

struke na hrvatskom prostoru, kao i za bolje poznavanje povijesti naše Nacionalne i sveučilišne knjižnice kojoj je Kostrenčić bio na čelu od 1875. do 1911. godine.

U korespondenciji Kostrenčić-Ožegović posebno su zanimljive Kostrenčićeve opaske o nekim pojavama u društvu ondašnjeg vremena koje je on okarakterizirao apatičnim, nemoralnim, indolentnim i nevaljalim. Pesimistično piše da ne vidi »drugoga izlaza, već da s nami naskoro koji tudjinac zavlada« jer »sve propada, strada od porezih i nevaljale uprave, sudstva i činovničkoga robljenja, - kontrole nikakve, značaja još manje, - a vjere ni zerice, a gdje nestane moralna oslona, tu nastaje 'krach', - kao što će i u nas.«⁸⁵

Ovaj skormni prilog nastoji u osnovnim crtama ukazati na značaj zanimljive korespondencije između Ivana Kostrenčića i Metela Ožegovića te, u konačnici, poslužiti istraživačima i široj kulturnoj javnosti u boljem poznavanju njihova života i rada.

activist. The letters illustrate certain events concerning their private lives and prove their friendly relationship. A lot can be learnt of their businesses and finances and their connections with other eminent publicly relevant persons in Croatia as well as of the current affairs at Zagreb University and the Central Croatian Cultural and Publishing Society/Matica hrvatska. In this context, the letters are important for the development of library profession in Croatia, the history of the National University Library which was run by Kostrenčić 1875-1911. Kostrenčić observed and criticised some phenomena of the contemporary society considering them apathetic, immoral, indolent, wicked, seeing the nation suffering from high taxes, no-good administration and courts which had lost control and reputation. His views of the future were gloomy and pessimistic.

The paper is to present the significance of interesting Kostrenčić- Ožegović letter-exchange thus helping the scholars and wider public to better value their life and work.

Summary

Ivan Kostrenčić-Metel Ožegović

Correspondence in the Archive of Croatian

Keywords: Metel Ožegović, Ivan Kostrenčić, correspondence, Croatian history, 19th century

The correspondence of Croatian politician and benefactor Metel Ožegović kept in the archives of the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences consists of 20 letters received from Ivan Kostrenčić, the renowned Croatian university librarian and cultural

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