
Teodorichka Gotovska-Henze**MARIN DRINOV AND HIS CONTACTS WITH THE OLD CZECHS
(1860S – 1870S)**

(Summary)

Marin Drinov's stay in the Czech lands, with interruptions between September 1867 and November 1869, came at a crucial moment in his life, when the young and talented graduate of the Russian Slavic School took the path of science on his own. The first prolonged stay of the novice historian in Central Europe brought the first results of his work as a scholar. In all of them the handwriting of the Medievalist is evident, but also of the revivalist, which reveals M. Drinov as a person who used his professional pen in the service of his country. His teacher, the famous Russian Slav scholar Osip Bodiensky, was well known in the circles of scholars around the National Museum in Prague and it is no surprise that his alumnus quickly established closest ties in these circles. The article highlights the most important moments in the biographies of the Old Czechs' leaders František Palacký (1798–1876), František Ladislav Rieger (1818–1903), František Brown (1810–1880), Jan Stanislav Skrejšowski (1831–1883). Drinov's association with the Old Czechs' leaders was also facilitated by the good contacts of his friend Vasil D. Stoyanov with them. The article presents the cooperation of the two Bulgarians with the Old Czechs in connection with their main project of that time – the establishment of the Bulgarian Literary Society. During his second stay in Bohemia, Drinov also made contact with representatives of the younger generation in the Old Czech environment. The author concludes that the close links of the Bulgarian historian with the Old Czechs were favored by long-

established friendships, but were also the result of the personal preference of the conservative minded Bulgarian.