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APPENDIXES
Regulations for the Aid of Political Exiles from Russia, 13 December 1855 (Geneva)

The following document, which forms part of the Dragomanov collection in the Central State Archives for Literature and Art (Moscow), reflects an effort by some émigrés to establish a society to aid political exiles from Russia. The document was written near the end of 1855. Although the authorship is uncertain, the document is evidence of the earliest known aid society for the Russian émigré communities in Western Europe. Many of the tendencies characteristic of the émigrés at this time, particularly the shift toward a collective organizational structure, are reflected in these statutes. It is interesting to note the realization on the part of these émigrés of the necessity to cooperate openly with the federal authorities abroad (see clause VI).

I. The purpose of the Society is mutual aid for its members. In extreme cases, the Council may decide to distribute aid from the treasury of the Society to persons who are not members of the Society.

II. Only political exiles may be members of the Society, e.g., people who, as a consequence of acts directed against the political and social order in Russia, have been subjected to persecution by the [Russian] government.

III. Persons wishing to become members of the Society submit their names to the Council two weeks before a meeting. The persons recommending candidates morally guarantee the individuals whom they are representing.

Source: Tsentral'nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Literatury i Isskustva, fond 1065, opis' 4, ed. khran. 55.
APPENDIX A

IV. Membership of new and prospective members is decided by secret ballot.

V. The Council's term is to last six months, and is elected by secret ballot.

VI. These statutes must be submitted for confirmation to the State Council of the Geneva Republic.