

THE CROATIAN NAME *NOVČIĆ* ON MONEY ISSUED BY THE HAPSBURG MONARCHY AND CROATIA FROM 1860

This is the first publication about the banknote issued by the Hapsburg Monarchy and Croatia which gives the Croatian name for the currency, *novčić*. It was the first time that this Croatian name for money appeared on an official banknote, and because of this the banknote is important for the history of Croatian money. The article describes it on the basis of facts discovered so far.

Bogoslav Šulek introduced the Croatian name *novčić* for currency into the Croatian language when he was describing the Austrian monetary reform from 1858. The author wrote about Šulek's appellation in the preceding number of *Numizmatičke vijesti* in the article "Bogoslav Šulek on the Austrian Currency Change in 1858 and its Implementation in Croatia" /Martinčić, 2018/. This article describes the appearance of the name *novčić* and its use in Croatian texts. However, previously all linguistic confirmation of the name *novčić* derived from its use in fiction, and here the *novčić* is described from a direct examination of the banknote on which its name appeared.

Šulek used the Croatian name *novčić* for the new kreuzer. He also gave the Croatian name *stotinjak* (*sto* means one hundred in Croatian) to the new forint. The forint had one hundred new kreuzers so the *novčić* was one hundredth part of the *stotinjak*, i.e. of the new forint. The name *stotinjak* was not used for long, but the name *novčić* was widely present in the Croatian language and was used in Croatian texts for a very long time, even at the end of the nineteenth century.

The importance of this banknote, more than its direct use as currency, lies in the fact that it officially shows the Croatian name for money, *novčić*.

Since this part of the history of Croatian money has been poorly known, here the author once again underlines the first appearance and the later linguistic use of the Croatian name for money, *novčić*. Additional searches uncovered records that explain only some details about the appearance and use of this banknote.

It is also not yet known how Šulek's *novčić* got on this banknote. Thus the author also adds to the description of the banknote, additional records about the name and word *novčić* in Croatian lexicography at that time, and later.

Although further research is necessary for a more complete description of this banknote, on the basis of what is known so far it can already be said that the appearance

of the Croatian name for money, *novčić*, on this official Hapsburg banknote is important for the history of Croatian money.

The use of the Croatian name for money on this official Hapsburg banknote from 1860 is also interesting from the aspect of the study of Šulek's work and his contribution to the treasury of the Croatian language. Thus the "šulekism" *novčić* even spread outside the Croatian state and language area, and Šulek's invention *novčić* was more successful as a name for money than names of the same kind in German, Hungarian, Italian and in almost all Slav languages.