

The Twelve Collegiums Building

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Дмитрук Л.Е.

This building is one of the oldest in the city



The construction of the Twelve Collegiums building was started after Domenico Trezzini's project in 1722



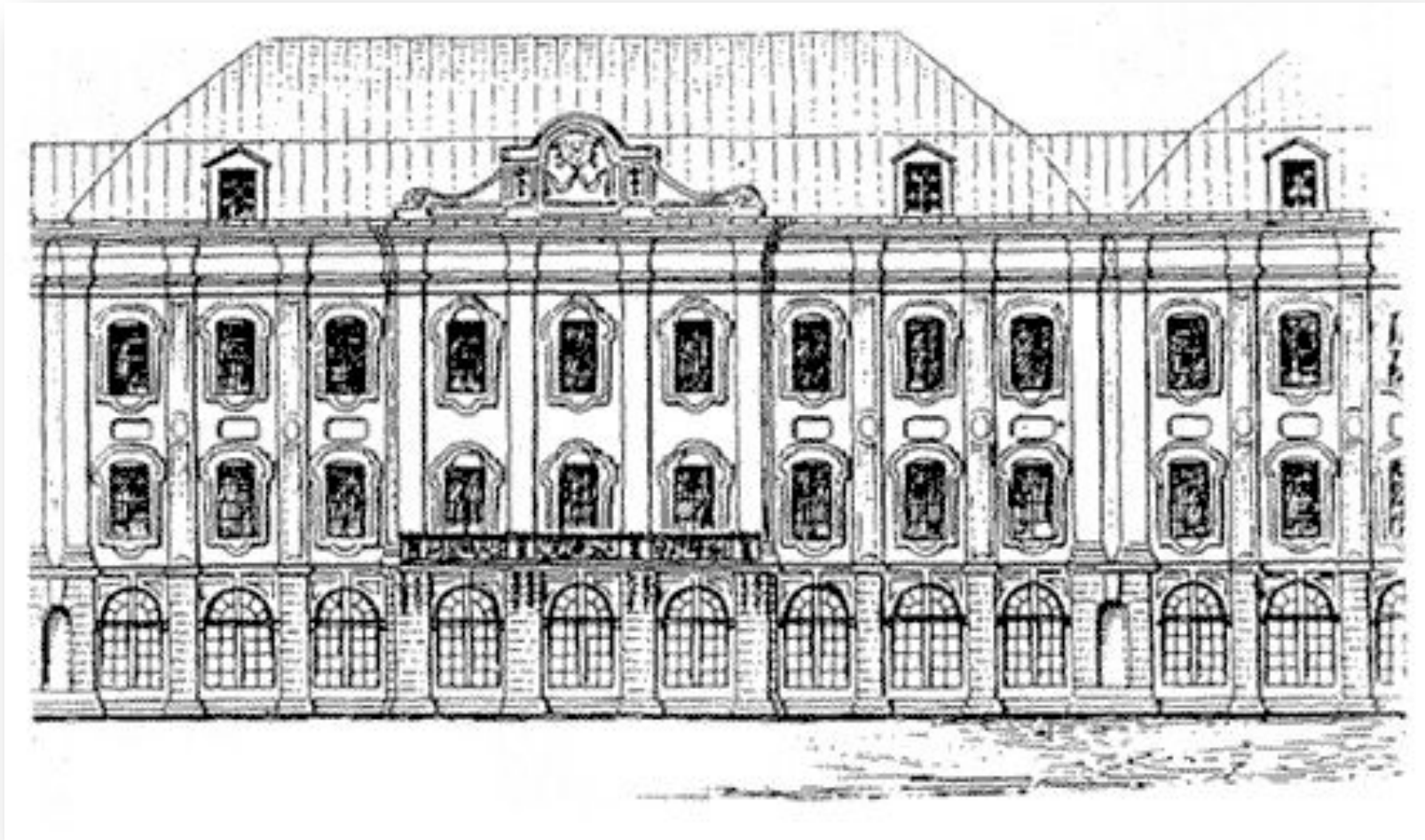
Domenico Trezzini



The construction was finished only in 1742 by **Mikhail Zemtsov**



The building is divided into twelve identical but independent sections. Each of the twelve parts of the building has its separate roof.



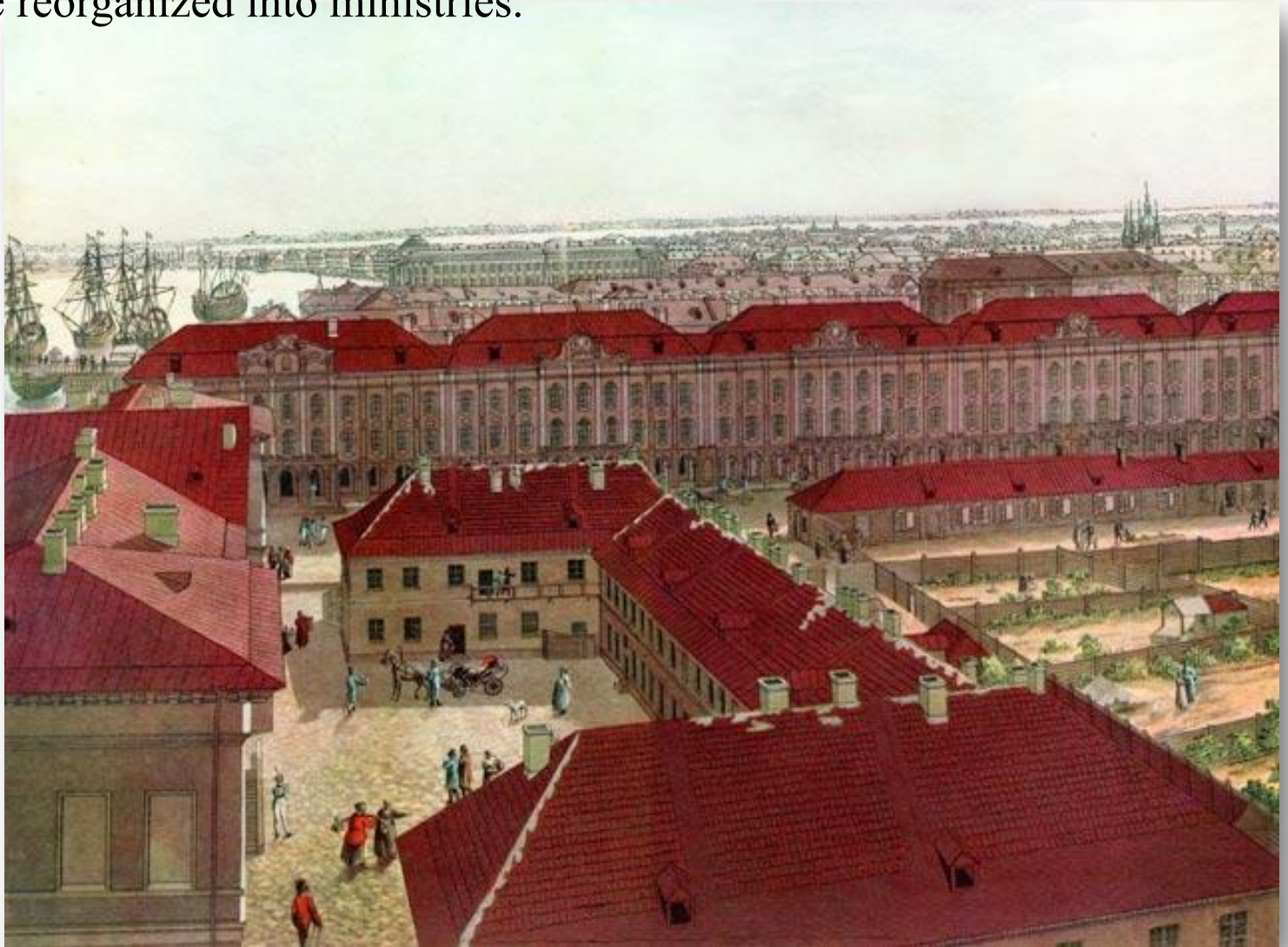
One end of the building faces the Neva, the main facade stretches for nearly half a kilometre into the island.



Important administrative reforms by Peter I were put into effect at that time. The numerous state establishments (*prikazy*) were replaced in 1718 by “collegiums” set up by Peter the Great.

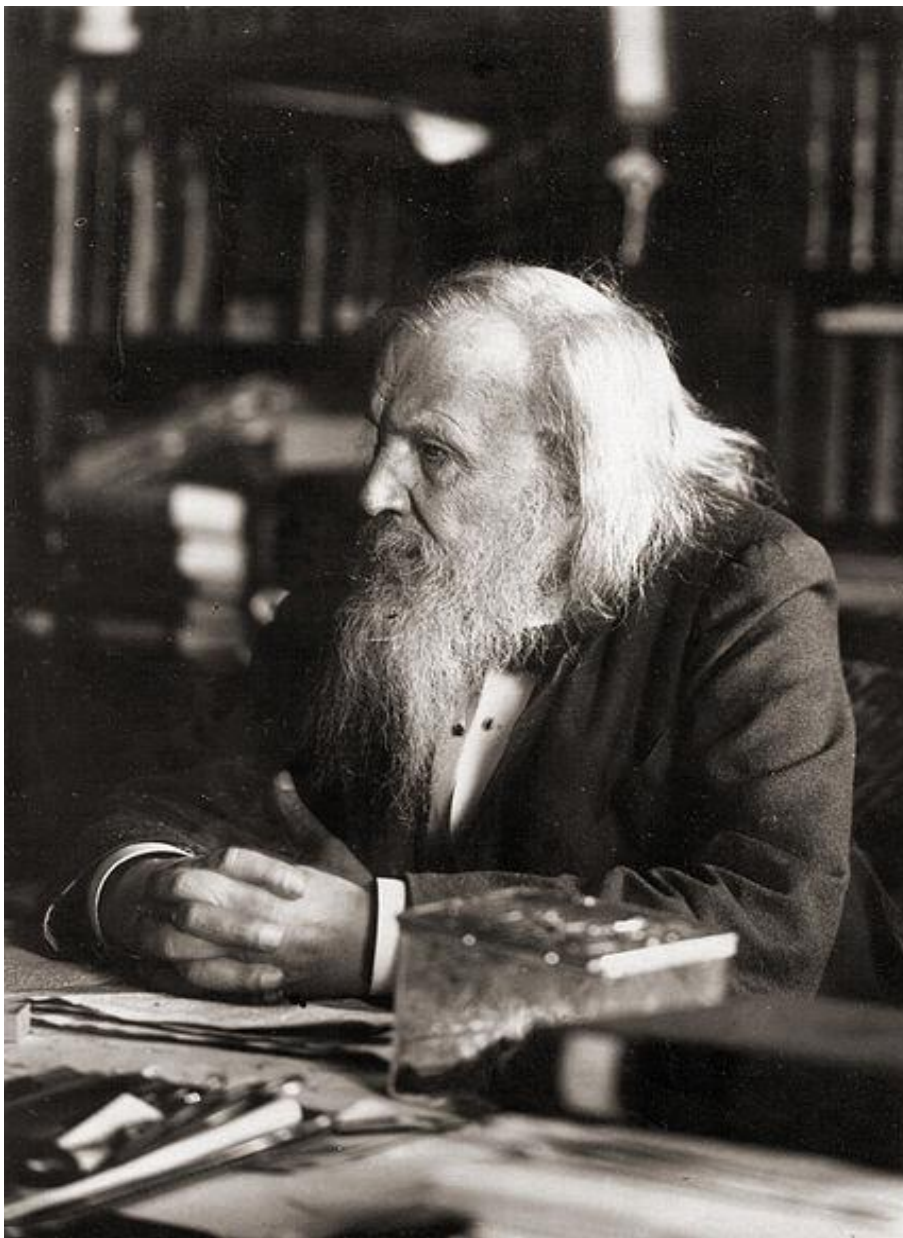


The colleges were committed in the direction of certain branches of economy and state services. At the beginning of the 19th century they were reorganized into ministries.



In 1819 the building was taken over by St Petersburg University. Many Russian scholars have made this educational institute famous.



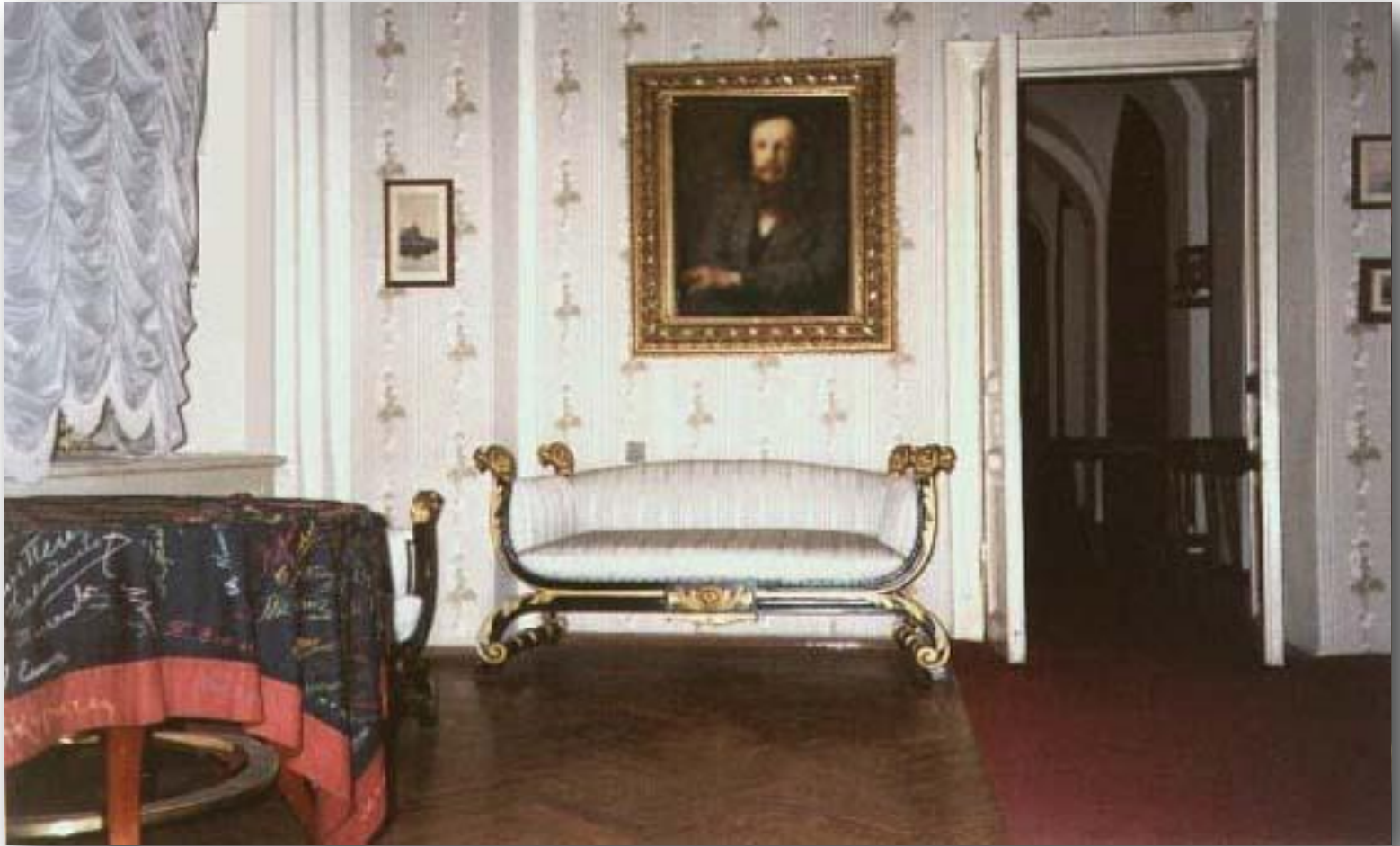


From 1866 to 1890 the outstanding Russian chemist, Dmitry Mendeleev (1834-1907), lived and worked at the university.

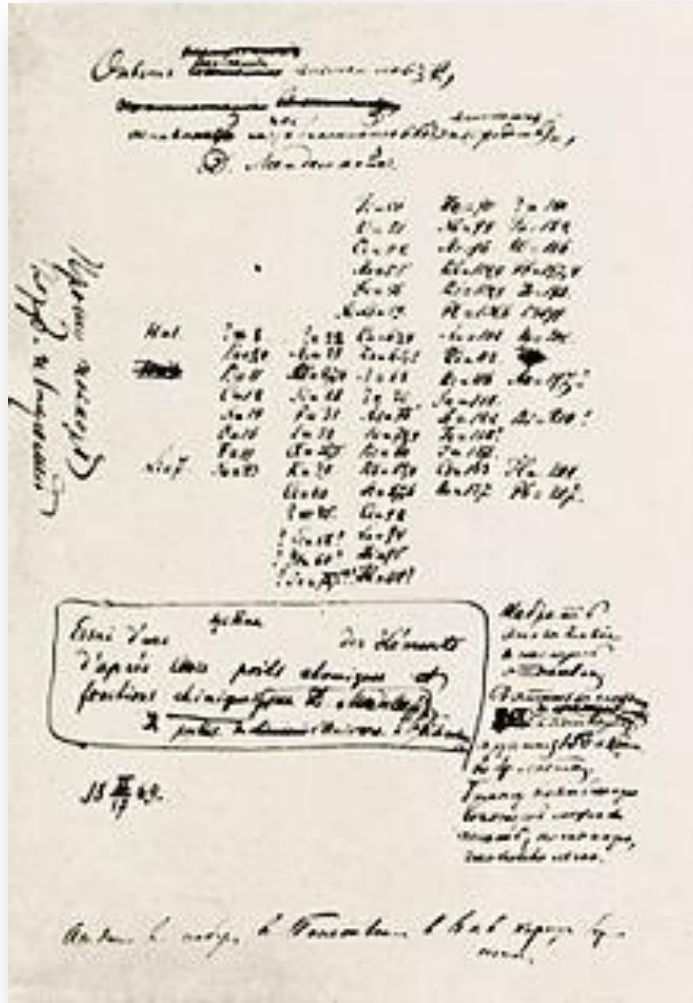
Mendeleev is famous for having formulated the Periodic Law and invented the periodic table of elements.



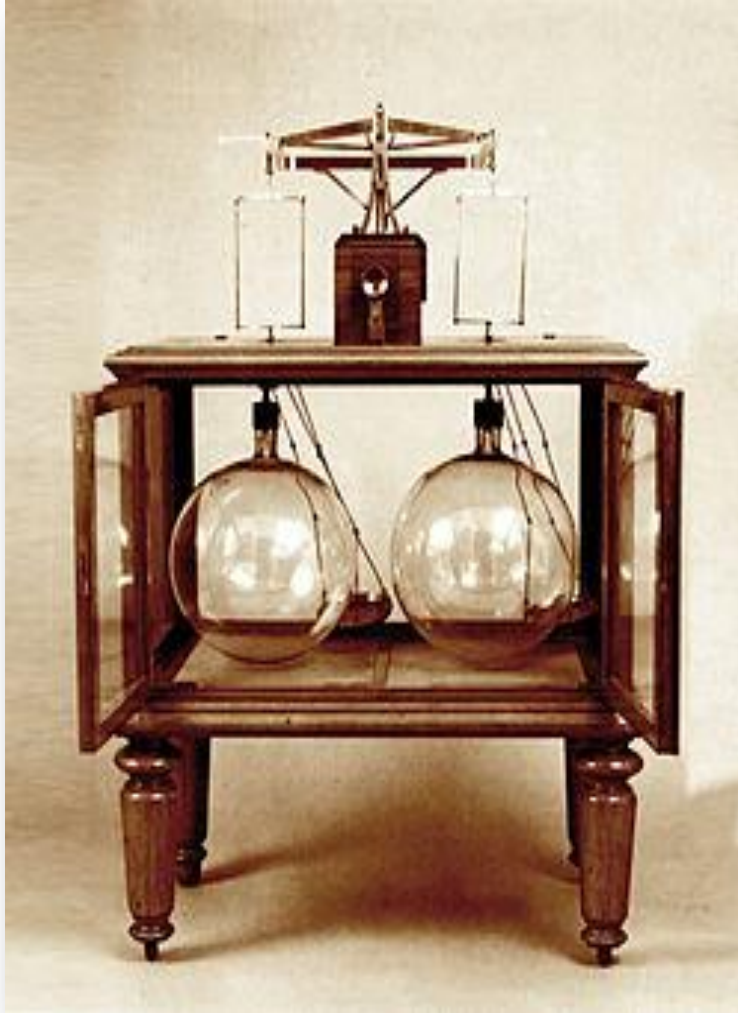
Nowadays, the apartment in the university where he lived for nearly twenty-five years is a museum. It's open to the public.



The history of the discovery of the Periodic Law of elements figures in the exposition. Instruments from Mendeleev's laboratory are on display here.



They are a barometer and a two-tiered balance for weighing solid and gaseous substances actually designed by Mendeleev.



Many prominent scientists and writers worked here,
among them:



the naturalist
Ivan Sechenov



Alexander Popov,
inventor of the radio

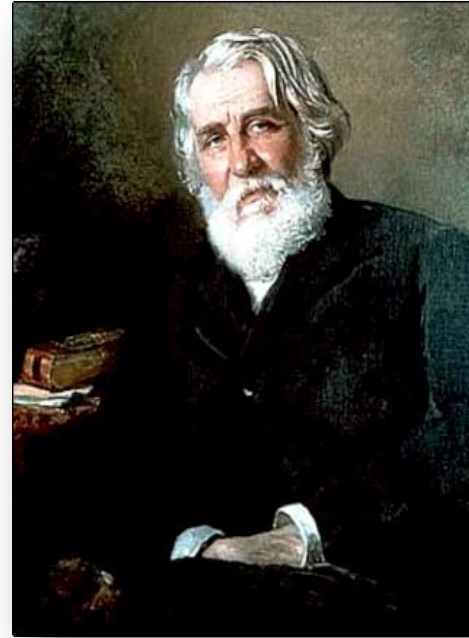


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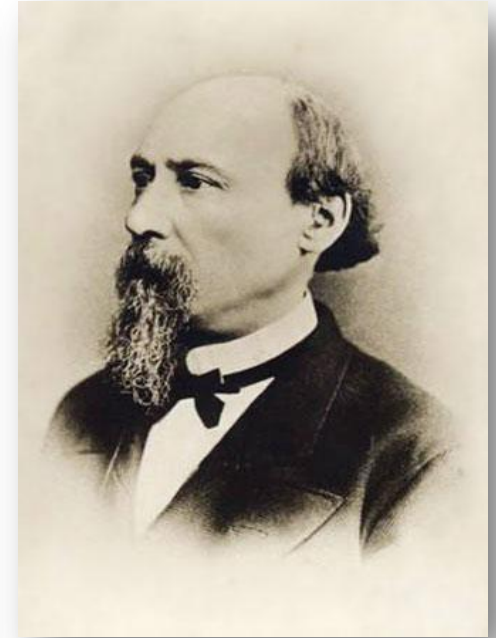
the writers



Nikolay
Chernyshevsky



Ivan Turgenev



Nikolay
Nekrasov



Nowadays, over 17,000 students are enrolled in its departments



Интернет-ресурсы

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