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Trofimov M. Y.

F. M. Dostoevsky Omsk State University, Omsk, Russian Federation

Siberian Cadet Corps Graduate E.A. Kalachev – an Artist of the Soviet Era

Abstract

The article follows the fate of Eugene (Yevgeny) Kalachev, a Siberian Cadet Corps graduate and Cossack regular officer of the Russian Imperial army, a creative person, teacher, professor of pictorial art of the Soviet era. Siberian Cossack E. A. Kalachev graduated the Siberian Cadet Corps (1905) and the Nikolaevsky Cavalry School (1907). Having served three years in the Third Siberian Cossack Regiment in the rank of sotnik, he left military service (1911) and thus drastically changed his life. After leaving Omsk for good, he went to St. Petersburg and enrolled at the Higher Art School of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture of the Imperial Academy of Arts. He studied in the workshop of Nikolai Semenovich Samokish. His later life was that of an

artist and a teacher. In Soviet era, he was a member of the Association of Artists of Revolutionary Russia of the State Academy of Artistic Sciences and participated in the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition. In his later years E. A. Kalachev was teaching at the faculty of arts of the All-Union State Institute of Cinematography. The article is based on published and unpublished sources. Of most interest are biographical documents from the fonds of the Historical Archive of the Omsk Region and correspondence preserved in the family archive of the author. The following three letters are of particular interest to historians: (1) letter from a Russo-Japanese War participant, sub-yesaul Vasily Epifanovich Dolzhenko to cadet E. A. Kalachev (1904); (2) letter from junker of the Nicholaevsky Cavalry School E. A. Kalachev to captain V. E. Dolzhenko (1906); and (3) letter from professor of pictorial art E. A. Kalachev to Maria Evgenievna Dolzhenko, widow of V. E. Dolzhenko (1956). The article may be of interest to art historians, researchers writing biographies of the Russia Cadet Corps graduates, and historians following the life of Russian officers on the eve of the Russian Revolution of 1917.

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Keywords

Historical sources, personal provenance sources, Siberian Cadet Corps, Cossacks, officers, Omsk, fine art, family archives.

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About author

Trofimov Michael Yurievich, PhD in Philosophy, associate professor, Dostoevsky Omsk State University, department of sociocultural activity, assistant professor, Omsk, Russian Federation, +7-983-623-77-90, de_leman@list.ru

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