

**NOTES OF A JOURNEY THROUGH  
PART OF RUSSIA AS FAR AS  
NIJNI-NOVGOROD IN THE  
SUMMER OF 1863, AND JOURNAL  
OF A TOUR IN HOLLAND IN 1865**

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Notes of a journey through part of Russia as far as Nijni-Novgorod in the summer of 1863, and  
Journal of a tour in Holland in 1865 by W. W. Hope Vere

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**W. W. HOPE VERE**

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N. O T E S

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IN 1865

PRIVATELY PRINTED

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JOURNEY THROUGH PART OF  
RUSSIA





## NOTES

OF A

*Journey through Part of Russia.*

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THE Author of the following remarks, during a short tour in part of Russia as far as Nijni-Novgorod, noted for its great annual fair, which he made with a companion during the summer of 1863, has no intention of publishing his thoughts, but simply of presenting them to intimate friends. Little that is new will be offered, it being difficult to obtain information in Russia—especially so for foreigners—all establishments in the country of any importance, and most things in general, being conducted with the greatest secrecy; but the writer will endeavour to make the account of his adventures as amusing as possible.

A



Tourists at home and abroad. As sunny July draws to a close, and is succeeded by the fruit-ripening month of August, most classes of society seek for recreation and change after the duties and amusements of summer are over. Sportsmen flock to the Highlands, there to enjoy the pastime of the deer-forest, the moors, and salmon-rivers. Some patiently await the 1st of September for partridge-shooting, others hurry off to the Continent to explore the Rhine, Switzerland, and Germany; and of these latter not a few who for fashion's sake go to "do" the Continent are not unfrequently "done" themselves.

The start. Inclination led us to a more distant field; so, after July 3. a pleasant sojourn at Spa, we started on the 3d of July by railway for Hanover.

Cologne to Hanover and Harburg, via Harburg. The carriages were crowded, especially with English tourists, and on reaching Cologne the refreshment-room presented an extraordinary scene. There were congregated in great numbers English, French, and Germans, all busy at dinner, and a greater babel of tongues and clatter of knives and forks could hardly be imagined.

Dinner in such circumstances seemed hopeless, but the *Kellner* advised us to wait and we should speedily see the room cleared, when we might dine in comfort before proceeding on the night journey; and we were not long of benefiting by this advice, for

soon the bell rang and a stentorian voice proclaimed the immediate departure of the up-Rhine train, which announcement caused the instant emptying of the room amidst great noise and confusion, leaving us in possession of all we surveyed.

After dinner we took our places in the Hanover train. The absence of crowding here strongly contrasted with the more familiar tract of the Rhine, our train conveying few travellers in comparison to the train we had seen shortly before depart.

As it is my intention to dwell only slightly on our journey to Copenhagen, I shall briefly remark that Hanover was reached very late in the evening. <sup>Hanover.</sup> On the following day we visited the Palace and other <sup>July 4.</sup> interesting places, and the same afternoon left for Harburg, from which place a steamboat conveyed us down the Elbe to Hamburg, where we took up our <sup>Hamburg.</sup> quarters in the Hotel St Petersburg.

We were occupied the next day viewing the city. <sup>July 5.</sup> Having visited Hamburg before, there was little of novelty to me; but being new to my companion, we managed to see a good deal, although the day was uncomfortably wet, prosecuting our inspection to a late hour in the evening, when the city can be seen to most advantage.

My friend ascended the spire of the Church of St <sup>July 6.</sup> Michael, which is the highest in Hamburg, and com-

mands extensive views of Hanover, the Elbe, and Denmark. We drove through Altona (which means *all-too-near*,—a Danish town close by the Hamburg gates) to Blankenese on the Elbe, enjoying the fine scenery, and then returned to our starting-place.

Hamburg  
to Copen-  
hagen, via  
Altona,  
Kiel, and  
Korsör.

After a slight repast we prepared for the night journey from Altona to Copenhagen. On accomplishing the first stage by railway to Kiel, we found the steamboat waiting, and were soon under way. After supper we slept in the saloon, and on the dawn of day discovered the Great Belt was nearly crossed, the Little Belt having been crossed the previous evening. We soon reached Korsör, where is the mausoleum of the Danish royal family, thence took the train for Copenhagen, in which capital we arrived at 11 A.M.

Copenha-  
gen.

On inquiry we ascertained there was no direct steamer plying between Copenhagen and St Petersburg or Kronstadt, but learned we could proceed by the Hull steamer, on making telegraphic communication to Elsinore for the boat to stop at Copenhagen. The next fortnightly steamer being expected in a day or two, we were told to be in readiness, and occupied our time in seeing Copenhagen and Elsinore.

Museum.

I accompanied my friend to the Museum, to see what additions had been made since my former visits. The only thing I noted was a rudely-con-