

Abstract

The Representation of the Religious Life, Culture and Society During the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy in the Catholic Press of the Transylvanian Diocese

Present dissertation analyses the manner how the local journals reflect the significant events, phenomena and endeavors. Therefore the primary sources of the dissertation are the journals themselves. During the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy (1867-1918) the Transylvanian Roman Catholic Diocese had nine journals:

1. "Egyházi és Iskolai Hetilap" ("Church and School Weekly"),
2. "Erdélyegyházmegyei Értesítő" ("Gazette of the Transylvanian Archdiocese"),
3. "Közművelődés" ("Community Education"),
4. "Néptanoda" ("Educating the Public"),
5. "Hargita",
6. "Szent Ferenc Hírnöke" ("The Messenger of Saint Francis")
7. "Erdélyi Oltáregyesületi Lap" ("Periodical of the Eucharistic Association")
8. "Bernardinus"
9. "Kalazantinum"

Together with the above-mentioned reviews, I used the technical and economic sources as well that made possible the editing process of the journals. (The Batthyaneum at Alba Iulia, the Diocesan and Archdiocesan Archive and the archive of the Sapientiae Incarnate Seminary have only sporadic, handwritten sources; the state archives have preserved even less material concerning the topic).

At the beginning of the work, I was motivated by the fact that there are different and contradicting approaches of the provincial press: though one view considers worthless the rural or provincial journal because of their low professional value, the other assesses all journal and rejects the idea of devaluation. The latter opinion was affirmed by a contemporary expert in press-bibliography. According to him, the value of the journals is equal to the handwritten sources. Having this starting point, I focused in my analysis on the way how the Transylvanian Roman Catholic journals assess and with what do they complement the major news of both the local and universal Church.

The dissertation consists in five chapters. The introduction, which is in fact the first chapter, is dedicated to five major issues. First, I present the different movements of the 19th

century and the turn of the century. Second, I dedicate attention to the papacy of that period. Third, the relationship between the Hungarian State and the Church is discussed in details. Fourth, a separate subchapter is dedicated to the Roman Catholic bishops of Transylvania, i.e., Mihály Fogarasy, Ferenc Lönhárt and Károly Majláth Gusztáv. Fifth, since the Holy See evidenced several times concerning the press during the 19th century, I dedicate a separate subchapter to that issue. The second major chapter follows the presentation of the press laws and of the contemporary Roman Catholic press. Hence, the second chapter is dedicated to the three topics addressed in the title of the present dissertation.

In the second half of the 19th century, the Church was of the opinion that the devotional literature might help the believers, who were not practicing Catholics, to find their way back to the Church. Therefore, different associations and groups were established to offer these types of literature to the readers, such as poems, tales and novels. The second chapter (The Representation of the Religious Beliefs) discusses the pieces of this type of devotional literature published in the catholic press of Transylvania. As the result of this chapter, I have discovered two litterateurs, Mariska Dobay and János Csiszér, who achieved the abovementioned program of the Church in their writings.

The third chapter analyses the cultural approaches that were present in the Catholic written press. Due to the initiative of Mihály Fogarasy, bishop of Transylvania, a cultural association came into being under the name of Roman Catholic Association of Literature in 1879. This association aimed at the propagation of the culture with special emphasis of the knowledge concerning the religious belief. In this regard, they established a weekly periodical entitled *Közművelődés* (Community Education), which became in a short time the most significant press distribution of the archdiocese in that period. So far, the activity of the association has not been addressed by the scholars, therefore the present dissertation intends to contribute with the presentation of this activity to the research of the Catholic press of the mentioned period.

The fourth chapter explores the social problems reflected in the press, for instance the difficulties with regard to the Catholic-Protestant relationship, the reorganization of ecclesiastical autonomy (the Roman Catholic Status - *Római Katolikus Státus*), as well as the representation of social-economic problems of Transylvania. The relationship between the State and the Church was characterized by tension in the second half of the 19th century. The liberal policy of the State aimed to control, more precisely, to take over the social roles accomplished by the Church, e.g., the organization of the education, the management of the registers etc. Furthermore, special attention is dedicated to an emerging social phenomenon

of the secler community in the analyzed period. This phenomenon consisted in the impoverishment of the young generation, and their emigration as a consequence of the socio-economic situation. The present chapter discusses the traces of these problems in the local Catholic press.

The final chapter includes the conclusions and the summary of the results of my research. Below are the major points of my findings:

- The thesis that each publication of the press represents values, proved to be truth in the case of the press of the archdiocese during the period of dualism. The analyzed papers preserved materials which are not available in other source, though they provide significant help to the historiography, for instance biographies, speeches of ecclesiastic personalities, unpublished work of literature, record of the associations' meetings etc.
- The material of the analyzed publications are not from the leading Catholic papers of the capital, though obviously, borrowings had happened in many many cases. Thus, given the local character of the analyzed material, it is evident that the editors adapted to the needs of their readers. In several cases, they even entered into debates with the editors of the leading journals.
- Normally, different intellectual groups stood behind the analyzed journals. However, the activity of these groups consisted not only in publication of these papers, but also in education-evangelization of the wider public.
- These journals educated and inspired not only their readers, but the potential writers as well. In other words, we have evidence that some of the authors who published in these papers, acted later as collaborators of these journals and some of them became even writers, poets (e.g., János Csiszér and Mariska Dobay).

Key words: *devotional periodicals, Austro-Hungarian Compromism, 1867, pope Leo XIII, catholic press, „Közművelődés” gazette, Transilvanian Archdiocese, Fogarasy Mihály, Csiszér János, Dobay Mariska*

Table of Contents

The Representation of the Religious Life, Culture and Society During the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy in the Catholic Press of the Transylvanian Diocese

TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
0 INTRODUCTION	14
0.1 PRESENTATION OF THE TOPIC, AIMS, METHODOLOGY	14
0.2 THE STRUCTURE OF THE DISSERTATION.....	17
0.3 SOURCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY	23
1 THE CULTURAL, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONTEXTS OF THE PRESS OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN ARCHDIOCESE IN THE 19TH CENTURY.....	28
1.1 INTELLECTUAL MOVEMENTS, IDEOLOGICAL SYSTEMS IN THE MODERNISM.....	28
1.2 THE PAPACY IN THE MODERNISM	34
1.2.1 <i>Pope Pius IX (1846-1878)</i>	34
1.2.2 <i>Pope Leo XIII (1878-1903)</i>	42
1.2.3 <i>Pope Pius X (1903-1914)</i>	50
1.3 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE CHURCH IN HUNGARY DURING THE LONG 19TH CENTURY	54
1.3.1 <i>The Period of Struggle for Independence and Absolutism</i>	54
1.3.2 <i>From the Compromise to the World War I</i>	57
1.4 TRANSYLVANIAN BISHOPS IN THE PERIOD OF DUALISM	64
1.4.1 <i>Fogarasy Mihály</i>	64
1.4.2 <i>Lönhárt Ferenc</i>	67
1.4.3 <i>Majláth Gusztáv Károly</i>	70
1.5 THE DENOMINATIONAL COMPOSITION OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN DIOCESE IN THE EXAMINED PERIOD.....	73
1.6 THE REVIEW OF THE HUNGARIAN PRESS IN THE PERIOD OF DUALISM	75
1.7 ECCLESIASTICAL ENOUNCEMENTS ON THE PRESS	77
1.8 PRESS LAWS, CENSURE	82
1.9 THE REVIEW OF THE HUNGARIAN CATHOLIC PRESS IN THE EXAMINED PERIOD.....	86
1.10 THE PERIODICALS OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN DIOCESE	91
1.10.1 <i>Egyházi és Iskolai Hetilap / Church and School Weekly (1867-1872)</i>	94

1.10.2 Erdélyegyházmegyei Értesítő / Gazette of the Transylvanian Archdiocese (1876-77)	96
1.10.3 Közművelődés / Community Education (1878-1918)	98
1.10.4 Néptanoda / Educating the Public (1870-1873)	104
1.10.5 Hargita (1872-1873)	106
1.10.6 Kalazantinum (1895-1915)	107
1.10.7 Szent Ferenc Hírnöke / The Messenger of Saint Francis (1903-1921)	108
1.10.8 Erdélyi Oltáregyesületi Lap / Periodical of the Transylvanian Eucharistic Association (1903-1914)	111
1.10.9 Bernardinus (1912-1919)	113
2 THE REPRESENTATION OF THE RELIGIOUS LIFE	116
2.1 THE CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS LIFE IN TRANSYLVANIA DURING THE DUALISM	116
2.2 ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SERVICE OF APOLOGETICS	121
2.2.1 Good and Cheap Publisher Association – Saint Steven Association	122
2.2.2 Eucharistic Associations	128
2.3 THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTIVITY IN THE BEGINNING OF THE 20 TH CENTURY	133
2.4 DEVOTIONAL WRITINGS	135
2.4.1 The Understanding of the Literature by the Church	137
2.4.2 Literary Criticism	139
2.4.3 Literary Texts in the Journals	<i>Hiba! A könyvjelző nem létezik.</i>
2.4.4 The Poems of János Csiszér	145
2.4.5 The Poems of Mariska Dobay	157
3 THE CULTURE: SKILLS AND CHASTITY	159
3.1 THE NOTION OF CULTURE IN THE LIGHT OF THE JOURNALS	159
3.2 THE ASSOCIATION OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC LITERATURE (ERKIT)	162
3.2.1 The Structure of the ERKIT	164
3.2.2 The Goals of the ERKIT	167
3.2.3 Editorial Office – Presidency	169
3.2.4 Associational Life in the 20th Century	173
3.3 THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CULTURE BY KALAZANTINUM	183
4 THE SOCIAL PROBLEMS REFLECTED IN THE JOURNALS OF THE DIOCESE	187
4.1 DENOMINATIONAL TENSIONS	187

4.2	THE RESTITUTION OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL AUTONOMY (<i>RÓMAI KATOLIKUS STÁTUS</i>)..	195
4.2.1	<i>The Assembly in 1868</i>	198
4.2.2	<i>The Reflections on the Assembly in the Press</i>	202
4.2.3	<i>The Issue concerning the School</i>	203
4.3	„ <i>SOCIAL QUESTIONS</i> ”	209
4.3.1	<i>The Society of Transylvania in the Period of Dualism</i>	209
4.3.2	<i>The Secler Action and the Congress</i>	210
4.3.3	<i>The Society of Transylvania in the Ecclesiastical Journals</i>	216
5	CONCLUSIONS, SUMMARY	229
	APPENDIX	238
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	251