

My Russian Easter

BY K. PATRICK FLEMING.

One who has ever witnessed the stirring and inspiring celebration of Easter in Russia, the memory will be of the brightest and most beautiful. Not only by the people is the awakening commemorated. Nations in the gladness, denuding earth of the pure white mantle which has enshrouded it for the past months breaking the icy bonds of the rivers and streams to allow them to join in the songs of joy peculiar to this time of rejoicing. It was the privilege of the writer to spend the western shores of the White Sea, where the resurrection from its winter sleep symbolizes most exactly with the Greek celebration which in splendour even that of its sister Church.

For the six weeks of Lent the count had been in a state of fasting and devotion. Everybody was fasting, less rigorously all that time. Old Believers—most strictly religious and most attentive to the order—were reduced almost to skeletons. Even the children were refused sweets or chocolates of any kind. All sports and amusements were stopped; dances, which were so common in Russian villages, were closed down; and even the (or evening parties), which were so fond of arranging these weeks, Lent is the season which the Russian perhaps more than any other in his religious calendar because it entails abstinence from pleasures of his life—eating, drinking, and making merry—whether he be monk or merchant, bishop or peasant; and it is then that his devotion is most faithfully performed, especially in the week preceding Easter.

That week, if not before, he has most of his time in church, he receives absolution for his sins, though not before he has gone to his neighbours begging forgiveness for any wrongs he may have inflicted on them.

The only joy the Russian has in the barren period of the anticipation of the approaching festive season, for Christmas is to the Englishman, and New Year is to the Scotsman, and much more Easter is to the Russian.

It is now within an hour of morning, let us make our way to the wooden church, from the windows stream rays of light of which have never equalled since last year, which stands out eloquently of the white hillside, the gaudily-dressed showing up its blue and white pale light of the moon.

We must be careful in crossing the because higher up the ice is better to break, and the beaten path of the past five months may soon be in the rush of the freed.

However, if we follow that path of devotion we shall certainly find the native call tell us that the ceremony be finished! See these people standing in the body of the building! What a motley throng! There are the peasants in their homely-made, home-made, the men grizzly and weathered, the women equally weathered, and with the corrugated skins of their faces more apparent for the years; the young men in their new tunics, tight trousers and boots; the maidens with their hair bound in delicately-worked bands; and below the richly-hued dresses, which are out of all harmony with the different colours of the skirts and jackets. Children in their best dresses are also seen with their parents.

The merchant whose business relations with Britain and Norway have been in this dress in the frock-coat, while Madame wears a costly evening dress received from some host a week or two ago. Along with the general, representative in his dress of various orders, are the members of his profession, the fringes of the crowd are beggars, who know that such a time as this means for their unstated generosity.

Everybody holds in his hand a taper, while the shrines and altars are all brilliantly illuminated. The golden screen which divides the church of the Holy—into which no woman is allowed to enter—from the audience, glitters in the glare of a hundred candles.

Front is the representation of the tomb, where stands the priest, and in the costly vestments which specially pertain to this occasion, he, with his assistants, who are in the vestments, which sound so peculiar to a foreigner's ear.

All eyes are on the sanctuary as the priest approaches. The priest and assistants come down the centre of the church and pass out through the door into the open air. Three times

Great Pre-Easter Reduction Sale

Now Proceeding at The Royal Stores

Beginning with this announcement and continuing throughout the week, our entire stock of Gloves, Hosiery and Boots and Shoes will be offered at very substantial reductions, to help you prepare for Easter.

These Goods are new and comprise the very latest from England and the States. Price levels are interestingly low, even at the regular price; at the sale price it means dollars saved on the very needful things for Easter and Spring wear.

Men's Spring FOOTWEAR Greatly Reduced.



We have a wonderful selection of Men's Boots and Shoes for Spring wear, which we are offering at special sale prices. This is an opportunity you should not miss, as it will mean a considerable saving on your Footwear requirements for present and future wear.

Men's Oxfords.

Brown, Calf, semi-pointed toe; all sizes; very neat and dressy; all Leathers.

Reg. \$6.40 pair for \$5.76

Men's Calf Oxfords.

Brown Calf Oxfords, semi-pointed toe, neatly perforated; all sizes; all leathers.

Reg. \$7.20 pair for \$6.48

Reg. \$7.50 pair for \$6.75

Blucher Oxfords.

Made of all Leathers, in Brown Calf, wide fitting, Blucher style; all sizes.

Reg. \$5.90 pair for \$5.31

Two Tone Oxfords.

Balmoral style, semi-pointed, all Leathers; all sizes. These are exceptionally good looking.

Reg. \$7.50 pair for \$6.75

Men's Oxfords.

Brown Calf Oxfords, pointed toe, very neat; all sizes.

Reg. \$6.20 pair for \$5.58

Men's Brogues.

Made from best quality Brown Calf, neatly perforated, with plain toe cap; all sizes.

Reg. \$7.00 pair for \$6.30

Brown Calf Brogues.

All Leathers, neatly perforated, sides and toe caps; all sizes, ideal for Spring wear.

Reg. \$8.15 pair for \$7.24

Black Brogues.

Made from special quality Black Calf, nicely perforated; all sizes.

Reg. \$7.00 pair for \$6.30

Reg. \$8.15 pair for \$7.24

Black Oxfords.

Made of Black Calf, wide and pointed toe; Blucher and Balmoral style, all sizes.

Reg. \$5.90 pair for \$5.31

Black Calf Oxfords.

Semi-pointed toe, made of all Leathers; all sizes.

Reg. \$7.15 pair for \$6.44

Patent Leather Oxfords.

Very special quality, neatly perforated; all sizes.

Reg. \$6.60 pair for \$5.94

Ventilated Oxfords.

Brown Calf, rubber heels; all sizes; ideal for Summer wear.

Reg. \$3.30 pair for \$2.97

Dancing Shoes.

Patent Leather, in both Oxfords and Pumps; all sizes.

Reg. \$4.50 pair for \$4.05

Vic Kid Boots.

Blucher style, in Black, wide fitting; all sizes.

Reg. \$5.60 pair for \$5.04

Vic Kid Bala.

Balmoral style, in medium toe; all sizes; exceptionally good looking and comfortable.

Reg. \$5.00 pair for \$4.50

Reg. \$6.75 pair for \$6.06

Men's Gun Metal Boots.

Blucher style, rubber heels, damp proof soles, wide fitting; all sizes.

Reg. \$6.50 pair for \$5.55

Men's Brown Calf Boots.

Blucher style, wide toe, all sizes. These are all Leathers and will give satisfactory wear.

Reg. \$5.45 pair for \$4.91

Reg. \$5.60 pair for \$5.04

Reg. \$6.40 pair for \$5.58

Reg. \$7.10 pair for \$6.39

Men's Calf Boots.

Balmoral style, semi-pointed toe, plain and perforated toe cap, very neat; all sizes.

Reg. \$6.20 pair for \$5.58

Reg. \$6.95 pair for \$6.26

Reg. \$7.00 pair for \$6.30

Brown Calf, Blucher.

Whole quarter, extra heavy sole, guaranteed all Leathers, wide fitting, with rubber heels; all sizes.

Reg. \$8.00 pair for \$7.20

Newest Effects in Hosiery for Easter

Seldom have we been able to announce such a wonderful assortment of Hosiery, as is now displayed in our Hosiery section. The suggestions that the y give of the dainty Spring and Summer Toilets are very pleasing.

Cashmere Hose.

Plain Black Cashmere Hose, seamless fashioned leg, double heels and toes, garter tops; sizes 9 to 10.

Reg. 60c. pair for 51c.

Reg. 75c. pair for 64c.

Reg. 90c. pair for 77c.

Reg. \$1.50 pair for \$1.28

Colored Cashmere Hose.

Sizes 9 and 9½; shades of Dark Fawn, Dark Grey, Champagne and Black, embroidered and plain, fashioned leg, wide garter tops.

Reg. 80c. pair for 68c.

Reg. 85c. pair for 73c.

Reg. \$1.30 pair for \$1.11

Cashmere Hose.

Shades of Grey, Mole, Coating, Putty, Champagne and Black; fashioned seamless leg, spliced feet, elastic tops; sizes 9 to 10.

Reg. 85c. pair for 81c.

Ribbed Cashmere Hose.

Sizes 9 to 10; in assorted ribs, colors of Mole, Oyster, Mid Grey, Pearl Grey, Champagne, Light and Dark Fawn, fashioned leg, with treble spliced feet, garter tops.

Reg. \$1.25 pair for \$1.07

Women's Cashmere Hose.

Shades of Light and Dark Fawn, Light and Dark Grey and Mole; 4-1 rib, seamless, fashioned leg, elastic tops; sizes 9 to 10.

Reg. \$1.30 pair for \$1.11

Women's Lisle Hose.

Sizes 9½ to 10, silk finish, seamless fashioned leg, double heels and toes, garter tops.

Reg. 50c. pair for 43c.

Lisle Hose.

Full fashioned leg, seamless, shades of Brown, Grey, Fawn and Black, silk finish; sizes 9½ to 10.

Reg. 70c. pair for 60c.

Reg. 75c. pair for 64c.

Women's Silk Hose.

Seamed full fashioned leg, double heels and toes, garter tops, sizes 9½ to 10; in Brown and Black.

Reg. \$1.35 pair for \$1.15

Pure Silk Hose.

Special quality, heavy silk; sizes 9½ to 10, full fashioned, wide garter tops; Black only.

Reg. \$2.80 pair for \$2.38

Reg. \$3.50 pair for \$2.98

Child's and Misses' Hose.

Colors of Brown, Fawn, Putty and Black; all sizes. At sale prices.

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Beautiful Footwear for Women at Sale Prices.



Your Easter Costume will not be complete without proper shoes. Our splendid assortment of New Spring styles, will insure you getting exactly what you require, and during this sale at a wonderful saving.

Black Satin Shoes.

Black Satin, suede trimmed, fancy cut out strap, Cuban heel; all sizes.

Reg. \$4.00 pair for \$3.60

Reg. \$4.30 pair for \$3.87

Grey Suede Shoes.

Fancy cut out strap, Spool heel; all sizes.

Reg. \$6.25 pair for \$5.63

Brown Suede Shoes.

Cuban heel, round toe, cut out strap; all sizes.

Reg. \$6.20 pair for \$5.58

Tan Strap Shoes.

Cuban and Military heel, medium and round toe; all sizes.

Reg. \$3.70 pair for \$3.33

Reg. \$4.40 pair for \$3.96

Reg. \$5.00 pair for \$4.50

Tan Laced Shoes.

Medium and round toe, Cuban and Military heel; all sizes.

Reg. \$3.00 pair for \$2.70

Reg. \$3.30 pair for \$2.98

Reg. \$3.45 pair for \$3.11

Reg. \$3.70 pair for \$3.33

Reg. \$4.40 pair for \$3.96

Reg. \$5.00 pair for \$4.50

Tan 3 Buckle Shoes.

Cuban heel, medium and round toe; all sizes.

Reg. \$3.85 pair for \$3.47

Reg. \$5.25 pair for \$4.73

Black Laced Shoes.

Medium and round toe, Military and Cuban heel; all sizes.

Reg. \$2.70 pair for \$2.43

Reg. \$3.45 pair for \$3.11

Reg. \$3.70 pair for \$3.33

Reg. \$4.40 pair for \$3.96

Reg. \$5.00 pair for \$4.50

Grey and Black Shoes.

Strap style, Cuban heel, medium toe; all sizes.

Reg. \$3.60 pair for \$3.15

Reg. \$4.90 pair for \$4.05

Brown Shoes.

Laced and Strap styles, Military heel, medium toe, suede trimmed; all sizes.

Reg. \$4.40 pair for \$3.96

Reg. \$5.00 pair for \$4.50