DIGITISATION OF COMPLETE WORKS OF RADOJE DOMANOVIĆ
(1873–1908) – FIRST EIGHT YEARS OF THE PROJECT

Abstract. This article presents a review of the first eight years (2013–2020) of the activities and effects of the “Radoje Domanović” Project – project dedicated to digitisation and promotion of the collected works of Radoje Domanović.

1. Introduction
The “Radoje Domanović” Project was initiated by the author of this article, who is also the sole editor of the Project, in October 2013. The initial goal of the Project was to digitise the collected works of Radoje Domanović, and make them accessible to readers across the globe. In the beginning, this activity was generically titled “Project for digitisation of collected works of Radoje Domanović”, but since it grew into a more comprehensive site, as will be shown in this paper, the editor settled for naming it simply the “Radoje Domanović” Project.

Initially, the Project was published on the free domanovic.wordpress.com domain, until domanovic.org domain was purchased in October 2018. After the first three years, the status and activities of the Project were presented by the editor at the XIV Conference for Digitization of Cultural Heritage in September 2016.

2. Biography and Bibliography of Radoje Domanović
Radoje Domanović (1873–1908) is the most famous Serbian satirist, and the first Serbian writer whose main genre was satire. Domanović initially started writing realist stories from village life during his studies and tenure as high school teacher in the south of Serbia in the 1890s. At the beginning of his writing career, he did also write a few humourous stories, but the main body of his satirical work only appeared after he came into a conflict with the régime, which lead to him being fired from his teaching post and moving to Belgrade in 1898.

Beginning with the short stories “Demon” and “Abolition of Passions” published in 1898, until the May 1903 coup d’état that toppled king Aleksandar Obrenović, Domanović has written his most poignant satires that had propelled him into stardom. Two of the stories that made the biggest impression onto the public were “Stradija”, a parody of Serbian society and politics, and “Prince Marko for the Second Time Among the Serbs”, misfortune adventures of the mediaeval hero who had returned to contemporary Serbia.

After the 1903 coup, Domanović was given a state stipend to spend one year in Munich, but after he had returned, he noticed that there was very little meaningful change in the society; enbittered, he attempted to continue the struggle against those injustices, but no longer having a driving force to inspire him, he was mostly confined to writing
political pasquinades and commentaries. He died destitute in Belgrade in 1908, at the age of 35, after a long struggle with chronic pneumonia and tuberculosis.

During his lifetime, Domanović published only eight books with 25 different realist and satirical stories, and one more short story came out as a separate edition (“Reasoning of an Ordinary Serbian Ox”). Most of his works appeared in various magazines in Serbia and Bosnia. The first collection of Domanović’s complete works was compiled by Dimitrije Vučenov, Ph.D. (1911–1986) and published by Prosveta in 1964; this edition was used as the basis for the digitisation Project when it was established.

3. Digitisation Process

Before 2013, very few of Domanović’s stories were available on-line, most relevant resources being the Rastko Project (with three stories: “Leader”, “Brand”, “Prince Marko for the Second Time Among the Serbs”), Anthology of Serbian Literature (four stories: “Stradija”, “Leader”, “Dead Sea” and “Brand”), and a set of scanned books (without OCR conversion or possibility to browse between texts, and not including the 1964 Collected Works) available in the Digital National Library of Serbia. This scarcity of on-line resources was one of main triggers to initiate the Project. Taking the 1964 Collected Works as the most comprehensive printed edition with 212 published texts, it can be seen that only 2.36% of Domanović’s texts were available on-line in a digitised format.

The entirety of the 1964 Collected Works was digitised and published online between October 2013 and October 2015. As of 15th June 2020, total of 764 posts were published on the website, 43% of which, ie. 329 posts are Domanović’s original texts in Serbian (including his correspondence and public appearances), and the remainder are translations. Total word count is 1,031,897 words.

All of Domanović’s works (original or translated) are published on the Project website as blog posts. In order to make material more accessible for browsing, posts are limited to about 1500 words (approximately three A4 pages; actual average number of words per post is 1350), or split into appropriate segments according to the contents of the text itself, and interconnected with hyperlinks so that readers can easily read through the text or continue reading at their leisure. In case that one text is published in multiple posts, title of the post will contain the information about the post number and total number of posts; for example, the famous satire “Stradija” is split into 12 posts, so its third segment will be titled as “Stradija (3/12)”.

Since the Project started as a blog, frequency for publishing texts is set at one post per day. Based on the possibilities of the WordPress system, each post is also highlighted with tags (keywords).

The digitisation itself was done in a straightforward way, scanning the pages or taking photos of them, running the files through the optical character recognition (OCR) software, and then visually comparing the recognized file with the original to ensure there are no errors.

4. Portal Contents and Structure

The Project is structured as a WordPress blog, with two different types of content: posts and pages (excluding a media library which is not separately available to readers). Static pages outline the main structure of the Project and there are five top-level pages:

1. About the Project
2. Index of Works
3. Glossary
4. Bibliography
5. Foreign Languages

“About the Project” contains the basic information related to the Project and its current status, with four sub-pages: biography of Radoje Domanović, information about the editor, and the 2015 translation competition. At 2150 words long, Domanović’s biography was compiled based on the monograph Radoje Domanović – Life, Times and Genesis of Works (Rad, 1959), and it is the most detailed biography of the writer available on-line as of June 2020.

“Index of Works” shows the full list of Domanović’s works that are digitised and published, and also links to foreign language pages with corresponding flag icons. For easier browsing, all the works are categorized in the subpages: Most Important Works, Realist Stories, Satirical Stories, Articles from the “Echo” (Odjek), Articles from the “Stradija”, Articles from the “New Movement” (Novi pokret), Letters, Official Correspondence, Speeches and Scientific Work. Texts recommended by the editor are marked with a black star. Due to their historical relevance and importance for better understanding of Domanović as a person and as a writer in his day and age, two not so commonly known stories: “Misfortunate Adventures of Saint Sava in High School for Girls” and “King Alexander Among the Serbs for the Second Time” were included in the “Most Important Works” category with his more famous texts.

“Glossary” covers archaic and uncommon words found in Domanović’s works. More than a 100 years have passed since his death, and a lot of words and cultural references have changed. First complete collection of Domanović’s works (Prosveta, 1964) also has the largest glossary of all the printed editions until 2020, containing 300
entries in total, but by today’s standards it can also be considered outdated, since it lacks some terms that have gone out of use in the meanwhile. Using the 1964 glossary as a basis, during the digitisation process the editor noted down all the generally uncommon words seen in Domanović’s works, and expanded the glossary to include 668 entries, with explanations and etymology of all words of foreign origin. To make it possible for contemporary readers to understand the context better, 132 short biographies of personalities, 31 toponyms and 8 works of literature mentioned in the texts were also added to the glossary, bringing the total number of entries to 839. For easier browsing, it is divided in 6 subpages (“A–I”, “J–P”, “C–III”, “Biographies”, “Toponyms” and “Literary Works”).

Top-level page “Bibliography” contains all the information related to books published during Domanović’s lifetime. As a journalist and magazine editor, Radoje also contributed with various articles in daily press, and timeline of publication of these texts is detailed in the subpage “Chronology”, based on the information from the 1964 Collected Works. Other three subpages in this category are related to translations: “Books in Foreign Languages” (list of published foreign language books), “Works in Foreign Languages” (Domanović’s texts listed by available translations), and “New Translations” (list of translations that were made specially for the Project).

“Foreign Languages” page is a listing of all available languages – Albanian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Czech, English, Esperanto, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Macedonian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovenian, Ukrainian, with translations already published on-line, as well as Armenian, Italian, Nepali, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Vietnamese and Welsh, with translations still pending to be published on-line as of June 2020. Each language has its own subpage, containing a short biography of Domanović and a list of translated works.

5. Site Visits and Global Outreach

As of 15th June 2020 there were 58187 views (see Table 1 and Chart 1):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Views</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>7816</td>
<td>6346</td>
<td>9451</td>
<td>9303</td>
<td>13139</td>
<td>9891</td>
<td>58187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>2175</td>
<td>2135</td>
<td>3229</td>
<td>3478</td>
<td>3884</td>
<td>3941</td>
<td>19501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Posts</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1

Project website has received visits from all the continents except Antarctica, and as of 15th June top five countries by the number of views are (see Table 2):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Views</th>
<th>Bosnia</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Montenegro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>38313</td>
<td>5257</td>
<td>2418</td>
<td>1832</td>
<td>1505</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2

Excluding the front page/index, five most visited pages are “Biography” (3741 views as of 15th June), “Satirical Stories”, “Most Important Works”, “Realist Stories” and “About the Project”.

Five most read posts are, by number of views: “I Vote for the Blind Poets” (1203 views as of June), “Abolition of Passions”, “Our Women”, “Brand” and “Misfortunete Adventures of Saint Sava in High School for Girls (1/5)”. Translations with most visitors are: “Leader” in English (409 views as of June), “Brand” in English, and “Brand” in Russian.

Regarding search terms, WordPress only shows limited statistics, but from the available information, excluding author’s name, surname and their variations, five top search terms are: “zaverenicko pitanje” (matter of conspirators), “nas zenski svet” (Our Women, title of a text), “migoljiti” (to wiggle), “pevacev uskrs” (Singer’s Easter, title of a story) and “sloboda zbora i dogovora” (freedom of assembly). The “matter of conspirators” was an important event in Serbia after the 1903 coup d’état – process for legal resolution of the matter of conspirators in the coup, and although it does not cover the topic form a historian’s perspective, domanovic.org is the top result for this search term on Google. If “Радоје Домановић” written in Cyrillic script is searched in Google, Domanović’s biography on the Project comes up as the third result, as of June 2020.

Excluding search engines, current top referrers to domanovic.org are: Wikipedia (3249 referrals, 75% of referrals coming from Serbian and Serbo-Croatian Wikipedias), Facebook, Regional Competitions (Konkursi regiona), Twitter, Reddit and kruzovina.blogspot.ba. Due to COVID-19 pandemic lockdown and introduction of on-line classes, May and June 2020 also saw an increase of referrals from Google Classroom. Current Alexa ranking of the Project is #8,443,384 in global Internet traffic.

Facebook page (radoje.domanovic.stradija) and Twitter account (@RadojeDomanovic) have been made for the Project as well, but are rarely used, mostly for automated publishing of new posts.

As of 15th June 2020, articles about Radoje Domanović are available on 21 Wikipedias. Using Domanović’s biographies available in various languages on the Project website, entirely new articles were created by the editor on 11 Wikipedias (Albanian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Czech, Esperanto, German, Greek, Hungarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Slovenian), and all of the remaining Wikipedias were updated at least to contain the link to the Project. As soon as new translations into Nepali, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Vietnamese and Welsh are published on the website, articles about Domanović will be created on the corresponding Wikipedias.

6. Original Contributions

Through research of Domanović-related resources, mostly in the National Library of Serbia and in Matica Srpska, contents of the Project were expanded with texts not included in the 1964 Collected Works, that were published in other sources: realist stories “A Strange Man” and “Friends”, official correspondence of Domanović with the Ministry of Education related to an incident (pub brawl) between Domanović and Jaša Prodanović, as well as Domanović’s speech at the X Annual Conference of the Teachers’ Association in 1898, as reprinted in Radoje Domanović – Life, Times and Genesis of Works (Rad,
1959). Unfinished comical poem without a title, published originally as part of eulogy to Domanović in “Zvono” in 1908, which was discovered by Žarko Rošulj and reprinted in “Glišić and Domanović” Conference Proceedings (SANU, 2009) was published on the Project website under the title “Word has reached Mrs. Ružica...” based on its first line.

Domanović’s 1895 letter to the Minister of Education in defence of his future wife was for the first time published by Miloje Nikolić in “Leskovački zbornik” in 1990. The editor initially found this document in an article by Zorka Stojanović in “Cultural Heritage of Radoje Domanović” (“Radoje Domanović” Library – Rača, 2016), and published the letter on the website in March 2018. During later research, the editor read the 1990 article and discovered that “Cultural Heritage...” has only published an abridged version (also changing the sequence of some sentences), so the correction was made in April 2020 to give the readers of the Project the complete letter as it had been written by Domanović.

Realist story “By the Fire” was also updated in May 2020, when the editor found an article in the “Contributions to Literature, Language, History and Folklore” (1985), in which Miloje Nikolić (who originally discovered this previously unpublished story in 1958) gives the correct sequence of the text that was changed in the 1964 Collected Works due to unknown reasons.

During research of periodicals in the National Library of Serbia, the editor browsed through magazines that were already covered in the 1964 Collected Works, and selected from them 12 articles without signed autorship not previously published elsewhere – 4 articles from the “Odjek” (one of which was certainly written by Domanović, but was excluded from the 1964 Collected works) and another 8 articles from the “Stradija” (two of which were also clearly penned by Domanović).

A short text from “Odjek” called “New Illness” was included in 1964 Collected Works and digitised in January 2015; during research it was found that two final passages are missing from the printed edition, so the post was updated in October 2015.

Domanović’s largest (and unfinished) work “King Alexander Among the Serbs for the Second Time” was published as a series of articles in the “Novi pokret” in 1905, and for the first time collated in one place in the 1964 edition of the Collected Works. However, editor of the Collected Works accidentally omitted one section, with the remark in footnote: “The only copy of the ‘Novi pokret’ that is still extant is damaged here. It was in no way possible to reconstruct the missing word or two. That is why we marked this place with dots”. The published text is shown on the left in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1964 Edition</th>
<th>Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>А кад се краљ женио, он није онако натерсуме, већ је добро отворио очи да нађе „слику...“ се и поносе, што се могу уистини назвати непоколебљиво верним и оданим пријатељима дома Карађорђевића. [end of chapter]</td>
<td>А кад се краљ женио, он није онако натерсуме, већ је добро отворио очи да нађе „слику [спро]ву себе“, да нађе у свету најдостојнију која „може бити за њега краљица, може бити свој земљи госпођа.“ [and 430 words more]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The editor of the Project was also interested in this missing word, and during research the same copy of the “Novi pokret” was found in the Digital National Library of Serbia. The page is indeed damaged in the bottom right corner, and one word cannot be discerned, but the 1964 edition made a mistake and continued the text from the top of the next page, instead from the bottom half where the story is published as a ground floor feuilleton, thus ending the first chapter of Domanović’s story with the paragraph from an unrelated article. When reading is continued on the bottom half of the next page, the missing word can also be understood from the context, so the corrected text was published for the first time in full in October 2015.
In 2018 the editor accidentally found and purchased a 1905 book of stenographic notes “Three Public Conferences for School Hygiene and Popular Education” in which Radoje Domanović had made a short appearance with his statements during the third public conference in January 1905. Although it is not literary in nature, the text is indicative of the times Radoje wrote in, so it was included in the Project. Domanović’s statements were copied from the book, including the context (excerpts from preceding speakers’ speeches), digitised and published in October 2018 under the title “Appearance of Radoje Domanović at the III Conference for School Hygiene and Popular Education”. Having never been published or mentioned in other works before, this is the first entirely original contribution published on the Project website.

During his short teaching tenure, Radoje Domanović wrote one short scientific work, titled “Children’s Games in Our High School”, that was published in the 1897/8 Report of the Royal Serbian High School in Leskovac. This work was referenced in Radoje Domanović – Life, Times and Genesis of Works (Rad, 1959) but the integral text was not published. The editor found one copy of the Report in the Archives of Serbia, however, the only available copy was damaged, pages from 7 to 15 are missing, and with them the second part of Domanović’s work. Comparing the extant text with Life, Times and Genesis of Works, it was found that one footnote in the monograph contains the ending of the last extant passage in the original Report, which gives hope that a complete text still may exist somewhere (unless the only copy of the Report was not damaged in the sixty years between the printed and on-line publications). The available portion of the work was digitised and published in December 2019.

With the original contributions increasing the number of texts to 231, the Project has become the largest available resource of Domanović’s texts on any medium.

In order to increase the number of translations of Domanović’s works, in March 2015 the editor posted an open competition for translators on the Regional Competitions (Konkursi regiona) web page. Seven not commonly translated short stories were listed in the competition as non-exhaustive suggestions for potential translators. Total of 668 visits were received from the page, and by the end of July, 17 translations were received. After review, 10 translations were selected (6 Hungarian, 2 Russian, 1 Bulgarian and 1 Greek), formatted and published; this was the first time any of Domanović’s works were translated to Greek. The translations were not published immediately, because it felt more appropriate to publish the existing translations of more famous works first and only then expand with new contributions.

Another two satirical stories – “Demon” and “Reasoning of an Ordinary Serbian Ox” were translated into English by the editor and proofread by a native English speaker.

Since the end of 2019, editor has been ordering additional new translations for the Project from various translators worldwide. Three of the most representative and universally understandable stories were selected (“Leader”, “Brand”, “Reasoning of an Ordinary Serbian Ox”) and given to translators. Until June 2020, translations of these stories were made in eight new languages: Italian, Nepali, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Vietnamese and Welsh. “Reasoning of an Ordinary Serbian Ox” was also translated into Chinese.

7. Effect on Printed Publications

Since its inception in 2013, the website has been slowly building up a following and the number of visits is on constant increase, albeit without any planned promotion, and there is already some discernible effect of the Project on printed publications, as can be seen with the following examples:
Under the auspices of the municipal project “Cultural Heritage of the Municipality of Rača”, Rača library published a book of conference proceedings titled “Cultural Heritage of Radoje Domanović” (“Radoje Domanović” Library – Rača, 2016), with 16 texts from different authors, some of whom used the contents of the Project for their work. Zoran Samardžić ended his article “Satire in a Cul-de-Sac” with a verbatim copy of the last passage of the Domanović’s biography as published on the Project website, while Zorka Stojanović in the article “Eternal Dedication to One Woman and to Satire” directly copied four passages from the biography.

From 1908 to 2015, 79 books of selected Domanović’s stories were published, and two collected works (Prosveta, 1964; Koraci, 2009). COBISS does not give detailed contents of all the publications, but information is available for 70% of them (55 books). Naturally, most of the books contain satirical stories, but among those “Misfortunate Adventures of Saint Sava in the High School for Girls” was only reprinted once (in 1928), and “King Alexander Among the Serbs for the Second Time” never. It is also worth noting that collected works from 2009 have exactly the same contents as the 1964 edition, without the glossary.

From 2016 until 2020, according to COBISS, 10 books containing selected works (only first editions included) and 3 books of collected works (Talija, 2016; Neven, 2018; Presing, 2019) have been published. Two books of selected works (“The Leader and Selected Satires”, Vulkan, 2017; “Such Fortunate People”, Laguna, 2017) both reprinted “Saint Sava...” and “King Alexander...” (for the first time to be found among selected works, and with a corrected first chapter in both books), and “Such Fortunate People” also included rarely published texts (like “Modern Uprising”, “What Would Happen?”, “Suitable Enemy Wanted”), which are all marked with a black star (ie. recommended by the editor) on the Project website.

Apart from the timeline showing an unprecedented re-appearance of “Saint Sava...” and “King Alexander...” stories in publications, an accidental typing error also serves as proof that publishing houses copied the materials directly from the Project. During one comparative re-reading of the Serbian, English and Russian versions, the editor noticed that one paragraph was accidentally omitted from the Serbian text of “The Brand” on the website:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>2013 Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>– Нећемо да чујемо за те старе заслуге! Колба су јахали још пре десет година! – вичу из друге групе.</td>
<td>– Нећемо да чујемо за те старе заслуге! Колба су јахали још пре десет година! – вичу из трке групе.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Сад се јављају млађе снаге, а за старе нећемо да знамо више – вичу из трке групе.</td>
<td>Наједанпут се утиша граја; народ се расклопи те учини пролаз, на коме угледах млада човека око својих тридесетак година. Како он наиђе, све се главе дубоко приклонише.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The error on the website was only corrected after its discovery in 2020, but some of the printed publications (Laguna, 2017; Neven, 2018) contain the same error (which did not occur in any other earlier printed publications that the editor has read).

Collected Works (Neven, 2018) copied and published the entire contents of Project up until October 2018, as can be seen from many details, including the previously mentioned missing passage: “King Alexander...” is reprinted with the corrected first chapter, “By the Fire” and “Letter to Ljuba Kovačević” are given in incorrect order (correction was made after 2018), 12 additionally published short texts from “Odjek” and “Stradija” all appeared in the book, while “Word has reached Mrs. Ružica...” and
“Appearance of Radoje Domanović on the III Public Conference for School Hygiene and Popular Education” were printed under the same titles as originally given on the Project website, and with editor’s remarks copied verbatim.

8. Miscellany

During the research and preparation of posts for publication, the author encountered a couple of things that deserve to be mentioned here at least as points of interest.

_Jugoslawische Erzähler der Gegenwart_ (Reclam, 1962) contains translations of “The Leader” and “Reasoning of an Ordinary Serbian Ox” into German by Miodrag Vukić. Although the book was published more than 15 years after the end of WWII, it was still not acceptable for the publishing house to print “The Leader” under its original name: the title is given only as “Vodja”, with a footnote explaining that it means “Der Führer”.

Apart from translations to 16 different languages that were published until 2020, there is also a very peculiar “adaptation” to Bosnian language, _Danga i druge pripovjete_, published in 2004 in Sarajevo, and “adapted to standard Bosnian language by Ferid Hušić”. This is the first such case when it comes to Domanović’s works, something that was not deemed appropriate or necessary for any of previous editions printed in Latin script in Zagreb (6 books) or Sarajevo (2 books). The changes in the “adaptation” include changing words from ekavian to ijekavian forms, and changing some of the words to variants commonly used in Croatia and Bosnia, like _juče_ to _jučer_ etc. The book also makes a very strange mistake in its adaptation of _Stradija_: when the narrator arrives in Stradija he causes a major commotion, and during conversations he admits that he is sixty years of age. In the original, Domanović uses a spoken variant form _šeset_ instead of _šezdeset_, four times. In the adaptation, narrator’s age is erroneously given as _šest_ (six) all four times, making the story contradictory to itself.

Czech edition by Irena Wenigová (Odeon, 1984) is until now the only rendition of Domanović’s works with intentional embellishments by the translator. For example, when the narrator of “Stradija” visits the Minister of Economy, it turns out that he is a buffoon when it comes to economy, but is an avid historian and collector of classical works; here the translator adds 14 Latin phrases or references to classical antiquity to his dialogue (there are no similar details in the original), while in the Ministry of Army 21 short invocations or biblical references were added to the lines spoken by the god-fearing minister. However, while striving to add to the original, the translator went wrong a couple of times: also in “Stradija” for example, experts of the Ministry of Education misidentify “dozvoliti” and “nužno” as words of foreign origin, creating for them also a fake satirical etymology; in this chapter the translator makes experts correctly identify five words that actually are of foreign origin, and omits the part with etymology (not unlike the English translation by Katarina Držajić [New Avenue Books, 2017] who entirely omits the whole chapter related to the Ministry of Education).

9. Milestones of the Project

17/10/2013 – First post published (“The Leader”);
27/10/2015 – Finished digitising and publishing all the original works available in the three-volume “Complete Works of Radoje Domanović” (Prosveta, 1964);
19/10/2018 – First original finding digitised and published (“Appearance of Radoje Domanović on the III Public Conference for School Hygiene and Popular Education”);
24/10/2018 – New domain name domanovic.org purchased;
19/08/2019 – First original translation published (English translation of “Reasoning of an Ordinary Serbian Ox”);
20/12/2019 – First publication of the extant text of Domanović’s only scientific work, “Children’s Games in Our High School”.

10. Future Plans

Apart from making it possible for Domanović’s works to appear in more languages and available to more readers, the editor also plans to introduce “mousover text” for all the archaic and uncommon words in the posts, so that readers would not be required to open the glossary on a separate page to find out the meaning, but just hover the mouse over an unknown word. All the texts will also be prepared in pdf format for readers to download.

One of the earliest texts written by Domanović is a satirical literary critique of Stevan Sremac’s novel “Vukadin”, published in 1896 in “Odjek”, which was not included in 1964 Collected Works, and only mentioned once in print, in a 1973 article by Dragoljub Vlatković in “Povelja”. This information has come to the editor’s attention in the beginning of this year, so by the time of writing of this article, the text was found but not yet digitised.

With the help of Belgrade City Library Local History Department, the Project will also publish a scanned original handwriting of the short story “By the Fire”. The editor will also keep trying to find if there exists another copy of the 1897/8 Report of the Royal Serbian High School in Leskovac, in order to find a complete text of Domanović’s only scientific work and publish it on-line.

Before attending University, Radoje Domanović wanted to become a painter, but his father did not allow him to take it up; however, he still painted in his free time. Unfortunately, due to the outbreak of WWI, none of Domanović’s unpublished writings remain today, and only one painting is known to have been saved – a side profile of an unnamed woman. The painting was mentioned once in the periodicals, and there are only two black and white halftone images available; the editor hopes that at some point there will be an opportunity to include a full colour image in the Project.

References

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