



passion for the word uterine: my uterine brother, my uterine wife, my uterine brother-in-law, etc

Anton Chekhov's ❧ Notebook ❧ circa 1895



Such was the acuity of Dr Chekhov's satiric eye for the vulgarities and pretensions of middle class life in fin-de-siècle Russia that we may safely assume his affected passion for the word 'uterine' was, in truth, more expressive of his gentle mockery of the unthinking *bourj* at its most mundane. For, in the political turbulence of late 19th Century Russian society,