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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Today in History, Dec. 10

By The Moscow Times

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Painting depicting Russian poet Fyodor Tyutchev by Stepan Aleksandrovsky (1842-1906).

145 years ago today, on Dec. 10, 1868, Fyodor Tyutchev, who is considered one of the greatest Russian poets of the nineteenth century, published what would become one of his most widely quoted poems.

In "You cannot understand Russia through reason," Tyutchev said Russia cannot be understood with the mind but must be believed in, an idea that, to this day, has found resonance with many Russians.

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