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Memories of Grigor Nachovich about His School Years

(Summary)

This publication contains the memoirs of the prominent Bulgarian social-political figure Grigor Dim. Nachovich (1845-1920) about his school years in his hometown, in Tzarigrad and in Paris. Born in a family of a wealthy tradesman from Svishtov . an important port on the Danube River, after that he studies in Tzarigrad, Paris and Vienna. In 1866 he comes back to Bulgaria and participates actively in the national-liberation movement but is soon compelled to emigrate . first in Romania and after that in Vienna. After the Liberation of the country (1878) he is a deputy in the Constituent Assembly, minister in the first Bulgarian government and in subsequent governments, one of the leaders of the Conservative party, diplomatic representative abroad, etc. Lived in two fateful epochs in the history of the Bulgarian people . in its national renaissance and in the years after the Liberation, Grigor Nachovich shows himself as a statesman with great merits to the building and modernization of the new Bulgarian country. In the offered memories the author tells about the life in his hometown in the middle of the XIX century, about his family and the native environment, in which he grows up and forms its outlooks, about the local schools and teachers, in which he starts his education. After that he describes his departure and his studies in Tzarigrad . in the catholic missionary school in the quarter of Bebek as well as his departure to Paris where with the support of Polish emigrants he continues his education in Ecole superieure de commerce, in the Sorbonne and in the College de France. Apart from being an interesting building material for the history of the renaissance epoch the memories of Grigor Nachovich are another evidence of the

inextinguishable aspiration of the renaissance Bulgarians for knowledge and education. It is not casual that uneducated but wealthy, naturally intelligent and enterprising Bulgarians like his father have sent their sons to the best schools and invested money in education. In such a way in most cases the brilliant stratum of highly educated young Bulgarians has been prepared, who after that show themselves as capable and well-prepared builders of newly liberated Bulgaria.