

UDC 821.161.2

doi: 10.15330/jpnu.2.2.115-121

GERMAN EPISTOLARY HERITAGE OF IVAN FRANKO AND ITS DOMINANT FEATURES

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Abstract: The epistolary heritage of Ivan Franko contains over six thousand letters. German epistolary correspondence addressed to Vienna, Berlin, Budapest, Heidelberg, Freiburg, Stanislav, Chernivtsi. The author of the article analyzes also the response letters sent to I. Franko. His first letters in German were addressed to Olha Roshkevych. They were written under the strong impression that the epistolary novel "The Sorrows of Young Werther" by J.W. von Goethe had had on I. Franko. The Ukrainian writer's correspondence with H. Kanner and I. Singer the editors of the weekly newspaper "Zeit" is an evidence of their close cooperation. I. Franko had close professional ties with V. Adler one of the founders and leaders of the Austrian social-democratic party, the editor of Vienna newspaper "Arbeiterzeitung", as well as with V. Adler's wife Emma. I. Franko's correspondence with a prominent Slavic scholar V. Yagic didn't contain only private matters discussions. The third part of it is totally scientific which actually makes it valuable for researchers. I. Franko's epistolary works reflect his artistic writer's style neither in form nor in content. His letters are characterized by the depth of his thought, consistency of his statements, clearness of the sentence constructions, tendency to critical assessments of phenomena and scientific findings.

Keywords: epistolary heritage, correspondence in German, "Zeit", "Arbeiterzeitung".

1. INTRODUCTION

Epistolary correspondence is an important constituent part of a writer's literary heritage, one of the most significant original sources for the reception of his/her artistic world. It presents scientific interest not only as the material for biography study or investigation of ideas and interrelations of a writer but also serves as an eccentric factor which reflects all the aspects of the writer's spiritual life, peculiarities of his/her individual thinking. Correspondence in comparison with memoirs is more reliable in search of general or detailed information. "If literary works of a writer are addressing to everyone, – Zh. Lyahova notices, – in a private correspondence the author often shares his/her sacred thoughts and dreams to the addressee. Then not only the content of a letter but also its manner, tone of converse are important for identification and understanding the writer's personality" [5, p. 3]. Despite an eccentric artistic value of epistolary genre the essence of its literary nature hasn't been fully investigated yet. The epistolary correspondence done on the basis of foreign languages is of even greater scientific interest as it requires the knowledge of this or that foreign language.

The theoretical aspects of the epistolary genre were substantiated by V. Bruhnalskyi, R. Hanshynets, S. Skvarchynska, H. Steinhausen and others. They studied questions connected with the

history of a letter, its structure, model content, tracing the evolution of epistolary genre from the Roman times to the beginning of the XX century.

There aren't any special researchers theorizing a letter phenomenon in the Ukrainian literary criticism. V. Hladkyi, V. Svyatovets, Zh. Lyahova in their monographs investigated V. Stefanyk's, L. Ykrainka's, T. Shevchenko's epistolary correspondence.

2. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Ivan Franko attached great importance to the study of letters. In 1906 he published M. Drahomanov's correspondence. Franko "planned to publish Drahomanov's letters together with the letters of his correspondents, and every correspondence separately adding his own explanations and introductions" [10, p. 3]. He used letters in his article about the life of an ethnographer Emil Korytko (? -1839). "... Besides I was lucky enough to get from Lviv antique collector Tomasik quite a big manuscript volume that contained a valid number of the Ukrainian folk songs and a great part of Korytko's correspondence with the contemporary Slavic scientists and writers. This gives me a chance to make Korytko's biography full and detailed comparing to all others available now..." [9, p. 4]. Franko emphasized the importance of correspondence when he was writing the biography of Ivan Fedorovych at his son's request. "Examining the correspondence Franko noticed that it revealed dark times from 1835 till 1846, activities of the Polish democrats in the 40s and especially the events of 1848 when Ivan Fedorovych was a deputy from Ternopil in Vienna Sejm" [2, p. 167]. In his letter to Ahathanhel Krymskyi in February 1894 Ivan Franko pointed out at the importance of the epistolary study of the Ukrainian writers. "In general I want to turn your attention to the fact that those things, especially correspondence of our writers, I take into consideration over all other materials. The letters of even small writers can be essential for the history of literature and community, and as for the Ukrainian writers as you know thousands of reasons are being created to veil the mystery over their lives and work. Thus we have different theories which actually we wouldn't even need if we knew in fact what was the push, with whom this writer associated and how he developed. That's why I think that every grain of factual information in such matters moves our literature study forward..." [14, p. 462]. In 1908, Franko already published five letters of Ostap Terletskyi in the Publishing House of T. Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv.

The epistolary heritage of Ivan Franko is archived in Taras Shevchenko Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. It contains over six thousand letters. Franko's letters to his relatives, friends, outstanding activists of science and culture were published in 48-50 volumes of the Complete Works of Ivan Franko. Unfortunately, only a small number of letters written in German to the correspondents from Austria and Germany were revealed. A high school student from Drohobych addressed his first letters in German to Olha Roshkevych. In the 48th Volume of the Complete Works of Franko seven letters to Olha Roshkevych and one to Yaroslav Roshkevych Olha's brother whom Franko was helping with studying were published and translated. The letters of a future writer were full of emotions and sufferings. Studying the life paths of the author of "The Stonecutters" one can conclude that the image of Olha Roshkevych was following Franko all his life. A famous specialist of Slav literature Günter Wytrzens called these letters the best example of Franko's early literary work as a German writer.

It's known that I. Franko was corresponding with Victor Adler (1852 - 1918) one of the founders and leaders of the Austrian social-democratic party, the editor of Vienna newspaper "Arbeiterzeitung" and his wife Emma. It's a pity that until now no one of Franko's letters to the Adlers has been revealed. The fact of the mutual correspondence is proved by V. Adler's letter-response to Franko dated July 8, 1898. The editor of "Arbeiterzeitung" complained that Franko's letter from June 16 reached him quite late because it had been in Berlin for nearly three weeks.

V. Adler wrote that he told the deputies from the social-democratic party of Austria about Franko's desire to expose illegal actions during the preparation and actual conducting of the elections in

Halychyna. He emphasized the fact that the radical party of Halychyna had to unite with the social-democrats as their separation was beneficial only for the badenits. Besides political questions Adler also asked Franko if he had anything for the literary part for his newspaper.

Franko also mentioned Victor Adler in his letters to Mykhailo Pavlyk: "Today I am going to be at Adler's and I will talk with him about your sister's case". "...Today I will talk about that with Adler and right now I am asking you if in the case they cannot give anything, could You yourself give something and how much exactly" [14, p. 355, 362]. In both letters they were discussing M. Pavlyk's sister Ann's defense. She was accused of attempted assassination on the policeman's life. Victor Adler promised to find a lawyer and "the local labour party" agreed to pay for her defence.

The fact of Franko and Adler's meeting which was described by Mykola Voronyi is worth mentioning here. The author of memoirs unexpectedly met Franko on one of the streets in Vienna: "... He welcomed me with some cherries and a new magazine. We went to his place. Entering a bit dimmish dwelling (somewhere on the second floor) I was surprised when Franko introducing me to the host, a heavy plump German with a typical physiognomy of a Viennese burger, said: "Victor Adler". Here in Adler's house I got to know the real Franko in whom I fell in love for the rest of my life.

Soon he and Adler started a passionate discussion about Galician peasants' delegation in Vienna. The emperor Franc Josef wasn't polite with them as he didn't even listen to the complaints of the peasants about the trespass at the elections for the Sejm of Galicia. He turned away from them growling out "a dien" and left. The discussion got hotter. Franko an agrarian socialist, the representative of the radical peasant party was arguing with the social-democrat, the leader of the urban working class Adler" [4, p. 158].

"Such speeches happened rarely. In this particular case Franko and Adler seemed to outdo themselves, their age, their appearance and throwing off a 40-years weight became young brave lads... I remember that the weight of my sympathy was on Franko's scale of the discussion points, I couldn't stay calm and started to defend Franko's proves in the Ukrainian language against Adler, I mumbled senselessly about individualism of our peasantry, about grain production as the basis of our economic life in certain periods, pointed out at scarring pictures of the famine in Ukraine. Franko translated my argumentation into German. But we didn't persuade Adler. Actually then studying Marx' ideology of economic materialism I was still afraid of betraying my gods..." [4, p. 159].

Emma Adler's letter to Franko is dated according to the assumptions of the member of Academy Vinter 1893. Mrs. Adler is asking Franko to send her the material for the book which she was planning to publish before the Easter holidays. These should be fairytales, poems, different deductive life-stories. In her next letter Emma thanks Franko for his letter-response and expresses her sadness about his wife's illness. In his letter Franko apparently asked the Adlers to help him to stage one of his plays in the Vienna Theater. Emma gave the letter to her husband for further move and from her part recommended Franko to apply in Raimund-Theater as the director there Muller-Huttenbrunn was a decent man and he could assess the situation realistically [15, p. 443].

Franko worked for the Polish and German publications for some time. "During that my 40-year-laterary work I worked a lot to earn my living to say so for the neighbours, in the Polish and German periodicals. Especially in 1886-1890 because of the circumstances I had to devote the major part of my work for the Polish and German periodicals among which the most important were "Przegląd Społeczny" published by Boleslav Vysloukh and "Kurjer Lwowski" published by Henrik Revakovykh in Lviv with whom I worked in 1885-1896, "Prawda" – the weekly edition published by Sventohovskiyi in Warsaw, "Kraj" published by Erasm Pilts in Sankt-Peterburg, "Glos" published by Poplavskiyi in Warsaw and "Die Zeit" the weekly edition and later the daily newspaper published by Singer and Kanner in Vienna. I noticed a big number of my works in those periodicals that were written in Polish and German and were slowly spreading among some of my countrymen in Halychyna and in Ukraine but they were almost unknown for the majority of our people" [12, p. 34].

Franko's close cooperation with the weekly newspaper "Zeit" is known from his correspondence with the publishers H. Kanner and I. Singer. In the scientific work "Ivan Franko. Beiträge zur Geschichte und Kultur der Ukraine" (Berlin, 1963) there are 146 letters. 60 among them were written by

Kanner and Singer and 10 by the management of the "Zeit". The period of the correspondence is 1895-1914.

First letters written in September-November 1895 were about publication of some works of Franko in the newspaper as for example the articles "The Peasant Move in Galicia". As it know, the author didn't want to sign it with his name. H. Kanner is emphasizing on the urgency of this speech and plans to publish it before the elections in Halychyna. In one of the next letters Singer informs that the article is going to be printed in the issue from September 21 and asks to send the material about the results of the elections, give the characteristic of the activity of Galicia vicegerent Kazymyr Badeni. Though, this article was published shortened because of the possible confiscation of the newspaper. The publishers of the "Zeit" asked Franko to send to the editing office the critical reviews on some works which could be objective. In September 1895 besides the article about Badeni "Die Bauernbewegung In Galizien" was published in the „Zeit“. In a few Kenner and Singer's letters the need of the publication of the articles "Moschen" was mentioned (received May 21, 1896), "Die Freunde des Grafen Badeni" (received June 3, 1896), "Der polnische Bauer" (received August 12, 1897); the article "Galician Peasant" is meant). These facts prove that due to Franko the events of the political life, the plight of Halychyna peasants became known for the wide range of readers in Austro-Hungary.

On the 8th of December in 1897 the article about Mickiewicz "The Poet of Betrayal" ("Dichter des Verrates") appeared in the magazine "Zeit". It raised the wave of discontent among the adherents of the polish poet's talent. V. Stefanyk described the reaction of the Polish people in his letter to the writer Vatslav Morachevskyi: "... I was about to give Franko your money when he asked me if you demanded it back as other Polish did. Franko wrote the article about Mickiewicz in the "Zeit" and now all the Polish, everyone, are unsatisfied with him! Would you like to put your name in the newspaper of Franko now?" [8,378]. The attitude to the criticism on his article Franko expressed in his letter to Baudouin de Courtenay written in the second half of February in 1898: "... As for the situation with Mickiewicz I agree with the opinion of the respected mister that I should have researched it more carefully; especially as all those who criticized my article in my mind (as far as I know this criticism and I know it all) didn't read it at all but learn about it from the Polish newspapers or read it with the prejudice through the patriotic lenses" [13, p. 104]. In the weekly newspaper "Zeit" Franko published his article "My Counterfeit" devoted to the explanation of some of his standpoints.

In 1903 I. Franko presented some interesting memories about the origin of the short story "At the bottom" in the article under the title "Wie ich dazu kam? Eine Erinnerung" ("How has it happened? Reminiscence"). It's actually a commentary to the published in NN164-185 short story "Der Bodensatz" translated by Karl Helbig. Making an announcement about I. Franko's short story publication the editorship of the weekly newspaper "Zeit" wrote: "The prominent Ukrainian poet and philosopher who has also some influence on the political development of his people depicts in this work modern prison endurance of a young person who got to be the victim of a very true political justice. Ivan Franko revealed truly in his literary works what he experienced himself. So, we are happy of the fact that we can get acquainted our readers who already know this famous and interesting poet from his numerous smaller articles with one of his bigger works" [2, p. 136].

In the August issue of the "Literary-scientific collection of articles" (1904) the short story by I. Franko "Khoma with a heart and without a heart" was published with the following author's note: "This short story shortened and less completed form was written in German and printed in the Sunday addition to the Viennese newspaper "Die Zeit" (p.626 from June 19, 1904) [2,364]. Besides the mentioned works the "Zeit" published also Franko's articles "Impossible in the country of impossibilities" (1899), "Tortures in Galicia" (1899), "Peasant strikes in Galicia" (1902). In 1914 Franco gathered works in Polish and German which were not available for the wider range of the Ukrainian readers and published them under the title "Working For the Neighbours".

Franko's correspondence with the editor of the Vienna newspaper "Arbeiterzeitung" led to the appearance of the article "Aus Galizien. Der babylonische Turmbau in Sachen der Bauerwanderung" ("On the occasion of the peasants' emigration from Halychyna") which was published on the 11th of November in 1892. The author of the article points out the reasons that made peasants emigrate to

Russia, traces emigrants' ways abroad. He shares this with Mykhailo Drahomanov in the latter dated October 30, 1892: "I published the article about emigration in the local "Arbeiterzeitung" but I don't have the issue right now, that's why I cannot send it to you, but as soon as I get it I will send it immediately. The local anti-Semitic "Volkszeitung" took the numerical material from my article and rewrote it in their way" [4, p. 363]. Ivan Franko as a publicist quite often was getting the letters from different publishing houses with the offers to send correspondence about the events in Halychyna or his short stories, essays.

In 1905 Franko wrote the article "Elne ethnologische Expedition in das Bojkenland" for the Austrian magazine "Zeitschrift für österreichische Volkskunde", where the editor was the Austrian ethnographer, the secretary of the Austrian ethnographic society Michael Haberlandt (1860-1940). 23 letters from Haberlandt to Franko were saved. Later the article appeared in this magazine. Franko gave the detailed characteristics from the scientific results of the expedition around the villages of Boikivchyna (august-september of 1904). The participants of the expedition were also the professor Theodor Volkov (Fedir Vovk) from Paris, the listener of the University of Vienna Zenon Kuzelya and the engineer from Russia Pavlo Ryabkov.

Franko's letters written in German were addressed not only to the correspondents from Vienna but also from Berlin, Budapest, Heidelberg, Freiburg, Stanislau, Chernivtsi. The Austrian scientist Raimund Friedrich Kaindl (1866-1930) lived and worked in Chernivtsi. Unfortunately, Franko's letters to Kaindl didn't come to us. As known, his rich archives burnt down during the World War I [6, p. 104].

Raimund Kaindl's works were dedicated to Bukovyna, Hutsulschyna, Boikivschyna and other ethnographic regions of Western Ukraine. Working in the field of the Ukrainian ethnography he left a noticeable heritage that is still waiting for its objective researcher. A. Popenyuk wrote about contacts between Franko and Kaindl in his reminiscences: "That very day in the afternoon (it was May 7, 1913 in Chernivtsi – V.T.) we saw Franko off to the train station. There we met the professor from Chernivtsi University Kaindl, who studied the life of our hutsuls and wrote a few books about them. The poet talked with him on this topic and then the train arrived [7, p. 259]. In 1909 the editor of the publishing house "Herders Konversations-Lexikon" got the letter from Ivan Franko. This important document is written by Andryi, the writer's son. It's a short sketch about life and literary experience. Recalling the Viennese period Franko wrote: "In 1894 I had vacations from the editor office "Kuijer Lwowski" and lived two semesters in Vienna, where under the control of professor Yagic I completed my Slavic school and in July 1894 I got the doctor diploma.

The original 18 letters from Franko to Vatroslav Yagic are kept in Zagreb University library. Their correspondence lasted for 15 years (1900-1915). Ivan Franko got acquainted with the scientific works of Yagic while being a student in Lviv University. Their personal meeting took place in Vienna in 1892 when the Ukrainian writer was listening to the lectures of Yagic as well as of the professors Pasternak, Mühlbacher and Paulichke.

On October 11, 1892 Franko was enlisted as the hearer of the Slavic seminar of Yagic. He wrote about this to his wife Olha Khoruzhynska: "I got registered for the University today. I paid 18 guildens 65 kruisers. The Dean welcomed me sincerely and said to translate the literary works and also everything published from my scientific materials immediately, ensuring me that everything would be done quickly. So, I am waiting only for Yagic's arrival..." [14, p. 352].

The correspondence between Franko and Yagic wasn't restrained by only private issues. The third part of their correspondence is clearly scientific what actually makes it so valuable. Some of the letters were connected with other Ukrainian writers. As it known, V. Yagic living in Vienna was a courtier counsellor who represented the Slavic writers for getting literary scholarships to the Austrian Ministry of Education. Because of the patronage of the Croatian scientist Osyp Makovei was granted the literary scholarship in 1898. V. Yagic put a lot efforts to get the same scholarship for Olha Kobyljanska. "I will be very grateful, - he addressed to Franko in his letter, - if you give me a short characteristic information about this writer, which I will be able to use in my review" [13, p. 279]. In the letter dated November 8, 1905 Franko laconically characterized the writing talent of Olha Kobyljanska. On the

basis of the characteristic information Yagic wrote the resolution for the Austrian Ministry of Education and in 1906 O. Kobylyanska got her literary scholarship.

Franko's letters to Yagic are penetrated with warmth and sincerity. Their relationship grew into a real creative friendship that many letters prove. Franko addresses to Yagic not only as his student but also as his colleague. Franko writes to Yagic about his health, shares his family tragedy sorrow about the loss of his elder son Andriy who was the biggest helper in the times of illness with him.

A 50-volume edition of the "Collected Works by I. Franko" contains two of his letters to Adolf Atlas a lawyer from Stanislau who translated his works for the German-speaking Ukrainian publication "Ruthenische Revue". Franko highly valued the translation of his "Stonecutters". Though the poet made some corrections and informed the translator about them in the letter from April 30, 1914. Franko's letter to Antal Hermann, a Hungarian ethnographer, the editor and publisher of the German-speaking magazine "Ethnologische Mitteilungen aus Ungarn" ("Ethnological Facts from Hungary") is dated January 6, 1895. Franko expresses his regret that he didn't have a chance to meet Hermann in person. Having sent a set of his magazine "Життя і слово" ("Life and Word") Franko hoped to get a set of the "Ethnological Facts" so he could publish his review of it in the Ukrainian magazine.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Franko's epistolary material doesn't reflect his writer's literary style. His letters as actually every writer's letters have something of their own, something that is Franko's. The depth of his thought, consistency of his statements, clearness of the sentence constructions, tendency to critical assessments of phenomena and scientific findings are characteristic for all his letters. The letters to A. Krymsky, M. Hrushevsky, V. Hnatyuk, V. Yagic are logical and argumentative, differ their scientific style. I am deeply convinced that discovering and interpreting new Franko's letters written in German we will open new pages of his life and literary work.

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Received: 17.04.2015; **revised:** 20.06.2015.

Ткачівський В.В. Німецькомовна епістолярна спадщина Івана Франка та її домінантні риси. *Журнал Прикарпатського університету імені Василя Стефаника*, 2 (2) (2015), 115–121.

Епістолярна спадщина І. Франка охоплює понад шість тисяч листів. Серед них німецькомовна кореспонденція, адресована до Відня, Берліна, Будапешта, Гайдельберга, Фрайбурга, Станіслава, Чернівців. У статті проаналізовані також листи, які він отримував у відповідь. Перші німецькомовні листи були адресовані Ользі Рошкевич, написані під враженнями від прочитання епістолярного роману Й.-Ф.Гьоте «Страждання молодого Вертера». Про тісне співробітництво свідчить листування І.Франка з видавцями тижневика “Zeit” Г.Каннером та І.Зінгером, одним із засновників та керівників австрійської соціал-демократичної партії, редактором віденської газети “Arbeiterzeitung” та його дружиною Еммою. Спілкування І.Франка із знаним славістом В.Ягичем не обмежувалося їхніми суто приватними справами. Третина кореспонденції є чисто науковою, в чому, власне, й полягає її цінність. Епістолярій І. Франка ні формою, ні змістом не нагадує його художньої творчості. Для його листів характерні глибина мислення, послідовність у викладі думок, ясність у побудові речень, схильність до критичної оцінки явищ і наукових висновків.

Ключові слова: епістолярна спадщина, німецькомовне листування, “Zeit”, “Arbeiterzeitung”.