

Consequent to this, Dan Dumitru Iacob sets up a selection of the most important quotations referring to the *Descrieri istorice ale oraşului* [Historical descriptions of the city], and Victoria Paraschiva Batariuc enumerates the *Descoperirile arheologice* [Archeological discoveries] in the area of Siret for the period between Cucuteni Culture and the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Afterwards, the work includes a table with *Numele străzilor* [Streets' names] – drawn up by Dan Dumitru Iacob, *Bibliografia* [The bibliography] – composed by Victoria Paraschiva Batariuc and Dan Dumitru Iacob, and also a presentation of the *Provenienţei ilustraţiilor şi hărţilor* [Origin of the illustrations and maps], also written by Dan Dumitru Iacob.

The volume comes to an end with seven maps: *Planurile zonei* [Area's sketches] of the fair of Siret, drawn up in 1784 (scale: 1:89,000) and respectively in 1790 (scale: 1:28,800); *Planul oraşului* [City's sketch] dated in 2005 (scale: 1:10,000); *Planul oraşului din 1855, cu numele străzilor vechi şi actuale* [Sketch of the city in 1855 with old and present streets' names] (scale: 1:2,500); *Etape de extindere a oraşului* [Stages of city's extension] (scale: 1:5,000); *Parcelarea oraşului* [The division of the city] in 1855 (scale: 1:5,000) and *Parcelarea oraşului* [The division of the city] around 1900 (scale: 1:5,000).

Like the previous fascicles, the Atlas of the city of Siret is also bilingual, the pages numbered in Latin being written in Romanian, while their correspondent in Arab letters comprising the translation in German.

Unfortunately, despite its importance, the history of the city of Siret remains less known because of the lack of extensive archeological diggings, destined to supply the small number of the documentary information referring to this settlement. Henceforth, since this work includes the most ancient maps and cadastral sketches of the city and area of Siret in the scientific milieu, the publishing of it would certainly rouse the interest of the historians, geographers, topographers, cartographers, and philologists.

Arcadie M. Bodale

**Virginia Isac, *Contribuţii la o biobibliografie Alexandru Ioan Cuza* [Contributions to a Biobibliography of Alexandru Ioan Cuza], Iaşi, Editura Junimea, 2005, 157 p.**

As it is known, consequent to a hardworking activity extended even after her retirement, Virginia Isac published the most available and complete working tool referring to the Archives in Iaşi: *Catalog de documente din Arhivele Statului Iaşi. Moldova* [Catalogue of documents from the State Archives in Iaşi], vol. I (1398-1595).

After this volume of documents, although she had been retired for a long time, Virginia Isac has continued to investigate the archives and libraries, focusing upon the period of the union of the two Romanian Principalities (1859) and upon Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza and his wife, Elena Cuza. Naturally, the author's congeniality with this topic is to be connected to her birth's settlement – the commune of Ruginoasa, Iaşi county, where is the location of the palace and the church where the bones of the former prince were deposited – and to one of the first buildings where she lived in Iaşi: the former inn of Petru Băcalu, in front of which the *Hora Unirii* [The Union's hora] was danced on January 24, 1859.

Consequent to her investigations, it was in 2005 when another important working tool was printed. It is about *Contribuții la o biobibliografie Alexandru Ioan Cuza* [Contributions to a bio-bibliography of Alexandru Ioan Cuza], extremely important for both the established and those at their prime activity in the field of history.

The work is structured in two different parts. Thus, the first part, *Cronologie* [Chronology], contains at the beginning a study about the genealogy of the Cuza family. It is followed by a chronology of Prince's family and personality. It begins with year 1784, when his father, Ioan Cuza, was born, and comes to an end with year 2001, when the work of Dumitru Ivănescu, *Alexandru Ioan Cuza în conștiința posterității* [Alexandru Ioan Cuza in the conscience of posterity] was published. Since the very beginning, the author compels the attention that the possible inadvertences that one could detect in the text of this part would be because of the simultaneous use of the two calendar styles in the period.

For the second part, *Referințe* [References], the author insists upon the publication of any type that refer especially and directly to Alexandru Ioan Cuza. Henceforth, there are gathered together all volumes, studies, articles and notes from magazines and newspapers, irrespective of the fact that it is about essential or minor works, published between 1859 and 2003. Accordingly, 888 titles are assembled, being ordered depending on the year of publication, so that the researcher could easily understand the periods of time and the amount in which a real interest for the prince's personality exists. Meanwhile, one could note that, among each year the order of the works is alphabetical depending on authors.

The book closes with an *Indice de autori* [Author's Index], designed to facilitate the easy retrieval of the items.

It is certitude that this editorial issue of major interest not only for the historians generally focused upon the Romanian modern history, but also for the archivists that are in charge of the documentary material dating in the time of Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza, facilitating the individual study necessary for studies and documentary exhibitions.

Arcadie M. Bodale

**Virginia Isac, *Principele Alexandru Ioan Cuza. Scrisori din exil. 1866-1873* [Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza. Letters from Exile. 1866-1873], Iași, Editura Junimea, 2007, 148 p.**

Virginia Isac came into contact with the archives since she was a student, when Professor Alexandru Gonța brought the students in his class of Romanian history to the State Archives in Iași. There, he urged them to work directly with the original documents. This fact inspired them with love for document, which Virginia Isac would observe since 1951, when she became employee at this institution. In this position, she was able to gain a particular place among the archivists at the State Archives in Iași. After her retirement, she continued her research work in the archives and libraries in Romania, especially those in Iași and Bucharest.