

Šimun MUSA

CROATIAN NATIONAL-REVIVAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN HERZEGOVINA

Summary

The Turkish power in Herzegovina was becoming weaker and weaker in the second half of the 19th century and it was destroyed in 1878, when the new Austro-Hungarian government came. This foreign government calculated at the expense of its selfishness, indeed on new bourgeois principles. Besides many anti-people and repressive measures, they introduced some progressive moves which were positively reflected in both economic and cultural field. Bridges were built, roads were made, stores, banks, schools, libraries, national and cultural associations were established, the first printing-office in Mostar started with its work (Printing-office of the Catholic mission in Herzegovina, 1872), the publishing work and publicistic-journalistic activity in the form of the first newspapers in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Croatian language also appeared, e.g. "Herzegovinian basil", "New Herzegovinian basil", "The voice of a Herzegovinian" and "Dawn".

Special merits for starting the printing-office, publicistic-journalistic work, such as the first newspapers and the first published works in the area of literature, ethnology, theology, philology etc. belong to Father Franjo Miličević, leader of the Croatian national revival in Mostar and Herzegovina, who, educated in the West-European culture, nationally conscious, politically mature and closely connected with movements of that period in the parent country Croatia, gave himself to the national and cultural-educational progress of Croats and other nations who lived with them in these areas.

Key words: *printing-office, publishing trade, literature, journalism, publicist writing, education, book, language, culture.*