

**A RUSSIAN
HONEYMOON: A
COMEDY IN THREE ACTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649336609

A Russian Honeymoon: A Comedy in Three Acts by Mrs. Burton Harrison

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Cover @ 2017

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MRS. BURTON HARRISON

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HONEYMOON: A
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A RUSSIAN HONEYMOON

A COMEDY
IN THREE ACTS

ADAPTED BY
MRS. BURTON HARRISON
From the French of Eugène Scribe



CHICAGO:
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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Copyright, 1883.
By CONSTANCE CARY HARRISON.

1850

SCENE, RUSSIAN POLAND.

TIME 1850.

ACTS FIRST AND SECOND.— A room in the house of Ivan the Shoemaker.

ACT THIRD.— A drawing-room in the Château of the Count Woroffski.

COSTUMES.

ALL RUSSIAN, OF THE TIME OF 1850.

ALEXIS.— Peasant's blouse and trousers trimmed with fur, and at the end of third act full-dress uniform of Russian officer.

POLESKA.— First act, rich traveling dress of velvet and fur; second and third acts, peasant's gala dress.

BARONESS.— First part of third act, rich house-dress; end of act, traveling dress of velvet and fur.

IVAN.— Peasant's blouse, full trousers, high boots.

MICHELINE.— Peasant's dress.

KOULIKOFF.— Blouse and trousers of black velvet edged with fur, fur cap.

OSIP.— Peasant's dress.

CAST OF THE CHARACTERS.

MADISON SQUARE THEATRE,
New York, Monday, April 9, 1883.

ALEXIS PETROVITCH, - MR. FREDERIC BRYTON.

A journeyman (afterward Gustave, Count Woroffski).

POLESKA, - - - - - AGNES BOOTH.

His wife.

BARONESS VLADIMIR, - - - MISS ADA DYAS.

His sister.

IVAN, - - - - - MR. W. J. LEMOYNE.

A master shoemaker.

MICHELINE, - - - MISS ESTELLE CLAYTON.

His daughter.

KOULIKOFF DEMETROVITCH, MR. MAX FREEMAN.

Intendant of the Château Woroffski.

OSIP, - - - - - MR. EDWIN ARDEN.

A young peasant.

Guards, Peasants, Ladies, Retainers, etc.

SYNOPSIS.

THE rising curtain discloses the interior of the house of Ivan the Shoemaker. The samovar burns on the table. The lamp burns under the Virgin's picture. A wolf skin is nailed to the wall. High up above the stove, covered with sheepskins, lounges a peasant idly smoking, while others drink around the table, during the hour of recreation. Outside, the snow is falling in thick flakes; inside the log fire is roaring lustily. Wedding bells are chiming; men and maidens clad in gay peasant garments are marching in procession to the church.

Gustave, Count Woroffski, has married Poleska de Fermstein, only to find that early in the honeymoon she develops such traits of temper and pride as will render their married life insupportable, unless he can find some means to subdue her. He accordingly goes before her to an estate, lately become his by inheritance, where he enters the service of a shoemaker, Ivan, under the assumed name of Alexis Petrovitch, and awaits the coming of his wife. Upon her arrival he tells her that he is Alexis, a serf, having married her on a false pretense, and that she, being his wife, is a serf too. He sets her to sew and to spin; he tames her as Petruchio tamed Katharine. She, however, manages to send an appeal to the Count's sister, for protection, and the

second act closes with the arrest of Alexis by his own guards. The third act shows a drawing-room in the Château Woroffski, where the Baroness has summoned Poleska to state her wrongs. Poleska obtains from the Baroness an order of separation, and, having obtained it, repents, declares that though her husband is a serf she cannot leave him, finally sees Gustave appear in his true character, and is folded in his arms. Love has conquered pride.

This version of Scribe's pretty comedy was given its first production at the hands of amateurs, and was such an unqualified success that it was soon after staged at the Madison Square Theatre, with an excellent cast, where its popularity was confirmed by large audiences during a very successful run.

The *Critic* in its theatrical notes says: "Of all the pretty plays which have been seen on the boards of the Madison Square Theatre, 'A Russian Honeymoon,' by Mrs. Burton Harrison, is the prettiest."



A RUSSIAN HONEYMOON.

ACT I.

SCENE I.—(*The cottage of Ivan, the shoemaker. Door in flat, C. is open, showing snowy landscape. R. & L. are doors leading to rooms in cottage. Shoemaker's bench and tools, and a half-finished shoe, R. As the curtain rises Ivan, Micheline and journeymen are seen seated at breakfast, L. Alexis seated apart, R.; buried in thought. Country girls come and go C. D., offering Alexis shoes to mend; movement in groups during singing of chorus. Russian stove up L., with peasant lounging on top. At the rising of the curtain a drinking chorus is sung by workmen at table.*)

IVAN (*drinks, sets down glass*).— Bravo! Bravo! Ah, it does my old heart good. It brings back to me my own youth, when I could sing with the best of you.

(*Wedding bells heard in distance.*)

MICHELINE (*running to window*).— Oh, father, see! There go Olga and Michael, on their way to church to be married. Oh! isn't he a beauty!