

The concentration of more Greeks in the Leipzig lodges in the 1790ies at the same time when admissions in the Austrian lodges ceased is making sense in Hatzipanaiotis-Sangmeister's opinion when set in connection to the reaction against the French Revolution. That wave of conservatism had as a result in the Greek language a quite well-known piece of literature written in verse, the *Dialogue of the Dead* by Polyzois Kondou, published in Vienna in 1793. It has been interpreted only as a reaction against the French Enlightenment, while actually it also signifies a reaction against the German Illuminanten, a secret sect who attempted to impose a kind of radical and active Enlightenment and which met an end in 1785–1786. The same kind of spirit pervaded the Ephimeris of the Markides Poulios brothers, where a work under the same title, written by Moritz Flavius Trenck von Tonder, was published in translation.

The examination of the incentives of the Greek freemasons shows that heir joining the lodges in Leipzig and Berlin was not a random choice, it was systematic and lasting in time. It was as good as a way of integration into the socially correlated groups of the region.

Then the author focuses on the effects of freemasonry. Anything but a closed body for secret encounters, it openly worked as an active organization which induced imitation and cultivated ethical values such as friendship and solidarity.

One effect of the integration in foreign lodges was the creation of similar associations lodges on the Greek territory. The well-known travel account of Jakob Ludwig Salomon Bartholdy mentions a lodge in 1803 in the then busy town of leather tanners, Ambelakia.

From a Romania point of view, he sequence of Constantine Caradja's life and the new details in connection with Silvestru Fillitti are bringing information of great historical interest.

The book has an annex and appendices. The annex contains the biography of Alexander Mourouzi, while in the appendices we find a list of all the identified Greek-speaking freemasons. Other very useful working tools are a catalogue of the lodges, the encyclical letter of Theocharis Kefalas and a reproduction of the engravings which make up the Bernigeroth collection. The last of these bear the title *Les coutumes des franc-maçons dans leurs assablées principalement pour la réception des apprentifs et des maîtres*.

As this is a book written in Greek it was issued without a précis in a widely circulated European language. It may be hoped that a translation in such a language will soon follow. It is also the place to observe that the only Romanian name in the whole book goes back to the form with which Nicolae Iorga signed his German works. Therefore the historian's name is here given as Nikolaus (!) Iorga.

Despite Hatzipanaiotis-Sangmeister's limiting the geographical boundaries of her contribution, it went beyond the examination of just one social and historical phenomenon, turning into an investigation of the large and multifaceted subject of the Enlightenment. It is in fact a new way of reading the Enlightenment of Greek expression through what was called its "low-voiced version".

The author has the right to think that the discussion she is starting and the new data her research provides are inspiring. We would add unhesitatingly that the book's impact comes also from her research manner, clear and considerate, as well as from her persuasive style.

*Lia Brad-Chisacof*

Angela JIANU, *Romanian Revolutionaries and Political Exile, 1840–1859*, Brill, Leiden-Boston, 2011, 382 p.

The Balkan Studies Library of Brill has included among its books this general account of what happened to the people who had led the 1848 revolution in Wallachia after they were banished and how they managed to return as winners.

The first part, a prelude to the revolutionary events, is focussed on the activities of Romanian students in Paris, where they met Michelet and formed around him a group of admirers, succeeding to determine his profound commitment to their cause. Thus, the French historian became in the end an

honorary Founding Father of the triumphant Romanian nation. These chapters, essentially based on Michelet's correspondence and diary, assign the main roles to the Bratianu brothers and to C.A. Rosetti. About the lectures at the Collège de France that were a source of inspiration and encouragement for such young men, significant evidence was provided by Ambrus Miskolczy who has published the notes taken by one of them in a book which should have been used. Among the French friends who belonged to the circle, Armand Lévy and Charles-Louis Chassin would have deserved more attention, as activists of the internationalist and republican propaganda. On the 19<sup>th</sup> century Romanians seduced by Free-Masonry we expected to see references to the works of Dan Berindei and Mihai D. Sturdza. There is, however, some new information here, about a very interesting character, the British consul in Bucharest Robert Colquhoun. For the first time his connection with the revolutionaries is explained by his kinship, that always mattered to a Scottish laird: he was related to Mary Grant, Rosetti's wife.

Speaking of Rosetti's sentimental life, let us add that his diary is quite explicit on another of his loves – for Catinca Odobescu, whose husband, the general, having attempted a coup against the provisional government, was nevertheless pardoned by Rosetti.

In Part Two, once again, Michelet's correspondence is serving to evoke the roaming of the two Bratianus through Western Europe when they endeavoured to enlist politicians and public opinion in favour of the Romanian national cause. This time, the amount of material is considerable and most of it is furnished by the Golescu private papers. Being published on the eve of the World War in 1939, those four big volumes had almost never been used in the foreign historiography. This section of the work highlights the dialogue of the Romanian exiles with the other political emigrations. Another direction of research which might be followed is Michelet's file on the Danubian Principalities, included by Michel Cadot in his 1968 edition of *Légendes démocratiques du Nord*. Dumitru Bratianu's lobbying in London during the years 1849–1850 stands in importance well above the other episodes in the book we are reviewing: it occasioned the memorandum to Palmerston, which also went into print, and a pamphlet by W. Lloyd Birkbeck, a publicity campaign that allowed some hopes to the exiles. A good chapter concerns the secret associations in France and the plot against the life of Napoleon III in which Ion Bratianu was involved.

The final part deals with the life of the itinerant preachers of Romanian unification until their state-building action brought them to power. As a last supplement to bibliography, I recommend to read the documents I published in *Revista Arhivelor*, 2, 2009: they show how many of the exiles begged to be granted pardon and how Prince Barbu Stirbey allowed them to return to the country. It is true that the leaders were too proud to accept this humiliation and they waited till the end of the Crimean War and the change of regime.

The volume makes clear not only the vicissitudes experienced abroad by the „circle of friends” (after all, this book is only about the Rosetti and Bratianu families), but also the transfer from biography to myth which guaranteed their reputation with posterity. As a mean to inform foreign readers, it will be useful.

*Andrei Pippidi*

Miloš KOVIĆ, *Disraeli and the Eastern Question*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2011, 339 pages.

Let's have a glance at this much-needed book, recently translated from its original Serbian version. It is throwing light on a very complex personality, one of the greatest statesmen of his time, and on the kaleidoscopic policies he pursued to the Near East. As the author rightly remarks: 'Of all the British prime ministers up until the present day, Disraeli had the most direct and personal knowledge of the Ottoman Empire and the Balkans'. Dr Ković achieved an outstanding contribution to the history of international relations by studying Disraeli's role in drawing borders in South-Eastern Europe, but also by considering his efficiency in maintaining the balance among the Great Powers during the Eastern Crisis of the 1870s. The reader will also discover along Disraeli's biography the origin of some prejudices he would manifest in his diplomatic negotiations. Travels he