

Dhananjayrao Gadgil Library



GIPE-PUNE-002330

THE

RUSSIAN STORM-CLOUD

OR,

Russia in her Relations to Neighbouring Countries.

BY

STEPNIAK,

AUTHOR OF "RUSSIA UNDER THE TSARS," "UNDERGROUND RUSSIA," ETC.



LONDON:

SWAN SONNENSCHN E AND CO.

PATERNOSTER SQUARE.

1886.

V58:19.5.M8

B6

2330

PREFACE.

IN this volume, which I have the honour to present to the indulgence of English readers, I deal with the two contending principles of modern Russia—Liberty and Despotism—from one particular point of view, viz., the influence both are likely to exercise upon neighbouring European countries and their general welfare and progress. The entire work is entitled “The Russian Storm-Cloud,” under which title the first four chapters appeared in *Time*. Ever since the creation of the Russian Empire by Peter the Great, Europe has felt uneasy, and still feels apprehensive at the vicinity of a colossal State obedient to the despotic will of one man and the continual extension of the empire in all directions. On the other hand, Russian revolution, owing to the extremely violent character of the means adopted, appeared, and still appears, to many minds as a threatening phantom of general destruction and of the overthrow of all social order, scarcely less dangerous to the peace of Europe than to the despotism of the Tzar.

My object has been to indicate the rival nature

and character of both of these elements. The book is, therefore, essentially a political one. But I have done my best to make it as objective as possible,—describing our country, rather than advocating any opinion, exposing facts which might enable the reader to draw his conclusions instead of forcing on him my own.

The article on Poland, together with those on “European Socialism and the Dynamite Epidemic,” and “A Revolt or a Revolution?” were written to complete the present volume. The chapters on “The Russian Army” and on “Terrorism in Russia and in Europe,” are reprinted, by the kind permission of the publishers, from the *Times* and the *Contemporary Review*, to whom I must once more express my earnest thanks for their uniform courtesy.

CONTENTS.



	PAGE
I. THE RUSSIAN STORM-CLOUD:—	
I. What do the Nihilists want?	I
II. What are the Forces the Russian Revolution commands?	18
III. Why Russia is a Conquering Country	47
IV. The Political Form of the Russia of the Future	83
II. THE RUSSIAN ARMY AND ITS COMMISSARIAT	97
III. YOUNG POLAND AND RUSSIAN REVOLUTION	139
IV. TERRORISM IN RUSSIA AND TERRORISM IN EUROPE	175
V. EUROPEAN SOCIALISM AND THE DYNAMITE EPIDEMIC	207
VI. A REVOLT OR A REVOLUTION?	229