Valour and Honour Feat

to memory of defenders of the Native Land in a Patriotic War of 1812 it is devoted...)

Учитель английского языка Кобешева Татьяна Валентиновна МОУ ЛСОШ № 22 п. Ломинцевский Щёкинского района Тульской области

Two Military Geniuses

• Almost 200 years ago on far approaches to ancient Moscow two great commanders converged. Two military geniuses. Energetic and breaking all on the way young Bonaparte and the cautious, wise aged man-field marshal Kutuzov. One searched a case to force Russia to the knees, another – undertook all for preservation of army for the sake of rescue of Russia. Having lost in battle at Borodino half of Russian army, Kutuzov did not prevent it to proclaim that Borodino was a victory. The victory was moral undoubtedly. From now on the Borodino field strongly entered into spiritual consciousness of Russian people. It became a part of our national pride and glory. Unbreakable part of our historical memory.





Napoleon's Interest in Tula

• Napoleon gave great value to Tula already at attack planning to Russia therefore as Tula was the main centre of supply of Russian army with the weapon. In May, 1812 Napoleon told to one of the confidants: "I will burn Tula and I will disarm Russia".



The Heroes of a Patriotic War of 1812

• Our time was reached by very few names of heroes of a Patriotic War of 1812 from the simple people. The imperial government treated people of a simple rank with contempt and not so favoured them even if they showed fearlessness and heroism in struggle against the enemy. Participants of war from noblemen are more known, certainly: D. S. Dohturov, I. S. Dorokhov, M. A. Arsenyev and others.



• Dmitry Sergeevich Dohturov – the Tula nobleman. He was brought up in Kashirsky district of Tula province. Then he enlisted. Valorously battled in wars to Sweden, France, became the general. Then Russia together with Austria and England was at war with France. On October, 30th, 1805 a column of Russian armies under Dohturov command, having passed on mountain tracks, suddenly fallen upon the French case of general Morte. Russian pressed Frenchmen to the river Danube and crushed them.



• Some time later – on November, 20th, 1805- D.S. Dohturov became the hero of Austerlitsky battle. The French army under Napoleon's command surrounded the left flank of the Russian-Austrian armies and won. On the left flank just there was a column of Dohturov. Dohturov and his command were considered to be dead. And general Dohturov collected the rests of armies of the left flank, prompted attack and broke through an enemy environment and in a day incorporated to the main forces of army. Here and now, in 1812 in Smolensk, Dohturov managed to detain Frenchmen. Napoleon brought down huge forces on a city, personally supervised over its storm. Attacks of Frenchmen followed one another. Position of defenders of Smolensk was the heaviest. Dohturov showed surprising composure and endurance, was in most dangerous places of battle, personally supervised over the defence of city gate. Napoleon did not manage to storm Smolensk. Napoleon entered it only after Dohturov on the night of August, 6th had receded from the city by order of Russian command.





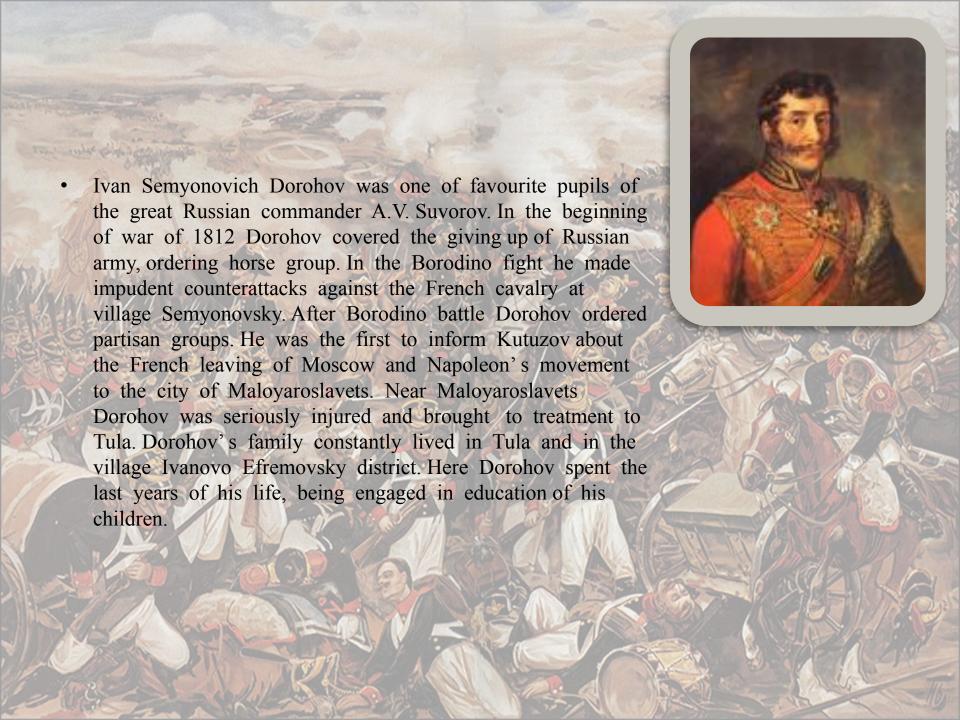
On August, 26th, 1812 on approaches to Moscow there was one of the main events of war- great Borodino battle. Napoleon tried to overturn Kutuzov's Russian army. But Russian stood and died, without starting up the enemy. In Borodino fight many tulyakovs bravely battled. General Dohturov protected the centre of Russian position. Again, as well as near Smolensk, Frenchmen stormed Russian armies. Dohturov showed rare self—control during the critical moments of fight and managed to beat off all attacks of Frenchmen. And at this time on the left flank near village Semyonovsky a trouble happened. The general P.I. Bagration who ordered there was mortally wounded.







• Frenchmen strengthened an impact, and there was a threat of break of Russian defence. Then the commander – in – chief general Kutuzov has charged command over the left flank to Dohturov who managed to stop the enemy. But under the pressure of Napoleon armies Russian army without new battle left Moscow. Frenchmen entered the ancient Russian capital. Russian army receded to the south from Moscow and camped in the village Tarutino. Kutuzov covered roads which led to Tula and southern grain provinces of Russia. The Russians prepared for counterattack. Kutuzov gave a great attention to the organisation of partisan movement.

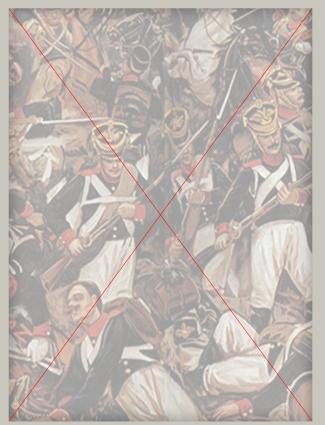


Tula Civil Guardsmen and Armourers in a Patriotic War of 1812

• The enemy trampled down Russian land. The people were stirred to action with Frenchmen. The Russians endowed all for the sake of clearing of their Native Land. The total formation of a home guard became a bright example of national movement.

Tula home guard was also formed For its keeping the livers of Tula gathered about 5

million roubles.



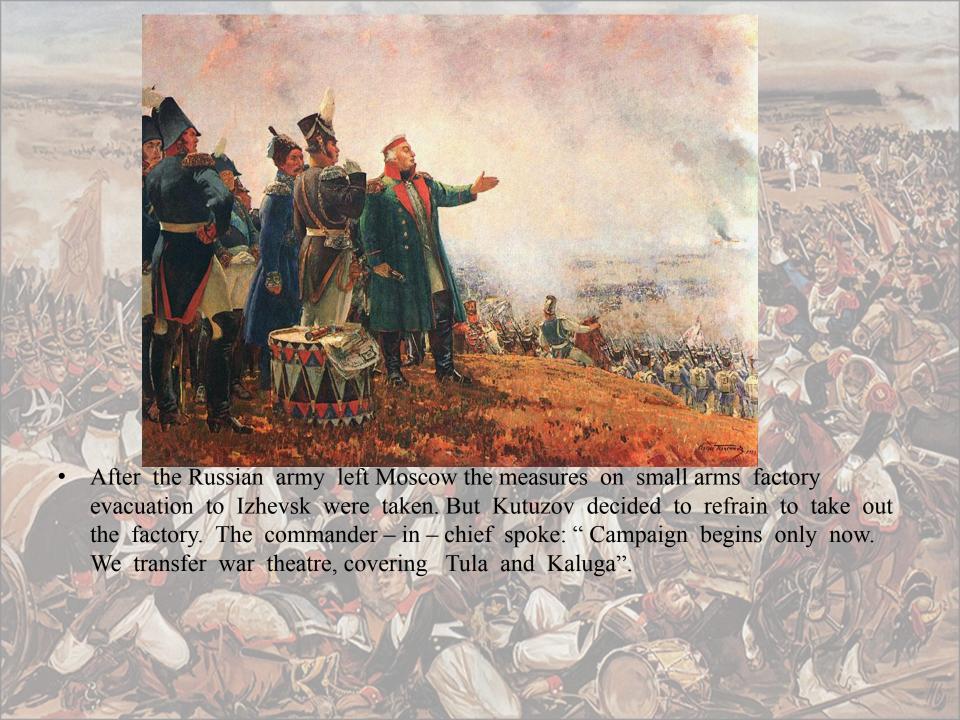


• The home guard was used for protection of Tula province from Frenchmen, and first of all – Tula small arms factory, the main smithy of Russia. Many small enemy groups were forwarded through Oka river to the limits of Tula edge. But all of them were exterminated by civil guardsmen, the horse Cossack regiment of Tula home guard took part in Napoleon's exile from Russia. The native of Tula noblemen general Alexander Fyodorovich Shcherbatov (1772-1817) ordered a regiment. Tula civil guardsmen under his command bravely battled against Frenchmen and in war of 1813-1814 reached capital of France – Paris.



• The Tula province gave to a field army human and material reserves. Except usual recrute sets the set in a home guard was declared, and on Native Land protection have risen about 15 thousand people. For internal protection were created the local home guards by number to 3,5 thousand people. Peasants entered the home guard mainly not only for protection of the Native land but also to get rid of the serfdom burden. Many noblemen evaded not only from participation in war but also from material expenses.





• The huge contribution to achievement of Russian victory in war of 1812 was brought by the Tula armourers who even with big diligence continued to work. They increased manufacture of guns. Besides, the Tula masters let out a cold steel: sabres, daggers, swords, spears, and also pistols and many other things. Under Kutuzov's personal request in Tula it was made for armies about 1000 axes and 2000 iron shovels.

