

Calais for Dover, to 13 October, when he returned to France by the same route. It had been provisionally dated as between 1783 and 1785 but in fact, as the internal evidence soon revealed, the year was 1783. It is in many respects a fascinating addition to eighteenth-century Russian travel-writing but the anonymity of its author and its languishing in an archive have combined to make it virtually unstudied and unheralded.

In an article published in 1980 in one of the collections emanating from M.P. Alekseev's Sector for the Interrelationships of Russian and Foreign Literatures, I highlighted the diary as an important source for Russian awareness of the contemporary English theatre (a) and it was in the same year that it provided material in a chapter on 'Grand Tourists' in my book on the activities of Russians in Britain. (b) These mentions apart, the diary seems to have aroused no interest among Russian or British scholars studying travel literature or Anglo-Russian cultural relations. (c) I have not myself returned to

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(a) 'Russkie zriteli v angliiskom teatre XVIII veka', in M.P. Alekseev (ed.), *Russkaia kul'tura XVIII veka i zapadno-evropeiskie literatury* (L., 1980), pp. 167-9.

(b) *"By the Banks of the Thames": Russians in Eighteenth Century Britain* (Newtonville, Mass., 1980), pp. 244-51. Cf. *"U temzskikh beregov": Rossiiane v Britanii v XVIII veke* (Spb., 1996), pp. 270-6.

(c) For instance, O.A. Kaznina and A.N. Nikoliukin, *"Ia bereg pokidal tumannyi Al'biona...": Russkie pisateli ob Anglii. 1646-1945* (Moscow, 2001); Sara Dickinson, *Breaking Ground: Travel and National Culture in Russia from*