The study deals with the unpublished manuscript of the letters by Onufrij Popovič of Hilandar (Bogdan Popivanov, 1797–1871), a Bulgarian-Serbian revivalist and a campaigner for the autonomy of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, with the monks of the Hilandar Monastery on the Holy Mount Athos, which the Czech orthodox monk Sava of Hilandar (Slavibor Kryštof Jonathan Jeremiáš Breüer, 1837–1912) offered to the Serbian Royal Academy (deposited in the Archive of the Serbian Academy of Arts and Sciences, call № 7186). It primarily reconstructs Onufrij’s fragmentary biography on the basis of new facts. At the same time, it devotes attention to the role of Athos in the national emancipation process of the Balkan nations at that time, with special consideration given to the history of the Hilandar Monastery in the 19th century. In connection with Onufrij’s work in Istanbul, where he held the function of Hilandar representative (vekil) in the court dispute with the other Athos monasteries, it also documents his attempt to orient the Hilandar monastery toward Serbia, which Onufrij had repeatedly visited and had personal contact with its leading church and secular representatives.