

St. Jerome in Croatian Latinity of Renaissance Period

In the works of our Latinists of the Renaissance period, St. Jerome is most commonly referred to as an authority and a teacher (N. Modruški, D. Buća, B. Zane M. Marulić, M. Vlačić). Further still, his name can be encountered in relation to the claims pertaining to and attempting to prove his Dalmatian origins (I. P. Severitan, J. Šižgorić, M. Marulić, V. Pribojević) and, finally, he was the subject of a hagiography and one elegy. There is much charm in the efforts of our Latinists to prove that St. Jerome was born in Dalmatia, and is thusly the most distinguished Dalmatian, i.e. Croat. In this our Latinists met their challenge in the claims of F. Biondo and A. Calepino, who asserted that St. Jerome was born in Istria, and was, consequently, Italian. It is, however, interesting that only the Latinists of the Šibenik and Split Circles saw it fit to respond to such Italian claims.

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