eastern corner of Finland, next to the border with Russia, and on the shore of the Finnish Gulf.

From 1906 to 1914 it was used as a summer residence of Emperor Nicholas II. The land was rented by admiral Konstantin Nilov for the family of Nicholas II as a summer resort. Here the Emperor received a brief respite from the growing pressure in the capital St. Petersburg and could live the life of an ordinary man and be with his family every day. The yacht "Standart" was the emperor's camp office. The proximity of St. Petersburg allowed the couriers with high-speed torpedo boats every day to deliver papers of national importance, which were read and signed by the Emperor. In Virolahti meetings with ministers and top officials of foreign states were held. The emperor even had official meetings here, deciding international issues with the German Kaiser Wilhelm II (1907, 1909) and Sweden's King Gustav V (1912).

The park existed from 1907 to 1964. Little by little was built an amusement park, which included a tennis court, a children's and adult carousel, mini golf course (putting area), cooking facility and benches. The wood-based tennis courts was also used as an area for dancing.

All of the buildings were kept until the death (in 1964) of A.A. Taneyeva, better known as Anna Alexandrovna Vyrobova, lady-in-waiting, best friend and confidante of Empress Alexandra, after 1964 the local residents dismantled them to reuse the parts elsewhere.



Anna Alexandrovna Vyrobova managed to escape from the revolution by ferry to Finland, and she had with her seven photo albums, pictures taken during her service to the Empress. There are a large number of photographs taken during her stay with the royal family in Virolahti.

The first album was presented to Queen Louise of Sweden, in gratitude for her sensitive heart and compassion for her. Queen Louise financially supported Anna Alexandrovna to the end of her life.

*"The Emperor liked the Finnish archipelago – tells the memories of Anna Alexandrovna. - This love the emperor had inherited from his father, Alexander III, and his mother, Maria Feodorovna, who made annual cruises to various corners of the archipelago.*

*One day ... when we were about to go home, leaving the Finnish coast, the Emperor said to me, joking, and at the same time seriously: "This is probably the first real tears that you see in the eyes of your sovereign."*

*They were returning from Finland to gain strength and became strong. Staying in Finland is particularly beneficial effect on the health of the heir.*

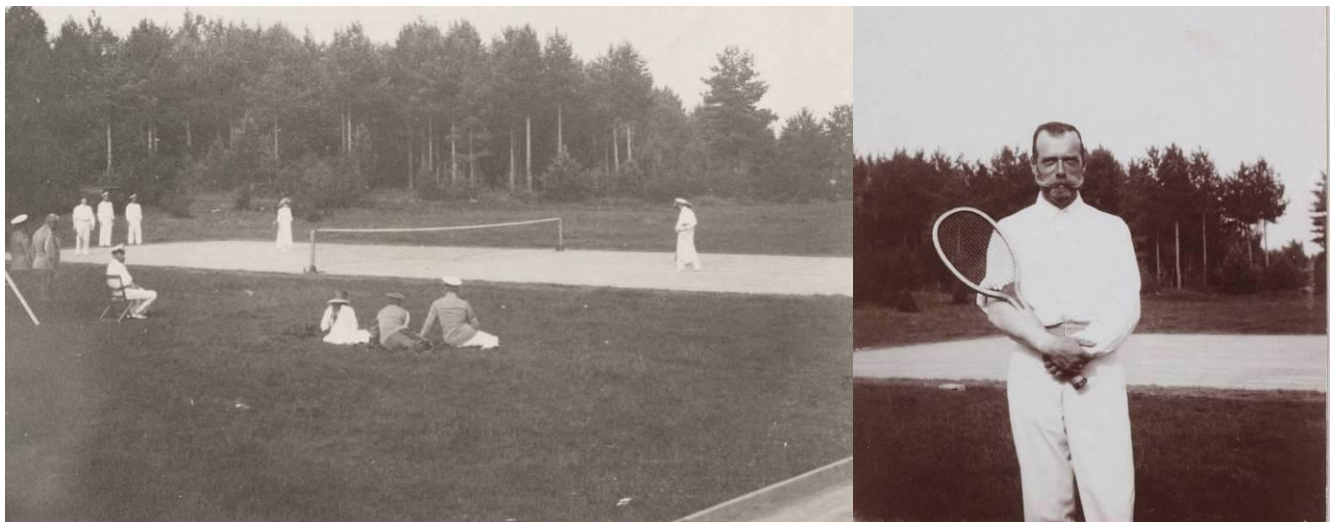
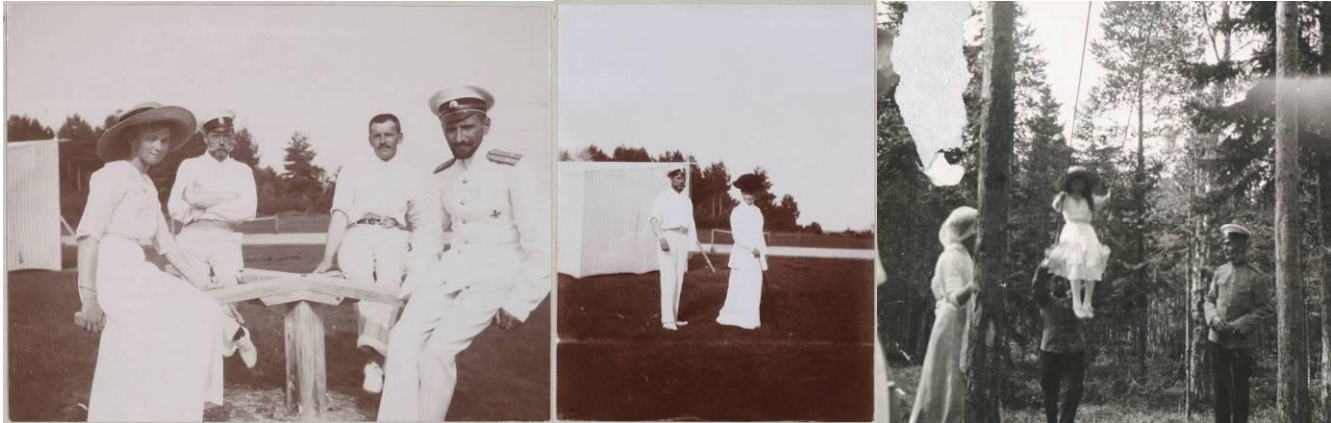
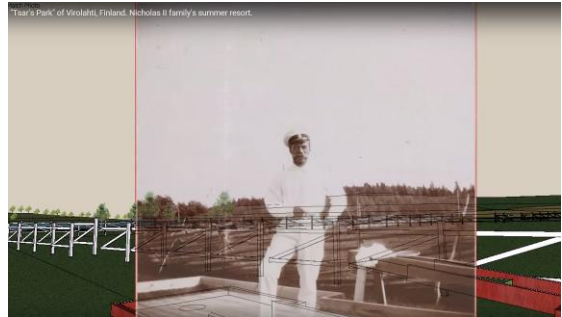
*In 1914 the Empress told me that the political situation is dangerous, so it may soon become exhausting. That is why the Emperor and she wanted, "to rest and to gain strength in the Finnish archipelago. The Bay and the islands of the Finnish archipelago, in our opinion, have never looked so beautiful as at that time. We enjoyed the full beauty of the Finnish summer, until not unexpected came a telegram, which required the Emperor to return to St. Petersburg. We all knew what that meant and wept when the "Standard" turned its nose toward Kronstadt.*

*The Empress is literally drenched in tears. She uttered the prophetic words that I remembered all of my life: "I think our heavenly days in the Finnish archipelago ended forever, and we will never be all together on our yacht."*

See how the park looked in this computer reconstruction, based on actual map of the area, the original rental agreement, and photographs and videos.

Video -

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RmqZVHOWOZU>





## Commemoration at the Imperial Wharf in Tyumen

On 18 August, almost a hundred years ago, the Imperial Family on the way to Tobolsk travel through Tyumen. With the train they arrived at the wharf and stayed a little, while their baggage was loaded onboard the steamship "Rus". There is now a memorial and a museum, and it is a holy place for pilgrims.



From the diary of Emperor Nicholas II:

"August 4, 1917 (old Style). Crossing the Urals. Felt considerable coolness. Passed through Yekaterinburg early in the morning. All these days second train with guards catching us often - met them like acquaintances. It went incredibly slow to arrive in Tyumen late, at 11.30. There the train went almost to the pier, so we had just go down to the boat. Ours was called "Rus". Transfer of things started and went on all night. Poor Alexei, had to lay down again, God knows when? Noise and rumbling lasted all night and really prevented me to sleep. Left Tyumen at about 6.00."





## The museum "the Imperial Wharf" in Tyumen

The old railroad rails which brought the Imperial Family to Tyumen, are still there, but is no longer in use. In the house, in which before the revolution, was located the board of the first Siberian Shipping Company Ignatov - Kurbatov, is now a museum devoted to the Romanovs. The museum has two halls. One is decorated to celebrate the 400 anniversary of the Romanovs, and the second contains photos and paintings.





## Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



August 26, 2015 took place the ceremony of transfer to the museum-reserve "Tsarskoye Selo" a camera "Bulls-Eye Eastman Kodak", which belonged to Pierre Gilliard (1879-1962) - the French teacher of the children of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, and mentor of Tsarevich Alexei. It is with this camera Pierre Gilliard took pictures of the imperial family in Tsarskoye Selo and later in exile.

The camera was given to the museum by Jacques Moser (Switzerland), a great-nephew of Pierre Gilliard.



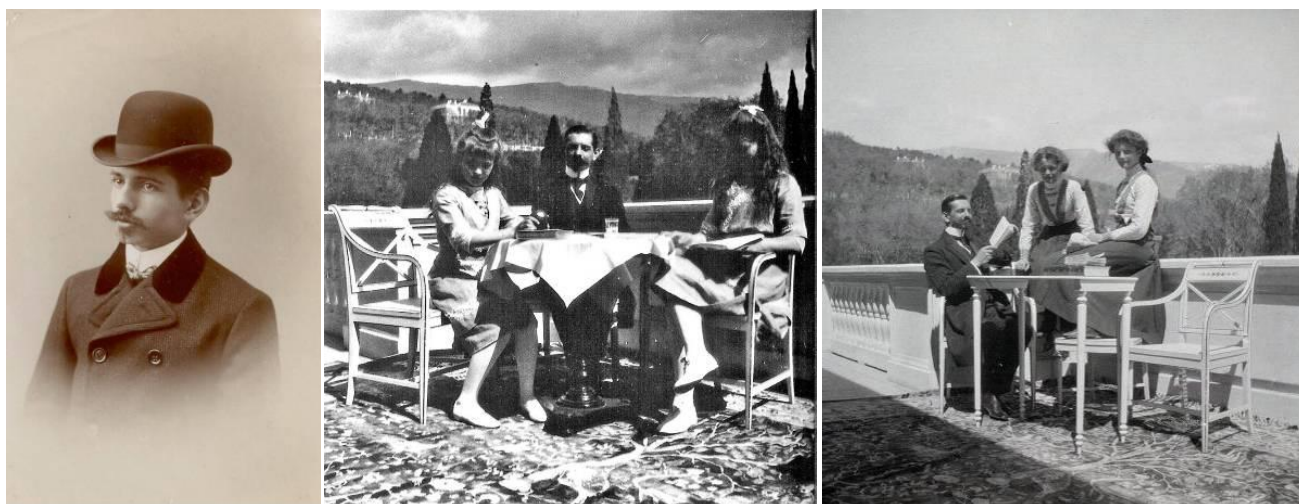
Pierre Gilliard was one of those who volunteered to go with the family of Nicholas II into exile in Tobolsk. Then he moved with the royal children to Yekaterinburg, but in Ipatiev House he was not allowed to be with the family and returned to Tobolsk. In 1920 he emigrated via Vladivostok to Europe. In 1922, Pierre Gilliard married Alexandra Tyeglev (1884-1955) - "the older nanny", which had worked with the grand duchesses and just as Gilliard, narrowly escaped death. They lived in Lausanne, the hometown of Gilliard.

All documents pertaining to Gilliard and Tyeglev, are now stored at the Foundation Pierre Gilliard Cantonal University Library (BCU) in Lausanne (Switzerland).



According to Mr. Moser, his mother inherited the camera and explains that "Uncle Pierre" has made with it all the pictures at the Russian court, and that "the emperor himself held it in his hands." He showed pictures - especially the one on which "Uncle Pierre" with the Tsar sawed wood in Tobolsk. - According to my most distant memories, I always heard about "Uncle Pierre" from Russia and Aunt Alex with her "rrruskii" accent. Sometimes we met with him, because he was the brother of my grandfather. But above all, were material evidence in our apartment in Basel. As soon one open the bottom drawer of his desk in the living room, one came across a rigid square beige leather case, which kept the camera Bulls-Eye Eastman Kodak, bought in St. Petersburg by "Uncle Pierre." After his return

to Switzerland, Pierre, although he was an excellent photographer, was no longer willing to use it. It reminded him of the bitter years and the death of the royal family, the fate of which he narrowly escaped - says Jacques Moser.



- For us, these things are interesting and important as memorabilia associated with members of the immediate environment and the family of Nicholas II. The camera "Kodak" is sure to become an exhibit of the Alexander Palace when we'll open it after a major restoration. The updated exhibition includes sections on people who surrounded the last owner of Tsarskoye Selo, - said the deputy director for scientific work of the State Museum "Tsarskoye Selo" Iraida Bott.

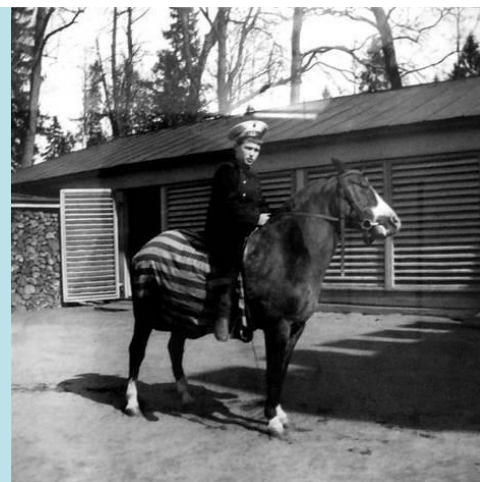
Video 1) <http://www.1tv.ru/news/culture/290925>

2) <http://topspb.tv/news/news82712/>



August 29 in the Museum-Reserve "Tsarskoye Selo" was held for the first time the family holiday "Horse history." Visitors could find out why jumping is different from driving, get acquainted with the inhabitants of the Imperial Farm, and visit a number of creative workshops, in the equestrian complex of Museum "Tsarskoye Selo".

The program included demonstrations from the club of military-historic reconstruction, of horse breeds, a competition in show jumping, and a spectacular drive with obstacles sporting crew (driving). Guests of the festival could listen to a lecture on "All the crew", during which it was shown how to harness a horse. During the lecture, guests were placed in carriages. Every two hours was organized tours of the equestrian complex and Pensioner stables and horses cemetery where Russian emperors favorite horses are buried.



Holiday "Horse history" was timed to the Day of Frol and Lavr, St. Patrons of horses, which is traditionally celebrated on August 31. Early on this day, horses are not to work, they are not saddled, they do not fit a harness, but are fed selective oats. However, according to the custom, later on the day of Frol and Lavr exhibitions and horse races was arranged.



## Empress Maria Feodorovna's service in the Egyptian style returned to Pavlovsk after 85 years

The State Museum "Pavlovsk" again pleases its fans another new development. A rare historical exhibit is back to Pavlovsk Palace - a porcelain service for breakfast "Dejeuner", which belonged to Empress Maria Feodorovna (wife of Emperor Paul I), and one of the things that kept sticker "Pavlovsky Dvorets" with inventory number 1009 according to the 1908 inventory.

The service was kept in the private rooms of the Empress, and was "Memory of the heart", because on every object she saw a person close to her brother, nieces and grandchildren who are far away, but infinitely precious to her. Maria Feodorovna was a caring and loving daughter and sister, aunt and later for her numerous Württemberg family she took care of it throughout her life. Any gift, sent from home, it was especially valuable because it is the common thread with her roots that it is always more expensive.



The service she received as a gift from her older brother, King Frederick I of Württemberg presumably about 1814. The ensemble consisted of: coffee pot, milk jug, sugar bowl, a large cup - with covers, two cups and saucers, serving tray and sugar tongs.

For the first time a brief description of the service was made by A.A. Polovtsov, great connoisseur of art, appointed by the Soviet government as Commissioner of the palace to protect its artistic treasures. However, in 1930, when it was disbanded a number of expositions of the Pavlovsk Palace

Museum, the service was removed from the museum for sale abroad through the All-Union Association "Antiques". Then it went to England and, until recently, was in the private collection of Mr. Mollo, from which was ransomed for Pavlovsk thanks to the participation of VTB Bank and personally Mr. A.L. Kostin.

So the expensive "souvenirs" of Empress Maria Feodorovna after 85 years returned to their palace, except for the tray, which is at the moment with another individual.

The service is made on the Ludwigsburg porcelain manufactory, which was founded in 1758. It was owned by Duke Carl Eugene Württemberg, an uncle of Maria Feodorovna, which sought to give his residence in Ludwigsburg a French brilliance, and the presence of a porcelain manufactory, the fifth in Europe, increased public prestige of the small duchy. The best Duke Carl Eugene sent to his niece Grand Duchess Maria Feodorovna, and now they can be seen in the Pavlovsk Palace. Ludwigsburg porcelain in contrast to other European factories is varied decor: the abundance of stucco and sculptural detail, gilt ornaments, gilding or background coating products and the indispensable presence of beautiful inserts in elegant setting.



The factory founder's established traditions was continued by his nephew Frederick of Württemberg, who in 1806 became the King of Württemberg Frederick I. He continued to send the original porcelain to his sister Empress Maria Feodorovna. These rarities of service "Dejeuner" was made in 2 copies, one which was sent to Pavlovsk, and the other belonged to the family (Original made for Prince Paul) and it is in Württemberg Land Museum in Stuttgart. Friedrich of Württemberg, whom the Emperor Napoleon made king, sought to imitate the French fashion. In his palace he remade a number of interior in the new style of "Empire". The same trend can be seen in the porcelain of the time. The style of "Empire" are very typical Egyptian motifs, brought about in European art after Napoleon's campaign in Egypt when "egyptomania" invaded all spheres of artistic life. This echoes the fashion seen in the set of tableware of Maria Feodorovna. Coffee pot and milk jug formed in the shape of Canopus with lids in the form of human heads in helmets topped with a figure of a falcon. Coffee pot handle is molded in the form of two snakes, and handle the milkman is a figure of a crocodile, keep the front paws of a human head vessel. The handle on the flat lid sugar bowl, too, in the form of a figurine of a crocodile. These images of unseen crocodiles, real exotic in china, performed with engravings.

The plates have a rounded shape, but the handle at the bottom ends with high relief snakehead. On the outside bottom of each item has a brand "FR" King Frederick under a crown. All items gilded, floral pattern made in the technique tsirovki (Gold painting) and faces Canopus, handles and molded parts on the covers painted by patinated bronze (gilder - Christoph Heinrich Toberer). Another important element of the service are miniature portraits of members of the royal family of Württemberg in medallions, which gives the value of the service a memorial (artist Carl Heinrich Kiichelbecker).

On the body pot - a portrait of King Frederick I. Maria Feodorovna about him had the best memories of childhood and adolescence. She arranged for him, while Prince Frederick, to come to Russia, where he entered Russian service and was appointed by Empress Catherine II as Vyborg governor. He arrived with his wife, Augusta and her son William, and in St. Petersburg, they had a daughter Catherine and son Paul, named in honor of the Empress, and Pavel Petrovich, who was also very fond of Frederick. However, because of his bad character, scandals, and most importantly because of unauthorized relations with the Swedes, Frederick was sent out of Russia by Catherine II. She called him «Feroce de Montbeliard» (savage from Montbeliard) and was glad that he had left. Leaving Russia, Frederick took the children with him. His wife, left alone, did not get a divorce, and she died two years after her husband's departure.

On the milk jug, you can see the portrait of the second wife of Friedrich I of Charlotte Augusta Matilda, Princess of Great Britain, the eldest daughter of King George III. She was perfectly formed, good at drawing, she had a gentle nature and get along perfectly with children and grandchildren and then her husband.

In the sugar, which is decorated with an unusual figure of a crocodile - a portrait of the king's youngest son Prince Paul of Württemberg, resolute and principled person. In 1812, when Wuerttemberg became an ally of Napoleon, he refused to go to war against Russia, and the following year joined the Russian army, received the rank of general. After the death of his father, not finding a common language with his elder brother, King William, he went to France. On one of the cups - a portrait of his wife Charlotte Catherine of Saxe-Hildburghausen, and on a tray, which, unfortunately, has not returned yet to Pavlovsk, were depicted four children: two sons - August and Friedrich and two daughters - Charlotte and Pauline, great-nephew of Maria Feodorovna. Maria Feodorovna was always interested in Charlotte, and she chose the later as a wife for the younger son of Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich. In Russia, she became known as the Grand Duchess Elena Pavlovna.

In a large bowl, which was used for the preparation of chocolate, depicts Prince William, elder son and heir Friedrich of Wurttemberg, who in 1816 become king. In the first dynastic marriage, he married Charlotte Augusta of Bavaria, daughter of the King of Bavaria, Maximilian on the second cup. During the events of the anti-Napoleonic campaign of 1813-1814 Crown Prince Wilhelm met his cousin Grand Duchess Catherine Pavlovna, who was accompanied by his brother, Alexander I. The young people love each other, but were able to marry only in 1816 after Wilhelm received permission of Pope Pius VII in the dissolution of the first marriage.



The collection of the Pavlovsk Palace cup and saucer has the same shape as the cup from the service under review, with a portrait of the Grand Duchess Catherine Pavlovna. She appeared in 1816, when Catherine Pavlovna became the wife of King William. Having a cup, Maria Feodorovna put it with the same sets. And now this cup constantly reminded her also of her daughter.

It is interesting to note that after the death of Maria Feodorovna service was in the Konstantinovsky Palace Pavlovsk Park, which was the residence of the family of Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich, who became the owner of Pavlovsk, and his wife Elena Pavlovna. It is for Elena Pavlovna the service was particularly dear as miniature paintings on its subjects reminded her of his father and mother, grandparents, brothers and beloved sister Pauline.

Here are some interesting history associated with the service, which is returned to the historical collection of Pavlovsk and again take its place in the bedroom of the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna to her private quarters on the first floor of the central building of the Pavlovsk Palace.

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### **Furniture from the times of Catherine II can be seen at an exhibition in Peterhof**

18.08.2015. Kultura - In Peterhof, at the Museum of the Benois family, opened an exhibition of furniture from the times of Catherine the Great. Cards and coffee tables, cabinets, bureaus, secretaries - in the art of Russian masters, their production not inferior to European. In the design of the furniture depicted the main events of the epoch - military victories, architectural and urban achievements. The story of the "gallant century" are complemented by historical photographs and watercolors from the collection of the Hermitage and other museums.

Furniture made in the technique of marquetry, often referred to as a wooden mosaic. The color wealth the nature gave. It was collected from valuable timber imported from Africa and America. This art came to Russia from Europe. It is believed that during the reign of Catherine II was created the best examples of Russian inlaid furniture.



"One of the most distinguishing features of Russian inlaid furniture - it is its smartness. Russian products are very bright, colorful. We loved to use contrasting color wood, bone was used, which contrasted with the red sandalwood, ebony"- says the curator of the exhibition, curator of museum objects GMZ "Peterhof" Olga Kislitsina.

One of the masterpieces of Russian art - a card table by Petersburg masters Nikifor Vasiliev. In allegorical form, he glorifies the reign of Catherine II.



At the end of the XVIII century it was fashionable to make furniture with a secret: with a lot of secret drawers, secret cupboards, sliding boards. It would be interesting to learn what secrets kept the furniture: love, political, diplomatic,"- said the chief of the conservation and study of cultural heritage of GMZ "Peterhof" Larisa Nikiforova.

After the revolution, a lot of the furniture was sold. Some of them are still in European collections. Another table presented here, recently returned to its homeland. Once it was at the Yusupov Palace. After the revolution in 1929, it was sold in Germany. The table wandered from house to house among various German collectors and then last year it was purchased by the Hermitage.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139542/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139542/)

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## Marble Palace reopened the staterooms to the public

18.08.2015. Kultura - The branch of the Russian Museum - the Marble Palace - after lengthy restoration revealed several state rooms: living room, signs and Rotunda. Since 1937 the Palace became a branch of the Museum of Lenin. The construction of the "new world" in the premises affected it directly - so unique fireplaces and decorative panels cannot be recovered. The restorers had to work hard to return the halls of the palace grandeur. Catherine Hall, or as it is now called, the living room - is one of the most beautiful ceremonial halls of the Marble Palace. Once it was decorated with the portraits of Catherine the Great. It is on her order Antonio Rinaldi built a palace for the empress's favorite Count Orlov.



Interior of Ceremonial Hall changed several times. The restorers found a unique painting of the beginning of the XIX century - then the architect Andrei Voronikhin reworked these rooms for the grandson of Catherine II - Grand Duke Konstantin Pavlovich. In the middle of the XIX century by the order of the next host of the Palace - General Admiral Konstantin Nikolayevich - it was redone again.

The restoration of the Marble Palace continues. 10 tidy rooms are left in total. This year, government funding has declined. This means that museum workers as they say, have something to

save. So, in the Orel Hall has decided to abandon the artificial marble. The walls are just going to be plastered.

Video – 1) [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139565/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139565/)

2) <http://www.nofollow.ru/video.php?c=x8OaC1Icbuo>

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## "The collection, forgotten for a century" in Pushkin Museum



18.08.2015. Kultura - "The collection, forgotten for a century," is shown at the Museum of Fine Arts named after Pushkin. It is a collection of Russian and European medals, coins of different countries and eras, documents and photographs that for a long time was thought lost. The museum of Russian history, which opened in 1895 in a suburb of Berlin, to the present day has not survived.

In 1956, the collection of coins and medals came from West Berlin - 1165 items. They were transferred to the Pushkin Museum. All of these things for decades were in their possession, but the story behind them, no one knew.

"A few years ago a document was found in the archive, which indicates the history of the origin of this collection. A document from the Ministry of Culture had been made, saying that they sent to the Museum of Fine Arts collection, a gift to the Soviet Union.

It turned out that Russian Archpriest Alexey Maltsev - the founder of the Holy Prince Vladimir brotherhood - the oldest church in the Russian society in Germany, which still exists today - was the rector of the church at the Russian Embassy in Berlin, and he founded this charity to assist Russian nationals who find themselves in trouble in Berlin or even in Germany. At the same time he began to collect all the items - traces of Russian history in Europe; coins, busts, prints, all that he found and it was a rich Russian Museum".



In this collection, of course, there are masterpieces and unique exhibits. Yet, the main value of the exhibition - not historical, but human. In 1914, when the First World started, Maltsev was expelled from Germany. He gave part of the collection to trusted people. Everything else was destroyed by the war, first one, then another.

"This is not just a collection of some items. In these objects lies a great story, the story of people. The people who were filled with very high feelings, lived in service to the Fatherland, indeed, compassion, tried to help their neighbor" - explains the director of the State Museum of Fine Arts Marina Loshak.

The idea of this museum - to show that Russia - is not the territory, marked by national borders. It is where there are people belonging to Russian culture. Russia is everywhere.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139503/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139503/)

## The first divine liturgy was held in Suvorov's church in many decades

August 15, 2015, about two hundred pilgrims, confessors and communicants of the many towns and villages of Russia and even from abroad came for the first to the Church of St. Basil the Great, built by Alexander Suvorov - Prince of Italy, Count of Rymnik, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, Prince of Sardinia, Generalissimo of Russia's Ground and Naval forces - in the ancient village of Kistosh Suzdal, Vladimir region, for divine liturgy in many decades after closure, desolation and destruction.

Eulogy to serve the liturgy made His Eminence, Metropolitan Vladimir and Suzdal, assisted by more than ten priests. Joy and jubilation overwhelmed the heart and soul of all the participants in this historic event! In the Liturgy participated Olga Kulikovskaya-Romanova, the widow of Tikhon Nikolayevich Kulikovskiy-Romanov, the eldest son of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna of Kulikovskiy-Romanov, the sister of the Emperor - the Tsar-martyr saint Nicholas Romanov.



Before the beginning of the Liturgy, representatives of the Foundation "St. Boniface Martyr" and the public organization "Moscow Suvorov" donated to Suvorovskiy church particles of the holy relics of soldiers patrons; St. George, Demetrius of Thessalonica, Theodore Stratelates, the holy and righteous warrior Feodor Ushakov, Admiral of the Russian Navy, a contemporary of Alexander Suvorov. Previously, they had handed over to the church of the particle of the holy relics of St. Basil the Great.

Donations for the restoration of the church Suvorov came from the Vladimir Diocese of Belarus and the Ukraine, Switzerland and Germany, from Sakhalin and Siberia, the Urals and the Far East. About 1.100 people and more than 30 organizations made donations for the reconstruction of the church.

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## Interactive exhibition of Oldenburg and Romanov will be in Ramon

14.08.2015. TV-Gubernia - Large-scale reconstruction of the family castle of Oldenburg in Ramon area continues. The first stage covered the park ensemble in front and some parts of the palace. Now conservators undertook the house of the prince's suite. A two-storey wing is prepared to the life of a museum.

According to the designers, renovated building will house a modern interactive exhibition. Under the ceiling will be installed video projectors, which allow guests to immerse themselves in the atmosphere of the era. There will be genuine items such as postcards, painted by hand of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, and a set of cans of chocolates, which were made on the family's biscuit factory. Several exhibits for the future museum presented Tatiana Gordeeva, wife of the governor of Voronezh Region.



In addition, one of the rooms will be converted into an old photo studio, stylized Gagra in early 20th century. Few people know that it was there that Prince Alexander of Oldenburg founded the first health resort on the Caucasian coast.

Opening of the museum on the grounds of the castle are planned in the near future. Natalia Sarantseva, Head of the museum: "The exposition is planned to be interesting, it will reveal new facets of family relationships Oldenburg-Romanov. It tells about the character traits of these people. Well, of course, also their activities and charity, which in their lives has always occupied an important place."

Video - [http://tv-gubernia.ru/culture/pod\\_voronezhem\\_v\\_zamke\\_ol\\_denburgskih\\_razmestitsya\\_interaktivnaya\\_ekspozitsiya/](http://tv-gubernia.ru/culture/pod_voronezhem_v_zamke_ol_denburgskih_razmestitsya_interaktivnaya_ekspozitsiya/)

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## Sheremetev Palace is preparing for restoration

13.08.2015. Kultura. - The Sheremetev Palace in Ostankino is unique and before starting its restoration, it is necessary to ensure the preservation of all that is inside. Therefore, the first step was the conservation work.

Familiar to every Muscovite the museum-estate "Ostankino" is almost all made of wood - the wood sometimes cleverly disguised as marble, plaster or metal. The restoration of the estate has already been called the project of the century. There are extensive work in the theater hall, the Egyptian and the Italian pavilion.

The architectural ensemble in Ostankino finally formed at the turn of XVIII - XIX centuries. A traveler and an avid theater-goer, Count Nikolai Petrovich Sheremetev decided to create a theater there. 220 years ago, Count Sheremetev serf actors sang opera for the first time in the palace. There were no empty seats in the hall. The stage was equipped as one would say now, with the latest technology.



Within an hour after the show, it was transformed into a ballroom for special ceremonies. The scene was one of the biggest in Russia at that time. Depth - 20 meters. Engine room, make-up rooms. Now it is all hidden behind scaffolding, but there is still a magnificent acoustics. It is one of the few theater buildings of the XVIII century which survived to the present day. "This is a monument of nationwide values, particularly valuable. To it a lot of attention.

According to preliminary estimates, the restoration will take about 5 years. But it will not only revived the building, but also the theatrical tradition. Ostankino will again put works that saw even the Count Sheremetev himself.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139242/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139242/)

### **The First Hierarchy of the Russian Church Abroad Calls Upon the Mayor of Moscow to Remove Petr Voikov's Name From the Map of the Capital**

August 11. New York - His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York, the First Hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, called upon Mayor Sergey Sobyenin of Moscow to remove the name of Petr Voikov, one of the organizers of the murder of the Royal Family, from the maps of the capital.



"We know of your reasonable and constructive position on this serious and long-overdue matter. We pray and hope that the Municipality of Moscow adopt the only true, lawful and historically-founded decision to remove the name of Petr Voikov from the map of Moscow," states the letter address to Mr Sobyenin.

The existence of this name on the map of the capital "prevents the healing of wounds brought about by the Civil War, and enables the artificial support of division within the Russian people," noted His Eminence. He pointed out that Voikov was "one of the darker and repulsive personas in the history of Russia, and we cannot find a single positive action in his life."

"Terrorism, the organization of the lawless and beastly vengeance against the defenseless Royal Family and their aides, then the hiding of evidence of this crime through the destruction of the remains of the executed bodies with fire and sulfuric acid, and the subsequent sale of the treasures of the Diamond Fund and the Hermitage's holdings at a heavy discount are on the resume of this unprincipled and cruel man," the letter states.

The letter goes on to say that society has unsuccessfully been requesting the removal of Voikov's name from the map of Moscow for a quarter century, and that "this evokes surprise among Russian people who live in various countries of the world, to foreigners with a friendly, positive and loving attitude towards Russia, who understand her role in the world and wish her the greatness and prosperity."



Metropolitan Hilarion is especially troubled and bewildered by the “planned naming of the renovated metro station on the Ring Line in honor of Voikov.” As His Eminence noted, this means that “the securing for posterity of the name of this evil terrorist and executioner continues.”

Mayor Sobyenin had earlier declared in an interview with the radio station Govorit Moskva that the municipal authorities are prepared to rename the Voikov Metro Station. This idea was supported by the Russian Orthodox Church and other social organizations.

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## Restoration of the Kuban Cossack Army banners began

10.08.2015. Kultura - A historic collection of the 99 flags of the Kuban Cossack troops like a detective. In 1920, they were taken out of Russia, hiding them from the Bolsheviks in Belgrade. In 1941, the boxes of relics was damaged by fire after a bombing. Some banners and certificates were stolen, and the rest was transferred to Germany. In the late '40s, when there was a mass resettlement of Cossacks overseas the banners went to New Jersey in America. There they were stored until 2007. By this time their state were extremely poor. It was decided to send them to Moscow, to the State Research Institute of Restoration.

Each of these banners - a sacred and valuable relic. You can say "icon" of the regiment, which has always traveled with the army. To lose a banner or leave it on the field of battle was a disgrace. Even badly damaged banners Cossacks kept.

"There was a ceremony of awarding banners - nailing the flag to a pole with the blessing of the church, and here you can see how many nails were nailed. It has always been that the first nail hammered the Emperor "- said art restorer Sofia Martyanova.



Some of the banners donated by emperors are now in restoration. For example, a two-sided banner - Nicholas I gave it to the Cossack army of in honor of an anniversary. Alexander II gave - "For the conquest of the Western Caucasus." and there's more - "For the Defense of Sevastopol", "for faithful service", "For the formation of Yeisk regiment." The extent of damage of the banners are high - especially at the edges and where on the pattern was applied oil paint.

"There is quite a big loss, it is in a rather bad condition. It needs to be straightened, washed thoroughly, and have removed all later accretions. Then, when it is laid out, we will understand where some parts are missing and what technology to be used," - commented Director GosNIIR Dmitry Antonov.

The banners will not be renovated completely. The drawings and inscriptions are not touch.

"It's considered unethical in relation to the subject matter. We retain the authenticity of the object", - explained Sophia Martyanova.

Through the microscope is remodeled tissue by adding threads. Under the fabric is sewn light lining to recreate its borders.

The restoration work is to be carried out over seven years. To date, more than half of the banners are made, they are transferred to the State Museum in the name of Felitsyn. And next year, the work on the restoration of banners is scheduled for completion.

The return of the entire collection to Krasnodar, will coincide with the celebration of the 320th anniversary of the Kuban Cossack Army.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139006/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139006/)

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### **Installation of a monument to Pyotr Stolypin begins in Chelyabinsk**

The director of the regional branch of the "Fund Stolypin Heritage Studies" Kirill Chiglintsev, told the idea of a monument appeared in late 2014. In the history of Chelyabinsk Pyotr Stolypin played a big role - August 12, 1910, he visited the city for a working visit to get acquainted with the work of the resettlement village. At that time, the Chelyabinsk colonization was considered one of the best in Russia with a capacity of up to ten thousand people a day.

After learning that the city was raging cholera Stolypin visited the city hospital, and took a number of decisions to successfully cope with the epidemic. In addition, Peter Stolypin visited Chelyabinsk Cathedral of Christ, which was on the site where now is the Opera and Ballet Theatre on the square of Yaroslavl.

- This is the reason to the choice of location for the monument - in front of the new Opera Hall, the former cinema "Rodina", in the old, historic part of the city - said Kirill Chiglintsev.

He stressed that the appearance of the monument in Chelyabinsk will not be like any of the existing ones in Russia. Our monument will be different as Stolypin is dressed for the road in an overcoat, holding his documents, since his trip to Chelyabinsk was working.







The monument made of bronze was molded in Smolensk. The monument is to be installed in an area of 15 by 15 meters, with the pedestal made of granite, decorated with a bas-reliefs of Kaslin casting of historical topics. Around the monument will be installed benches, lamps, urns. The lighting will be in harmony with the illumination of the building of the Organ Hall - said Kirill Chiglintsev.

The author of the monument is the famous Moscow sculptor Anton Plohotsky. The height of the monument is 3 meters 60 centimeters, in total with pedestal 8 meters 60 centimeters.

Opening of the monument is scheduled for November 22 - on this day was launched the agrarian reform which Stolypin developed. The monument is being built on donations.

### Bust of Nicholas II opened in northern Kazakhstan



In northern Kazakhstan, in the village Archangel near the city of Petropavlovsk was installed a bust of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II (1868-1918). The initiative belongs to the native Peter Wagner. The monument is made by a master from the Chelyabinsk region of Russia - in famous Kaslin casting.

Installing the bust cost Wagner two million tenge (about \$ 10.5 thousand). In the near future he intends to proceed with the creation of a "Weeping Cross."

At the church, where in the revolution were executed priests is found an underground source of healthy water. "It will go up in a large bowl at the cross, which is built on eight-arbor" - said about the idea of his project Wagner.

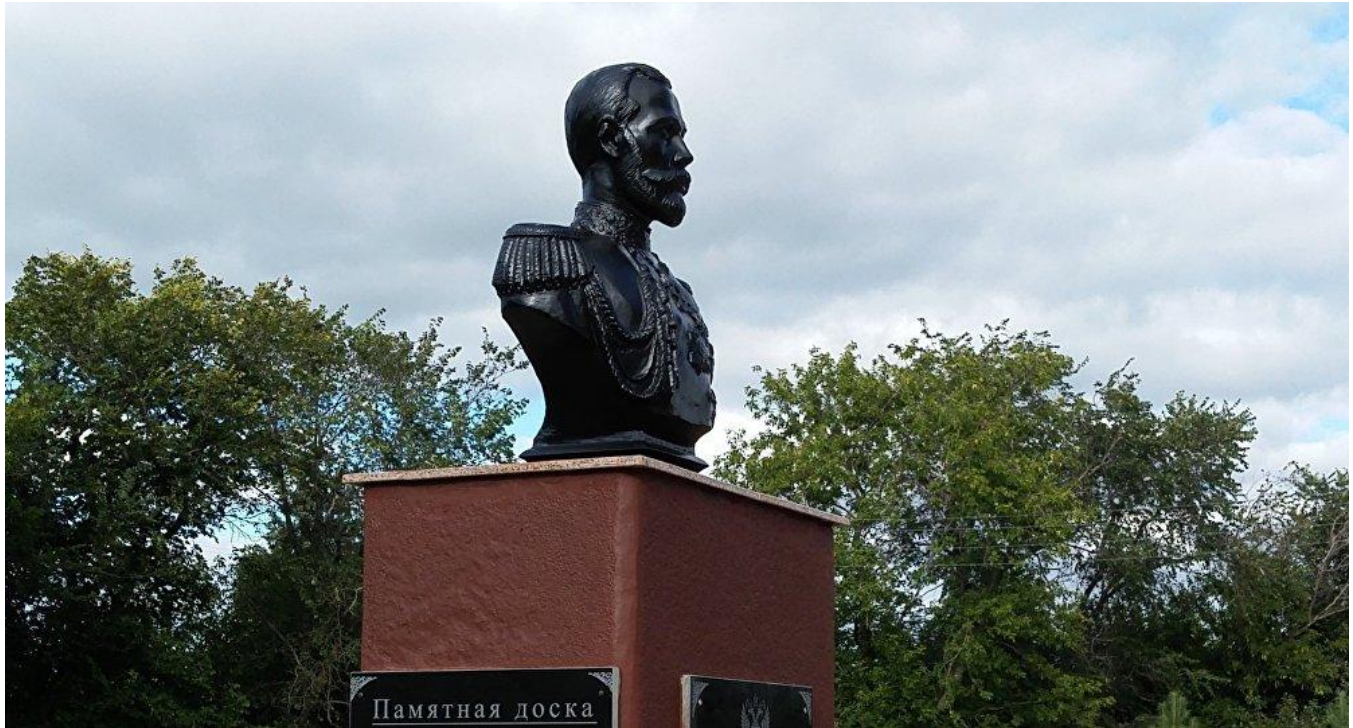
### The monument to Nicholas II in North-Kazakhstan was dismantled on the decision of the authorities

On August 9, the monument to Nicholas II, set in private grounds of the church complex in the North-

Kazakhstan region to commemorate the visit of Emperor, has been dismantled by the decision of the authorities, it was reported by the businessman Peter Wagner. According to him the bust was installed in the village of Arkhangelsk in the Church in honor of the Archangel Michael on July 31. The monument was made of cast iron. Entrepreneur spent on its production two million tenge.

However, information about the installation of the monument has caused a stir in social networks - some users stated that the installation of the monument was fueling national discord, since Nicholas II suppressed the rebellion of the Kazakhs in 1916, others defended the view that this is only a religious event.





According to parishioners, August 9 arrived to the village representatives of the regional and district local government offices, accompanied by police officers. With them came a crane, which immediately began to dismantle the monument. "At the direction of local government workers have removed the bust and plate with information about the event. Some now say that with my consent monument the was removed, but I stress - a consent to the dismantling, of course, I did not give. It's sacrilege, how can agree to it, "- complains the entrepreneur.



According to him, now the Holy Martyr bust is lying on the floor of the church, along with the commemorative plate. "Let the public now solve where this monument should stand - in the church or in its place - in the church complex. I am now accused of inciting ethnic hatred, it is absurd. The goal was something good - to commemorate the historic event for the village about the visit of the Emperor "- Wagner noted.

The Head of the Regional Administration for Religious Affairs Muratbek Zeinullin explained that "the bust was installed without the permission of the State Commission for Monuments."



## In Pskov opened a second monument to the soldiers of World War I

In Pskov, on the Great Embankment (near the house №4 St. George Street), on August 6, was inaugurated the second monument in the city to the soldiers of the First World War - a work of sculptor Alexander Palmin - not far from the school building №1, where during the war was housed the headquarters of the Northern Front.



Opening of the monument on this day was timed to the 100th anniversary of the feat of the commander of the 13th Company of the 26th Regiment Zemlyansky, the Russian Imperial Army Lieutenant Vladimir Kotlin. On this day in 1915, he died in the defense of the fortress of Osowiec (Poland), leading a bayonet counterattack after the Germans had used chemical weapons. The attack of 13th company knocked the Germans from the positions they occupied and plunged them into a flight. This event became known as the "Attack of the Dead."



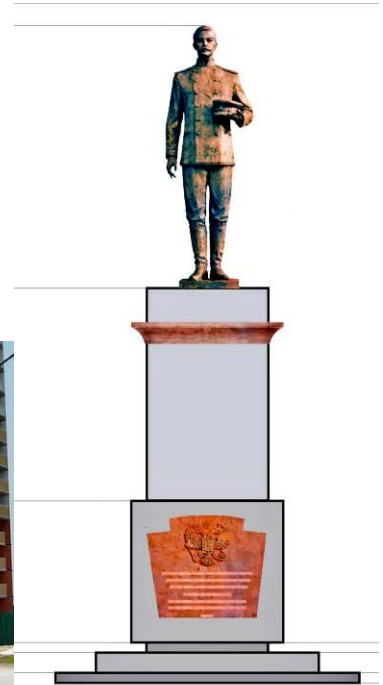
The monument was commissioned by the Pskov museum-reserve. A place for its installation has been selected on the initiative of the Russian military-historical society (RVIO) with the support of the Administration of the Pskov region.

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## Fund "Historical Heritage" raises funds for a monument Tsarevich Nicholas

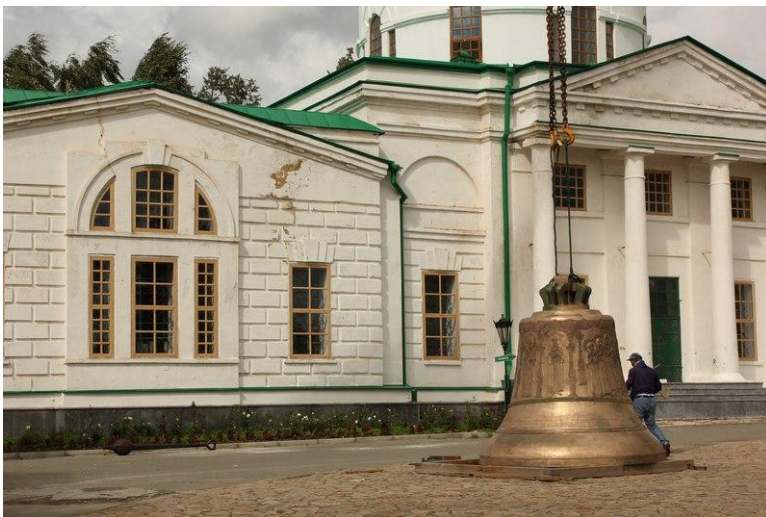
The fund "historical heritage" project to install a monument in Chita Tsarevich Nicholas, who later became Emperor Nicholas II and Tsar Martyr, as well as for improvement of the Cossack area in the district "Imperial" has received 120 thousand rubles, which has sent as a series of organizations, and individuals. This reported in the fund.

- The information came from Australia, where the collection of funds for the monument has been done by a descendant of Chita Transbaikial Cossack Semyon Boyko. In addition, in the newspaper "Russian abroad", which is published on the green continent, was published the first list of those who gave the funds to build the monument Tsarevich. In total for the monument and landscaping areas are needed five to seven million rubles.



### **The giant bell "Nicholas II" was installed in St. Nicholas monastery**

04.08.2015. Obltv. - The bell is the third largest in the Archdiocese of Yekaterinburg. It had already received the name "Nicholas II", and the shrine weighs more than 16 tons. Six months it was waiting for the hoisting into the bell tower of the Transfiguration Cathedral for one reason only - needed to expand the arch of the belfry, otherwise the bell did not go it. With the raising of "Nicholas II" the monastery finally got its voice.



Archdeacon Dmitry Bazhanov, chief bell ringer of the Yekaterinburg diocese: "Since it is a monument of architecture, the required approvals, have been obtained less than a month ago. After this will be installed the remaining 12 bells weighing from 6 kg to 1140 kg, within a month and a half.





The bell was made in Kamensk-Uralsky factory Pyatkova. On the creation of the giant was worked for about a month. It depicts the icons: St. Nicholas, Andrew, Emperor Nicholas and the Royal Passion Bearers and the Trinity.

Video -

<http://www.oblty.ru/news/culture/kolokol-gigant-nikolay-ii-stal-golosom-verkhoturuskogo-monastyrya/>

## Jewelry Charity Ball will be held in Moscow

September 30, 2015 in the Hall of Celebrations "Jewelers Guild of Russia" for the third time will be a traditional Charity Ball Jewelry. The event is aimed at revival and preservation of the best traditions of Russian culture, uniquely combines different art forms - dance, music, jewelry, fashion-design. The celebration is held annually in the best traditions of Russian culture-point.

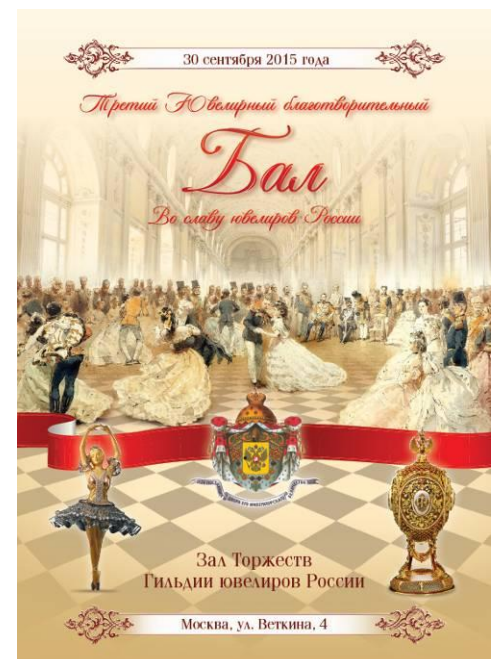
This year, it is timed to several important anniversaries:

- 185 years since the birth of the outstanding Russian jeweler Pavel Ovchinnikov,
- 150 years from the date of assignment of the company P.Ovchinnikova title of Supplier of the Imperial Household,
- 130 years since the first Imperial Easter egg by Faberge (artist Mikhail Perkhin),
- 70 Years of Victory in the Great Patriotic War and the Year of Literature in Russia,
- 45 years since the establishment of the experimental group of jewelers in the Gokhran.

The guests will be representatives of government agencies, the business elite, large enterprises and investment companies, the leading art critics and collectors, managers and numerous representatives of jewelry companies from all over Russia, as well as the stars of show business.

Bal guests of honor will be: the great-grandson of Pavel Ovchinnikov, Professor, Doctor of Medical Sciences Alexey Ovchinnikov, the great-great-grandson of Alexander III, Paul E. Kulikovskiy (as Alexander III commissioned Faberge firm to make the first Easter egg); and veterans of the Great Patriotic War.

During the Charity Ball Jewellery auction of jewelry and a charitable lottery will take place. On the collected funds will be established a nominal annual scholarships for the best students of the college named after P. Ovchinnikov. In previous years, proceeds from the collection in the charity program were used to purchase a multimedia class for children with disabilities enrolled in the jewelry business Polytechnic College № 13 named after P. Ovchinnikov and the restoration of the plaque on the grave of a prominent jeweler Ivan Khlebnikov in St. Saviour Andronikov Monastery.



## Catherine the Great's collection from the Hermitage is in Australia

In Australia, the capital of Victoria - Melbourne - opened July 31 an exhibition of fine art from the personal collection of Russian Empress Catherine II. Hermitage Museum and National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), along with Australia Fund has prepared the unique exhibition with 400 works of art. This is 90 paintings and objects of art, including a gold toilet set of 32 items, with a mirror of 400 diamonds and Cameo Service Sevres porcelain of the 18th century. Among the paintings are Rembrandt, Velazquez, Rubens and Titian.

The Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Daniel Andrews MP said: 'Masterpieces from the Hermitage: The Legacy of Catherine the Great will showcase treasures from one of the largest, oldest and most visited museums in the world. Another major event for Melbourne, this exhibition will provide visitors with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see first-hand the extraordinary personal collection of Catherine the Great, drawn from the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg.'

NGV Director, Tony Ellwood said, 'This exhibition celebrates the tenacity and vision of a true innovator in the arts. Catherine the Great's inexhaustible passion for the arts, education and culture heralded a renaissance, leading to the formation of one of the world's great museums, the Hermitage.'

"Masterpieces from the Hermitage: The Legacy of Catherine the Great" will be at NGV International from 31 July – 8 November 2015.

Video - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2uAvnMCXjw>



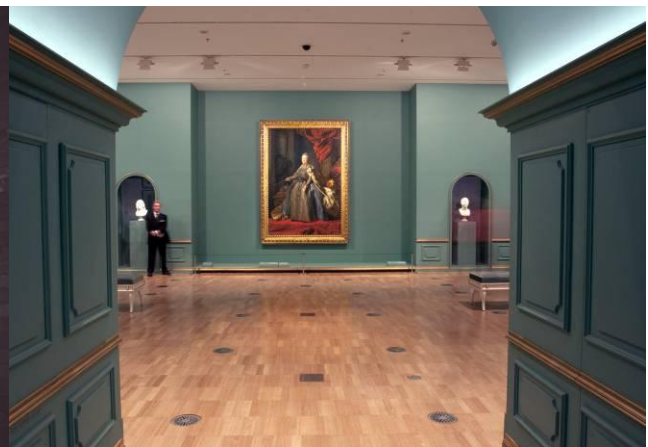
# HERMITAGE

MELBOURNE WINTER MASTERPIECES

MASTERPIECES FROM THE HERMITAGE

The Legacy of Catherine the Great

31 July – 8 November









**The exhibition "Ivan the Terrible and Alexei the Quietest: Dialogue between the two sovereigns" in Kolomenskoye.**



31 July to 15 November

Moscow State United Museum-Reserve "Kolomenskoye, Izmailovo, Lefortovo-Lublin" has prepared the exhibition "Ivan the Terrible and Alexei Quietest: dialogue between the two sovereigns." Opening of the exhibition is timed to the 370th anniversary of the reign of Alexei Mikhailovich Romanov. The exhibition will run from 31 July to 15 November 2015 in the exhibition halls of Kolomenskoye.

For the museum-reserve are these two persons of special interest, on the one hand, the identity of the Tsars Ivan the Terrible and Alexei Mikhailovich, who have contributed to the formation of the ensemble of Kolomenskoye, on the other hand, the interest of Alexei Mikhailovich to Ivan the Terrible, influenced the design of Kolomenskoye and Izmailovo residences in the third quarter of the XVII century. Kolomenskoye was a favorite residence of the two tsars and an architectural monument which chronicled the "dialogue" between the two reigns.

However, the exhibition goes far beyond local issues. With the help of exposure and interactive media is revealed where the views of Ivan the Terrible and Alexei Mikhailovich came close. It is notions of imperial power, the policy in the military sphere, legislative and judicial activities of the monarch, a foreign policy conception of the symphony of the priesthood and kingdom, church building, the construction of suburban residences and veneration of certain saints.

The exhibition tells about the theme of power, issues of public policy and political decision-making, the role of "following the model of" public life in Russia. A better understanding of these mechanisms contributes to the political socialization of citizens and the development of civic consciousness.

Video - <http://www.otr-online.ru/news/v-kolomenskom-otkrilas-46763.html>







On the territory of the Armenian church in Moscow a bust of Nicholas II will be established. Bust of Saint martyr Nicholas II is planned to erect in the territory of museum and church complex Novo-Nakhichevan, the Russian Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Moscow. The initiator of the installation of a bronze bust of the last Russian Emperor, is Alexander Dolinin, the secretary of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society. As recalled by the spokesman, Nicholas II rescued a considerable part of the Armenian people, after the genocide which was launched in 1915 by the Turks in the Ottoman Empire. On the personal order of the Tsar, Russian troops have taken a number of measures as a result more than 1.6 million Armenians were saved.

The idea supported by the head of Novo-Nakhichevan and Russian Diocese Archbishop Yezras (Nersisyan). He plans to inaugurate the bust in the framework of an international conference on the Armenian Genocide, which will be held October 23-24 at the museum.

The Armenian museum in Moscow, which began work in April 2015 - the first outside of Armenia, and the church complex, which opened in September, 2013 - the largest spiritual center of Armenians outside of Armenia. 2015 marks the centenary of the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire.



In the Engineering Building of the Tretyakov Gallery is being prepared an exhibition "Simon Ushakov. The Royal icon-painters of the XVII century".

"Ushakov - the founder and theoretician of the new style of painting. His influence on the development of Russian art is difficult to overestimate. But such a large-scale monographic exhibition of his work opens for the first time." This is the first solo exhibition by Simon Ushakov and his pupils. The idea was born 30 years ago but only now it is possible to implement it. An active preparation was for last two years. Icons, archival materials, prints - more than a hundred works. Many will be presented for the first time.

A lot of the icons made by Ushakov survived to our time, but most distorted by later entries and restorations. For the exhibition was carried out a series of studies. This has allowed to identify and articulate the artistic features of the language and techniques of icon painter, as well as to establish the true date of the creation of many works. For example, an icon with a double titled "In Praise of the Vladimir Icon of the Mother of God" or "Tree of the Russian State" with an inscription dating was blocked by a picturesque layer of the XIX century. As a result, it was able to establish the true date - 1663. This work is unique.

"In the icon the Metropolitan and the Prince poured from a vessel to this tree: the spiritual and state, secular authority nurture this tree, on its branches there are 20 medallions with Saints and real participants of Russian history, which contributed to the glorification of the Russian state," - says head of the department of ancient Russian art of the Tretyakov Gallery Natalya Sheredega.

The exhibition "Simon Ushakov - The Royal icon-painters" opens September 8 - the day of celebration of the Presentation of the Vladimir Icon of the Mother of God.



An estate memorabilia collection belonging to Vancouver impresario Hugh Pickett consists of 800 lots, including movie posters, antiques, furniture, art, and hundreds of autographed photographs of some of Hollywood's most renowned actors, will be put up for auction at the end of this month.

One of the items is a Fabergé napkin (serviette) ring given by Marlene Dietrich to Hugh Pickett.

See it in the video at about 52 seconds into the report.

Video - <http://globalnews.ca/news/2166588/watch-impressive-collection-of-vancouver-impresario-to-go-on-the-auction-block/>





A video series about the history of Russian porcelain in four part:

Part 1 - It was called the "Chinese miracle", "white gold" and at festive table with porcelain ate only kings and emperors, courtiers were satisfied with gold and silver plates and cups - it was cheaper.

[http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/32656/episode\\_id/187083/video\\_id/187083/viewtype/picture/](http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/32656/episode_id/187083/video_id/187083/viewtype/picture/)

Part 2 - It seems, that on tea sets, ceremonial vases and elegant figurines you can read the entire history of imperial Russia - since the days of the founder of the "Porcelain Manufactory" Elizabeth's reign until the last autocrat, Nicholas II.

[http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/32656/episode\\_id/187085/video\\_id/187085/viewtype/picture/](http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/32656/episode_id/187085/video_id/187085/viewtype/picture/)

Part 3 - It would seem that the revolution and the civil war had shattered the subtle art of refined porcelain. But it happened quite differently. The royal monogram on the plates were replaced by slogans such as "who does not work shall not eat!".

[http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/32656/episode\\_id/187090/video\\_id/187090/viewtype/picture/](http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/32656/episode_id/187090/video_id/187090/viewtype/picture/)

Part 4 - The fourth film cycle tell about the recent history of porcelain and contemporary artists.

[http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/32656/episode\\_id/185538/video\\_id/185538/viewtype/picture/](http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/32656/episode_id/185538/video_id/185538/viewtype/picture/)



Russian Geographical Society celebrated its 170th anniversary. The decree establishing it was signed by Emperor Nicholas I on August 18, 1845. Original known as the Imperial Russian Geographical Society, based in Saint Petersburg, it promotes exploration and geography with research programmes in fields, including oceanography and ethnography. The Society's official presidents were Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolayevich of Russia in 1845-92 and Grand Duke Nicholas Mikhailovich of Russia in 1892-1917, but actually it was run by the Vice-Presidents: Fyodor Litke (1845–50, 1855–57), Count Mikhail Muravyov (1850–57), Pyotr Semyonov-Tyan-Shansky (1873-1914), and Yuly Shokalsky (1914-31). The filial societies were established at the Caucasus (1850), Irkutsk (1851), Vilnius (1867), Orenburg (1868), Kiev (1873), Omsk (1877), and other cities. The Society pioneered the systematic exploration of the Northern Urals in 1847-50, of the farthest reaches of the Amur River in 1854-63, of the vast areas of Kashgaria, Dzungaria, and Mongolia from the 1870s onward.

The Society changed its name to the State Geographical Society in 1926 and to the Geographical Society of the USSR in 1938.

The society reverted to the name Russian Geographical Society upon the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991.



A monument to the outstanding Russian naval commander Admiral Feodor Ushakov will be established at the Naval cathedral in Kronstadt. According to the decision of the government of St. Petersburg, the sculpture will be in front of the northern entrance to the St. Nicholas Naval Cathedral. The Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture says the constructor to perform work on the design, manufacture, installation of the monument and landscaping of the adjacent territory, is the local religious organization Orthodox Parish of St. Nicholas Naval Cathedral city of Kronstadt.

"Financing of the works related to the design, manufacture, installation of the monument and landscaping of the adjacent territory at the expense of budgetary funds", - noted in the Committee.

The monument project has already been completed by the sculptor Vladimir Gorev. This is a sculpted full-length portrait of Admiral Ushakov on a pedestal.

The sculpture - 2.75 m, it is made of bronze and the pedestal height of 1.75 m - of polished granite.







Belarusian Orthodox Church held August 14 consecration and installation of the cross on the dome of the Jubilee House - a historic building on Independence Avenue near October Square. The ceremony attended Metropolitan Paul. After the consecration and prayer, the cross was installed on the dome of the Jubilee House. Jubilee house - a monument of architecture of the early twentieth century, built on the donations of people on the territory of the monastery of Bishops in 1913, to the 300th anniversary of the Romanov House. Before the revolution it housed the church and the archaeological museum and the clergy meetings held in Minsk.



Some Cossacks of St. Petersburg started to issue their own money with a portrait of Nicholas II and Putin. The Union of Cossacks "Irbis" in St. Petersburg started the production of its own currency. The money are produced for domestic consumption in Cossack's community. According to Ataman Andrey Polyakov, the beginning of



the issue of bank notes is due to the fact that among Cossacks are simply not enough money. "Money has become less, so we decided that we would thus help the Cossacks. With money, Altyn and Bachelet community members will be able to pay for tuition at the Cossack cadet college, repair of household appliances on our farm and buy products that are produced there. And also pay in the barbershop."- he told reporters.

According to Polyakov is printed more than half a million notes, which depicts Emperor Nicholas II, Vladimir Putin, himself Ataman Andrei Polyakov, military commander of the Patriotic War of 1812, Alexei Yermolov, and other well-known personalities.



August 20, 1875, 140 years ago, a historical event took place - a solemn ceremony in which Emperor Alexander II personally laid the first brick in the foundation of the building to be the Historical Museum in Moscow. The building of the Historical Museum was originally built specifically to house the unique collection, which has no equal in any other museum. It was originally planned to place the museum along the Kremlin wall. But in the spring of 1874, the Moscow City Duma gave the museum the area in the northern part of the Red Square, which was purchased from the city treasury for the construction of the building of the Duma. In May of the same year Tsarevich Alexander Alexandrovich (future emperor Alexander III) approved the "Instructions for the construction of the Museum", and a year later the project was announced - the winner of the contest, submitted by architect V.O. Sherwood and engineer A.A. Semenov. August 8, 1875 the project received "the highest approval", and work began on the construction of the foundation.





An exhibition about Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna - "Road to holiness" was opened in The Museum of Russian Art, in Minneapolis, USA on August 28. It is the third in its series of short-term pop-up exhibitions of historical photographs, images, and related objects. Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna: Path to Holiness was only on display in the Main Gallery between August 28 and 31, 2015. Remembering the life and works of Grand Duchess Elizabeth (Romanov), the exhibition includes forty-seven photographs of the Grand Duchess and her family, as well as several contemporary photographs of the related memorial sites. Organized in 2014 in commemoration of the 150th anniversary since the birth of Grand Duchess Elizabeth, the exhibition is presented in partnership with the Russian Cultural Foundation, Washington, DC, and the Elisabethan-Sergius Educational Society, Moscow, Russia.



Gatchina palace is to be decorated with four copies of paintings by Hubert Robert. Among his admirers was Emperor Paul I and his wife Maria Feodorovna. The grand-ducal couple, traveling in Europe under the name of Nordic counts, ordered four decorative panels that later adorned the Greek gallery of Gatchina Palace. The paintings were moved to Pavlovsk Palace in 1853, and later became the cause of a serious dispute between the two museum reserves. Their transfer back to Gatchina would mean a violation of the integrity of the unique collection of Pavlovsk, and in this case, the two museums have found a compromise - to copy the originals. The task was given to an experts of the Academy of Arts.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139711/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139711/)



In St. Petersburg continues restoration projects of famous monuments. This year, for the restoration of cultural heritage of St. Petersburg is allocated about three billion rubles. Specialists are working in the Kazan Cathedral, Anichkov Palace, facades of the Vladimir Church and the Church of the Resurrection, the Sheremetev Palace and the Yusupov Palace. Vladimir Cathedral is shrouded in a protective mesh. Crosses had to be taken down because of an emergency condition, and leakage did not spare the church vaults. The Sheremetev Palace on the Fontanka is preparing for a restoration of the White living room. "There was a very beautiful ceiling, and it is partly painted and gilded anew. The walls was covered with white silk", - says Natalya Metelitsa, director of the St. Petersburg State Museum of Theatre and Music. A new exhibition in the White living room after restoration will be devoted to the collection of Russian emperors.

The Yusupov Palace after the restoration have started the Moorish fountain in the center of the living room.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/139888/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/139888/)



English TV channel BBC is making a "History of the Romanovs" documentary. Staff at the BBC has asked for help from the staff of "Mosfilm". The fact is that the British channel is to shoot a new series of its famous documentaries. In addition to make the television series "War and Peace", based on the novel by Leo Tolstoy, it is planned to show a series of programs titled "History of the Romanovs," in which the famous British Lucy Worsley, who oversees the royal palaces of Great Britain, tells of three centuries of rule of the Russian royal dynasty.

One part will be devoted to the series of reforms of Peter I, including reforms in the field of fashion. It is here that "Mosfilm" will be useful, as they can supply appropriate costumes.

According to the producer of the Russian part of the project Mikhail Smetnik - the European team is going to carry out shooting in the Moscow Kremlin, the museum-panorama "The Battle of Borodino" and Kuskovo, the Tretyakov Gallery and other historical places of Moscow.





On September 1, in Yakutsk, Picture Gallery of Academician A.N. Osipova opens the large-scale exhibition "Look in the eye of the war. Russia in World War I in the newsreels, photographs, documents." The exhibition is organized by the State Museum and Exhibition Center "ROSIZO" and the Ministry of Culture and Spiritual Development of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) in collaboration with the National Art Museum of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) and the IIP "Multidimensional technology."

This war is often called Russia's "forgotten" - its memory erased by many of the tragic events that followed. The exhibition tells the story of the great moments of history through original documents, newsreels, photographs, letters, maps, major battles, eyewitness accounts, postcards and posters, documents, war heroes from museums and archives of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Serbia, Germany and the UK. The exhibition presents about 500 multimedia copies of items, among which you can see the unique documents that determined the course of history of the twentieth century, including the correspondence of Emperor Nicholas II, European monarchs and commanders of the armies, the diaries of Nicholas II and Tsarevich Alexei, a farewell order to the army, signed the last Russian Tsar, the documents of the Provisional Government, photographic albums of the imperial family and regimental records. Specially created for the exhibition is a series of 15 short documentary films based on unique newsreels filmed at different front lines, themed interactive panel, military marches, songs and couplets in authentic performance create a sense of the effect of personal presence in the thick of things. The most important part of the exhibition will be an interactive installation "River of Time" series that tells about the events of the war. Vivid artistic images, dynamic scenography, together with the unique archival documents, posters and photographs, immersed visitors into the atmosphere of war, allow a deeper plunge into an era literally "look into the eyes of the war" and "hear" it.



Monument to Count Peter Shuvalov, the founder of the city, will open on September 2 in Izhevsk. This was told by the deputy head of the city administration Dmitry Cosmin.

"Monument will have a height of 5 meters. The height of the figure of the Count is 2.5 meters. It is located in a park next to Shuvalov's administration building", - said Cosmin. We created the monument in Kasli, the city in the Urals, which is known for its iron casting.

"He's just beautiful! The figure it agreed with the Russian museum" - assured the representative of the city authorities.

Count Peter Ivanovich Shuvalov (1711 - 1762 years) - The head of the Russian government at the end of the reign of Elizabeth, Field Marshal, conference minister, Chamberlain, Senator, the reformer and the inventor. His name is connected the foundation of many industrial and mining enterprises, such as the Votkinsk ironworks (built in 1757-1759 years) and Izhevsk ironworks (built in the years 1760-1763) and others.



At the Edinburgh Theatre festival was shown the play "Romanovs" - A review by The Scotsman's Susan Mansfield said - "The Russian Revolution is over. The Tsar and his family are dead. But Lenin has a problem: the country is awash with people claiming to be Romanovs. This ambitious piece of fictional history by Livewire Theatre is set in the asylum in Ekaterinberg, allegedly opened to contain Romanov pretenders and prevent them undermining the new state. Here, a group of disparate individuals have formed themselves into a happy family of Romanovs bearing a striking resemblance to Tsar Nicholas, his wife and children.

They spend their time enjoying the good life as much as their imaginations will allow and acting out episodes from the family history.

Meanwhile, Anatole Levitsky, Lenin's right-hand man and the institution's chief inspector, is struggling with his own responsibilities in the new Russia, and three assassins in tattered greatcoats are intent on their own dark purpose.

Although the play is rather sprawling in its scope, there is some strong acting here, and a fascinating theme about the difficulties a country might have coming to terms with catastrophic change.

In fact, the scenario is imagined with such conviction that the audience is left somewhat confused about where fiction ends and truth begins."



The new documentary "Faberge. Lost and Found" - 44 min, made in 2015 (in Russian).

King of creativity, famous jeweler Carl Faberge has long been one of the recognizable symbols of Russia. The film tells about the history of the company "Faberge" and the dramatic fate of jewelry masterpieces. With filming in the private collection of Faberge Museum in Saint Petersburg.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/59639/episode\\_id/1224469/video\\_id/1214591/](http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/59639/episode_id/1224469/video_id/1214591/)



Just after the entrances to the Alexander Garden, at the Moscow Kremlin, has been laid some bronze relief maps of the garden. On them can be seen all the main attractions in the garden, including the Romanov obelisk and the Emperor Alexander I monument.



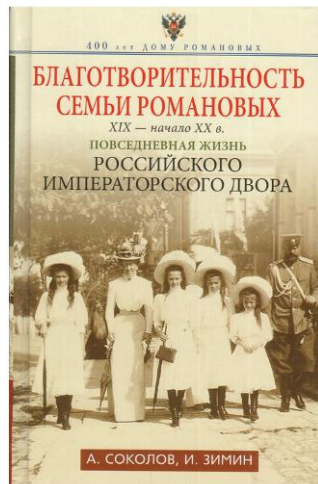
In honor of Russian Flag Day, from 19 to 22 August in the cozy (and old!) cinema "Banner" in Chelyabinsk, was shown the documentary series "The Romanovs. The history of the Russian dynasty" and the entrance was free. - To view the movies could anyone, but the sessions took place during the day - at 11:00 and 12:00. The documentary series "The Romanovs. The history of the Russian dynasty" came out on television screens in 2013, the year of the 400th anniversary of the accession of the House of Romanov in Russia.

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## Charity of the Romanov family. XIX - early XX century. The daily life of the Russian Imperial Court



Here is a continuation of a series about the life of Russian rulers. The book presents the results of a deep and comprehensive study of the charity activities of members of the imperial family during the XIX - early XX century. Welfare departments, committees, associations, and entered into their social welfare institutions conducted extensive support to various categories of the needy, it is sufficiently perfect for those times social assistance. The story of this is not only an "academic" interest because for the modern problem of attracting Russian social forces and means to the solution of social problems is extremely urgent. Much of the experience agencies and committees under the auspices of the House of Romanov can be claimed, and in our time.

*Publisher: Tsentrpoligraf, Moscow. Hard cover, size 130 x 200 mm, 604 pages. ISBN 978-5-227-06025-9*

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## Russian military-industrial policy. 1914-1917. State objectives and private interests



Can the status of military industry be an indicator of the level of economic and cultural development of the country? How successful did the Russian empire supplied their army rifles, guns and ammunition? The failures that were caused in this area? To what extent was it able to compensate the missing allied supply? Finding an answer to these questions is still a research challenge. The answers requires separate well-defined data sources, substantiated by facts and contrived constructions, trace the fate of the real big plans and projects, research of the interaction of state bodies and independent bodies from the power, and public initiative. The development of military industry is considered in the book in connection with the political and strategic decisions in light of the spiritual traditions of the Russian monarchy.

The book is intended for specialists in the field of military and economic history, as well as anyone interested in the history of the Russian armed forces, the causes of the crisis of power on the eve of 1917.

*Publisher: Tsentrpoligraf, Moscow. Hard cover, format 130 x 200 mm, 383 pages. ISBN 978-5-227-06136-2*

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Under the hammer...

**Romanov related items in Auctions**

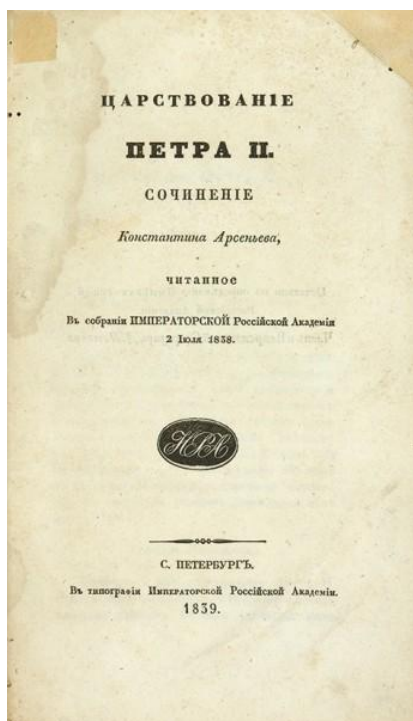


**Greenwich Auction, Stamford, CT, USA, on August 9**

Imperial Russian St George Order. Having a gold frame and pendant loop. White enamel work on both sides showing Saint George slaying the dragon, Cyrillic inscriptions, black and gold ribbon. Measures 2.25 by 1.5 inches.



**Nikitsky, Moscow, Russia, on August 20**

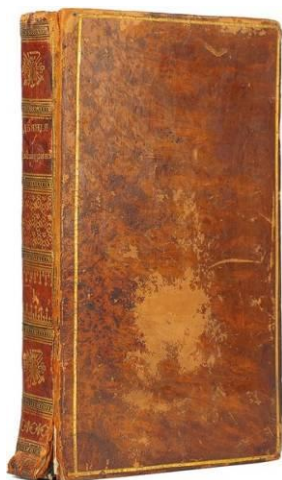


Reign of Peter II. Author Konstantin Arsenyev. The Imperial Russian Academy of July 2, 1838. In St. Petersburg. 150 pages. 23.5 x 14 cm. Estimate: 40,000 - 42,000 rubles.

Correspondence of the Grand Duchess Catherine Alexeyevna and British Ambassador Sir Charles G. Williams, 1756-1757. Published 1909. 361 pages. 26.5 x 17 cm. Bilingual Russian-French edition. Previous owner S.M. Goryainov, member of the Society of Russian History and Antiquities of the Moscow University, Estimate: 8,000 - 8,500 rubles.







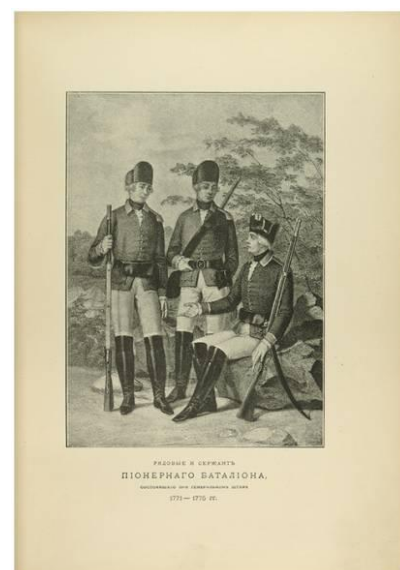
Acts of Catherine II and the All-Russian autocrats.  
The St. Petersburg. F. Drechsler, 1811. 19.5 x 12.5 cm. Leather bound.  
Estimate: 18,000 - 20,000 rubles.



The history of the Grenadier Sapper His Imperial Highness Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich battalion. 1797-1897 / comp. Captain V.A. Rakint, commander of the military telegraph companies of this battalion. Petersburg, Trinquier and Fyusno, 1897. 596 pages. 142 ill., maps., Fax., portraits. 30 x 22 cm. The luxury cloth cover with embossed polychrome on the front cover and spine.  
On the first blank sheet autograph Vladimir Alexandrovich Rakinta: "Dear friend of my high school and college Konstantin Velichko. B. Rakint. April 23, 1897 St. Petersburg".

Vladimir Rakint (1855 - not earlier than 1917) - general, participant in the Russian-Turkish war of 1877-1878, Russian-Japanese and World War I.

Konstantin Velichko (1856-1927) - engineer-general, the author of numerous works on fortification, a participant in the Russian-Japanese and World War I. After the February Revolution, Konstantin was appointed to the high office of the engineering field



inspector at the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander. In 1918, he voluntarily joined the Red Army.

"The history of the Grenadier sapper battalion" in 1897 was published in two forms. One of them - a luxurious, richly decorated, fully reflects the history of the regiment and an abridged version for the lower ranks. On the one hundred and forty two inset maps and drawings are presented, facsimiles, portraits of the rulers of persons of the highest personages, commanders, drawings uniforms, weapons, flags and more. Other - Abbreviations for the lower ranks. This copy is the full, luxuriously published. Estimate: 280,000 - 300,000 rubles.

***New Orleans Auction Galleries, New Orleans, LA, USA, on August 22***



Russian Iron Figure of a Czar (Alexander I), third quarter 19th century, mounted on an "Egyptian" marble base with rosso antico trim, the "romanticist on the throne" depicted standing with a sword at his side, h. 15", w. 4-1/4", d. 4-1/4". Estimated Price: \$1,200 - \$1,800

***Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on August 30***

Medal with Emperor Alexander II. French, produced by Bois Durci, in composit material, with eyelet. Price est.: Dkr 500 / € 67





***Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on August 31***



(Left) Painting by Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. An apple tree with red apples. Signed and dated Olga 1941. Watercolour on paper laid on paper. Sheet size 33 x 33 cm.  
Price est.: Dkr 10,000-12,000 / € 1,350-1,600



(Right) Painting by Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. A front yard near a yellow thatched house. Signed Olga. Oil on cardboard. 37 x 47 cm.  
Price est.: kr 4,000-6,000 / € 535-805

***Auction House "Empire", Moscow, Russia, on 12 September***



Emperor Nicholas I, his life and reign. By N.K. Schilder. 1903. Vol.1.: 472 p . ill. 24. Portraits 15. Vol.2. : 396 p . ill. 30 l. format 28,2 h x 20 cm. Each is individually bound in a compound of the late twentieth century. Estimate 150 000-180 000 rubles.



The history of Russian-Japanese War. Editor and publisher: M.E. Barhatov, and V.V. Funke. St. Petersburg. 1907. 1282 pages. Format 34,5h x 26 cm. Two cards of military operations on separate sheets, as well as many art-illustrated battle, municipal and various military imagery, maps and plans in text. Each volume in the composite cover publishing. Estimate 340 000-360 000 rubles



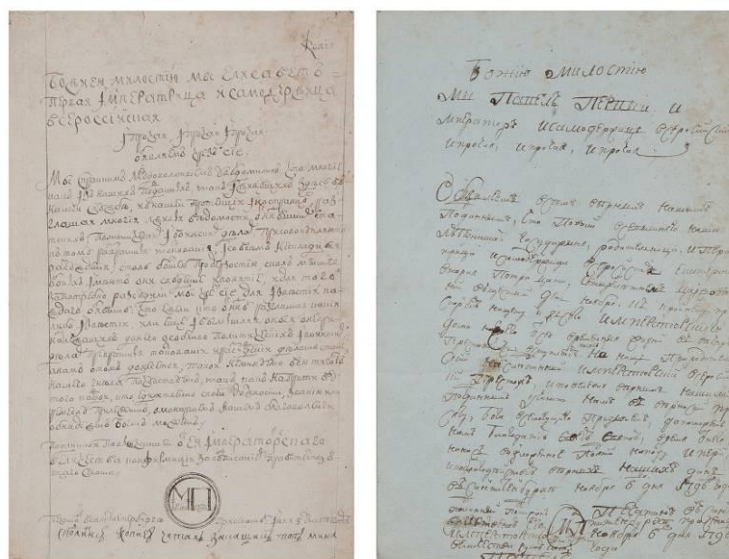
Tercentenary of the Romanov dynasty 1613-1913. Historical Essays. A. M. Ostroumova, 1913. 300 pages. 30,5h x 22,5 cm. Estimate 30.000-34.000 rub.



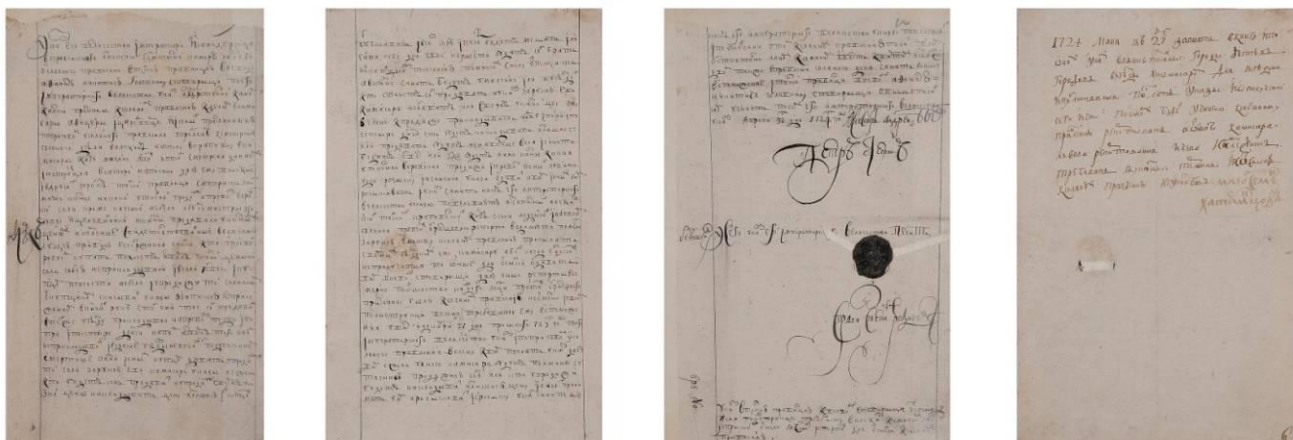
A selection of newspapers and flyers on 4th and 5th March, 1917 on the abdication of Nicholas II and Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich, as well as information about the difficult military situation from the Western Front. Estimate 5 000-6 000 rubles.

Decree of Empress Elizabeth. June 5, 1757. 33,3h x 21,2 cm. Estimate 1 000-2 000 rubles.

Decree of Emperor Paul I's accession to the throne. November 6, 1796. 34h x 22 cm. Estimate 1 000-2 000 rubles.



Decree of Emperor Peter I on the salt business. April 30, 1724 - 2 pp.; 31,8h x 21 cm. Preserved wax seal. Estimate 15 000-16 000 rub.

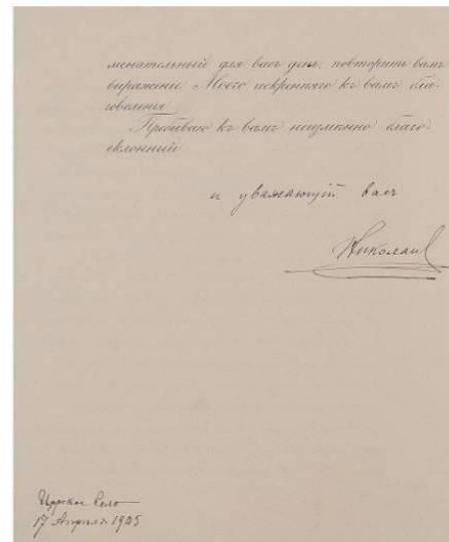
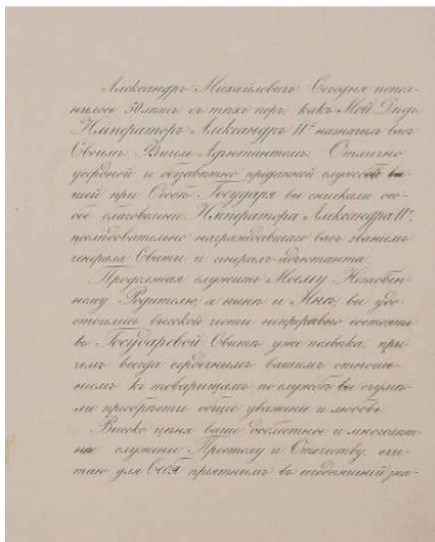






Document on awarding the Order of St. Vladimir 2nd degree to Admiral A.P. Yepanchin, signed by Emperor Alexander III and Count Vorontsov-Dashkov, December 22, 1891. 33,4h x 22,2 cm. Official stamp on the document, lost the sealing in wax. Alexey Pavlovich Yepanchin (1823-1913) - Russian admiral, military educator. Estimate 1 000-2 000 rubles.

Congratulatory letter from Emperor Nicholas II to General of Infantry Adjutant General Alexander Mikhailovich Ryleyev. 2 L . 20,4h x 25 cm.



The letter written April 17, 1905 in Tsarskoye Selo. The General is congratulated with 50 years of his stay in the retinue of His Imperial Majesty. The emperor has not only personally signed the letter, but also attributed the words "with respects to you."

Alexander Ryleyev (1830-1907), General of Infantry, Adjutant General. In 1854-1855 he was orderly with the Tsarevich (later Alexander II). Commander of the Guards and Grenadier Corps. In 1867 he was promoted to Major Generals and appointed to the retinue of His Majesty. 1873 Adjutant General. In 1890, promoted to general of infantry. Estimate 35 000-36 000 rub.

### Czerny's International Auction House, Sarzana, Italy, on 19 September

An honor shasqua. Curved, single -and false-edged blade, a fuller on most of the length (slight pitting); grip consisting in two iron halves, decorated with deep grooves; pommel with two valves featuring a dedication in Cyrillic engraved on both sides, underneath a laurel crown enclosing the monogram "A II". Dimensions: length 97 cm. Russia, 19th Century. Estimated Price: €2,500 - €3,200





5 Rubel 1800, era of Emperor Paul I. St. Petersburg. Gold. 6.55 g.  
Estimated price: 4,000.00 €



Gold medal on the coronation of emperor Alexander II, 1856. Made by A. and M. Lyalin Kuchkin.  
Bust Emperor Alexander II facing right // Crowned double eagle with scepter and orb in its claws, on the chest the St. George shield, around the chain of the Order of St. Andrew, on the wings additional coats of arms, on the top imperial crown. 64.73 mm; 173.37 g. Gold.  
Estimated price: 50,000.00 €





Bronze medal in memory of the 4th International Congress on criminal security in St. Petersburg, 1890. Unsigned, but by A. Griliches jr. Bust Emperor Alexander III facing right, between two stars // Five lines text. 65,80 mm. 138.62g.  
Estimated price: 200.00 €



Gold Medal, award for the best racehorse in the national horse breeding. Unsigned. Bust Emperor Nicholas II facing left // four lines text, including Star. 45,75 mm. 73.42 g.  
Estimated price: 15,000.00 €

## Did you know....



... That in New York, in the Butterfield Library art collection is, as they say "hiding in plain sight", a portrait of Empress Maria Feodorovna, painted by Ivan K. Aivazovsky.

Perhaps the most intriguing piece in the art collection is the 1890 portrait of Empress Maria, wife of Emperor Alexander III of Russia. She was also the mother of Nicholas II, the last of the Russian tsars. The artist Ivan Konstantinovich Aivazovsky, is

considered one of the greatest marine artists in history.

Julia and Daniel Butterfield purchased the portrait from Aivazovsky, with the consent of the empress, during their travels through Russia after being married in London in 1886. "Mrs. Butterfield and the empress were friends," it is said.

The Butterfield Library on 10 Morris Avenue, Cold Spring, New York, was established in 1913, through the Will of Mrs. Julia L. Butterfield. The Library building was built on the foundation of the Dutch Reform Church in 1922, with the Library doors opening in May of 1925.

