



# Romanov News Новости Романовых

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## Monument to H.H. Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich was opened in Tsarskoye Selo

September 29, in Tsarskoye Selo, in the territory of the St. Sophia Cathedral was inaugurated a monument to the son of Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich - Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, who participated in the First World War and was mortally wounded during a battle, and died a few days later. He gave his life for the Faith, Tsar and Fatherland.



The monument is made on the initiative of the Fund Ludvig Nobel. The location for the monument is well chosen and not at all accidental. St. Sophia cathedral was the regimental church of the Life-Guard Hussar Regiment, in which served Prince Oleg. The sculpture is not entirely new, as it is cast after the pre-revolutionary model by the sculptor Vsevolod Lishev.

Anna Yakovleva, Ludvig Nobel Foundation: "The sketch of the monument was designed by sculptor Lishev in 1915. But after the events that followed, it could not be put, but it was casted. By the way, the sketch was approved by the father of Oleg Konstantinovich."

The new monument is made by sculptor Yaroslav Borodin.

The ceremony began with a memorial service at the St. Sophia Cathedral, which was headed by Dean of the Tsarskoye Selo district Archpriest Gennady (Zverev).



Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, Sergey Stepashin said - "Today is a truly historic day. It is a day when we remember the wonderful and worthy representative of the Romanov dynasty, who died at age 22 on the front of the First World

War. He gave his life for the honor, glory and freedom of the Fatherland. He was a cornet, Pushkin scholar, a worthy representative of the Romanovs".

"For me, as Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, it is of particular importance because Prince Oleg was a lifelong honorary member of the Society, and his father was an honorary member of

the Society. Thanks to Fund Ludvig Nobel for the fact that they have revived the memory of this man"- he added.

He stressed that the appearance of Prince Oleg in the monument - "is also a tribute to all the heroes who died in the First World War."

On the cathedral square, in front of group of young birch trees, not far from the monument to the Liebgard, was inaugurated the monument.

The event was attended by Princess Vera Obolensky, Prince George Yurievsky, Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy, Prince Dmitry Shakhovskoy, Count Peter Sheremetev, great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III Paul Kulikovskiy, Paul Rodzianko, Sergei Stepashin, as well as laureates of the Russian Ludvig Nobel Prize, including designer Vyacheslav Zaitsev.



The orchestra of the Guards came marching into the square, followed by an honor guard with their standard in front, and then - cadets. Archpriest Gennady (Zverev) blessed the monument.

One by one were introduced the guests of honor, who then walked to a microphone to say a few words.





*(Left) Sergei Nekrasov, and (right) Prince Dmitry Shakhovskoy addressing the audience in front of the monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich*

There was a performance of Cossack Cavalry intelligence in the uniforms of the First World War, riding through the trees with lances and swords, and a model plane resembling a First World War airplane was flying above.



Then the Guards of honor laid the first wreath and cadets several baskets of flowers, while the guest laid red carnations.



(Left) Prince George A. Yurievsky in front of the monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich. behind him is Prince Dmitry Shakhovskoy and Father Roman Bogdasarov. (Right) Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy, Count Peter Sheremetev and Paul Rodzianko.





**H.H. Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich (1892 - 1914)**



Following the opening of the monument was arranged trapeza in a building next to the cathedral, where was shown a documentary movie about Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, made by Sergei Nekrasov, Director of the All-Russian Pushkin Museum in St. Petersburg, followed by a few more speeches, and handing out of presents - among them several icons made by gold embroidery to the organizers.

In one speech, it was also revealed that the originally idea to put the monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich belong to Sergei Nekrasov.

Fund Ludvig Nobel and Sergei Nekrasov also were behind the newly issued medal in honor of Prince Oleg. It was originally conceived an award to the best graduates of the Imperial Alexander Lyceum, where Prince Oleg had graduated just before the start of the First World War. The medal was presented to Nicholas II in January 1917 and approved by him, but soon monarchy fell and nobody received it officially. However an original version of the medal have survived and for the opening of the monument was made by a limited number of copies.





Fund Ludvig Nobel have also issued a reprint of the book about "Prince Oleg", originally published in 1915 in Petrograd.

Over 204 pages, it tells about his life, with quotes from his diaries, letters, poetry and a lot of photos are inserted. Of particular interest is the photos from his rooms in the different locations where the Grand Duke Konstantinovich family lived.

The reprinted version have kept the old grammar and font, which makes it a charming book, a real time piece, and entirely in the spirit of Prince Oleg Konstantinovich.

Video - 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v0wPs78Xb4A>

2) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1540496/>

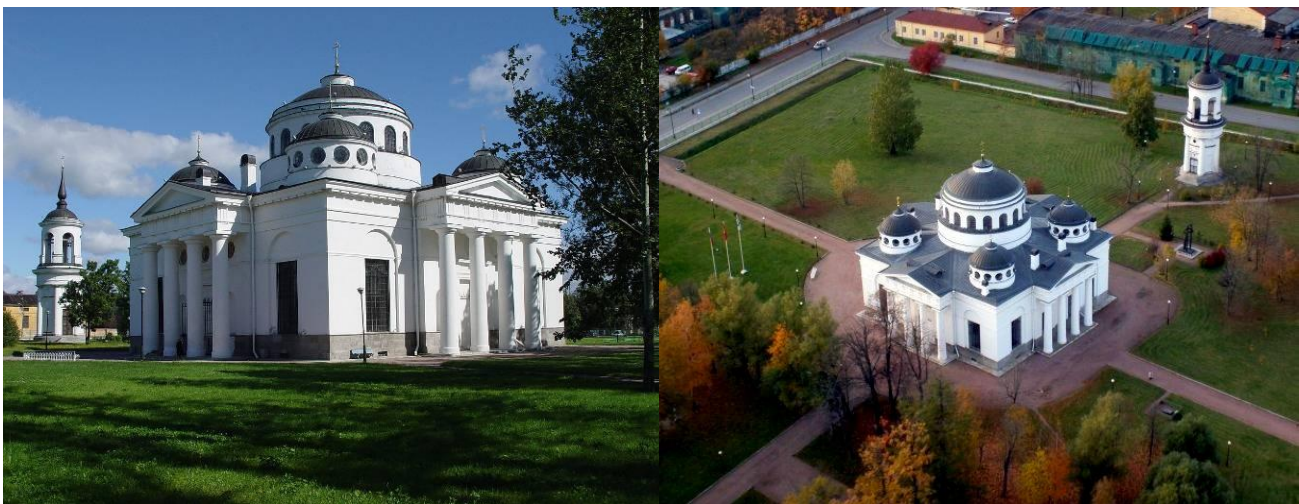
3) <http://www.tvc.ru/news/show/id/77635>

### **St. Sophia Cathedral**

The Ascension Cathedral in the town of Sophia (now a part of Tsarskoy Selo), was one of the first purely Palladian churches to be built in Russia. Rather paradoxically, it may also be defined as "the first example of Byzantinism in Russian architecture".

The cathedral was founded in July 1782 at the instigation of Catherine II of Russia as a reminder of her lifelong Greek Plan. The Tsarina, eager to liberate Constantinople from the Turks, wished to have a replica of the Hagia Sophia in the proximity of the Catherine Palace where she spent her summers. But the first project - an exact copy of the Hagia Sophia - was very expensive.

Then the Empress called upon her favourite architect, Charles Cameron, to design this "Byzantinesque" church, but the Scottish architect, though well versed in the Palladian idiom, had a vague idea of what Byzantine architecture stood for. His design called for an austere and monumental whitewashed exterior, with Doric porticoes on each side, probably a reference to the works of Lord Burlington.



Construction works, supervised by Ivan Starov, lasted for six years. The church was consecrated on 28 May 1788 in the presence of the Empress. During the two decades that followed, the Imperial Academy of Arts had the interior adorned with Neoclassical paintings. A detached two-storied bell tower was added considerably later, in 1905, to a design by Leon Benois.

In 1784, the cathedral was to be the chapter church of the newly established Order of Saint Vladimir. In 1817, Alexander I of Russia gave the cathedral to a hussar regiment of his Leib Guard, which was quartered in Sophia. During the rest of the XIX century, the regiment had the cathedral transformed into

a sort of military museum, its walls lined with marble plaques honouring the hussars' victories. Near the altar, for instance, were placed the banners captured by General Cherniaev from the Khan of Kokand.

In 1934, the Communist government had the cathedral closed down, with marble plaques and precious furnishings either nationalized or stolen.

In 1989, the Russian Orthodox Church resumed worship there. The same year, a bust of Alexander Nevsky was added nearby, by way of commemorating the 750th anniversary of the Battle of the Neva.

The complete consecration after the restoration took place on May 19, 1999.

In 2003, a monument to the Leib guard hussar regiment was erected to the south of the cathedral.



## Round-table

Earlier in the day, Fund Ludvig Nobel had arranged a press-conference, which at the start was adjusted into a round-table discussion. The leaders of Fund Ludvig Nobel, Anna Yakovleva and Evgeny Lukoshkov started with a presentation of their project on the monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich.

Around the table was sitting Anna Yakovleva, Evgeny Lukoshkov, Angelica Gurskaya, Sergei Nekrasov, Count Peter Sheremetev, Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy, Princess Catherina Troubetzkoy, Elena Agapova, deputy of the State Duma Nikolay Antoshkin, Paul Rodzianko, Pavel Narkevich, Princess Tamara Shakhovskoy, Prince Dmitry Shakhovskoy, Prince George Yurievsky, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky.



Director of North-Western filial of the newspaper "Russian Gazette" Angelica Gurskaya took over as moderator of the discussion and started with the question - What could descendants of Romanovs do for contemporary Russia - country where 100 years ago was cancelled all the titles? What important and necessary could give the descendants to Russia?

Count Peter Sheremetev - told how handsome and sweet Prince Oleg is looking in photos. Then he expressed agreement with President Vladimir Putin who told how important it is to create and support patriotism in Russia.

Then he mentioned his proposal to the 100th anniversary of the October Revolution, which is to put a monument to reconciliation in Crimea.



Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy - told about the tragedy of Prince Oleg and his service in the Lieb Guard.

Paul Kulikovskiy - told about the Prince's place in the Romanov family - "Prince Oleg Konstantinovich holds a special place in the family of the Romanovs. As you know, all male descendants in the Romanov family was from birth enlisted in the Guards. They received military training and many of them took part in different battles at the frontline, however, no one was killed in a battle - with one exception. Prince Oleg died after being mortally wounded at the front. Both then and now, this death is of great symbolic value, as it was a member of the royal family who sacrificed shedding his blood in the defense of the homeland".

Prince Dmitry Shakhovskiy - said, that "the most essential is the example which gave Prince Oleg - service to Russia. We can in his example see service both to military and culture. Romanovs due to what they did, always will be an example for Russian statehood. Because from the deep of their soul they served all the time to the glory of Russia. During their time was created the image of Russia, which we still carry and it is an example for us".

Prince George Yurievskiy - made a reference between the death of the young Prince Oleg and the tragedy of young people dying today in battles, like in Ukraine.



Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy - said that Russia has to define its position before the anniversary of the 1917 anniversary. Like Germany did with their de-Nazification.

"I do not agree with Peter Petrovich Sheremetev that we have to put a reconciliation monument in 2017. There cannot be reconciliation without repentance. A compromise could be to make a repentance-monument instead, where everybody can come".

Count Peter Sheremetev - repeated his position and told that - "It is necessary to begin with reconciliation. This monument should be erected and it will be put in

Feodosia, Crimea. I am very glad that this will happen, and many will come to attend. It is important to show that we are really fans of reconciliation - he said.

- Our dear patriarch was ecstatic when I gave him the idea to erect a monument to reconciliation. He raised his hands to the sky and said, "Thank God."

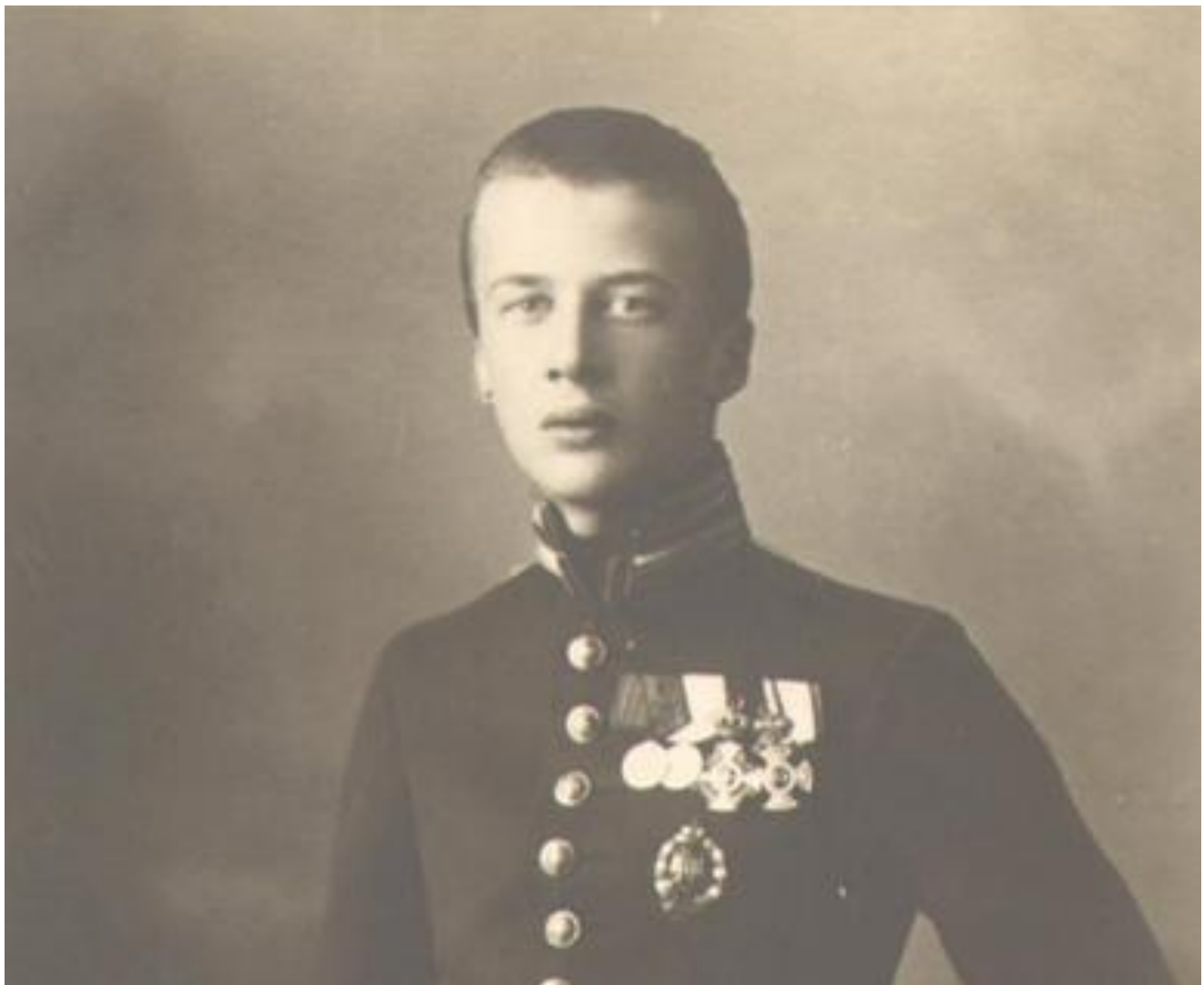
Anna Yakovleva - stressed, that opening today of the monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich is an act of repentance.

Evgeny Lukoshkov mentioned that the Fund's leadership is thinking about making a memorial day of victims of October revolution.

Paul Kulikovskiy - said, he could not understand how anybody could talk about reconciliation, when "we still have Lenin lying in the mausoleum, red stars - on Kremlin towers, we have the Voykovskaya metro station named after a killer, we have members of the Imperial family still missing - Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich is still not found and buried - we have several members of the Apalaevsk martyrs buried somewhere in China, but we do not know exactly where, and there are many more reasons I could mention. In my opinion, and I stress I am only talking on behalf of myself now, not on behalf of all Romanov descendants, but I see now reasons to celebrate anything in 1917 or 1918, that have to do with reconciliation".

Count Peter Sheremetev - replied "Russia has changed and it is trying to return us. I ask you very much, that you should not think only about your family, but about Russia."

Paul Kulikovskiy - "I am not against reconciliation, actually I would very much like to see it happen. On 4th of November I have been in the Sheremetev Church on Romanov Lane in Moscow, praying for reconciliation in services led by Father Chaplin. I am questioning if it is possible to remove the "stones in our shoes" before 1917, allowing us to go towards reconciliation."



A booklet published by the Fund Ludvig Nobel on the day includes a tribute to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, written by Paul Kulikovsky, great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III;

### ***Royalty Died Defending Russia***

#### ***- In the memory of His Highness Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich***

*In a battle on the North-West front in the First World War, on 10 October 1914 H.H. Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich was mortally wounded. 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...*

*Prince Oleg Konstantinovich was brought to a hospital in Vilnius. As he was dying, he said, "I am so happy. It will encourage the troops to know that the Imperial House is not afraid to shed its blood."*

*As all male members of the Imperial family, also Prince Oleg Konstantinovich had been enlisted into several regiments in the Imperial Russian Life Guards at birth and through his upbringing he has been taught to become an elite officer. For him "God, Tsar and Fatherland" was more important than his own life.*



*He died a few days later, on the 12 October (Old style 29 September) 1914 - only 22 years old. Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, was born 27 November 1892. He was the 4th son of Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich (the famous poet "KR") and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Mavrikievny. Recognized as a bright boy, Prince Oleg Konstantinovich entered the Alexander Pushkin Lyceum, from where he graduated with a silver medal. But with the outbreak of the First World War he volunteered to join the fighting unit of the Life Guard Hussar Regiment - there was no doubt in his mind, it was his duty.*

*On the day of his death, Prince Oleg Konstantinovich was awarded the Order of Saint George IV degree "for courage and bravery shown in the attack and destruction of the German spies, where His Highness was the first to galloped up to the enemy".*

*His body was transported by train to Volokolamsk (near Moscow) and by funeral gun carriage from the station to Ostashovo, the Konstantinovich's family estate a little west of Moscow.*

*The funeral on 16 October (OS. 3 October) was attended by his father and mother - Grand Duke Konstantin and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Mavrikievna, his siblings - Prince John with his wife Princess Helena Petrovna, Tatiana (Princess Bagration-Mukhrani), Prince Gabriel, Prince Konstantin, Prince George, Prince Igor and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.*

*Prince Oleg Konstantinovich was buried in the park in the Konstantinovich estate. Over the grave was built a church-tomb modeled on an ancient Pskov-Novgorod churches in honor of St. Oleg of Bryansk. A small church was built near the grave, under its*



altar Prince Oleg Konstantinovich was supposed to be buried. But it was completed in late 1916, and it became too late when the revolution broke out. In the 1920s both the memorial tomb above the grave and the church were destroyed. It is now unclear where he was buried. During the last years the church has been recreated and since October 3rd 2013, on the feast day of Venerable and Blessed Oleg of Bryansk, Divine Liturgy has been held.

The death of the young Prince became a grave blow to his father: Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich did not live a year after the tragedy. In memory of her son, Prince Oleg Konstantinovich's mother donated the Alexander Lyceum thousand rubles, so that the income from this capital could go to the annual production of a silver medal in honor of Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, which was to be awarded to a Lyceum student for the best essay on Russian literature. Lyceum motto: "For the common good" and the words of Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, written shortly before his death: "Life is not fun, not fun, but a cross" were inscribed on the medal.



The First company of Polotsk Cadet Corps, was honored to be named after the Prince "in order to preserve for all time the title of the cadet corps memory of August Polchaninov, who lay down his life on the battlefield for the Tsar and Fatherland."

The death of His Highness Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich was indeed a tragedy. When trying to find any meaning in it, the first thing that comes to my mind is that he died defending Russia from invaders, but I also think he saved the honour of the Imperial Family - he was the only Romanov who died in battle, even if many from my family throughout its long history was at the very front line in many wars.



Honored be his memory! - He is an inspiration for us even today!

Let me take this opportunity to thank the Fund Ludvig Nobel for erecting this monument to Prince Oleg Konstantinovich. I am very pleased it is not just a bust, but a full figure sculpture, representing him in his Life Guard uniform as a valiant knight, a hero of Russia. I also appreciate that it is standing in Tsarskoye Selo, a place strongly associated with the Romanov Family.

Again the Fund Ludvig Nobel is connecting times - the past, present and future - by celebrating the glorious history of Russia, it is reminding, even educating, the people of today about our precious heritage, and this may inspire some for good deeds in the future.

Celebrating our history, our heritage, should never be confused with nostalgia. It's not done to revere the dead, but to inspire the living. How can our future generations know what is good, right, and what is expected from them if nobody tells them. Celebrating our history is what

*transfers the secret of who we are and inspire the living. It tells us to let go of the past, even as we honor it. It should tell what was bad and ought to be lamented. It should tell what was good and right, which should be celebrated.*

*Many thanks to Fund Ludvig Nobel!*

*Paul E. Kulikovsky  
Great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III"*

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### **"There are noble feelings in my soul..."**

From September 24, 2015 to January 18, 2016 Palace of Peter I in Strelna is hosting the exhibition "There are noble feelings in my soul..."

The exhibition is dedicated to the Year of Literature and presents a facsimile edition of the manuscript made in 1911 to the 100th anniversary of the Alexander Lyceum. Pages of Pushkin's poems, collected in a folder, retained maximum features of the original - the size and texture of the paper, shade of ink. The publication marked the beginning of a facsimile reproduction of Pushkin's heritage and made the manuscript of the great poet available for everyone who wants to study his work, without prejudice to the priceless manuscript relics.

Publication was initiated by Prince Oleg Konstantinovich, who, like his literary idol, studied at the Lyceum. At the time when Oleg Konstantinovich attended the Lyceum it was not called Tsarskoselsky, but Alexandrovsky. The young man, who at the time of the facsimile editions of the manuscripts was 19 years old, had a literary gift, was fond of music and painting, and was planning to do historical research.

In 1914 Oleg K. died of wounds sustained in a clash with the German garrison at the city Vladislavov - in the First World War. His grandfather and father owned the palace in Strelna and loved this place. And for Oleg K. Strelna became a place of cheerful children's holiday, and a source of creative inspiration.

For the implementation of the facsimile edition of Pushkin the best scholars of the time were invited: N.K. Kuhlman, V.I. Saitov, and P.E. Shchegolev. The Prince took an active part in all stages of the preparation, and, in addition, developed a draft design for the publications in a simple style of the Alexander I period. The conceived great program of full facsimile edition of Pushkin's manuscripts could not be completed. Folder presented at the exhibition became the first and only one volume of the anniversary project of Oleg Konstantinovich. Next facsimile edition of Pushkin's manuscripts was published only in 1939.

Exhibition presented the documentary film "Prince Oleg" (Made by Sergei Nekrasov, director Konstantin Artyuhov and producer Galina Markova).

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## **The burial of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria proposed to be held on 18 October**

The official statement on the web site of the Russian Government -11th of September 2015 at 12:30.

"Sergei Prikhodko held the meeting of the interdepartmental working group on issues related to research and reburial of remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov kept in the State Archive of the Russian Federation.

The working group discussed the degree of readiness of the government of St. Petersburg to conduct the ceremony of burial of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov and it's scenario drafted by the State Heraldry Master Georgy Vilinbakhov.

Also, participants of the meeting were presented the results of two expert groups on historical and natural-scientific trend established for the purpose of analysis carried out in the framework of the criminal case investigations of remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanova, and provided relevant conclusions, confirming the authenticity of the remains.

Vavilov Institute of General Genetics of Russian Academy of Sciences requested to submit proposals for additional research in connection with the appeal of the Russian Orthodox Church to the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, to "Russian Center for Forensic Medicine" of Russian Ministry of Health. Experts stressed that in case of the need to resolve this or that historical issues additional genetic analysis of bone samples of buried remains and analysis of samples of closest relatives is possible.

At the meeting it was decided to propose to the Government of the Russian Federation to hold a ceremony of burial of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov on October 18, 2015 in St. Catherine's chapel of the Peter and Paul Cathedral Peter and Paul Fortress in St. Petersburg.

It is suggested to invite representatives of the Romanov family to the ceremony."

## **The date of burial of the remains of the royal family will be decided after consultation**

September 11, RIA NOVOSTI - The final decision on the date of the burial of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanova has not been made yet. The Interdepartmental Working Group on matters relating to the investigation and disposal of remains kept in the State Archives of the Russian Federation has previously suggested as a possible date October 18, supported by the majority. However, according to the press secretary of the Prime Minister Natalia Timakova, clarity on the date of burial will appear after further consultations including with the Russian Orthodox Church.

Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the St. Petersburg diocese Archpriest Alexander Pelin told that the burial matters are within the competence of the relevant government commission. However, he added, they need to be sure that it is really the remains of the children Nicholas II.

"Any remains, whatever they may be - under the law of these remains should first of all be taken care of by relatives. If there is a State government committee, it should be addressed at the government level, and if a decision is made about the reburial, directed, so to speak, an official letter, appeal, then we will support that decision. How can we not support the legitimate right of people to be reposed" - said Pelin.

He added that the issue is "that we need to be convinced that it is really the remains of the people we are talking about." "As far as it convincingly proved that it is the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Princess Maria? As far as I understand, expert opinions were divided on this issue," - said the priest.

The genetic examination confirmed the authenticity of the remains, but the Church and the "Russian Imperial House" did not consider the results of studies sufficient to recognize these remains authentic.



Head of the Laboratory of Vavilov Institute of General Genetics of Russian Academy of Sciences Evgeniy Rogayev told reporters that he had full confidence in the authenticity of the remains of the Romanov family - which is buried in the Peter and Paul Fortress, and the Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria, who are still kept in the State Archive. According to him, the ROC has a question to the genetic examination, which was carried out in 1990, but regarding studies which were conducted in 2007-2008, they expressed no doubts.

Head of the State Archive of the Russian Federation Sergey Mironenko told reporters in Moscow on Friday that the Russian Orthodox Church is ready to change its position on the authenticity of the remains of the Emperor.

"If there are some conditions that are met" - announced Father Vsevolod Chaplin - "there will be progress in the position of the Russian Orthodox Church. This is a number of genetic tests" - he said.

Director of the Office of the "House of Romanov", Alexander Zakatov considers it necessary to answer the questions that were raised even by His Holiness Patriarch Alexy II.

"The Russian Imperial House, through it's representatives are completely in solidarity with the Church. We must understand that in the world nobody is more interested in the fact that the remains proved to be true, than the church and the Imperial House. For the church it is another shrine, for us it is also the remains of blood relatives", - said the director of the Office of the "House of Romanov" Alexander Zakatov

Vice-governor of St. Petersburg, Vladimir Kirillov, after the meeting of the Working Group said that to the burial ceremony will be invited 80 descendants of the royal family, representatives of different branches of the Romanov dynasty. It is planned to invite up to 200 guests.

According to Kirillov, head of the working group, Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Prikhodko will make a report on the work of the group to the Russian leadership, and so the date - October 18 - could be supported. The Russian Orthodox Church is not against the date of burial, he said.

The vice-governor said that the Government of St. Petersburg has prepared the ceremony and all the activities. He added that the supposed ark containing the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand

Duchess Maria will be in a church in Moscow, then by plane will be delivered to St. Petersburg, where they will be met by an Guard of Honor.

According to the Vice-Governor burial ceremony in the Peter and Paul Fortress will include all the necessary rituals, including the Orthodox church service. "St. Petersburg is ready for the ceremony. Financing is defined as from the budgets of the Government of the Russian Federation and St. Petersburg. Burial place - Peter and Paul Fortress," - he said.

"The preparatory work carried out there. I reported to the working group that the burial place is in a satisfactory condition. There is a place for the ark. We do not have to expand the grave in the crypts ", - said Kirill.

### **Russian Church - a decision on the remains of the Romanovs will be for the Government**

September 11, RIA NOVOSTI - The final decision on the burial of the putative remains of the children of the royal family will be for the Government of the Russian Federation, at the same time in connection with the appeal of the ROC experts can carry out further examination, said on Friday the head of the Synodal Department for Church and Society, Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin.



The Russian Orthodox Church noted it must be "as open, fair, with the participation of all stakeholders," including representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church, to make sure that there really is "a relationship between the indisputable remains of representatives of the Romanov dynasty and those remains that are now subject to review."

"This decision of the majority of the group. However, the final decision belongs to the state authorities. At the same time it was said that in connection with the appeal of the Russian Orthodox Church to the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, the Russian Center of Forensic Medicine of Russian Ministry of Health requested to submit a proposal for further research" - said Chaplin.

According to him, the experts pointed out that in case of need it is "possible to do additional genetic analysis of samples of bone remains. "It is proposed to compare the genetic data of these remains with samples of the closest relatives of the Romanovs. It is necessary to ensure a situation in which the maximum number of qualified scientists would compare the samples," - said Chaplin. "It is very important that all possible new examinations were held," - said the representative of the Russian Orthodox Church.

As priest recalled there are a lot of different versions regarding the history of the murder of the royal family and "what was done with their bodies".

**Video about Peter and Paul cathedral is preparing for the burial of the children of Nicholas II**  
11 September, TV5.

Video - <http://5-tv.ru/news/100215/>

### **Video about the coming burial of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria**

12 September, Vesti - When Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev signed a decree on the establishment of a special inter-ministerial group, which was tasked to solve this issue on the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria, the Russian TV channel "Vesti" started shooting for a whole film on the subject.

Video - <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2663442#>

### **Video about the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria stored in a safe**

13 September, Vesti - Another video report on the upcoming burial of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria.

In it can be seen Tsarevich Alexei with his dog Joy, the remains kept in State Archives, Prince Alexander Trubetskoy, 103 years old Baron Edward Faltz-Fein, Prince Dmitry Romanov, and George Vilinbakhov.

Video - <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2663685#>

### **Doubts of the Church about the authenticity of "Yekaterinburg remains" could be removed by transparent expertise - Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin**



Moscow. September 21. Interfax - The final position of the Russian Orthodox Church on the issue of the authenticity of "Yekaterinburg remains" will be determined after re-examination, if it is carried out under conditions of full transparency, says the head of the Synodal Department for Church and Society, Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin.

"For the Church, this question is a matter of serious responsibility. We all know that Emperor Nicholas II and his family were canonized, that is, remains should be regarded as holy relics. Therefore, the Church in this case cannot be wrong and cannot be unsaid" - said the priest in an interview with radio "Radonezh".

In particular, he explained, once again it is recommended to compare the genetic remains found in Ekaterinburg, with the remains of Grand Duke George Alexandrovich - the brother of Nicholas II.

"Maybe we should make sure that samples were taken in a more obvious situation, close attended by representatives of the Church" - said Father Vsevolod. In addition, he continued, it is proposed to match the remains found near Yekaterinburg with the relics of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. An idea expressed during the meeting of the governmental working group was to compare the remains of Dr. Botkin, who was shot along with the Royal Family, with the genetic material of his relatives. "These studies, of course, would help to establish the truth in this matter," - said the priest, reminding that the Russian Church was invited to participate in the working group, which was established by the Russian government to study the issue of identification of the remains and their possible burial.

"As long as within the group we have a serious and friendly dialogue. We hope that the government will hear the voice of religious people, for whom it is very important to have complete clarity on remains, because members of the Tsar family - Holy People," - said the head of the Synodal Department.

He admitted that in recent years has been done quite a lot of research. "From the time of the commission under the chairmanship of Mr. Nemtsov, a lot has happened. Genetic material from

remains that have already been buried in the Peter and Paul Fortress was compared with the remains that were found later, in 2007. The genetic material of the first and second group remains the same," - said the priest. He also reminded that a comparison of the genetic material from the face of the Emperor, which is located in St. Petersburg, with genetic samples of relatives of the Romanovs and the genetic material also matched, "it is hard to deny."

### **Preliminary invitations to Romanovs are sent**

On 18 September a preliminary invitation was sent to some of the members of the Romanov family, asking them to confirm if they will participate - "We hereby forward a letter from the Government of St. Petersburg with an invitation to you and members of your family to participate in the funeral ceremony of reburial of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov, which will be October 18, 2015 in St. Petersburg."

### **Russia's Investigative Committee resumed its investigation**

September 23, INTERFAX - Russia's Investigative Committee resumed its investigation into the deaths of members of the Russian Imperial Romanov family and their entourage, said agency spokesman Vladimir Markin.

The investigation intends to conduct additional examination to confirm the authenticity of the remains, in particular, of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria. "It is necessary to exhume the remains of Emperor Nicholas II (Romanov) and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna (Romanova) in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in Saint Petersburg," - said Markin.



"The Working Group proposed to make additional identification studies of objects, previously unavailable for the investigation - remains of the sister of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna Romanova - Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, located in the city of Jerusalem (State of Israel), and blood samples from the uniform of grandfather of Emperor Nicholas II - Emperor Alexander II who died during a terrorist attack in 1881, " - said Markin.

In addition, the task of the investigation includes the study of archival materials, discovered after 2011 and associated with the "White Guard" investigation conducted in 1918-1924, as well as to the fate of physical evidence in the criminal case.

The Investigative Committee has no doubt about the authenticity of the remains of Nicholas II and his family, additional studies are due to the request of the Russian Orthodox Church, said Markin. "Today's resumption of criminal proceedings - it does not attempt to conduct an audit of previously obtained evidences and established facts, but only need further study of newly emerged facts, as was requested by the Russian Orthodox Church,"

## **Investigators exhumed the remains in St. Catherine Chapel**

September 23, the staff of the Investigative Committee of Russia, in the presence of representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church, made exhumation of the remains of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and his family in the Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Petersburg.

Samples of the remains were taken in the presence of representatives of the Church - the Executive Secretary of the Patriarchate, Metropolitan of St. Petersburg and Ladoga Varsonofy, Bishop of Kronstadt Nazariy, and the dean of Moscow's Sretensky Monastery monk John (Ludischev).

Same day samples were taken from the cloth of Emperor Alexander II, which he had at the time of his murder. It stored in the State Hermitage Museum.

## **Interview with Vladimir Solovyov about today's exhume of the remains**

Vladimir Solovyov, a senior investigator of the Main Directorate of forensic criminology, tells that the church was represented by Metropolitan Varsonofy of St. Petersburg and Ladoga. He also tells, that it will take at least a month before he can say how the investigation is going.

Video - <http://topspb.tv/news/news85244/>

## **Samples of remains was given to ROC members for safekeeping**

September 24 - Vladimir Markin, spokesman of Russia's Investigative Committee made the statement - "There was conducted exhumation of the remains of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg. Also, blood samples were taken from uniform of grandfather Emperor Nicholas II - Emperor Alexander II, stored in the Hermitage. Some of these samples at the request of the Russian Orthodox Church were transferred to its members for safekeeping. It should be noted that the Investigation Committee has attracted the research of geneticists from around the world, and they will apply the most advanced technologies and equipment that guarantees us to obtain the most objective results. And all these investigations and research will be carried out as soon as possible."



## **Smolny created a commission for the reburial of the remains of the Romanovs**

September 25 - It was announced, that the St. Petersburg government has established a commission for the reburial of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov.

The corresponding decree was signed by Governor Georgy Poltavchenko, on September 23 - the day when the staff of the Investigative Committee exhumed the remains of Nicholas II's family and took them to Moscow.

The commission for the reburial includes 26 persons, among them: Vice-Governor Vladimir Kirillov, head of the Committee on Culture Constantine Sukhenko, head of the local Emergency Management

Alexei Anikin, chairman of the Finance Committee Alexey Korabel'nikov, director Anatoly Tyazhkin of car company "Funerals", the deputy director of the State Hermitage George Vilinbakhov, director of the Museum of History of St. Petersburg Alexander Kolyakin, the military commander of the city Vladimir Ermoshov, Head of DWS Oleg Valinsky, and head of the Association of the funeral industry Northwest director Valeria Lar'kin. In addition there are representatives of the St. Petersburg Monuments Protection, external relations, business development, finance, health and media.

### **Burial is on "stand-by"**

On 25th of September, some members of the Romanov family were informed that the issuing of invitations to participate in the funeral ceremony of reburial of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov, are put on "stand-by".

### **The burial is postponed and preliminary scheduled to early November**

On 26th of September, it was unofficially mentioned that the burial was now postponed, while waiting for the Church to make a decision based on the latest results of the investigations. A Church commission were planning to meet to review the new basis for possible acceptance of the remains as those of Emperor Nicholas II and family, and hence as Saints. A preliminary schedule for the burial was set to early November.

### **Remains of Grand Duchess Elizaveta Feodorovna may be included in royal family inquiry says Russian Investigative Committee**

September 28 - The Russian Investigative Committee does not rule out that samples of the remains of Grand Duchess Elizaveta Feodorovna may be delivered from Israel to Moscow for a new examination within the royal family inquiry but a final decision has yet to be made.

"We are holding negotiations with the Russian Orthodox Church. This is a very complicated matter: international relations and the delivery from a foreign country. A final decision has yet to be made" said senior investigator of the Russian Investigative Committee main criminal investigation department Vladimir Solovyov.

### **October 18 is unjustified expectations**

September 29 - The burial ceremony of the remains of members of the Romanov family, proposed to be held on October 18 will likely be postponed in view of the examination of time spent, told the head of the Committee for Culture of St. Petersburg Konstantin Sukhenko .

"The official decision to postpone the burial has not been done yet, but if we start from the start of the examination, then October 18 creates unjustified expectations, and I am more than confident that the official ceremony will take place later," - said Sukhenko.



## **Patriarch Kirill has established a special commission to analyze the remains of the Romanov family**

September 30 - A special commission of the ROC will examine the results of the additional study of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Romanov. Its creation was ordered by Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill.

The commission includes the Orthodox Church hierarchs, clerics, and scholars. The expert panel is headed by Chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate Metropolitan of St. Petersburg and Ladoga, Varsonofy.

Other members of the Commission are Bishop Nazarov, vicar of the St. Petersburg diocese, and Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin. "More are expected to join, but cannot be named yet" - it was said.

"The Church insists on ensuring maximum objectivity, scientific, absolute transparency and maximum transparency of research at all stages of its conduct," - said a representative of the church.

## **Studies of the remains of the Romanovs are conducted in several laboratories in different cities**

October 1 - As part of the new genetic research of the royal family is assigned several expertises, says in statement senior investigator of forensic criminology Vladimir Solovyov.

"Currently active research is taking place in several institutions. Research is being conducted in at least two laboratories. This is different laboratories in different cities. It is a laboratory in Moscow and another city that I still will not name. I do not exclude that there can be involved other laboratories" - he said. According to him, Evgeny Rogayev, world-known geneticist directing research.

## **Videos about the discovery and the remains DNA-testing of the Tsarevich and Grand Duchess**

Part 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=9&v=3eAdBHwUr5w>

Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HonT60qAB0g>

Part 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tBzJyOkUlw>

Part 4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPkcdom6OMs>

Part 5 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXBdojpcGkc>

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## **A descendant of the Romanovs arrived in Moscow for Russian citizenship**



12.09.2015, NTV - As the program says - "The famous Heir of the Romanov Dynasty, Prince Rostislav, who was born in the United States and lived all his life in the West, not really advertising it, came to Russia. NTV correspondent met with His Highness and to ask why a young bachelor and a descendant of the Royal Family came home.

Night flight from London to Moscow, Domodedovo airport, and here he is - Prince Rostislav. Prince works in design bureau of Petrodvorets Watch Factory. He proposed an idea to the plant, no joke, a revolutionary idea. He, as a relative of Nicholas II who was shot, wants to make a series of watches to the centennial anniversary of the revolution, and goes from Moscow to St. Petersburg.

It is here that they will make the clock conceived by Rostislav. But first - private. He has been here many

times, does not confuse the Rivers Moika and Fontanka, but now Rostislav is going where he had never been, and should have been. Mansion on the Moika Embankment. If events of the twentieth century wouldn't happen, Rostislav would go here to visit grandparents.

History has not thrown away Rostislav - he's a great-great-grandson of Nicholas II's sister Xenia. After marrying, Xenia moved into this house. The doors still have her monogram.

And plane again. In the queue for registration Rostislav fiddles with his passport. Russian surname is written in English, with two "F" at the end. He admits that he is British only by his passport, but his soul is Russian.

Rostislav Romanov: "I want to get a Russian passport, it is one of the goals of my life, so I can officially say: "I am Russian"."

If the request of Rostislav will be heard, he will be the first of the Romanovs, officially returned to Russia after the revolution." - ends the report.

Video - <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1518156/>

### **Young descendant of the Romanovs looks for a bride in Russia**

As the report says - "His Highness Prince Rostislav Romanov visited the Crimea. He, by the way, has no children, no wife, and yet all that he wants is here, in Russia.

The correspondent of "NTV" Elizabeth Listova takes by plane the Prince into the unknown. Crimea, the promised land of Russian Monarchs, - terra incognita for the Royal Descendant. He had never been in Crimea.

Rostislav - a landscape painter, instantly transferred to a paper the Cape Ai-Todor, once owned by the family. By the way, for all the trip - no photos, no fashionable selfie.

Prince Rostislav Romanov: "I am not a fan of photos, it certainly captures, but does not catch what I catch. So we can say, I am my own camera."

Something is pulling him to Russia? Or is this not something, but someone? The Prince replied to a question whether his heart is free.

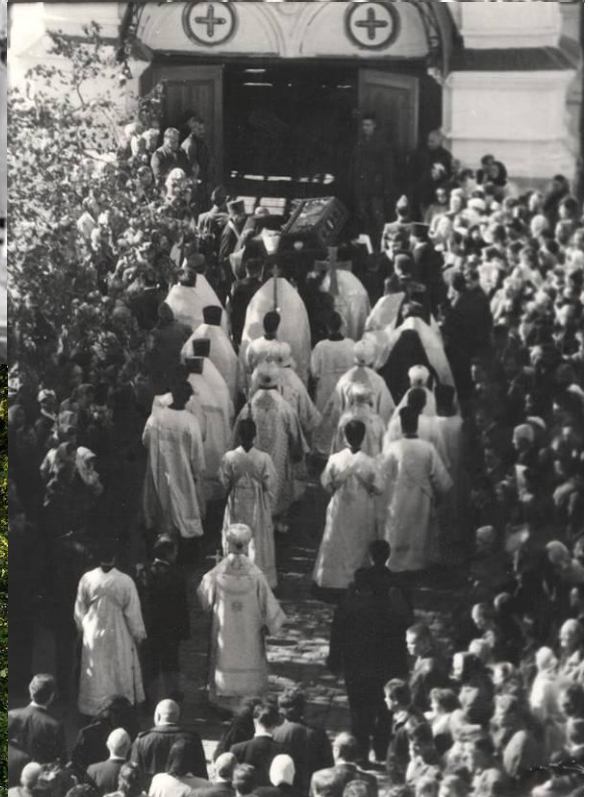
Prince Rostislav Romanov: "My heart is free ... I hope one day my path will cross with someone. And this day bring happiness to me."

Video - <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1530536/>



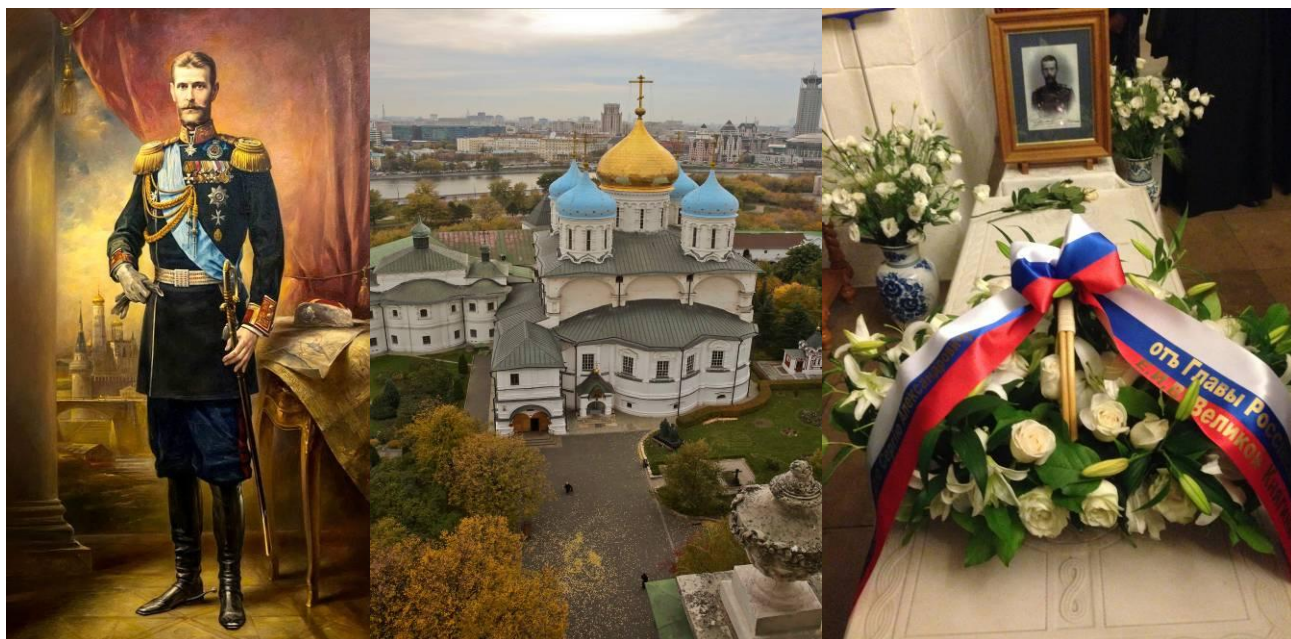
## Memorial service for Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich

September 17th, it was 20 years since Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich's reburial in Novospassky Monastery. In 1995, his coffin was officially exhumed, and after a Panikhida in the Archangel Cathedral in Kremlin he was reburied in the crypt of the Novospassky Monastery in Moscow.



On 17th of September 2015, in Novospassky Monastery, after the completion of the Divine Liturgy, in the church of St. Romanos the Melodist, also known as the Crypt of the Romanov Boyars, was made (Panikhida) memorial service. Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy - a great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III, the elder brother of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich - attended the service led by Bishop Sava.

"Grand Duchess" Maria Vladimirovna - a great-granddaughter of Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovich, an older brother of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, Irina Vladislavovna Plotnikov, Dmitry Borisovich Grishin and Denis Borisovich Solodovnikov from the Memorial Fund to Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich also attended the service.



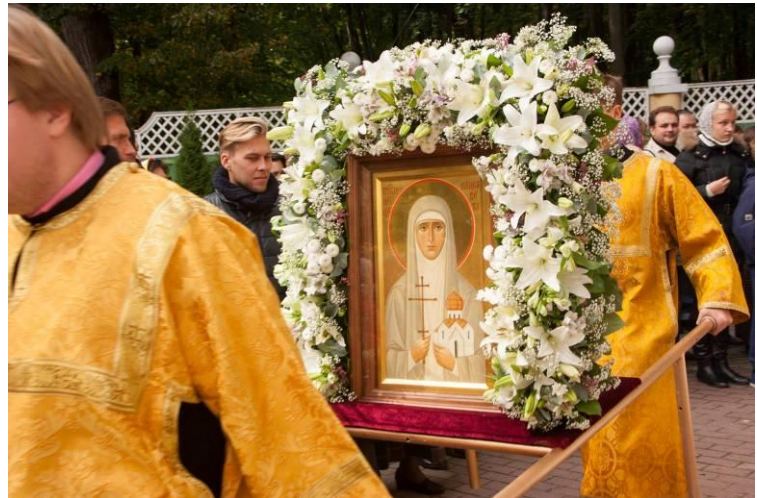
After the service, Bishop Sava appealed to all the faithful with a brief speech in which he stressed the importance of the Novospassky monastery in the fate of the representatives of the Romanov Dynasty. He reminded that the monastery is fulfilling its duty to the memory of all those who found their final resting place here, offering prayers for all the Romanovs. For the monastery it is a great honor, and as pointed out in his remarks - "very wisely and providentially, the Tsar Mikhail Feodorovich Romanov exactly here took care to preserve the memory of his ancestors, having arranged a tomb under the arches of the majestic Cathedral of the Transfiguration Monastery. It so happened that it also is the tomb with the remains of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, the governor-general of Moscow."





## IV Elisabeth Procession in Moscow

Sunday, September 13, after the Divine Liturgy in the Church of Elijah the Prophet at Ilinskoe, located to the west of Moscow, went the IV Elisabeth procession through the territory of the former estate of Grand Duchess Elisabeth Feodorovna and Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich.



In Ilinskoe the participants went on route from the church, past the maternity hospital - built in 1892 by Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, the infirmary building - opened by Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna in 1905 for wounded warriors in Russian-Japanese War and World War I, go down to Moscow river, where they would be carried over on a ferry - specially equipped rafts - to the other side.



Next cross procession across the meadow and go to the estate Usovo where it stopped near the school building - built in 1873 by the mother of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich - Empress Maria Alexandrovna. The participants then proceed to the new church Saviour-Usovo.



The procession ended with prayer service in the Saviour church (around 15:15), where is the chapel consecrated in the name of St. Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. Field kitchen was opened for pilgrims after the service.

Brass Band performed on this day known hymns and marches. In the Orthodox educational center "Saviour-Usovo" guests saw exhibition and film.

## Elisabeth Days in St. Petersburg

Elisabeth days are held in St. Petersburg. Their organizer - St. Elisabeth Convent in Minsk. From 5 to 27 September in Central Park, as part of the works exhibition "The Well", you can buy the products of the Belarusian monastery workshops.

"For many years, we support the tradition established once by Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna - to hold charity fairs. Acquiring useful, necessary and beautiful handmade products, to help large families, the elderly, the lonely, the sick and others in need. Another our task is to show beauty - not only external, but the inner beauty of the human soul", - he said the curator of the exhibition Nun Vasilisa of the monastery.

In addition to articles of the monastery workshops, visitors can see a photo exhibition about the life of Martyr Elizabeth Feodorovna and the history of the monastery dedicated to her.



Toddlers will meet the tale of the puppet theater "Batleyka." Performances are shown every hour, and after the show, you can get acquainted with the main characters, take part in games and quizzes. In Svyatoduhovsky center of the Alexander Nevsky Monastery on September 15th will take place the performance "The Little Prince", arranged by the Belarusian director and actor Alexander Zhdanovich. The participants are students of the boarding school with special needs. Children who will never grow up, play a show for the adults who once were children.

**An old hospital where was Emperor Nicholas II and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna is demolished.**

In Moscow, in Lefortovo, the building of the Red Cross military hospital with the St. Nicholas Church is demolished. During the First World War Emperor Nicholas II and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna visited it.



The hospital was built in 1914 for the treatment of soldiers and officers who were wounded during the First World War. At the main building was located the St. Nicholas Church.



December 10, 1914 Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra with the Grand Duchesses visited the military hospital. According to Moscow newspapers, Nicholas handed distinguished warriors St. George Cross and the Empress and Grand Duchess gave them small neck icons.

28 March 1915 "Moscow leaf" reported that on March 26 the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna visited and heard vespers in the church of St. Nicholas at the hospital.

The construction- group of companies

"Morton" demolished the hospital in order to build in its place a business center.

According to experts, the hospital not only had the highest value of a memorial, was a unique piece of architecture "brick style", but it's interiors were perfectly preserved.

"Doors and windows, hardware appliances, floor tiles, wood flooring, metal fencing stairs and windows, elements of genuine electric wiring, the original floor and roof construction. All of this is in excellent condition," - said in a statement "city-defenders".

In a comment said an official representatives of "Morton" - "The demolished building was located on the site of a former industrial area and did not have the status of an object of cultural heritage. The Moscow City Government back in 2005 issued a decree to demolish on this site twenty-six buildings, including this structure. That is, the issue has been studied 10 years ago, and it was decided to demolish. Over the past few years since the release of this decision has been no attempt to recognize the building an object of cultural heritage, since it had no reason to. And now, when voiced plans to build on the site an administrative and residential complex with kindergarten, and an engineering center, the project were artificially escalate in the media."

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## The Monastery at Ganina Yama celebrated 15 years

At 9.00 in the church of the Holy Royal Martyrs there was Divine Liturgy headed by the ruling bishop of the Diocese of Yekaterinburg Metropolitan Kirill. After the end of worship, there was the grand opening of the museum-exhibition center "Imperial" in the basement of the church in honor of the Mother of God "Reigning". On the street at the exhibition center was treats for the guests, the pilgrims and parishioners.



The monastery was built on the very spot where in July 1918, the Bolsheviks tried to destroy the remains of the royal family. Bodies of the Romanovs were thrown into the mine and with an ax, fire and acid the punishers got rid of the last Russian royal family.

In 2000, during a visit to the Ural, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Alexy II blessed the creation of the monastery in this place.

Among the pilgrims was Gregory Rang. He came to Russia from the German province of Hesse - the birthplace of the holy Empress Alexandra Feodorovna Romanova. He brought gifts for the monastery - "In one capsule, there is the land of the place where stood the house of Saint Elizabeth and Alexandra Feodorovna in Darmstadt. There is a church in Darmstadt. This church was built by Nicholas II, and here is part of this land." These rarities joined the collection of the new museum and exhibition center, arranged with the help of Ural Mining and Metallurgical Company.



The exhibition shows an installation of the firing room in the infamous Ipatiev House. The chairs are replicas of those which were used by Empress Alexandra and Tsarevich Alexei, and even the view from the window is as close as possible to the realities of that terrible night.

Video - 1) <http://www.obltv.ru/news/culture/monastyr-na-ganinoy-yame-prazdnuet-15-letie-so-dnya-osnovaniya/>

2) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1535499/>



## From Nicholas I to Nicholas II. The era of historicism in Russia

18.09.2015 - 18.03.2016

September 18, 2015 the center of the "Hermitage-Vyborg" opened the exhibition "From Nicholas I to Nicholas II. The era of historicism in Russia", devoted to remarkable period of Russian culture - the reigns of four Emperors - Nicholas I, Alexander II, Alexander III, Nicholas II.

Since the 1820s in Russia following Europe one big style as was classicism was replaced by romantic fascination with the different eras of the past. Trying to find a new source of inspiration, artists and masters of applied art looked on the historical heritage of many different nations and countries. This led to the fact that several creative directions that contemporaries perceived as a fashionable "styles": "Greek Revival", "gothic", "second rococo", "renaissance", "Moorish", "oriental" appeared in the art. Apart from all developing "Russian" style.

Historical thinking has affected all kinds of art: literature, music, architecture, painting, sculpture. But most of all it is embodied in the products of arts and crafts relating to interior decoration.



The exposition is complex. It consists of 285 exhibits from the State Hermitage Museum, including paintings and drawings, costumes, furniture, porcelain, glass, silver, works of stone, bronze, metal. They are complemented by unique photographs, depicting the important events, architectural monuments, portraits of the XIX century.

Watercolors of the interiors of the Winter Palace after the fire of 1837, which was accepted by finishing contemporaries as a "historical record", according to the latest trends in art, are particularly interesting. Types of palace halls, as well as items from their original decoration - the leitmotif that constantly sounds in all sections of the exhibition.

Hermitage collection provides a rare opportunity to show the period of historicism in Russia in a variety of its manifestations, beginning with products of the highest level, and ending things that reflect the same fashion trends, but in a more simplified versions made for people of moderate means.

The exhibition has a fully illustrated catalog (published by "Slavia", St. Petersburg., 2015).



## Exhibition "Boris Godunov - from servant to the emperor of all Russia"

Moscow Kremlin 16/10/2015 - 31/01/2016



The exhibition is presented in two halls of the Moscow Kremlin in the Assumption Belfry and One-Pillar Chamber of the Patriarch's Palace, the first devoted to one of the leading figures in Russian history - Boris Godunov, an outstanding personality with surprising and tragic fate, whose way of life has long attracted historians and writers. The image of this ruler was captured in numerous works of art and culture, music and drama.

The exhibition features about 150 exhibits, mostly dating from XVI-XVII centuries, from leading Russian museums - the State Tretyakov Gallery, Pushkin Fine Arts Museum, the State Hermitage Museum, the State Historical Museum, etc., and the largest library of the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts. The exposition covers the main milestones of the life path of Boris Feodorovich, the stages of government activities, the most important aspects of his foreign policy, and an audience with the rich cultural heritage of Godunov's epoch.

Among the monuments of unique works are iconography, portrait miniatures, personal and decorative sewing, jewelry arts and weapons skills that are included in the golden fund of ancient art. Many of these remarkable objects made by request of Boris Godunov and his family. Characterized by high craftsmanship and splendor of decoration, they testify to the artistic taste of the representatives of this kind inscribed special page in the cultural history of medieval Russia.

On display there are also extremely important in meaning written manuscripts, rare books, the memoirs of eyewitnesses of the events of that time. The core of the exhibition are artifacts from the collection of the Moscow Kremlin Museums - this iconic objects from the permanent exhibition, such as the Cap of Monomakh and the throne of Boris Godunov, and things from the funds, for example, Godunov psalter with unique miniatures.

Extant monuments of Godunov's epoch is a whole layer of the artistic heritage of the Moscow Russia, describing this period as the heyday of the traditional artistic trends, brought to perfection by virtuoso performance.



## The exhibition "August Borodino Landowner"

The museum-reserve "Borodino Field" opened on September 15th the exhibition "August Borodino landowner" dedicated to the 160th anniversary of the accession to the throne of Emperor Alexander II. Among the exhibits there are portraits of Emperors Nicholas I and Alexander II, graphic works from the estate of Borodino, views and scenes of the celebration in 1839, and the anniversary of Borodino. A unique exhibit is a plate with an inscription on the tab of Grand Duke Alexander Nikolayevich from the foundation stone of the monument. No less interesting is a book from the library of Borodino palace with a bookplate of the Tsarevich.



In 1837, Nicholas I purchased the "Moscow Province, Mozhaishk County village of Borodino as a gift for His Imperial Highness the Heir Tsarevich." Supreme decree was signed on August 26, the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Borodino.

Grand Duke Alexander first visited the Borodino field in July of 1837. At the arrival on Rajewski battery His Highness deigned to "put personally a brick in the foundation of the monument of Borodino" being built by architect Antonio Adamini. Then the Sovereign Tsarevich visited Spaso-Borodino monastery, where he "was pleased to serve a memorial service for the Emperor Alexander Pavlovich and all the killed soldiers and then kneeling with a litany of thanks for the deliverance of Russia from the enemy."



In two years a palace and park ensemble, was built at Borodino. In 1839, for seventeen days, it was the residence of Emperor Nicholas I, his son the August owner of Borodino Grand Duke Alexander Nikolayevich, and a large retinue.

Borodino estate was twice honored with August visits - in 1841 and 1861. In the park at the palace of Borodino there was a monument to the Tsar-Liberator.

According to the will of Alexander II the Borodino estate "has always to be owned by the senior in-kind". Crowned Palace in the absence of the owners was used as a museum.



## Devoted to three Tsarinas of the Romanov dynasty

September 11, in the city of Meshchovsk in Kaluga, which is the homeland of Evdokia Lopukhina, Natalia Naryshkin and Evdokia Streshneva, a museum dedicated to the three tsarinas of the Romanov dynasty was opened.

Creation of the museum cost almost 24 million rubles, which Meshchovsky District have been received as a grant in the framework of state regional centers of culture and tourism. This was reported by the regional Ministry of Culture.



*Tsarinas Eudoxia Feodorovna Lopukhina, Natalya Kirillovna Naryshkina, and Eudoxia Lukyanovna Streshnyova*



The museum is located in a historic two-story building, built in the second half of the XIX century, but during the last 20 years the building has not been used. Allocated funds let to make an overhaul and to open the museum.

The exhibition space dedicated to the ancient settlements Meshchovsk and Serena, as well as the history of Meshchovsk land, since the XIII century. On the second floor there are exhibits associated with the history of the Romanov House. Another directly relation to the house of Romanov is a portrait of Empress Catherine II, where she is displayed in a headdress of Kaluga masters.

The museum presents coins and medals from the era of reign of the Romanovs. The exposition of the new museum was created with the participation of the Local History Museum of the city of Kaluga, in total there are more than 500 exhibits.

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## **Monument to the righteous warrior Admiral Ushakov appeared at the Naval Cathedral in Kronstadt**



10 September on the Anchor Square, at the Naval Cathedral in Kronstadt, the opening ceremony of a monument to the Russian naval commander - Admiral Ushakov was held

After the Divine Liturgy, the abbot of the church, next to which will now be the commander, canonized, passed reliquary admiral and a list of the Port Arthur Icon of the Mother of God.

The ceremony was attended by Chief of the Russian Navy Viktor Chirkov. A descendant of Fyodor Ushakov also arrived.

White fabric falls from the sculpture, a new monument to Admiral Fyodor Ushakov, in bronze on a granite pedestal. Despite the large size - about 4 meters in height, the admiral seems quite small. The artist managed to achieve almost complete portrait resemblance to the hero of the famous painting by Peter Bazhanov.



At the end of the XVIII century, Admiral Ushakov commanded the Black Sea Fleet and the naval forces in the Mediterranean. His career is really unique. In the battles he has not lost a single ship, or one of his subordinates was captured. Now paternal gaze of naval commander greets everyone who comes into the garden of the church. The monument was installed next to the north entrance.

In the morning at the Cathedral of the Sea was the liturgy and same day was brought an ark with the relics of Ushakov and a copy of the Port Arthur Icon of the Mother of God. The relics are now stored in the holy cathedral for sailors. Now everyone whose life is connected by sea, may come and worship the patron saint and founder of a truly strong domestic fleet.

Video - 1) <http://topspb.tv/news/news84088/>  
2) <http://www.ntv.ru/video/skoro/1189240/>

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## Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



September 8, Museum-Preserve "Tsarskoye Selo" received a gift of two plates of the famous Korbievsky service. Ron and Ludmila Mosher (USA) purchased them at auction specifically for the museum.



The Korbievsky service was acquired for the Supreme Court in the shop of the French owner Jerome Korbé that caused its name. From archive documents we know that in 1823 after the birthday of the Grand Duchess Alexandra Feodorovna from Pavlovsk service was sent to storage at Tsarskoye Selo for the "use at the tables at the highest."

In 1838 it was decided to complement the service with about 150 pieces made by the Imperial Porcelain Factory. In 1842, the factory produced in addition to the dining room a tea (coffee) set, consisting of "cups" and saucers.

Today museum presented a bottle, sauce boats, salad bowls, nipples with covers, salt shakers, dishes of various sizes, oval, round dishes, plates, tea pairs. It should be noted that the service was actively replenished until the beginning of the twentieth century. From the late 1840s to the 1870s the finishing touch to the service was also produced at the St. Petersburg plant Kornilov brothers.

The Korbievsky service can be considered as the most favorite and the "longest-playing", as it served in Tsarskoye Selo almost a hundred years. Before the war, it graced the tables of the pavilion "Hermitage", a sort of "diverting" the visitors in the era of Nicholas I. Today, as before, the grand ensemble is presented there on the big and small tables.

Now the museum-reserve "Tsarskoye Selo" has more than two hundred items widely known as the Korbievsky service. Objects of Korbievsky service have a fairly simple shapes, decorated with gilded



sculptural elements. The beautiful decor of the ensemble on all items includes grape leaves, clusters and gold shoots.

The history of this remarkable work of porcelain, the service Korbievsky, is forever linked with Tsarskoye Selo.



23 September, Tsarskoye Selo announced that they are to restore the pavilion of the XIX century called "Chapelle" (Chapel), which was destroyed by the Germans during World War II, and has not been accessible for the public for decades. The deputy director of the museum's restorations Natalia Kudryavtseva said the priority work will begin this fall. "The plan of restoration of the pavilion was developed in 2012 and the total cost will be at least 147 million rubles, - she said. - The financing of the restoration work is from the federal program "Culture of Russia".



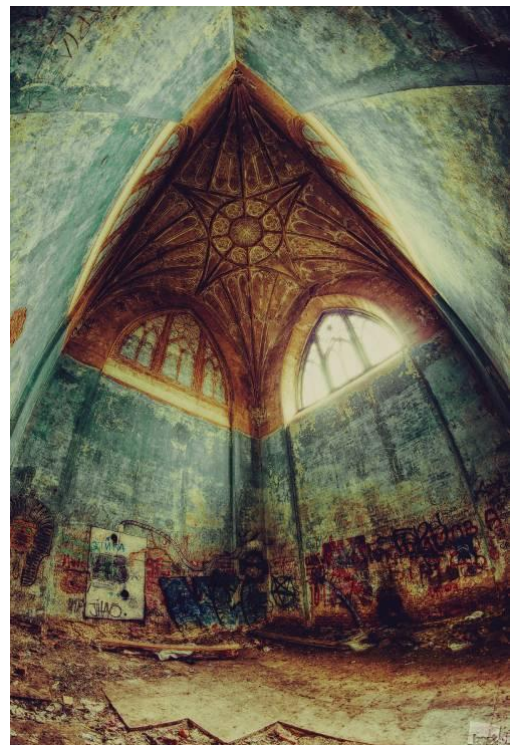
Now the pavilion, built in 1825-28 on the project of Adam Menelaws, is in disrepair, and access to it is closed because of the possibility of collapse.

"According to the original plan of the architect the pavilion was built so that part of it was a ruin, but now it is not only the romantic ruins, so the access to the "Chapelle" is closed, the territory is fenced off" - said Kudryavtsev.

It received major damage during the war, but due to the lack of restoration it has continued to deteriorate in the postwar period, when it was closed and not used.

The restoration of the Pavilion will take place in two stages. By mid-October the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation in a competition will determine a contractor, and then will begin the priority work to be completed by the end of the year - restorers will have to strengthen the masonry of the pavilion and will conduct additional tests of the object's state.

"We need to check the current state of the pavilion, compared to the data that we have indicated in the restoration project three years ago, to find out if there have been further damage, which may require additional funding," - said the deputy director. For the priority work at the site will be allocated over



18 million rubles. Upon completion of the restoration, which may take about a year, "Chapelle" will be used as a museum park pavilion, where will be conducted tours.

"Chapelle" is one of the neo-Gothic architecture in the Alexander Park of Tsarskoye Selo. It was created as the Gothic Chapel after the ravages of time, so its design combines two square towers, one of which was artificial romantic ruins. Sculptures for its décor was made by Vasily Demuth-Malinovsky, and a statue of Christ was made on order of Empress Maria Feodorovna by German sculptor Johann Heinrich von Dannecker. Now the statue is in the State Hermitage.



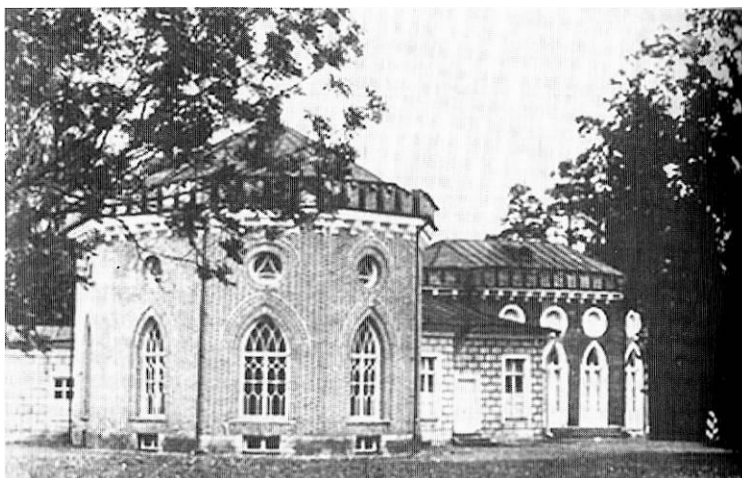
Full restoration of the buildings and monuments in Tsarskoye Selo destroyed during the War, will take at least another ten years - said the deputy director of the museum's restorations Natalia Kudryavtseva. "We are now planning that restoration work can be carried out until 2025, with a favorable funding it will be ten years, if the money will be delayed the restoration will last longer", - she said.

Among the objects in need of restoration - monuments in Alexander and Babolovsky Park, including the Chinese Theater, and two structures built for the imperial animals. It is the Pensioner Stables, where in 1826 retired old riding horses of the Tsars lived, and the Lama Pavilion, which was built in 1820-1822 for keeping lamas sent as a gift to Alexander I from South America.

"In 2016, we plan to begin work on Babolovsky palace. This one-storey summer palace was built in 1785 to Prince Potemkin, and became a part of the imperial residence in the middle of the XIX century. The palace and the park were created in English style, which liked Empress Catherine II."

"It is very expensive as there are also work on the restoration of the parks" - said Kudryavtsev. - "This year, the Ministry of Culture gave us 28 million rubles for the restoration of Babolovsky Park, with its oak and willow avenues, including landscape rehabilitation, treatment of wood and other work."

Over the 28 months of the German occupation, in the park of Tsarskoye Selo 25 bridges, 50 dams and cascades were destroyed. Many survived monuments are in need of restoration.



## Monument to Emperor Paul I in Moscow region

A new monument to Emperor Paul I was opened at the Romanov Walk of Fame on the territory of Nicholas Berlyukovsky Monastery in the Moscow region on 1st of October, 2015.



As part of the opening and consecration of the monument was a memorial service for the repose of Emperor Paul Petrovich in the main church of the monastery Christ the Savior.

The event was held within the joint project of Nicholas-Berlyukovsky Monastery, the charity fund "Revival of Cultural Heritage", Moscow Region regional department of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, sculpture studio of M. L. Serdyukov and the public organization "Center for Social Support of Compatriots".



## **The replica of the Imperial Crown, made by Smolensk Diamonds, can be yours for 1 billion rubles**

The replica crown has been offered for sale through a web site, so that people from other countries can also learn about a piece of jewelry.

Currently, the crown is estimated at 1 billion rubles, which at the current rate is about USD 15 million. For the manufacture of the replica crown was used 11426 diamonds, with a total weight of 1928 carats. The height of the crown with the cross is 35 cm, and weight - 2312 grams.



The real Imperial Crown of the Russian Empire - the main symbol of the power of monarchs and the main Russian imperial regalia from 1762 to 1917, is currently in the treasury of the Diamond Fund of Russia.

See more on this web site - <http://www.kristall-crown.com/>



### **Descendants of Russian emigrants attended conference in Sevastopol**

The descendants of Russian emigrants, who were forced to leave the peninsula in 1920, came to Crimea for a few days. Because of the civil war about 150 thousand compatriots left. The tragic events of those days were discussed together with historians from different countries, at a scientific conference starting 10 of September and ending 12 of September.

"A Great Pilgrimage" was called the visit to Russian Crimea by descendants of Russian emigrants. In Simferopol airport they were met, as the long-awaited guests.

"We have come as pilgrims to remember who were our fathers, and how they left from here. Upon leaving they said - we are leaving not from the Crimea, but from Russia", - says Prince Alexander Troubetzkoy, chairman of the Society Memory of the Imperial Guard.



At night road to Sevastopol from the window of the bus, they are trying to imagine the Crimea, which they know only from the stories of relatives who had left the peninsula 95 years ago, as it turned out - forever. The time of troubles divided Russia into "white" and "red", then put their fathers and grandfathers before the difficult choice - to stay and die, or go into the unknown.

Irina Somova, granddaughter of Russian immigrants, was born in Australia. Trip to Sevastopol for her - like coming home. "I remember very well the story of a family friend who left Sevastopol at the age of ten years, and he is always with tears in his eyes recalled the Exodus. And said, as the ships, preparing to leave, to serve parting prayers, and when moved off the ship, those who remained in the city, and those who were on board, they knelt down and said goodbye to each other and to the Motherland ", - says Irina.

Dmitry De Cat, Chairman of the Coordination Council of Russian Compatriots in France, born in Paris, knows the history of "Russian Exodus" from the stories and records of his grandmother. After almost a century, he found the same house in Sevastopol, where the family lived for six months before the officer evacuation - Chesmenskaya Street, 58.

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

The conference "Crimean prologue: exodus into exile of the Russian army, navy and civil refugees in the autumn of 1920" was arranged through 3 days, 10-12 September, in a branch of Lomonosov Moscow State University in Sevastopol. The organizers were Government and Legal Assembly of city Sevastopol, Association of French-Russian dialogue, House of Russians Abroad named after Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Russian Historical Society, Russian Military-Historical Society, Russian Foundation of Culture, and others.

The purpose of the conference - an introduction to the scientific revolution of new research materials, the exchange of information on the history of the last campaign of the Russian army in the Crimea, reasons, background, the circumstances of the Crimean evacuation of 1920, the initial period of stay of the Russian Army and Navy in exile, studying relevant aspects of the heritage of Russian emigration. The Conference was interdisciplinary in nature, providing general historical, military, historical, philosophical, social, psychological and other humanitarian aspects of the problem.

The Conference was intended to be an important milestone in the preparations for the date of the 100th anniversary of the Crimean exodus, attracting public attention to this important community and tragic events of national history.

The opening of the conference started with prayers in memory of those killed in the Civil War, died at home and in the global Russian Diaspora.



The topics in the conference were many, including:

- On the eve of the Exodus: the last campaign of the Russian army in Northern Tavia, the causes and conditions of evacuation and the decision on it.
- A detailed investigation of the circumstances of the Crimean evacuation activities of the High Command of the Russian Army, the Navy Command of the organization Exodus of Russian troops from the Crimea.
- Understanding and overall assessment of outcome of the Russian army under the command of General P.N. Wrangel in Russian public opinion abroad.
- The military-political situation and the socio-psychological atmosphere in the Crimea after the evacuation of Russian army and navy.
- Reflection outcome of the Russian army under the command of General P.N. Wrangel in literature, journalism, memoirs.
- Association ranks of the Russian Army and Navy in exile and preservation of the memory of the 1920 Exodus.
- "Storage memory" of outcome of the Russian army and navy: libraries, archives, museums of emigration.
- Russian Red Cross Society during the Exodus and the first years of emigration.

After reports there was a Round table - "About the preparation for the 100th anniversary of the Exodus. Creation of an international committee to prepare for the 100th anniversary of the Exodus. Adopted an appeal to President of the Russian Federation with proposals in preparation for the 100th anniversary of the Exodus".

The conference ended with Divine Liturgy and Panikhida for the victims of the Civil War in the Vladimir Cathedral (burial vault of admirals), procession, lithium and meeting-requiem on the Count's wharf, laying flowers at the memorial plaque installed in memory of the events of 1920.

Video - 1) [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMCx\\_1-UJT4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMCx_1-UJT4)  
2) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URq2ypTGeOc>

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## Emperor Nicholas II presentation dishes restored

Three dishes for presentation of bread and salt returned to the Nizhny Novgorod State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve after the restoration at the Grabar Center.

Unique items were created in 1913 in honor of Emperor Nicholas II visit to Nizhny Novgorod for celebration of the 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty. The program of festivities in the city included a visit of the Emperor to the new building of the local branch of the State Bank. The monument of architecture in the neo-Russian style conceived and created as a unique gift to the historic anniversary of the Romanov dynasty. Inauguration of the Bank was held on 17 of May 1913 with the participation of the highest persons.



One wooden dish decorated with silver, cloisonne enamel and semi-precious stones was made at the Moscow factory O.F. Kurlyukova.



Another dish of wood and silver, decorated with enamel and pearl, made by the famous jewelry firm "I.P. Khlebnikov, Sons and Co".





The third dish was also ordered at Klebnikov company. It is the largest and most valuable of the three exhibits, completely made of silver and decorated with enamel.

When applying for restoration, the dishes had similar damage. They were scratched and worn in places, fasteners loosened, festoon bent. In addition to the overall pollution were visible spots of green, black and brown, resulting from corrosion of the metal. On enamel inserts observed cracks, chips and loss, and decor needed cleaning.



## Emperor Alexander II shares the fifth place with Queen Elizabeth II in ranking of the greatest rulers

Queen Elizabeth II shared fifth place with the Russian Emperor Alexander II, Napoleon and several other world rulers in the list of the greatest Monarchs in the history of mankind. The first place in the ranking presented by the Association of British authors writing on historical themes, took the namesake of the current head of the Crown, the Queen of England and Ireland, Elizabeth I (1533-1603), who was the last representative of the Tudor dynasty on the English throne.



"She has brought together the country at a time when factional strife could tear it apart. This would be a great deed for a king, but for a women in the historical period this role was unprecedented," - described the writer Elizabeth Buchan. The famous "Virgin Queen," which was a contemporary of Shakespeare, in the first place ranking got 36% of authors. In total 64 writers participated in the survey.

Alexander the Great was on the second place, and French King Henry II of Valois - on the third. The fourth position was shared by the Roman Emperor Octavian Augustus, the British Queen Victoria and the leader of the English Revolution, Oliver Cromwell.

On the fifth place there are 17 Monarchs. Among them - Russian Emperor Alexander II, who freed the country from serfdom and was killed as a result by "the People", Head of the British crown Elizabeth II, Napoleon Bonaparte, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire Suleiman I, as well as other rulers.

It is noteworthy that participants put in last place father of Elizabeth I - Henry VIII, who carried out the Reformation (founded the Church of England, making the country a Protestant). Despite the fact that the monarch is one of the most influential figures in the whole British history, writers have used against him the most derogatory epithets, calling the king "a murderer of his wife" and a "tyrant" who "was obsessed with obsessions" and "indulge his own whims". Thus, the father and daughter were on the right opposite ends of the rankings.

The reason for publishing rankings was date - the 9th of September, when Elizabeth II had set a record among the British Monarchs as the longest-reigning monarch in Britain's history, ahead of Queen Victoria. The writer of historical novels Es Dee Sykes gave a present to the Queen of Great Britain with the following assessment: "She perfectly cope with royal duties, being a respectable and impartial head of state."

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### **Queen Elizabeth II passed a major milestone**

Queen Elizabeth II has reached a major milestone by becoming the longest-reigning monarch in Britain's history. She passes Queen Victoria, her great-great-grandmother, who was on the throne for 63 years and 7 months.

Prime Minister David Cameron said that millions of Britons would celebrate the queen's "historic moment." "Over the last 63 years, Her Majesty has been a rock of stability in a world of constant change and her selfless sense of service and duty has earned admiration not only in Britain, but right across the globe," Cameron said. "It is only right that today we should celebrate her extraordinary record, as well as the grace and dignity with which she serves our country."



That makes Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh (born Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark), - the husband of Queen Elizabeth II - the longest-serving consort of a reigning British monarch and the oldest-ever male member of the British royal family.

Prince Philip is the only son and fifth and final child of Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark, and Princess Alice of Battenberg. Prince Andrew was the fourth son of King George I of Greece and Queen Olga of the Hellenes - born Grand Duchess Olga Constantinovna of Russia. Grand Duchess Olga Constantinovna was the daughter of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolaievich Sr., the second son of Tsar Nicholas I of Russia. Making Prince Philip the great-great-grandson of Tsar Nicholas I.

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## The coin series «Imperial Faberge eggs» was supplemented by new

The obverse of the coins has on top opened egg with the image of Queen Elizabeth II, with her name below. Around the edge is written the name of the issuer «NIUE ISLAND», the face value "1 DOLLAR", the year "2015", and at the bottom is the metal sample «Ag 999» (Silver).

First coin is "Peter the Great". In 1903, Emperor Nicholas II gave it to his wife. It was created in honor of the 200th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg. Made in the style of Rococo. Materials: gold, platinum, rubies, pink diamonds, rhinestone and enamel. Inside the egg there is a model of the monument to Peter I (on Senate Square). The miniature replica rises with the help of built-in mechanism. Now it is exhibited in Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, USA.



Second coin "Danish anniversary". The egg was commissioned by Nicholas II to the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna in 1903. Timed to the 40th anniversary of the enthronement of the King Christian and Queen Louise of Denmark, the parents of Maria Feodorovna. It made of gold, ivory, covered with blue and white enamel. Inside the egg there was a small two-sided portrait of the Danish rulers. Now it is considered that the egg is lost.

Third coin "Gatchina Palace". The Imperial Easter egg was made in 1901 to the mother of Nicholas II. Materials: pearls, diamonds, gold, enamel. The surprise - a miniature model of the residence of Maria Feodorovna. Now the egg is in the Walters Art Museum, USA.

## In Tambov opened a monument to Russian soldiers and officers in the First World War

September 5, Cossacks from across the region took part in the opening of the monument to Russian soldiers and officers who fell in the First World War. The monument installed near the Cossack cadet boarding school in Tambov.



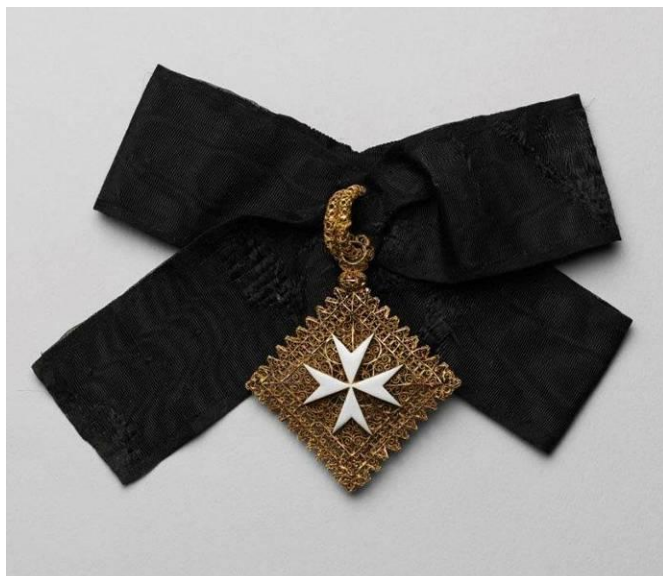
The monument is depicting the two-headed eagle, one side looking at Europe, the other - to Asia - a symbol of mighty Russia. This monument has become one of the few in Tambov, is dedicated to the heroes of the First World War. As historians say, the Great War which was and undeservedly forgotten.

Video - [http://www.vestitambov.ru/?new\\_id=45342](http://www.vestitambov.ru/?new_id=45342)



## The Moscow Kremlin Museums take part in the international exhibition in Malta

The Moscow Kremlin Museums take part in the international exhibition, which will be held in Malta (Valletta) at the Palace of the Grand Masters, from September 5 to December 6, 2015. The exhibition is organized within the framework of events dedicated to the 450th anniversary of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565.



Kremlin Museums will have on display two unique exhibits - a medallion-reliquary of the Grand Master of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem Philippe Villiers de l'Isle-Adam (1521-1534) and a large cross on a chain, owned by the Grand Master of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem - Jean de la Valletta.



The Cross and the reliquary kept in the Cathedral of St. John in Valletta, were presented to Emperor Paul at the dedication of his protectors in the Order of Malta in the Winter Palace in St.

Petersburg November 29, 1797. This is how the Order expressed gratitude for the attention and help in the decision of the emperor in important issues that have arisen as a result of the French Revolution and the Order of the loss associated with its land holdings, and most of the foreign income.

Gifts were highly appreciated by the emperor. The Cross La Valletta he wore almost all the time without taking it off. In most of his portraits of Paul I is depicted with this cross.

After the death of Paul I in 1801 the cross La Valletta was transferred to the heir - the Emperor Alexander I. In 1825, all the medals of Alexander I, not subject to be returned after his death, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to foreign countries, including the cross of La Valletta, were transferred to the Russian Chapter of Orders. After the February Revolution of 1917 the Chapter's property by order of the Provisional Government was brought to the Moscow Kremlin.

More than 170 Maltese and imported from abroad artifacts will be on display, telling about the establishment of the Order of St. John, religious and political aspects of the development of Europe and the Mediterranean in the XVI century, the appearance of the Order of Malta and the circumstances leading up to the Great Siege, about the siege and about the role this epic battle played in the formation of modern Malta.

The exhibition shows the most important historical documents related to the key events in history, such as the Bull of Pope Paschal II, published in 1113 in order to establish the base of the Order of St. John, as well as spy documents to warn the Order of the impending major attack of the Ottoman Empire in 1565.

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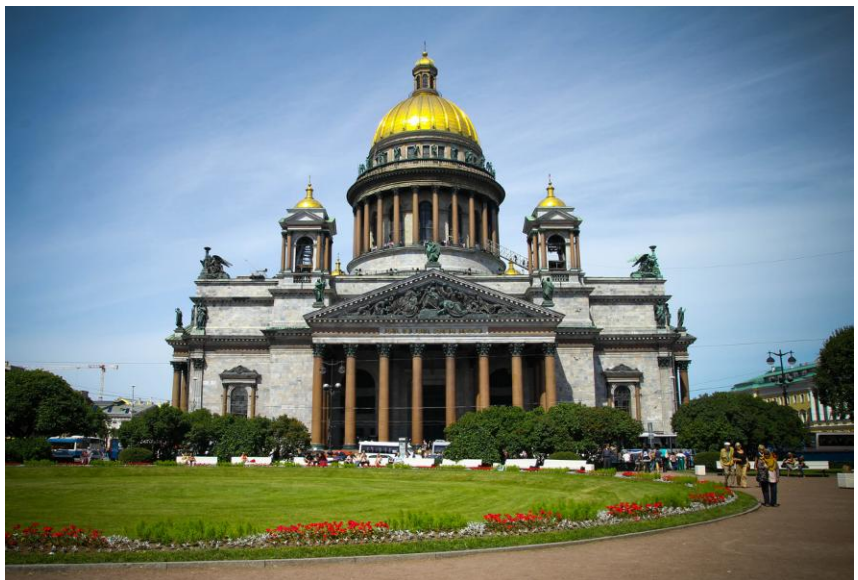
### **St. Isaac's Cathedral will not be handed over to the Russian orthodox church**

The formal decision will be sent to the St. Petersburg diocese. St. Isaac's Cathedral is a state museum, monument, said a spokesman for the governor.

The Government of St. Petersburg decided to maintain the St. Isaac's Cathedral in the operational management of the State Museum-monument "St. Isaac's Cathedral", told Andrew Kibitov press-secretary of the governor of the city of George Poltavchenko.

According to him, the official response today will be sent to the diocese.

"The Government of St. Petersburg has made a final decision on the status of St. Isaac's collection. In case of transfer of the cathedral in the use of the St. Petersburg diocese all the costs of its maintenance, restoration and protection will fall on the owner - the city of St. Petersburg. This will entail further significant costs in the city budget and funding cuts to other social projects and programs, which is unacceptable in the current economic situation ", - said Kibitov.



## Museum "Noble Assembly" in the Moscow Financial and Law University

The exhibition "Noble Assembly" is located in two rooms of the museum. The exhibition includes objects of Russian and Western culture and art XV-XX centuries: Drawings, paintings, prints, icons, books, documents, furniture Pushkin's time, bronze ware, a unique collection of silver and porcelain.

Collection introduces some stages of development of Russian and Western European culture XV-XX centuries, and the decoration of halls allows one to feel the atmosphere of the cultural environment of the Russian nobility XIX century city mansion with its galleries.

Furniture in Russia XVIII-XIX centuries has been a special area of artistic creation. For the royal residences and aristocratic buildings designed famous architects and renowned furniture craftsmen in numerous noble estates and worked obscure craftsmen. The museum presents rare examples of furniture art XVIII-XIX centuries: tables, cabinets of various configurations and destination, sofas, armchairs, chairs. These items are created by craftsmen from mahogany, Karelian birch, and poplar.



Articles made of porcelain are of great historical and artistic value. A worthy place in the exposition takes a pair of vases XIX century from Vienna Royal Porcelain Manufactory.

The pride of the collection is a small collection of the firm Faberge, made by famous master Mikhail Pershin in the nineteenth century.

Today, the museum has a collection of over 1,000 objects of Russian and Western European culture XV-XX centuries. The collection is an original unit and serves as to familiarizing students of the high school to the world culture, as well as contributes to their spiritual and personal growth.



A new church will be dedicated to the 400th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty. Head of the Administration of Ekaterinburg Alexander Yakob and Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye signed on 21 September an agreement on the location of the places of construction for new churches in the city. According to the press service of the city administration, the project in 2020 in Yekaterinburg should see 20 churches. "Churches are located in remote areas of the city and new districts - where they have an urgent need. These measures should solve the problem of shortage of the number of churches on the number of residents" - the report said.

According to Metropolitan Kirill, some of the churches built "for the residents of Yekaterinburg will acquire special significance." One of them will be dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the First World War, another - to the 400th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty.

Alexander Jacob said that the churches will be built in almost all areas of the city. To date, seven of them are already in various stages of construction.



One of the oldest theaters in the country - Alexandrinsky - opened the new season - an anniversary - 260th. Traditionally, starting a new theatrical year, artistic director Valery Fokin in the Peter and Paul Cathedral laid flowers at the gravestone of two Russian empresses: Elizabeth, under the decree which was founded the first Russian theater troupe, and Alexandra Feodorovna - in her honor was named the historical scene.

The tradition of laying flowers is now quite long. Artists of the Imperial Theatre on the eve of the season came in the Peter and Paul Cathedral until 1917, and then for many years it was lost. Ten years ago, the actors along with its artistic director started to visit the cathedral again to commemorate the two empresses, that affected the fate of the Russian theater.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/140427/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/140427/)



On Saturday, on 26 of September Imperial manor Izmailovo held a lecture on "The Romanovs in the history of the Life Guards Izmailovo Regiment - "from Anna Ivanovna to Paul I" - from the cycle "History of Russia. XVIII century. The lecture was about the history and formation of the Third Infantry Regiment of the Russian Guards - Lifeguards Izmailovsky Regiment, established 22 of September 1730 by Empress Anna Ivanovna. As well as the close relationship between the history of the Life Guards Izmailovo Regiment with the reigning dynasty of the Romanovs and the Russian state. History of the Third Regiment of the Russian Guard reflected all the important events in the life of Russia XVIII century: major military battles, palace coups, and the events of court and political life.



There is still no money for the restoration of the palace after the collapse of the Ropsha portico. This was stated on 4 of September by Director of the Museum-Reserve "Peterhof" Elena Kalnitsky - "Unfortunately, no money, means no operating of Ropsha Palace or development or restoration or planning, as our Ministry of Culture has not allocated and money. We keep Ropsha at our own expense, it will not be a great disaster, but the situation is difficult," - she said.

Now the palace is situated in a preserved form. The portico was dismantled and stored for less money than was required: instead of 14 million rubles the work was carried out for 8 million.



Day of Moscow was celebrated on 5th of September. The date of celebration is associated with the first mention of the name of the capital discovered in Ipatiev Chronicle. For first time the holiday of Moscow was celebrated on January 1, 1847, upon a decree issued by Emperor Nicholas I. Then, the

city turned 700 years old. On this occasion a solemn church service in the Miracle Monastery and prayers in other temples, ringing bells, and evening illumination adorned the city.

Tradition is back since 199. The first Saturday of September has been for many years - the date on which the capital of Russia celebrates the Day of the city. In 2015 the Birthday of Moscow was on September 5. This year is celebrated its 868 anniversary. Now the City Day each year is converted to high-profile events that plunges into a pleasant bustle of the metropolis. The streets are concerts, festivals, performances of street artists and much more! - This year includes a concert of American rock group Aerosmith.



An incident recently occurred in one of the registry offices of St. Petersburg. Primorsky region refused to have a wedding ceremony, a man and women who appeared in the costumes of Peter I and Catherine I. It should be noted that the theater costumes for the couple in love is not just for fun, but a part of their image - Andrew Bulgakov and Victoria Moskvina have worked with historical clothes for many years. It is in the image of Peter and Catherine, they act on festive events.

Victoria Moskvina says: "We warned the registrar in advance. At first we were allowed to, and then they changed their minds and refused. They explained it with an internal order that prohibits to be married in theatrical costumes. We have tried to reach the higher authorities, but it did not help".

Having been refused, the couple finally decided to stand their ground. On the solemn day the groom came to the palace in a cornered hat and jacket, and Victoria in a gold-embroidered red dress and a fur cape. All in the best traditions of the royal court. However, just before the ceremony, the newlyweds had to change clothes, to appear before the registry office staff in traditional costumes for the occasion.



St. Petersburg, founded by Peter the Great, has been named the best tourist destination in Europe by the prestigious World Travel Awards Europe, according to the organization's site. The key factors in the city's success were century-old traditions, a rich history and its great tourist potential. Amsterdam, Paris, Barcelona, Venice, Lisbon, Florence, Edinburgh, Istanbul, London, Porto, Berlin and the UK county of Yorkshire were all competing this year for the award. All the winners of the organization's European travel prizes will participate in the World Travel Awards world final in Morocco on Dec. 12. The World Travel Awards has been honoring organizations and companies that excel in the development of the tourist industry for 22 years.



The State Hermitage, founded by Catherine the Great, was voted as a top ten museum in the world according to the largest international portal for travelers. Awards of "Choices" are given to the best tourist destinations of the world according to the analysis of million reviews and opinions of visitors. To determine the winners is used an algorithm that takes into account the quality and the number of comments about the museums around the world, collected within 12 months. Among the Russians was Hermitage Museum acknowledged as the best, second place went to the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, and as top three this year came the State Russian Museum.



September 8 at the Museum-Reserve "Peterhof" was completed the restoration of the cascade "Gold Mountain" in the western part of the Lower Park. After two years of restoration XVIII-XIX centuries marbles sculptures returned to their places, including works by Venetian masters Antonio Tarsia and Pietro Baratta.

Hidden in underground storage during the Second World War, the marble sculpture has undergone two restorations. The current restoration was not that easy, experts not only cleaned the sculpture from a

variety of contaminants, but also manufactured in special material lost small parts. In the top level is set three giant gilt mascarons "Medusa." These bas-reliefs, created in the 1720s by the model of B.K. Rastrelli, were cleaned, repaired in places of defect and re-gilded. 20 levels of the cascade had its "gold" re-done, but not with the usual leaf cover, but a galvanic gilding, which will permanently preserve its golden shine. Visitors can now enjoy the luxury of the fountain, conceived by Peter the Great.



The mayor of Moscow on Thursday, 24 September, said to the radio station "Moscow FM", that "Muscovites have a negative attitude to the possibility of renaming the metro station "Voykovskaya". This mean that it now does not look likely to be renamed in the near future.



The opening of the new museum and exhibition center of the Moscow Kremlin Museums in the middle mall on Red Square is delayed and will take place no earlier than 2017, said the director of the Moscow Kremlin Museums Elena Gagarina.

Middle Trading Rows are composed of several buildings: the main squares of the perimeter of the quarter and the four inner shells at the site which should see the new premises of the Kremlin Museums. On the question which part of the collection will find its permanent place in the exhibition space, Gagarin said, that in the vaults are unique things of Faberge, which now are only at the shows." "You almost never see them" - she added. "You do not see a huge collection of rare fabrics, such as those Iran gave as gifts to Tsars. They date from the 14th century," - said Gagarin.

There is also "a huge collection of medals and banners, and this is an extremely important and interesting part of our collection." "The collection of icons that we have. And the Kremlin icons are the best we have in our country," - she added.

According to her, there is also a chance to see on a regular basis the Byzantine collection. "Our Tsars not only had a very good taste, but also great opportunities, so the Kremlin contains all the best that exist in the world and which was possible to get. This also applies to the Byzantine Empire, it also applies to artists who did the icons and was invited to work in Kremlin, this applies to the armourers, it concerns the finest collections of German and English silver, 16-17 centuries, which are in the Kremlin, which are the best and for reference" - said Gagarin.



In this video, the curator of European porcelain of the State Hermitage Yan Vilensky talks about one of the masterpieces of the Hermitage's collection, the famous "Cameo Service".

A dinner set for 60 people, consisting of more than 700 items, it has been created by French Sevres in the years 1777-1778 on the order of Empress Catherine II.

Video - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNC0\\_x-Xjws](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNC0_x-Xjws)



Military Historical Library (VIB) of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces has digitized more than 900 thousand pages of domestic and foreign military publications, maps and photo documents of 18-20 centuries, inform the headquarters of the Western military district (ZVO). Opening of the Military Electronic Library (VEB) for readers is planned in 2016, when the Military Historical Library of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces will celebrate its 205th anniversary. Founded in 1811 by decree of Emperor Alexander I, "Library-General and Chief of Staff" was the first in Russia with specialized repository of military literature and martial documents. To date, the library has more than 153 thousand items of books, martial documents, maps and periodicals covering the military history of Russia from the time of Peter the Great to present day. "The pearl is the only extant in the world handwritten copy of the" Charter of the Russian Army" from 1716, developed with the direct

participation of Peter I" - say a press release. Also library kept a large number of military rarities: handwritten letter of Peter the Great, decrees, manifestos, and other materials during the reign of Ivan III, Peter I, Elizabeth, Catherine II, Paul I, and Nicholas I. The library is located in the headquarters building on Palace Square in St. Petersburg.



Poultry farm store opened a photo exhibition dedicated to the family of Nicholas II. The initiator and creator of the educational exhibition is priest Alexander Cherepanov of the village Pohodilova. With a request to equip a corner at the grocery store, he turned to the general director of LLC "Poultry farm "Sverdlovsk" Alexander Sergeyevich Rogalev who received the "good" offer and gave a counter offer - to place a trade point next to the church's shop, which will help in the reconstruction of the village church in the name of Alexander Nevsky. In addition, the store has gained the status of ... commercial and educational center. As for the exhibition, it shows the life of the royal family. Family portraits of Emperor Nicholas II, his wife and children, romantic photos, reportage pictures - Tsar at review of the troops, the tsar's daughters as Sisters of Mercy in the hospital, Tsarevich Alexei and his father sawing logs ... In a separate frame - information about the life of the Romanov family, their brutal murder and praise in the face of the saints.



A plaque to commemorate the visit to Saransk of His Imperial Highness Grand Duke Dimitri Konstantinovich will be installed in the capital of Moldova on October 2nd. It will be placed on the building of the Archdiocese.

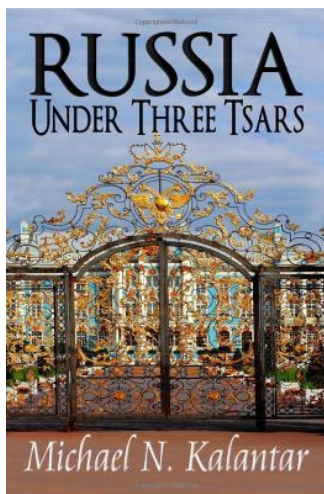
In 2015, marks the 120th anniversary of that memorable visit. For Saransk this was a unique case in its history when the city was visited by such a high person. The memorial plaque is an exact reproduction of the one that once adorned one of the walls of the cathedral of the Saviour Cathedral in Saransk.



A new centre storing historical documents related to the emigration of Russians to France in the years following the 1917 revolution opened on 24 of September in the Parisian suburban town of Sainte-Genevieve-des-Bois. The cemetery of the town, which is located at a distance of 23 kilometers from the centre of Paris, contains the graves of many famous Russian writers and artists. The Russian government took an active role in creating the new archive and memorial-research centre, which has been laid out on the territory of the "Maison Russe". Russian financing has ensured the documents are kept in top condition, and the staff at Maison Russe will help academics access material necessary for their research.

Maison Russe director Jean de Boyer expressed his sincere thanks to the Russian president for supporting the project. Russian Ambassador Alexander Orlov noted the huge cultural and intellectual contribution the Russian emigres made to the life of their new adopted homelands, and especially to France. He also thanked the Paris authorities for helping to keep this memory alive. "The Maison Russe is a testament to the dreams of those, who always dreamt of going home, but never could", he said.

A memorial plaque in honour of the founder of the Maison Russe, Princess Mescherskaya, was unveiled same day.



### Russia Under Three Tsars

Opening with an intimate, dramatic account of the assassination of Tsar Alexander II in 1881, this long-lost partial history describes the personalities and actions of the last Tsars during the years leading up to the Russian Revolution. Glittering royals, politicians, military officers, scoundrels and anarchists all walk across these pages as they did in life during the last years of the Tsars. Alexander II, Alexander III, and the last Tsar - the ill-fated Nicholas II - each attempted to forestall the forces of revolution.

This eyewitness history is based on exclusive access to the original manuscript memoirs of Count Loris-Melikov, Tsar Alexander II's chief minister, and on the author's personal experience in Tsar Nicholas II's government as Secretary-in-Chief of the Duma. In the Appendix is an interview with Count Leo Tolstoy.

Written by Michael N. Kalantar, a graduate of the University of St. Petersburg, Heidelberg University, and the Sorbonne. He was secretary-in-chief of Tsar Nicholas II's Imperial Senate, the Duma. Edited and with an introduction by Irene Vartanoff.

Publisher: Irene Vartanoff. Paperback. 188 pages. ISBN-13: 978-0986125294



### Nizhniy Novgorod treasure trove

The complex of buildings of the State Bank on the Great Intercession is one of the "postcard" of Nizhny Novgorod. It is impossible to stay in the center of the capital of the Volga and not pay attention to the "tower", and those who were lucky enough to be inside, be sure to remember all of these fabulous paintings, arches and chandeliers.

This architectural masterpiece was created for the 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty, and Nicholas II attended the opening of the building May 17, 1913.

Once a year after that date, the Bank's gates (now home to the Volga-Vyatka Main Office of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation) open to all comers and curiosity.

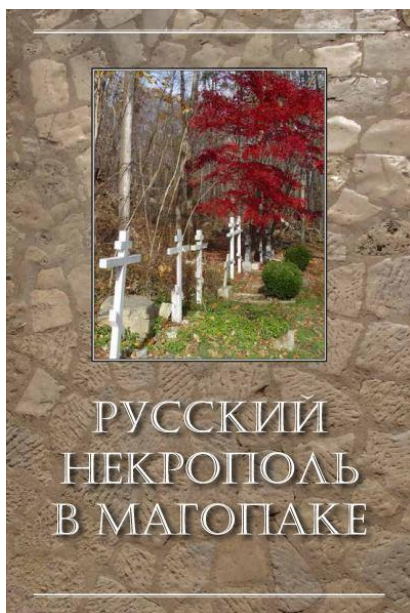
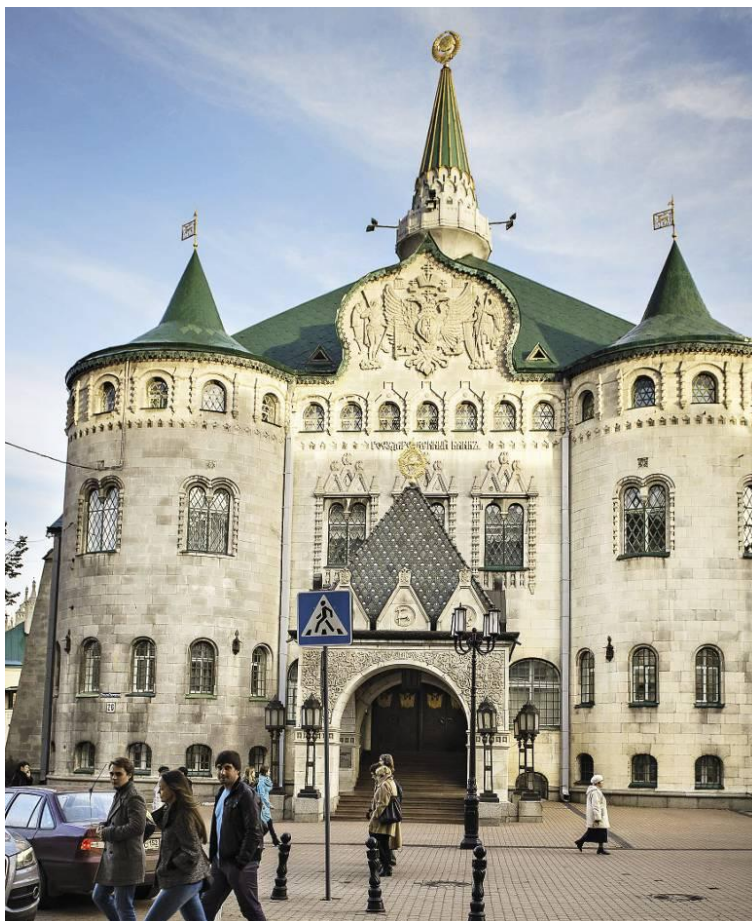
Book-album "Nizhniy Novgorod treasure trove" (published by "Quartz") will help to uncover mysteries of the building. It is the second edition of its output timed to the 155th anniversary of the Bank of Russia. By the way, in the book you can find out why the building was closed to outsiders: in the late 1970s, the entrance was free, but one day in broad daylight in the operating room were stolen huge amount money in those days - 75 thousand rubles. Since then, the "treasure trove" is locked.

Or here's a story. In 1960, to build an elevator in the building, the builders had to make tremendous efforts: the overlap in the bank were created by special technology - in order to avoid "robbery with the use of technical means." It can be said, the bank had to test the strength of its security system.

Another interesting story about who and why in the Soviet years has refused to replace the two-headed eagle over the main entrance to the State Bank of the Soviet coat of arms. But icons are inseparably associated with the processing bank failed to protect - they chopped raging Latvian arrows ...

Under the beautiful artwork on the way, as befits such a publication, the paper has consistently set out the history of the Bank of Russia to the present day, we talked about the famous architect, artist and actually bank employees.

The most colorful part of the "treasury of the Nizhny Novgorod" - album of illustrations. The reader can see all the details of fragments of the interior and exterior of the building, to understand the meaning of images and symbols used in his paintings. The impression of the images taken from the spire of the building at various times: first Maxim Dmitriyev, then contemporary photography.



### "Russian graves in America"

12-volumes encyclopedia of Russian graves in America completed in New York. For the first time in the history the graves of numerous Orthodox cemeteries in the United States have been described. "The work on material sourcing, processing and systematization was conducted in 2003.

A great help rendered Rossotrudnichestvo and the Russian Orthodox Church," - said the president of the scientific and historical society of compatriots "Northern Cross" Yuri Sandulov.

"We have collected tens of thousands of archival materials, including photo documentation, - he said.

According to him people can find relatives, from whom there was no news for decades.

"I recently received a very touching letter of thanks from the children living in the Ukraine of a hero of World War I, whose grave I could find near New York", - said Yuri Sandulov.

The first volume of the encyclopedic cycle is called "Russian necropolis in Mahopac." It includes a list of the 500 graves in the Russian Orthodox cemetery near the eponymous town in upstate New York. There are buried outstanding figures of emigration and national culture. Among them - the singer George Golokhvastov, Prince Shakhovskoy and founder of the Pushkin Society in America Boris Brazol.

"Northern Cross" is called the bright constellation which Russian sailors have long used as a blueprint for the return to his native shore. A charitable organization based in New York (USA), also called "Northern Cross" (Northern Cross Media) is an organization of those who are interested in the history of Russians abroad, who care about the fate of Russian heritage of those who lived in America and did not forget Russia.

The main task of the "Northern Cross" is the promotion of works of Russian scientists in the American scientific community. The main directions of this activity associated with the historical, philosophical, artistic and cultural studies. "Northern Cross"s mission is to create a platform for joint dialogue of Russian and American scientists. Pursuant to that mission within three years of its existence, "Northern Cross" has published 30 books, mainly on the history of Russia, all the waves of emigration research, the study of the contribution of Russian emigrants to the American way of life, culture, science, economics.



A special place in the society takes the role of the Orthodox Church in Russian community in America. Forthcoming series of monographs on the history of Orthodoxy in the United States is "Orthodox domes of America." This comprehensive study through the prism of the life of parish communities, describes the history of Orthodox cathedrals. Chronologically, the series covers the period from 1826 to the present day, and geographically - all of America, from Alaska to the councils of churches in New York. Prepared are the first volumes of "History of Novo-Diveevo monastery" and "martyrdom of Novo-Diveevo cemetery." At the cemetery of Novo-Diveevo monastery are about eight thousand graves. Not all the information about people who have found here the last peace, are preserved in the church books, maps and burial in the monastery file cabinet. Most of the information it was necessary to receive from not always well-preserved inscriptions on gravestones and interviewing elderly.

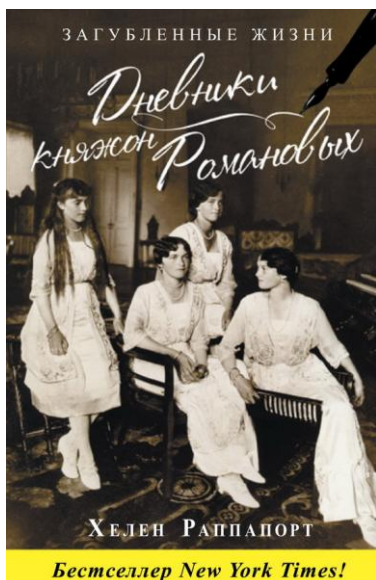
Another big project of "Northern Cross" is publication of postcards devoted to the life and history of the Russian emigration. It is planned to issue one hundred sets of 12 cards in each. The postcards presents awards of the White armies, rare photos from the history of the Russian Diaspora, unique documents related to the activities of the emigre military, naval and civil society organizations, to portraits of significant emigration of individuals: politicians, artists, writers, artists, historians, First Hierarchs Orthodox. Several series of postcards devoted to church architecture, with the Orthodox churches of America. The first 26 sets have been published.



"Northern Cross" is not limited to scientific research and publishing activities. Activists of the society help maintain in proper form the territory of the cemetery at Novo-Diveevo Convent. A lot of time, effort and money is paid by "Northern Cross" for acquisition of libraries of Russian literature and literature on the history of emigration. In the vaults of the society are now more than 40,000 books and a unique archive of documents and photographs. "Northern Cross" has organized TV Documentary, Film Festival, which featured films about Russia and emigration.

Today the "Northern Cross" in fact, is on one hand a research institute dedicated to the history of emigration, and on the other - a club that actively participates in the life of Russian America.

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### "Diaries of Princesses Romanov" will be published in Russia

The publishing house "Eksmo" plans to release on October 9 for sale the book by Helen Rappaport called "Four Sisters" in UK and "The Romanov Sisters" in US - and now in Russian it is called "Diaries of Princesses Romanov."

As the Publishing house says - "This unique biographical work returns to the modern reader, the image of the real Romanov sisters, daughters of Nicholas II and Alexandra.

The book is based on records from the personal diaries of Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia Romanov. On the pages there are portraits of smart, sensitive and responsive to the reality young women, who perceived and experienced the fate of Russia at the turn of the eras.

Extensive materials from the archives were previously inaccessible to the wider Russian public - the official (including the archives of the various Royal houses of Europe ) and private (including of special value are the memories of those who knew the sisters of the Romanovs) - and pictures, that let you recreate the circumstances of their life and occupations, their hobbies and passions.

The masterfully told story perfectly captures the spirit of the time, allowing the reader feel the living breath of history. This book is able to surprise even those who consider themselves an expert on the issue. New York Times bestseller for 12 weeks. The book received the most favorable reviews of the largest British and American editions.

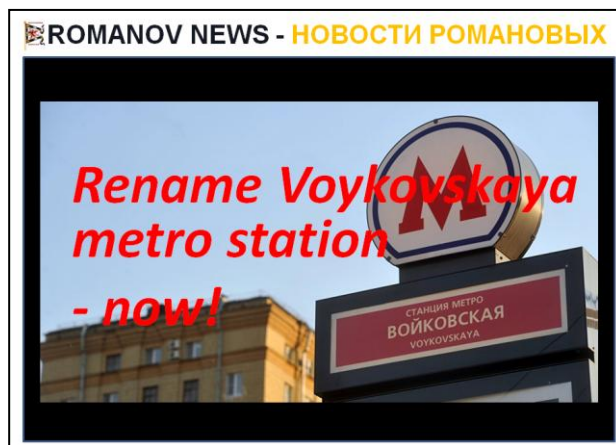
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### Romanov News Videos

"Romanov News" have made a small video about the "Voykovskaya" metro station - See it here:  
<https://youtu.be/grDgNIUjbWU>

A second video made by "Romanov News" is saying "Return the Eagles to the Kremlin Towers" - have a look at it here: <https://youtu.be/8LNCuHa8Fo>

There is also a video advertising the "Romanov News", with a very patriotic sound track –  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBx4t0K0Jd0>



Under the hammer...

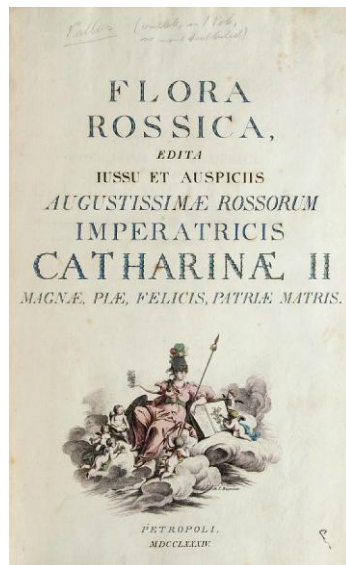
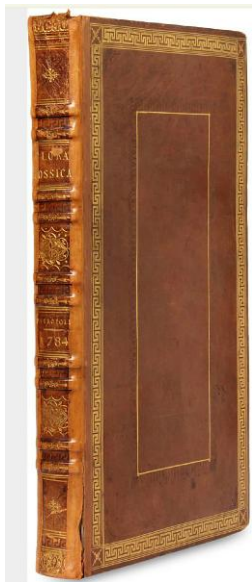
**Romanov related items in Auctions**



**Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on 16 September**

"Flora Rossica edita iussu et auspiciis Augustissimae rossorum Imperatricis Catharinæ II. Magnæ piæ, felicis, patriæ, matris".

Petropoli (St. Petersburg) 1784-1788. 2 parts (bound in 1). Folio. Wide margin. 46,5 x 28 cm. 80 + 114 pp. No title to 2nd part. With hand coloured engraved frontispiece and 100 (of 101) engraved and hand coloured plates by Karl Friederich Knappe. Plates bound at end. Dedication leaf. Nomenclature of the plants in Latin and Russian. With the book plate of Edw. Dowdeswell on inner endpaper. Bound in cont. full calf.



The first great illustrated flora of Russia, initiated by Empress Catherine the Great. The hand coloured engraved frontispiece shows Catherine the Great seated on clouds surrounded by cherubs, one of whom is presenting a copy of the book. In her right hand Catherine is holding flowers. Estimate Dkr 30,000-40,000 (€ 4,000-5,350)

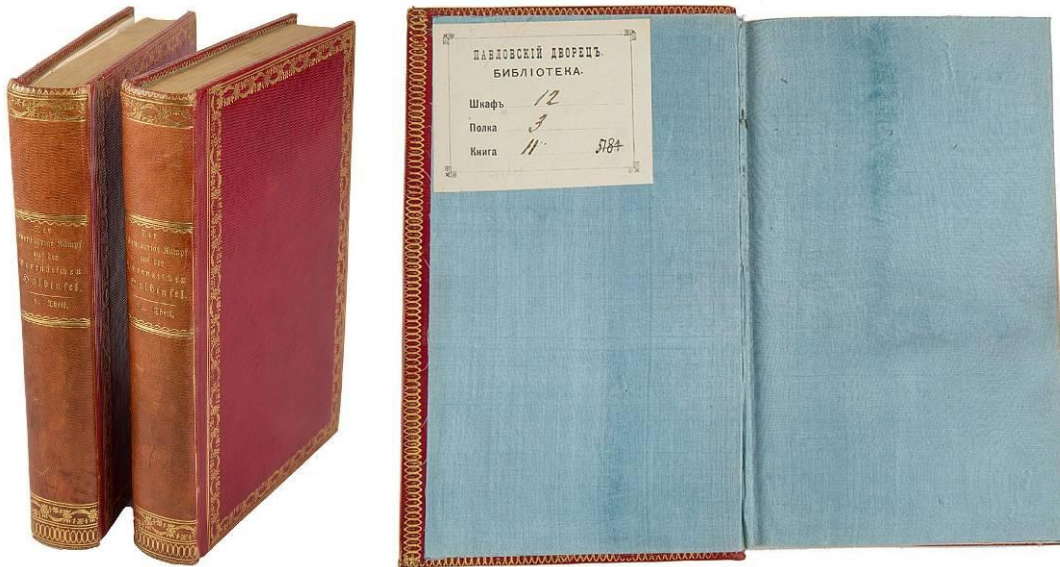
**Geneva Auction, Genève, Switzerland, on 23 September**

Pair of busts, Tsar Nicolas and Tsarina Alexandra. Russian School, patinated bronze, red veined marble base, H 19 cm. Estimated Price: CHF900 - CHF1,200



**Shapiro Auctions LLC, New York, NY, USA, on 26 September**

Two volumes on the peninsular war by Franz Xaver Rigel from the Pavlovsk palace library. Franz Xaver Rigel (German, 1783-1852) "Der siebenjährige Kampf auf der Pyrenaischen Halbinsel vom Jahre 1807 bis 1814; besonders meine eigenen Erfahrungen in diesem Kriege nebst Bemerkungen über das Spanische Volk und Land" - [The seven-years battle on the Iberian Peninsula from the year 1807 to 1814; particularly my own experiences in this war including my remarks about the Spanish people and the country], Rastatt, 1819.



Published at author's expense by the author himself. 12mo (206 x 133 mm) each volume. 532 pages (volume I); 454 pages (volume II). Both volumes contain a label from the Pavlovsk Palace Library indicating item's location and inventory number. Contemporary red Morocco binding with gilt tooling along the borders and on the spines. All edges gilt. Silk endpapers. Volume I containing a full-page copperplate etching depicting a Spanish insurgent, and a foldout map of a battle plan. Volume II containing six full-page copperplate etchings featuring a Spanish national dance Bolero, and various landmarks of the territories where the battles took place.

Estimated Price: \$1,200 - \$1,500



A Russian imperial naval palash sword with order of St. Anne, period of Nicholas II (1894-1919). The damascus blade etched with interlace detailing with imperial cypher of Nicholas II, the reverse of the blade with the Russian Imperial coat of arms, at base of blade P.S. in Cyrillic; the hilt marked with

the Imperial Order of St. Anne. Overall length: 104 cm (50 in.), length of blade: 84 cm (33 in.), the leather scabbard with two suspension rings, tassel attached to guard.

Estimated Price: \$22,000 - \$27,000

A Faberge vari-gold mounted carved agate pen tray, workmaster Michael Perchin, Faberge, St. Petersburg, 1888-1894. Curved rectangular form. The carved agate-perelivit with a two-toned yellow and rose gold mount. The gold border with an applied laurel leaf design set with rosettes on the corners. Supported by a pair of Greek key feet. Length: 17.1 cm (6 3/4 in.), 56 standard.

Estimated Price: \$8,000 - \$10,000



A miniature icon of Christ in a gem-set and enamel gold frame by Faberge, Moscow, 1887-1896.

The lone, full-length standing figure of Christ presented on a background suffused with light. The frame of dome shape, the rose gold border with an underlying layer of translucent red enamel over guilloche ground, each of the bottom corners set with a green cabochon in the center of a square cross, the delicate pierced border comprised of gold palmettes. The icon is with a gold suspension loop with foliate ornament. Length: 13.7 cm (5 3/8 in.). 56 standard.

The use of gold for the gem-set pendant presentation oklad make this delicate piece even more singular. Icon painting was one of the relatively few areas generally outsourced by Faberge to outside masters. One of the icon suppliers to the firm was Vasilii Pavlovich Gulianov, known for his exceptionally fine choice of stylish brush-work.

Gulianov headed his own workshop in Moscow, created works specifically for His Imperial Majesty, and restored a number of the 14th century icons painted by Andrei Rublev. Although this particular icon does not appear to be signed, the finely painted lone figure of Christ is undoubtedly the work of a master.

Estimated Price: \$75,000 - \$95,000



**Fritz Rudolf Künker, Osnabrück, Germany, on September 26**

Imperial Order of Saint Vladimir. Cross 1st class with swords on the upper cross arm (so-called "swords on the ring" - only awarded from 1855 to 1870. Size 61.6 x 55, 9 mm, gold enamelled, 31.8 g, enamel painting, 56 zolotniki and "1867".



By decree of the Emperor Alexander II of 5th of August, 1855 revised statutes were adopted. According to these, crossed swords were approved on the insignia "for bravery in combat." The new insignia awarded with crossed swords, which were placed on the upper arm of the cross. This was in 1870 abolished. Furthermore, the 4th grade could be awarded for 25 or 35 years of service and for 18 or 20 naval battles. The order was never awarded with diamonds.

The size of the crosses of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd class varies 47-59 mm, with only the largest being attributed with certainty to the 1st class.

Estimated price: 10,000.00 €

Romanov Medal for work in agriculture. Diameter 35.4 mm, silver, partially enamelled, 20.0 g. In the eyelet master brand "ET" for E. Tileman and 84 zolotniki, from 1908 to 1917.

The three-level award was instituted on 21 February 1913 and is in all levels of the utmost rarity.

Estimated price: 10,000.00 €



Cross for the capture of Ochakov on December 6, 1788. Subsequent official novoděl of the Golden Cross for officers, made between 1850 and 1914. Size 53.2 x 46.5 mm, Gold, 39.2 g, with belt ring, without ribbon.

On December 6, 1788, during the reign of Empress Catherine II, Russian troops stormed under the command of Field Marshal Prince Grigory Potemkin the Ottoman fortress Ochakov, located on the Black Sea (today Ochakiv in Mykolaiv Oblast in the south of Ukraine). Officers were awarded with a golden cross on April 14, 1789 and NCOs got a silver medal. In 1794-1830 some additional copies were minted weighing 34.6 g as a replacement for lost pieces.

Estimated price: 25,000.00 €



Cross for the capture of Ismail on 11 of December, 1790.

Subsequent official novoděl of a Golden Cross for officers, made between 1850 and 1914. Size 53.2 x 47.6 mm, Gold, 34.0g, without band ring and without ribbon.

On December 11, 1790, Russian troops stormed under the command of Generalissimo Alexander Suvorov-Rymnikski Ottoman fortress Ismail on Danube (now Izmail in Odessa Oblast in the extreme south of Ukraine). Officers were awarded with a golden cross on March 25, 1791 and NCOs got an oval silver medal.

Estimated price: 25,000.00 €





Medal commemorating the 25th anniversary of King Frederick William IV as honorary chief of the Russian Kaluga 4th Infantry Regiment in 1843. Golden medal with eyelet, diameter 33.5 mm, gold, 28.5 g, in an old, possibly original box.

On 20 of June, 1818 the Prussian Crown Prince Friedrich Wilhelm (1795-1861, reg. From 1840 as King Frederick William IV.) was appointed Chief of the Russian 4th Kaluga Infantry Regiment by Emperor Alexander I. 25 years later, on June 20, 1843, he celebrated his 25th anniversary as a regimental Chief. On this occasion he donated the same day for all officers and men of the regiment a commemorative medal. This was created by the royal Hofmedailleür Christoph Carl Pfeuffer (1801-1861) in gold in eight copies with eyelet, and in gilded copper in 3,224 copies with eyelet and 10 copies without eyelet.

Estimated price: 10,000.00 €

A commemorative badge on the 50th anniversary of the appointment of His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Mikhail Nikolayevich as General-Feldzeugmeister.

Gilded silver and partially enamelled, on the lapel master brand "ВД" of Vladimir Dinakov in Saint Petersburg and Moscow (α) kokoshniks Silver Hallmark to 84 zolotniki from 1908 to 1917 and kokoshniks-stamp from 1908 to 1917. Screw with washers.

The badge was introduced on 17th of January, 1906.



**Empire Auction, Moscow, Russia on 26 September**

An insignia of a Village Judge. "Kuban Cossack village of Kaluga". Unknown Workshop, Russia, late XIX - early XX centuries. Bronze, 38.57 g. Size 44h x 54 mm.  
Estimate 25000-32000 rubles. / 360-460 \$



1 ruble, 1894. The last in the reign of Emperor Alexander III. Silver, 19.98 g  
Estimate 120000-140000 rubles. / 1700-2000 \$



Table medal "In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the War Ministry. 1802-1902."  
Signature medalist "VA" (A. F. Vasyutinsky). Copper, 129.27 g. Diameter 65 mm.  
Estimated price - 20000-28000 rubles. / 290-400 \$



1 ruble, 1915. Silver, 19.97 g. The last in the reign of Emperor Nicholas II.  
Estimated price - 170000-210000 rubles / 2500-3000 \$

***Tradewinds Antiques, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, on 26 September***

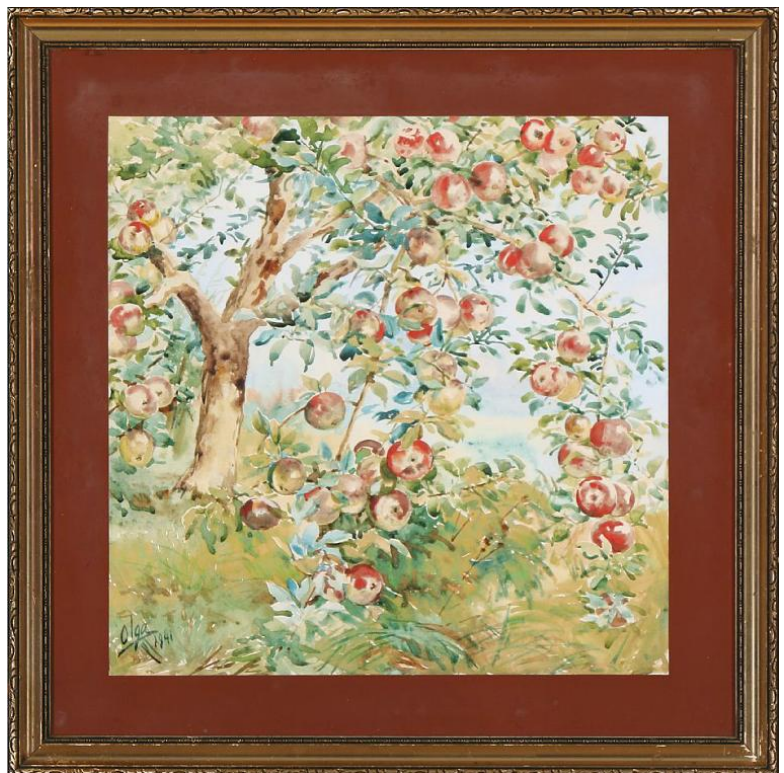
An agate eagle Faberge cane by Michael Perchin. The agate handle measures about 3 1/2" long and 1 1/8" at its widest. It depicts in marvelous detail, an eagle with amber eyes, fashioned from multi-colored agate. There is a superb 1 1/8" guiloché silver enamel collar framed by two-colored gold rings with chains of laurel leaves. Festooned over the enamel are four decorated gold swags each with a bow centered by tiny cabochon rubies. Two of the swags are marked: one with the initials in cyrillic of work-master Michael Perchin and the other with "56" for the gold content, (14k), and the cyrillic initials of an unknown assay-master from St. Petersburg. The shaft is ebonized hardwood that ends with a 7/8" horn ferrule. The overall length is 36".

Estimate: \$8000-\$12000.

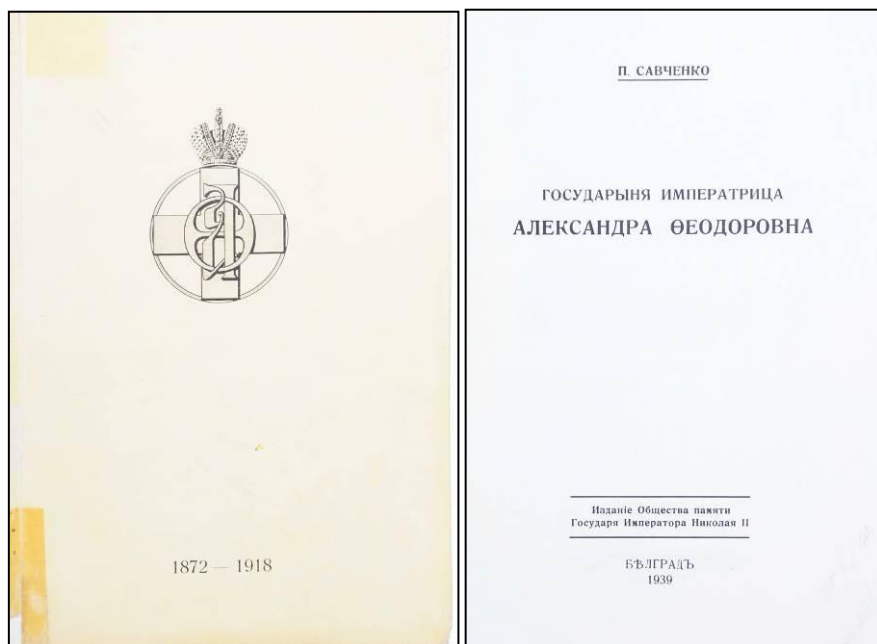


***Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on 28 September***

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.: kr 8,000-10,000 /€ 1,050-1,350



**Anticvarium, Moscow, Russia, on 1st of October**



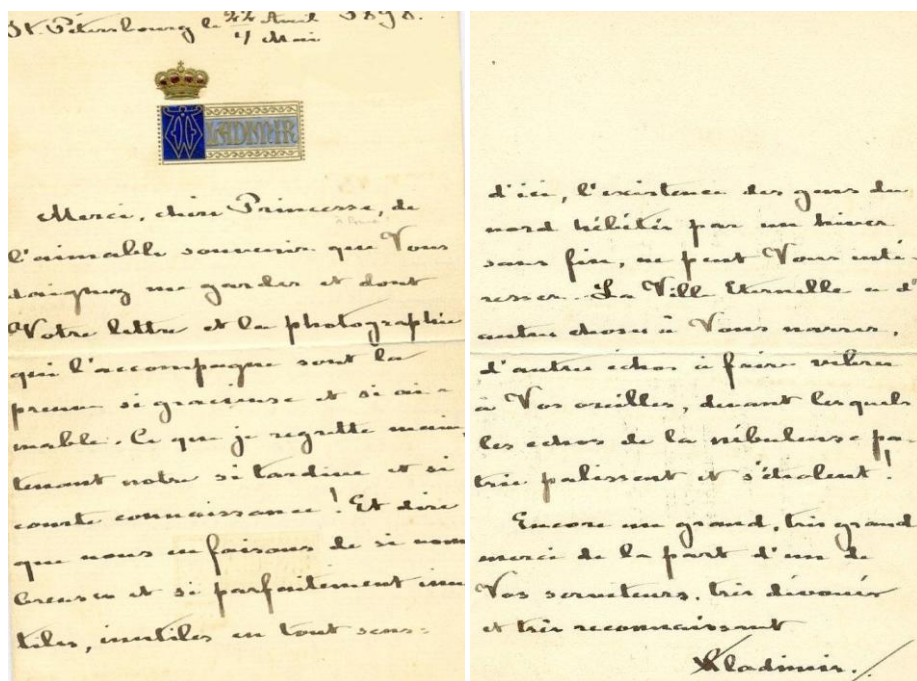
"Empress Alexandra Feodorovna" by A.P. Savchenko. Belgrade: Publication of the Company's memory of Emperor Nicholas II, 1939.

The book tells about the life of martyred Empress Alexandra. It emphasizes her connection with reality and Russian Orthodoxy. Written by Peter Sevastyanovich Savchenko (1881 - after 1945), a lawyer, member of the Civil War in exile - in Yugoslavia.

104 pages, 1 portrait, size 21h x 14,5 cm.

Estimate 150-220 USD

**IAA Spain S.L., Malaga, Spain, on 3 October**



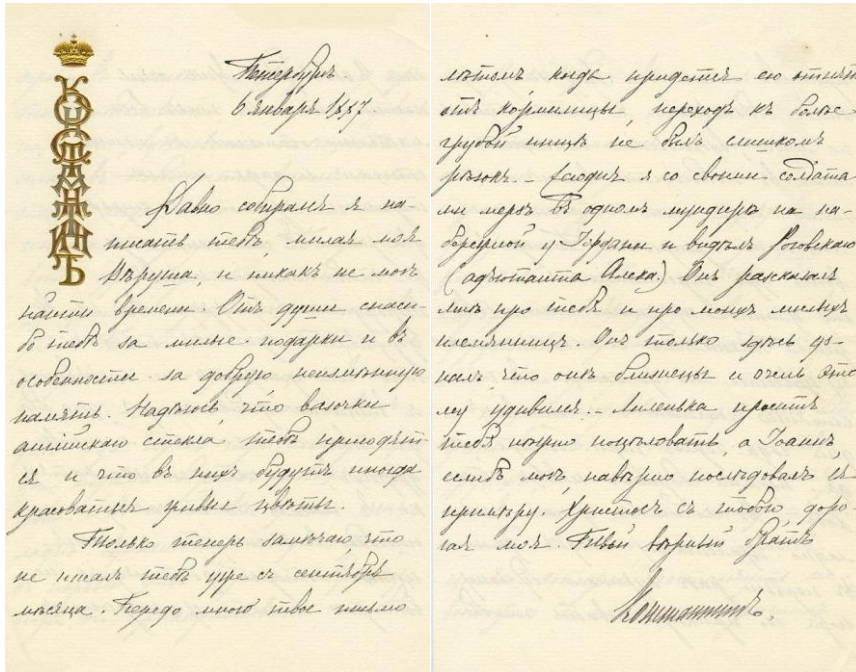
Letter from Vladimir Alexandrovich (1847-1909), Grand Duke of Russia, son of Tsar Alexander II. Brother of Tsar Alexander III and the senior Grand Duke of the House of Romanov during the reign of his nephew, Tsar Nicholas II. A.L.S., Vladimir, three pages, 8vo, St. Petersburg, 22nd April 1898, to an unidentified Princess, on his attractive printed stationery bearing a gold and blue embossed monogramme with his name, in French.

The Grand Duke states 'What I regret now is that our meeting was so late and so short! Considering the number

of persons we get acquainted, so perfectly useless, useless in all ways...' further adding '...our life here, the life of the north people, dazed by a never ending winter, cannot be of interest for you. The Eternal city has other things to recount, other echoes to your senses...'

Estimated Price: €280 - €420

Letter from Konstantin Konstantinovich (1858-1915), Grand Duke of Russia. Grandson of Emperor Nicholas I. Poet and Playwright. A.L.S., Konstantin, in Cyrillic, four pages, 8vo, Saint Petersburg, 6th January 1887, to his sister 'Verusha', on his personal stationery, in Cyrillic. The letter bears to the upper left border a very attractive golden embossed monogramme with his name, below a golden crown.

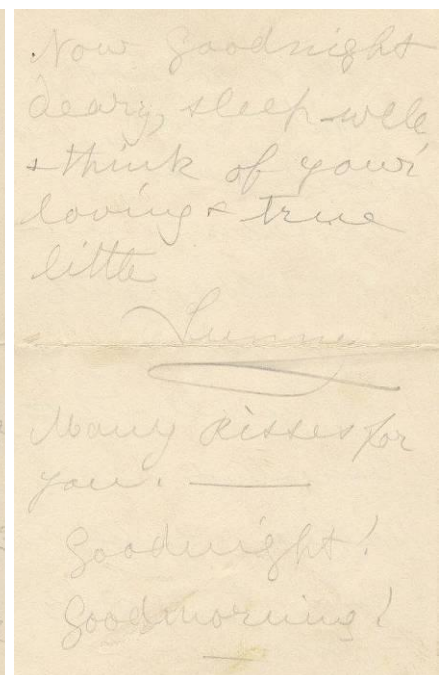
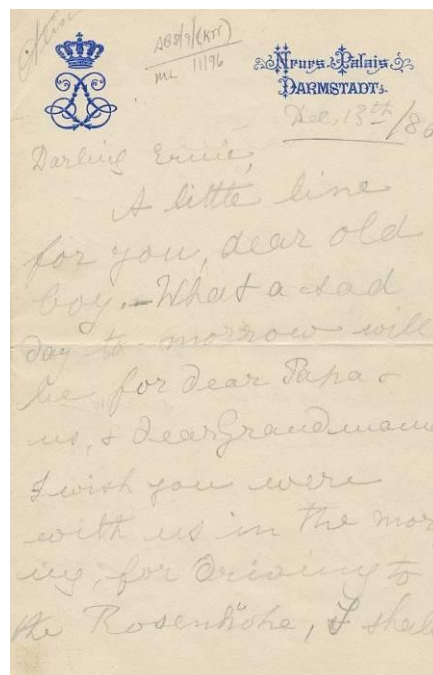


Konstantin apologizes for taking so long to write to her, and thanks her stating 'I am very flattered that you were so considerate to my verses, and that you even had patience to read the book twice. I look even more strictly at my Vozrazhdenny Manfred (Revived Manfred). He does not endure criticism, starting with the fact that he dies unconfessed. I am vainly seeking a state of grace for him with the help of others, but this is only a forced argumentation. I wrote it under commission and my mistake was that I set myself an unreachable aim and I sinned against the logic.' and further continues 'This winter I am creating pretty much, which is unusual for me. Inspiration comes to me specially in spring and

summer when the sun warms my bones. But now I have been writing for three month a very long poem Pygmalion which I cannot finish. I am steadily dreaming about a happy day when, in three or four years, I publish a new collection of poems.' Konstantin also refers to his son and mentions that soon he will be weaned from the wet nurse, and further states 'Today, together with my soldiers, I have been freezing, wearing nothing but the uniform on the embankment. I met Rogovsky. He talked about you and my dear nieces. He had just learnt that they were twins and was very surprised...', and concludes sending regards on behalf of his wife and baby son Ioann.

Estimated Price: €280 - €420

Letter from Alexandra Feodorovna - when still Princess of Hesse, (1872-1918), Empress of Russia 1894-1917, wife of Tsar Nicholas II. A.L.S., Sunny, four pages, small 8vo, Darmstadt, 13th December 1886, to Ernie, in English.



On a pencil written letter bearing to the heading an embossed blue crown and the Nfufs Palais Darmstadt monogramme, the fourteen year old Alix of Hesse commences her letter `A little line for you dear old boy. What a sad day to-morrow will be for dear Papa & us & dear Grandmama. I wish you were with us in the morning for driving to the Rosenhohe, I shall think of you, dear Ella & Irene...` and further stating `You will be astonished to get this letter, I am sure, but as I do not see you much, I want you at least to hear from me. God bless & protect you, my old darling & let us all try to be what dear Mama wanted us. 8 years it will be to-morrow.` concluding `Good night? Good morning?`. A very fine letter of the young Princess referring to members of her family. VG  
Estimated Price: €1,100 - €1,700

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### Did you know....



*... That in Parc de Bruxelles there is a bust of Peter the Great (Buste van Peter de Grote).*

In the former Royal Park, located in the city center of Bruxelles, there is a bronze bust of Peter I by the German sculptor Christian Daniel Rauch (1777-1857), which was presented to the city in 1854 by Anatoly Demidov (1812-1870) in memory of his visit to Brussels in 1848-1849. A similar bust was donated to the town of Spa in 1856.

The bust is set on an 8 Octagonal pedestal of artificial stone. On the front of the pedestal is a bronze plaque with the inscription in Dutch: «Opgericht ter ere van tsaar Peter de Grote en als herinnering aan zijn verblijf te Brussel in 1717". And on the flip side, in the stone is stamped gilt lettering similar inscription in French: «Érigé en l'honneur du czar Pierre le Grand et en mémoire de son séjour à Bruxelles en 1717" - the English translation is: "Erected in honor of Peter the Great and in memory of his stay in Brussels in 1717").

The monument is located between the trees in a ravine, in a corner of the park formed between rue Ducale and place des Palais. The place was not chosen by chance, because there is a fountain of Mary Magdalene with an inscription related to the stay of Peter I in Brussels.

In October 1994, the bust was stolen, but was found in 1997 and re-installed in the same place.

During his stay in Brussels, Peter I lived in the territory of the park in 14-18 of April, 1717 (old style 3-7 of April) in the "House of the Emperor", aka "House of Charles V» (Maison



de l'Empereur; Maison de Charles-Quint). The building was demolished in 1778, but his memory is preserved.

There is a myth connected with this monument. It is said that during Peter the Great's visit to Brussels, he was invited to a dinner with the King. Next morning servants went to look for the missing Russian Sovereign and they found him sleeping in a public park at the bottom of a ravine in the arms of a local beauty ... The legend then says, that in memory of this, in the city park, a sculptural ensemble was erected - the bronze bust of Peter I and a marble sculpture of a woman lying with a book.

But the truth is that the sculpture of the woman - "Penitent Mary Magdalene" is from XVII century. It was there even when Peter visited and he could easily see it, as the statue is located in a cave not far from the monument to Peter established much later.

