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Prešernova slovesnost v Vrbi 15. septembra 1872

IZVLEČEK

Spominsko ploščo na rojstni hiši pesnika Franceta Prešerna v Vrbi so slovesno odkrili 15. septembra 1872. Slovesnost je organiziralo aprila 1872 ustanovljeno slovensko Pisateljsko društvo oziroma mladoslovenci, ki so v tem času hoteli pridobiti vpliv v društvu Slovenska matica. Na odkritju je bilo več kot šest tisoč ljudi. Slavnostni govornik je bil Radoslav Razlag. Načrtovana blagoslovitev plošče je odpadla, ker ljubljanski knezoškof za to ni dal dovoljenja. Josip Stritar je na prošnjo Josipa Vošnjaka napisal pesem »Na Prešernovem domu 15. septembra 1872«, ki jo je uglasbil Benjamin Ipavec. Na občnem zboru Slovenske matice 26. septembra 1872 so bili izvoljeni staroslovenski kandidati.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

France Prešeren, Vrba, spominska plošča, Pisateljsko društvo, Josip Vošnjak, Josip Stritar, Benjamin Ipavec, Radoslav Razlag

ABSTRACT

PREŠEREN'S COMMEMORATION IN VRBA ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1872

The memorial plaque on the birth house of the poet France Prešeren in Vrba was solemnly unveiled on 15 September 1872. The commemoration was organized by the Slovenian Writers' Association founded in April 1872 or, more specifically, members of the Young Slovenes movement seeking to gain more influence in the Slovenian Society. The inaugural address at the unveiling ceremony attended by more than six thousand people was delivered by Radoslav Razlag. The envisaged blessing of the memorial plaque was cancelled for not having received the authorization from the Ljubljana Prince Bishop. At Josip Vošnjak's request, Josip Stritar wrote the poem »Na Prešernovem domu 15. septembra 1872,« which was put to music by Benjamin Ipavec. On 26 September 1872, the Slovenian Society's general assembly held a ballot that gave the majority to the candidates of the Old Slovenes movement.

KEY WORDS

France Prešeren, Vrba, memorial plaque, Writers' Association, Josip Vošnjak, Josip Stritar, Benjamin Ipavec, Radoslav Razlag

Zgodnja Danica, 1872.
Zora, 1872.

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S U M M A R Y

Prešeren's commemoration in Vrba on 15 September 1872

The initiative for installing the memorial plaque on France Prešeren's birth house in Vrba was given by his fellow countrymen. The Writers' Association, founded in April 1872, set up a special board to carry out the unveiling ceremony. The association was established on the proposal of Davorin Trstenjak, in protest of the Slovenian Society (an institution for the Slovenes' cultural and scholarly progress; transl. note), where the presidency of Etbín Henrik Costa and meagre literary activity met with strong opposition.

The decoration of Vrba was rendered possible by the Upper Carniolan patriots who donated over one hundred florins. The celebration was also funded by the money collected for the envisaged and later cancelled gathering of Upper Carniolans that was to be held in Lesce in 1871. On behalf of the Writers' Association, Josip Vošnjak requested Josip Stritar to

write a solemn poem and the Ljubljana-based Sokol society to assist in organizing the celebration in Vrba. Stritar's cantata »Na Prešernovem domu 15. septembra 1872« (At Prešeren's House on 15 September 1872) was put to music by Benjamin Ipavec and performed by the choir of the Ljubljana Reading Club. One day before the commemoration, the *Slovenski narod* newspaper featured Vošnjak's editorial »Največ svetá otrokom sliši Slave« (The greater part of the world belongs to the children of Slava) and an article by the editor Josip Jurčič titled »Preširen«, both accentuating Prešeren's merits for the literary and national revival of the Slovenes. Stritar printed a thousand copies of the poem »Pozdrav Preširnovim čestiteljem, zbranim v Vrbi 15. septembra 1872« (A Welcome to All in Praise of Prešeren Who Will Gather in Vrba on 15 September 1872) and sent them to the Writers' Association for distribution at the celebration in Vrba.

The unveiling of the memorial plaque was attended by more than six thousand people. Although arrangements were made for the parish priest Lovro Pintar from Breznica to bless the plaque, the Ljubljana Prince Bishop Jernej Vidmar refused to grant him authorization. The inaugural address was delivered by Radoslav Razlag. After the unveiling ceremony, many attendees continued to Bled, where festivities were being held. Some spent the night in Bohinjska Bistrica, Srednja Vas and Bohinjska Češnjica, and visited the Savica Waterfall the following day.

No leader of the national conservative Old Slovenes movement attended the commemoration in Vrba. On 26 September 1872, new board members were elected at the eighth general assembly of the Slovenian Society, where the opposition presented its own list of candidates. The rift was caused by the Slovenian Society's intent to set up a printing works (due to the planned transfer of the National Printing Works and the *Slovenski narod* editorial board from Maribor to Ljubljana) and the Young Slovenes' endeavours to win a dominant influence in the institution. The Old Slovenes claimed their victory at the general assembly ballot with 780 votes against 670. The strife between the Old and Young Slovenes caused the Writers' Association to cease its operations. It resumed its activities again in 1885 under the name Writers' Support Association.