

Women Students in Russia. The Fall Gazette says:—It has been about a year that a university for women is about to be founded in Russia. Such is not exactly the case, but it is true that public classes for female students will probably be organized there before long.

"During the present year an important agitation has taken place among the women of St. Petersburg in favor of public instruction. Several German newspapers have stated that a petition bearing four hundred female signatures has been presented to the Minister of Public Instruction, praying that classes might be opened for women in the University, and that the Minister has refused to grant their prayer, considering their tendencies to be 'millitist.' But in reality no such petition has been laid before him, the Russian Government not favoring such demonstrations. What really has occurred is this: more than even four hundred women have sent letters first to the council of professors, and then to the rector of the University of St. Petersburg, begging for permission to attend the lectures in philology and natural science, and offering to pay for the privilege. The council replied that it 'fully sympathized with their wish, but that the public classes were closed against them by law.' As regarded the opening of the new classes, however, the professors would be 'perfectly willing' to give lectures to them, if only the intending students could obtain the necessary permission from the Minister of Public Instruction, and fitting accommodation could be provided for them. There the matter rests at present, but it is understood that measures are being taken to obtain the requisite permission, and it is expected that, if the classes are opened, they will be attended by a very large number of female students."

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