

**RECOLLECTIONS OF COUNT LEO  
TOLSTOY, TOGETHER WITH A  
LETTER TO THE WOMEN OF  
FRANCE ON "THE KREUTZER  
SONATA"**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649007592

Recollections of Count Leo Tolstoy, together with a letter to the women of France on "The Kreutzer Sonata" by S. A. Behrs & Charles Edward Turner

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

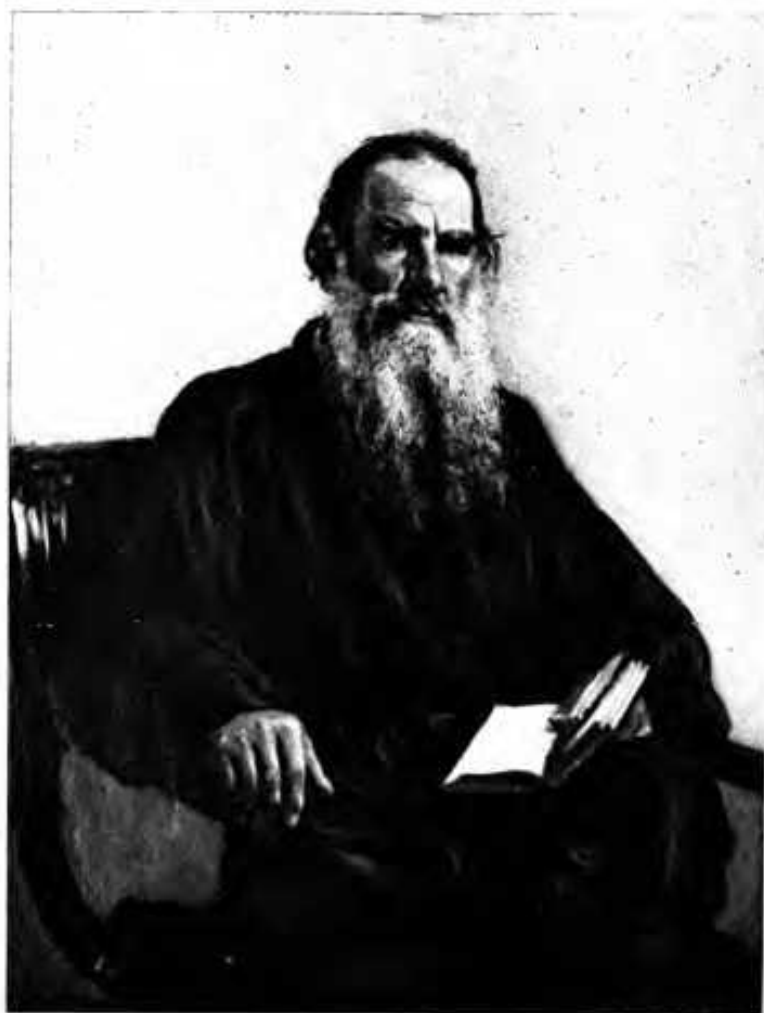
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**S. A. BEHRS & CHARLES EDWARD TURNER**

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Leo Tolstoy,

RECOLLECTIONS  
OF  
COUNT LEO TOLSTOY

TOGETHER WITH  
*A LETTER TO THE WOMEN OF FRANCE ON  
"THE KREUTZER SONATA"*

BY  
C. A. BEHRS

*TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN BY*  
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*To. of V. S. ...  
L. Tolstoy*

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LONDON  
WILLIAM HEINEMANN  
1893

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### *A LETTER TO THE WOMEN OF FRANCE ON "THE KREUTZER SONATA."*

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RECOLLECTIONS



RECOLLECTIONS  
OF  
COUNT LEO TOLSTOY.

CHAPTER I.

*INTRODUCTORY.*

WHEN Count Leo Nicholaevitch Tolstoy began teaching his well-known creed, a general interest was aroused in all that concerned his personal and family life. We all wished to know what kind of life he had led before, how he lived now, and how his family looked upon and regarded his creed.

For the most part all that has hitherto been published on these points is made up of erroneous and fragmentary information, whilst numerous facts have been presented in a false light, and his creed has been put

before the world in a mutilated and distorted shape.

Count L. N. Tolstoy is married to my sister, and from 1866 to 1878 I was accustomed to spend each summer with him and his family, he then being about fifty, and myself a young man of from twenty to twenty-three years of age.

His private life is in every respect irreproachable, and open to the world. All his life he has practised and taught what he believed to be the truth; so that, with perfect justice, he has more than once said to me, "I have nothing to hide from any one in the world: all may know what I do."

Before giving in detail my reminiscences of the Count, I should wish to say a few words concerning our mutual relations.

It will be understood that, then a youth, I not only loved and esteemed him, but accepted him in everything as my guide. Independently of the reverence I felt for his genius, my devoted submission to him

sprang mainly from a rare quality he possessed. A keen psychologist and a skilled pedagogue, and moreover a man of exceptional cordiality and sincerity, he is endowed with the power of attracting to him not young men only, but all who are brought into communication with him, and perhaps his peculiar gift resides in his rich fund of marvellous tact and delicacy.

When he was not at work, and of course in summer he is always comparatively free and at leisure, I was his constant companion, and never failed to accompany him on his journeys or excursions, in his walks, or when he went shooting.

Like a young enthusiastic disciple, I prized every minute of his society, and made his every thought and word my own. Through the long winter months I lived in the hope and expectation of being again with him, and, by corresponding with my sister, kept myself informed of every little circumstance in their lives, and was simply in raptures if by chance