



In Russian and French Prisons (Hardback)

By Petr Alekseevich Kropotkin

BLACK ROSE BOOKS, Canada, 1996. Hardback. Condition: New. New edition. Language: English . Brand New Book. Nearly a century has passed since Kropotkin wrote In Russian and French Prisons, yet his criticisms of the penal system have lost none of their relevance. Prisons- far from reforming the offender, or deterring crime- are, in themselves, schools of crime. Every year, thousands of prisoners are returned to society without hope, without a trade, or without any means of subsistence, and statistics show that once a man has been in prison he is likely to return. Moreover, the new offense is likely to be more serious than the first. Although Kropotkin makes extensive use of the memoirs of former prisoners and the works of contemporary penologists, it is his own experience in prison--he spent five years behind bars, two in Russia, three in France--that gives this book its power. He shows from first-hand knowledge the immense human suffering caused by prison life: how it destroys the mind and body, how it degrades and humiliates, how it perverts the prisoner s character and robs him of his dignity, how it reduces him to the condition of a caged animal, how his whole life is...



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