

RUSSIA IN 1916

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Russia in 1916 by Stephen Graham

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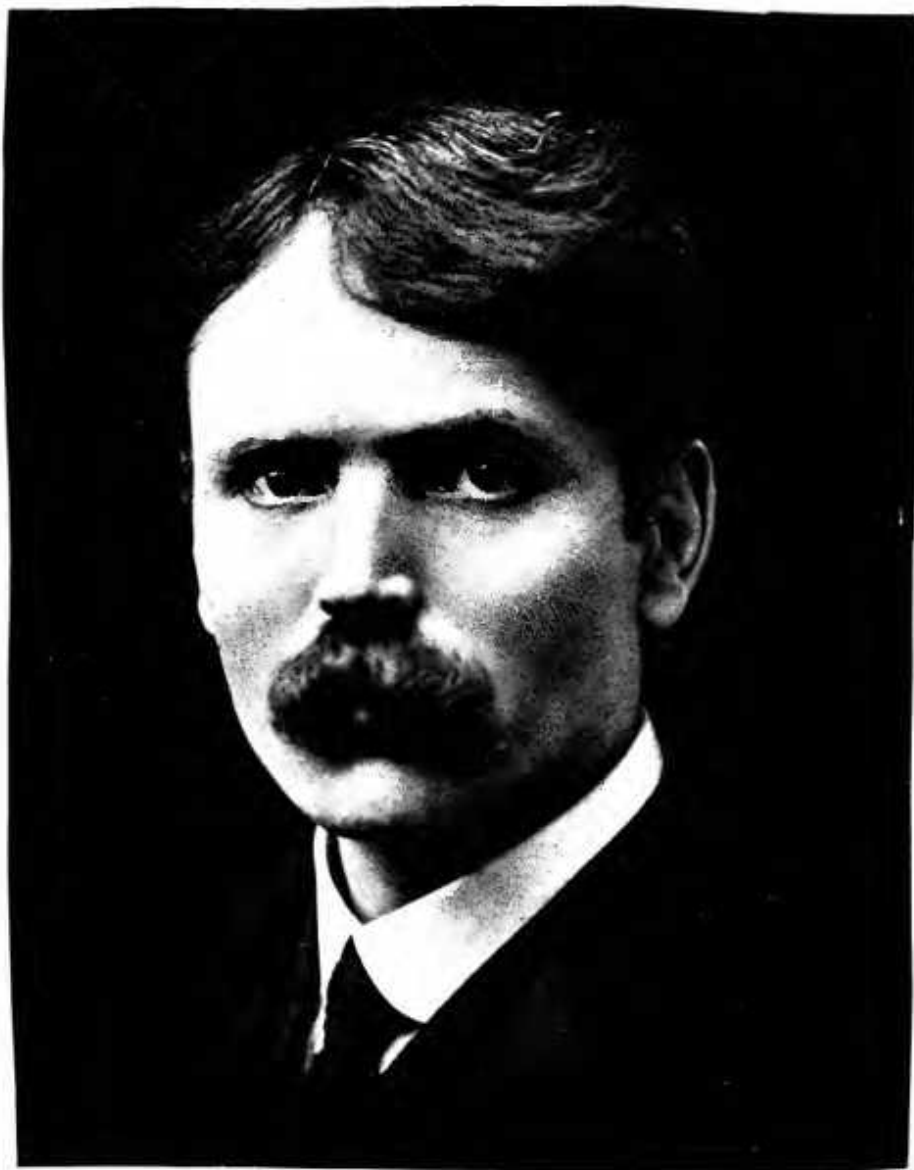
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STEPHEN GRAHAM

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Edith Hackworth.

RUSSIA IN 1916



*The trial is in battle,
The trial is in struggle,
But the highest trial is in patience,
Love and prayer.*

*Podvig yest i srazhenie,
Podvig yest i s borbay,
Voeshy podvig s terpenie,
Liubvy i molbay.*

RUSSIA'S 1916 WAR PICTURE. BY MICHAEL NESTEROF

Russia in 1916

By
STEPHEN GRAHAM



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PREFACE

I RETURNED to Russia last summer, visited as many of my old friends there as I could, arranged for the publication of some of my books in the Russian language, and incidentally travelled a great deal and saw a great many sides of Russian contemporary life; talked also with all manner of Russians.

I travelled to Bergen in Norway, from Bergen obtained a passage round the North Cape to Vardö, the last port of Norway, transhipped there to a Russian boat and sailed for Ekaterina, the first port in Russia in the North, the new Russian harbour which never freezes. From Ekaterina I went on to Archangel, where I stayed a week, and from Archangel went to Moscow. I visited some estates in Central Russia and stayed with various acquaintances and friends, visited Rostof-on-the-Don, the Caucasus, Orel, Petro-

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grad, and finally came back to England on a returning ammunition ship.

In going to Russia I certainly did not intend to publish my impressions in book form, but I have been asked to do so, and I recognise the value of keeping in contact with our Ally from day to day. The requirement of the moment seems to be not so much books on Russia, of which there are now a great many, but diaries or volumes of impressions, keeping the peoples of the two countries in touch during the war. I returned to London at the beginning of October 1916, and I should be glad to think that some one returning at the beginning of January 1917 would follow on with another small volume of this type. Again for April 1917. We need such volumes of personal impressions, and there would be no need to apologise for them. They are letters between friends both engaged in the same vital task. It is extremely difficult to keep in touch with Russia by reading news-