

Spanish National Library, that shares similarities with a leaflet from Seville, much easier to date, given the fact that the activity of its printer, Diego López de Haro, was registered starting from 1718. Subsequently, Escudero delivers the scheme of the dramatic text.

As for the *mojiganga* of the *auto*, edited by Ignacio Arellano, the introductory study also focuses on the main relations between the testimonies, establishing as base text the manuscript from the Spanish National Library.

The following work presented by the volume is the play *Quién es quien premia al amor*, preceded by a *loa* edited by Belén Álvarez García. Although in most cases with Bances Candamo's plays, the release and representation dates are well known, in the case of this one, we are unaware of it. Therefore, in order to determine the circumstances of this historical play, the editor has to focus on the events that are being described. The editor of the *loa* underlines that although every theatrical show is mainly visual and auditory, it draws the attention the many references to these two specific senses.

As for the play in itself, edited by Blanca Oteiza, it retakes the same dating problem early presented by Álvarez García. Based on her research, that manages to convince, Oteiza is of the opinion that the dating should be around the year 1693. Following the presentation of the plot of the play, the editor focuses on the mechanisms of the dramatic construction, on the analysis of techniques and motives and of themes and characters, as well as on the metrical synopsis. Next, we have the textual study which analyses five *sueltas* (lit. "loose") and two editions, one from 1772 and the other from 1974.

Finally, *La restauración de Buda* opens with the *loa* analysed by Ignacio Arellano. The play, written in 1686 commemorates the triumph of the Holy League against the Turks who had been holding Buda for a long time. This event had an important echo. The *loa* of Bances's play illustrates how the Ages, the Seasons, different Ancient Empires, Cesar or Alexander celebrate the glory of Leopold, responsible for the restauration of Buda.

The play, edited by Enrique Duarte, presents its historical background, establishing the interesting relation between History and Poetry, departing from whether the poet should introduce fictitious elements in the historical plays. Duarte presents the historical context, as well as the literary modifications of some historical facts and characters, in order to better serve his purpose. As in the previous play, the metrical synopsis is presented. The textual study enhances the presence of one leaflet, six *sueltas* and two manuscripts. At the end of the play, the editor presents an appendix of 13 illustrations of the restauration of Buda.

At the end of the volume we can find the variants of all the plays and the Notes index.

All in all, the volume represents a great contribution to the study of the works of Bances Candamo, in all and every of their historical and philological aspects, due to the dedication of the researchers that have been involved with this project. Recovering the past means recovering and preserving our memory and this volume is a good proof of the fact that, once brought back to the light of modern critics, these memories are here to stay and to make both specialists and profanes better understand the way our predecessors thought and expressed themselves.

Oana Andreia SÂMBRIAN

Romanian Academy

*"C.S. Nicolăescu-Ploșor" Institute for
Social Studies and Humanities Research, Craiova*

**Florin Gh. Ghețău, An assumed mission – Alexandru Marghiloman Government
(March 5/18 – November 24/6, 1918), Deva, Karina Publishing House,
2016, 142 p.**

Florin Gh. Ghețău, PhD, the head of 2005 promotion of Faculty of History-Philosophy-Geography from Craiova University, author of the following books: *Protocolul de la Sankt-Petersburg (1913)* [*Sankt-Petersburg Protocol (1913)*], published in 2008, *Relațiile româno-italiene în*

perioada neutralității (august 1914 – august 1916) [Romanian – Italian relations during neutrality period (August 1914 – august 1916)], published in 2008 and *Manualul dictatorului desăvârșit* [Manual of the perfect dictator], 2 editions published in 2010 and 2015, and also the author of numerous articles and studies of contemporaneous and recent history, published in dedicated magazines, is currently history teacher in high school, Lupeni City, Hunedoara County.

The last of his publications, *O misiune asumată – guvernarea Alexandru Marghiloman (5/18 martie – 24/6 noiembrie 1918)*, represents the valorification of the research efforts during Doctorate studies, finalized in 2009, when Mr. Florin Gh. Ghețău received the scientific title of doctor in history.

Characterized by originality, the book can be considered an important paper for the historiography dedicated to the First World War. The analyse of the subject approached by the author is built, mainly, based on the information received from documentary sources, gathered by the author from archive funds kept by the National Archive of Romania, but also kept by the Central Archive of the State from Italy (“Archivio Centrale Dello Stato”, Roma).

The Book *O misiune asumată – guvernarea Alexandru Marghiloman (5/18 martie – 24/6 noiembrie 1918)* [An assumed mission – Alexandru Marghiloman government (March 5/18 – November 24/6 1918)], is structured on 5 chapters, preceded by a preface, signed by Univ. Prof. PhD Corneliu Mihail Lungu and an introduction, in which the author motivates the need for such a scientific project, not enough researched in the dedicated literature: “(...) we consider the subject that we have assumed has the merit to bring back into discussion a short and significant period from national history, although very short from time point of view, it was very full with crucial events. We consider as an historic act of restitution offering a big picture over a period, when Romanian state itself seem to be under question and when numerous morale problems needed to be solved” (p.7).

Lecturing the book gives us the right to state that the author, combining the analysis with synthesis and new information with confirmed information, does honour his main objective, stated in the book’s introduction, over five chapters: “România în perioada premergătoare instalării guvernului Marghiloman” [“Romania in the period before the installation of the Marghiloman Government”] (chapter I), “Pacea cu Puterile Centrale” [“The Peace with the Central Powers”] (Chapter II), [“Executivul Marghiloman și unirea Basarabiei cu România”] [“Marghiloman Executive and Unification of Basarabia with Romania”] (chapter III), “Acțiuni politice de ordin intern ale guvernării Alexandru Marghiloman” [“Internal political actions of Alexandru Marghiloman government”] (Chapter IV: 4.1. “Inculparea guvernelor prezidate de către Ion I. C. Brătianu între anii 1914-1918” [“Prosecution of the governments lead by Ion I. C. Brătianu between 1914-1918”] and 4.2. “Problema reformei agrare” [“The problem of the agrarian reform”]) and “Sfârșitul unui cabinet” [“The end of a cabinet”] (chapter V).

The author analyses and interprets, thru the studied archive documents, the pluses and the minuses of the Alexandru Marghiloman government of which actions and projects have happened in exceptional condition for Romanian state. The acceptance by Alexandru Marghiloman of the responsibilities that came from an exceptional internal and international context places him in the line of the state peoples that contributed to maintaining the Romanian national state, reinstating the borders thru the unification of Basarabia with Romania, and also the managing of various internal problems (organisation of parliament elections, clarification of the financial situation of Romanian state, etc.).

Although the dedicated historiography regarding the First World War is relatively rich, a simple lecture of the book, written by PhD Florin Gh. Ghețău, demonstrates the fact that he brings a plus of information and interpretation of the historic facts and events that happened on Romanian political stage during and at the end of the first world conflagration.

In conclusion, we can state that *O misiune asumată – guvernarea Alexandru Marghiloman (5/18 martie – 24/6 noiembrie 1918)* [An assumed mission – Alexandru Marghiloman government (March 5/18 – November 24/6, 1918)], covering a historiographic space insufficient researched by the

specialists, is an important paper that can be useful to historians, teachers, students and those passionate by history. The lecture of the book reveals to the reader the writing talent of the author and also the accuracy with which, those familiarized with his scientific works, have been acquainted already by Mr. Florin Gh. Ghețău.

Diana-Mihaela PĂUNOIU
Romanian Academy
“C.S. Nicolăescu-Ploșor” Institute for
Social Studies and Humanities Research, Craiova