

## Field Notes

### 1. Путешественники Великобритании и США в Российской империи в 1850-е-1913 гг.

Грант РФФ № 23-28-01108

«Сибирь в англо-американских травелогах: формирование современных образов края во второй половине XIX - первой четверти XX в.»

Мегагрант «Человек в меняющемся пространстве Урала и Сибири»

**“Siberia in Anglo-American travelogues: making contemporary images of the country in the second half of the 19th century and the first quarter of the 20th century”**

For historians who have been researching medieval and early modern Russia, the notes of foreign travelers are an extremely important source to clarify multiple aspects of that time. As the quantity of source for Russian history expands toward the XIX century, the importance of foreign travelogue declines. From the XVIIIth century and onwards, they are often regarded by historians as external sources on the perception of Russia in an international context, being less associated with Russian history. The rapid growth of published travelogues in the second half of the XIXth century, when the field of travel had evolved into a separate leisure activity, turns them into an entirely separate category of sources, which associated not so much with the history of the country traveled through as with imagology, that is a history of the formation of images of the «other» from the outside point of view. Anglo-American travelogues on Siberia in the second half of the 19th century and the first quarter of the 20th century have not yet been studied in their entirety as a cultural phenomenon that reflects two important international trends. On the one hand, it is the rise of interest in remote and exotic regions all over the world, and on the other hand, the expansion of international (American) capital onto undeveloped territories around the world.

The project aims to investigate the formation of images of Siberia in the travelogues on the background of socio-economic development of the land, as well as a significant rise of international tourism, which led to a high demand in the UK and the USA for travelogues and articles about strange and distant countries. This project analyzes travelogues, taking an inventory of books available in central libraries and on the Internet in order to summarize an annotated list of Anglo-American travelogues, which were published from 1850 to 1927. The analysis

of travelogues will examine a) the images of Siberia, b) the description of travel routes in Siberia, c) the international context of travel, since some travelogues were written either by professional travelers, or by the missionaries. Most researchers underestimate foreigners' perceptions of Siberia in the late nineteenth and first quarter of the twentieth century as one of the most promising regions of the earth, increasingly connected to global routes. This project intends to show how Anglo-American travelogues influenced the formation of modern perceptions of Siberia.

## **2. Bread + Medicine: American Famine Relief in Soviet Russia, 1921–1923**

Recounts how medical intervention, including a large-scale vaccination drive, by the American Relief Administration saved millions of lives in Soviet Russia during the famine of 1921–23. By Bertrand Patenaude and Joan Nabseth Stevenson

<https://www.hoover.org/research/bread-medicine-american-famine-relief-soviet-russia-1921-1923>

## **3. Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, 2023!**

Check back here in June 2023 for the program to find many sessions related to Russian-American relations!

<https://www.aseees.org/convention/program>