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NEW PAGES TO THE BIOGRAPHY OF ALEXANDER HIZHDEU

The purpose of the research and its novelty. An important period in the cultural history of Moldova and Romania in the 19th century is associated with the name of Alexander Hizhdeu (1811–1872). He was formed as a linguist, philosopher, naturalist, ethnographer, writer, and publicist in Ukraine – first among the students of Kharkiv University (1828–1832), later as a gymnasium teacher and lawyer in Vinnytsia and Kamianets-Podilskyi (1840–1850). The few studies about Alexander Hizhdeu can be divided into art-philosophical and biographical-documentary. In the former, his personality is either not traceable, or excessively idealized for reasons of Moldovan-Romanian national mythology. Only two works of the second group are written in Romanian on a documentary basis (Arbure, 1898; Liviu, 1932). The short but interesting period of A. Hizhdeu's stay in Vinnytsia (1840–1842), where he worked as a teacher in the local gymnasium, is the least known to our time. 15 documentary sources from the funds of the State Archive of the Vinnytsia region are offered translated into English, which expands the possibilities of their use by researchers outside Ukraine as well. According to the content, the documents are combined into four novel groups: «Arrival at the gymnasium» (official biographical data, appointment as a teacher at the Vinnytsia gymnasium, correspondence with the director of the institution), «Caring Brother» (the unsuccessful intervention of Boleslav «Caring brother» (the unsuccessful intervention of Boleslav Hizhdeu in the financial relations between the teachers who held student's apartments, which had unpleasant consequences for A. Hizhdeu), «Inquisitive student» (conflict with a Polish student regarding the division of Poland and the Russian autocracy), «Debts» (A. Hizhdeu's attitude towards debts to representatives of various segments of the population). The combination of new data with those published earlier allows a better understanding of the reasons for the creative crisis that befell the comprehensively gifted man in the mid-1850s and continued, deepening, until the last days of his life. The methodology is based on a systematic approach using the comparative typological method of studying various sources. Conclusions. According to archival sources and the observations of contemporaries, the basis of the crisis of a unique personality was progressive sociopathy, the first signs of which were visible already in his youth and gradually exhausted the physical and spiritual strength of Alexander Hizhdeu, one of the outstanding initiators of the new culture of the Eastern Romanic peoples.

Key words: Alexander Hizhdeu, culture, 19th century, Vinnytsia.

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НОВІ СТОРІНКИ БІОГРАФІЇ АЛЕКСАНДРА ХІЖДЕУ

Мета дослідження і його новизна. З ім'ям Александра Хіждеу (1811–1872) пов'язаний важливий період в історії культури Молдови та Румунії 19 ст. Він формувався у якості лінгвіста, філософа, натураліста, етнографа, письменника і публіциста в Україні — спочатку серед студентів Харківського університету (1828–1832), згодом як учитель гімназій та адвокат у Вінниці та Кам'янці-Подільському (1840–1850). Нечисленні дослідження про Александра Хіждеу можна поділити на дві групи - філософсько-мистецтвознавчі та документальнобіографічні. У перших його особистість або не простежується, або надмірно ідеалізується з міркувань молдовсько-румунської національної міфології. Творів другої групи, написаних румунською на документальній основі, лише два (Arbure, 1898; Liviu, 1932). Найменш відомим до нашого часу залишається короткий, але цікавий період перебування А. Хіждеу у Вінниці (1840–1842), де він працював учителем у місцевій гімназії. Увазі читачів пропонуються 15 документальних джерел з фондів Державного архіву Вінницької області, перекладених англійською мовою, що розширює можливості їх використання дослідниками й за межами України. За змістом документи об'єднані у чотири групи-новели: «Прибуття до гімназії» (офіційні біографічні дані, призначення на посаду вчителя Вінницької гімназії, листування з директором закладу), «Турботливий брат» (невдале втручання Болеслава Хіждеу у фінансові відносини між вчителями утримувачами учнівських квартир, що мало неприємні

..... Актуальні питання гуманітарних наук. Вип. 75, том 1, 2024

наслідки для А. Хіждеу), «Допитливий учень» (конфлікт з учнем-поляком щодо розподілу Польщі та сутності російського самодержавства), «Борги» (ставлення А. Хіждеу до боргів представникам різних верств населення). Поєднання нових даних з опублікованими раніше дозволяє краще зрозуміти причини творчої кризи, що спіткала всебічно обдаровану людину у середині 1850-х років і тривала, поглиблюючись, до останніх днів її життя. В основу методології покладено системний підхід із застосуванням порівняльно-типологічного методу вивчення різноманітних джерел. Висновки. За даними архівних джерел та спостереженнями сучасників, основою кризи непересічної особистості стала прогресуюча соціопатія, перші ознаки якої були помітні вже у юності і поступово виснажили фізичні та духовні сили Александра Хіждеу, одного з видатних зачинателів нової культури східно-романських народів.

Ключові слова: Александр Хіждеу, культура, 19 століття, Вінниця.

The aim of the study. The life path of Alexander Hizhdeu has been repeatedly described by some researchers (Arbure, 1898, pp. 748-766; Ощаденко, 1983, рр. 108-144; Романенко, Балмуш, 1986) and can be conditionally divided into several periods: 1. From birth on November 30, 1811 to the mid-1830s; 2. From the mid-1830s to the mid-1850s; 3. From the second half of the 1850s to November 9,

The content of the first period, in addition to early childhood and adolescence, was studying at a Noble Boarding School of the Chisinau Seminary¹ and Kharkiv University (1828–1832). The most complete information ever publicated about the successes of A. Hizhdeu as a student is contained in the work of D. I. Bagaley (Багалей, 1904: 873–874).

At the same time A. Hizhdeu made grandiose plans to publish four volumes «Outlining the Lexicon of the Moldavian Language» in 1200 pages (Лаптева, 2003: 301-302)². However, an extensive program of studying the creative heritage of the Ukrainian philosopher Hryhorii Skovoroda was reduced to the publication of several poetry and one scientific article (Хиждеу, 1835: 3-24, 154-178; Багалей, 1894: 17-28; Ионеску-Нишков, 1958: 152–161), and the «Lexicon» remained in the dreams of the young philologist. He was awarded the degree of a Real Student on August 30, 1832 (Document 1.2 in text).

The second period of his biography conventionally begins with his father's death in 1835. Alexander married a noblewoman of Lithuanian origin Elisabett Daukshea in 1836, and two years later his first child was born, named Faddey³ in honor of his grandfather according to figamily tradition (Arbure, 1898: 759). Hizhdeu tried to build his career as an office clerk, a teacher in a gymnasium, or a lawyer but didn't stay anywhere for long. Most of the literary, ethnographic, and journalistic works of the writer and scientist date back to this time (Ощаденко, 1983: 127-143). Among them is the manuscript of a programmatic philosophical and journalistic article «The Problem of Our Time», created around 1841, most likely in Vinnytsia, but never published during the author's lifetime (Ионеску-Нишков, 1958: 161–162).

At the beginning of the 1850s, strange, the point of public, traits began to intensify in the behavior of A. Hizhdeu⁴ (Liviu, 1932: 26–29). The last period of his life took place mainly on his estate in the Khotyn district and was overshadowed by the inability to obtain permission from the Russian authorities for travel to Bucharest to attend the opening of the Romanian Literary Society (1866), of which he was elected a member in absentia (Ibid.: 12–21). Somewhat earlier, in 1858, he wrote «Message to the Romanians» in Russian, translated into Romanian and published only 40 years later (Arbure, 1898: 759-763). The life of Alexander Hizhdeu ended on November 9, 1872, in the family estate of the village of Kirstinets in Bukovina.

In general, the available publications, dedicated to A. Hizhdeu or mentioning him can be divided into two groups: literary criticism and documentary biographical. The authors of the first narratives shift the emphasis to the undoubted merits of Hizhdeu in the formation of Moldavian culture of the 19th century. Documentary writers, sometimes unwittingly, show us another side of the personality of an outstanding person, which is not always attractive.

The novelty of the study is to highlight several previously unknown episodes from the biography of A. Hizhdeu in 1840–1842, when he served as a teacher at the Vinnytsia gymnasium in Podillia province. Readers are offered 15 archival documents⁵, which, along with those already published, will allow for the

Opened in 1816 to train officials who knew Russian and Moldavian languages (Шорников, 2007: 197).

² It is suspicious that in letters to a possible sponsor, he presents the project as finished and censored.

³ Better known as Bogdan Petricheyku Hashdeu.

⁴One of the reasons could be the death of his wife in 1848 (Arbure, 1898: 759), possibly from cholera.

⁵ All documents are in the funds of the Derzhavnyi arkhiv Vinnytskoi oblasti (DAViO) [State Archive of the Vinnytsia Region] and are originals. Outgoing documents are presented in author's projects, since the final copy was done by a clerk on the school's letterhead and, as a rule, was not returned to the sender. They are written in Russian and translated into English, preserving the style of the originals as much as possible by the author of this work.

first time an attempt to reconstruct some important features of the psychological portrait of the famous representative of Moldavian and Romanian culture of the 19th century.

The research methodology was based on a systematic approach using a comparative typological method of studying various sources.

Results. Let's start with a brief description of the scenery in which the action of two years from the life of Alexander Hizhdeu will unfold. Vinnytsia, one of 12 district centers of Podillia province, in 1840 had 6,742 inhabitants (48 clergy, 191 nobles, 36 merchants, 5,554 townspeople), 6 churches, 959 houses (4 stone), 4 educational institutions (gymnasium, district school, 2 boarding houses), 2 factories (19 workers), 21 shops, inn, 22 taverns, and a prison (Статистические таблицы, 1840: 34-37). The oldest in Podillia province Vinnytsia Gymnasium had 13 teachers and 306 students, mostly children of Polish landowners (Державний архів Вінницької області (ДАВіО). Ф. Д-14. Оп. 2. Спр. 681. Арк. 82). It was located in the premises of the Jesuit Monastery, which closed in 1773 and has not been thoroughly renovated since that time due to the lack of government funds or a wealthy sponsor. This is what they looked like according to observations of another teacher, who arrived to work at the gymnasium two years after A. Hizhdeu:

«The next day, exhausted by the road, dressed in a completely new uniform, I went to introduce myself to my superior, but getting to him was not as easy as I thought. An insurmountable obstacle was encountered: I couldn't cross in my galoshes the street that separated the inn from the gymnasium and looked like a huge trough filled with liquid mud. No one wore galoshes in this Jewish city, only hunting boots with high tops. <...> Seeing me standing in thought on the shore of this dead sea, a Jew approached me and, for a small coin, gave me his back to cross the street. Entering the gymnasium courtyard, I was struck by the unattractive appearance of this sanctuary of sciences: peeling walls, broken glass, dilapidated outbuildings, garbage, and uncleanliness. Cows and pigs walked around the yard with the students, and the director's horses were housed in the unworthy church <...> (Чалый, 1894: 196–198).

1. Arrival at the gymnasium

Alexander Hizhdeu was officially enrolled as the acting senior teacher of parallel classes at the Vinnytsia gymnasium on November 22, 1840, about which an additional entry was made by the director of the gymnasium A. Yakovlev in the «Formular List of the service and dignity of the Honorary Supervisor of the Khotyn District School, the Provincial Secretary Alexander Hizhdeu. 1840» (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2.

Спр. 681. Арк. 317–323). This was preceded by an agreement on the issue between the trustees of the Odesa and Kyiv educational districts and approval by the Minister of Public Education (Document 1.1). Hizhdeu arrived in Vinnytsia and took up his duties on December 30, 1840 (Documents 1.3–1.4). Below is the Certificate of His Service and Dignity, which is an exact copy of the «Formular List», but in its form is more convenient for publication (Document 1.2).

Document 1.1

Received on October 30, 1840

M. N. P.

Directorate of Schools of the Bessarabian Region Chisinau, September 24, 1840, No. 1145

His High Nobility⁶ Al. F. Hizhdeu

Honorary Supervisor of the Khotyn

District School

Dear Mr. Alexander Faddeevich!

The Trustee of the Odesa Educational District in the order dated August 29 under No. 1577 informed me that according to the report received by His Excellency from the Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District about Your desire to continue serving in the said District, His Excellency turned to Mr. Minister of Public Education with a motion to dismiss you from Your current position, to which the Head of the Ministry of Public Education Adjutant General Count Protasov agreed to this in the order dated August 29 under No. 8565.

In informing You, Dear Mr., I consider it necessary to add that I submitted the Form list about Your service to the Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District the Real State Councilor Prince Davydov in my report dated June 19 of this year under No. 642. Your other Documents: Your Father's Certificate of Noble Origin, issued on July 6, 1821, by the Commission established to analyze the evidence for the Nobility Title of the Bessarabian region, Your certificate of the Real Student's degree, issued by the Imperial Kharkiv University on May 4, 1833 under No. 1186, were sent to the Supervisor of the Khotyn District School for handing over by You together with the order dated September 24, No. 1144.

With true respect and full devotion, I have the honor to be Yours, Gracious Mr., most humble servant.

Ivan NELIDOV, Director of Bessarabian Schools (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 681. Арк. 321).

Document 1.2

No. 1345

Certificate

Is given under the Decree of His Imperial Majesty by the Directorate of Schools of the Bessarabian

⁶ «Vashe Vysokoblagorodiye» – rus.

Region to the former Honorary Supervisor of the Khotyn District School and the Provincial Secretary Alexander, son of Faddey, Hizhdeu, that, according to the Service Formular, he is 29 years old, Orthodox faith, from nobles. In the ancestral estates of the parents [he] has – in the Khotyn district of the Bessarabian region the third part of half of the estate of Kirstinets and the eighth part of the estate of Yenoutsy and as acquired estate – the eighth part of the Kirstinets by the donation record of the landowner Kaminary Feodor Chure. There is nothing ancestral or acquired about his wife's property. After completing lower and higher education courses at the Chisinau Noble Boarding House at the Seminary, he entered Kharkiv University as a student at the Faculty of Law and Politics, on which he was awarded the degree of a Real Student on August 30, 18327. Passed tests in the sciences: theology and Christian doctrine, philosophy, mathematics, physics, literature, general and Russian history, statistics and geography; law: natural, private, public and popular, diplomatic, Roman and its history; Russian law: public, civil, criminal and police, Russian practical justice; political economy and the science of finance. In addition to Russian, he speaks ancient Greek, Latin, German, French, Italian, Czech, Polish, and Moldavian. As for the best solution of the proposed themes in the presented works in 1830 on the artistic branch of the philosophy faculty on the influence of the laws of Emperor Alexander I on the education and morality of Russians, and in 1831 on the mathematical and physical branch of the same faculty about the process of plant nutrition, he was awarded for the first work small, and the second large silver medals. Joined the former Trustee Committee for Colonists of the Southern Territory of Russia as an assistant accountant on April 21, 1833, from which he was transferred as an official to the written affairs of the Bessarabian civil governor [Office] with credit for his previous service on November 15, 1833. Released at his own will on January 26, 1834. He was elected a correspondent member of the Highest approved Agricultural Society of Southern Russia for the compilation of the Idiotic⁸ description of plants of the Bessarabian region. On December 19, 1835, he was appointed an active member of the Special Commission for the publication of Agricultural Statistics of the Novorossiya Territory, created under this association. On November 12, 1836, on the recommendation of

the trustee of the Odesa Educational District, he was approved by the Minister of Public Education as an Honorary Supervisor of the Khotyn District School. He was promoted to Provincial Secretary on February 18, 1837, with seniority from April 21, 1833. Due to his expressed desire to continue his service in the Kyiv Educational District, he was dismissed from the post of Honorary Supervisor on August 19, 1840. He was not in [military] campaigns, in fines and under trial, on vacation (although received in this 1840 year the Supreme permission for a threemonth vacation to Moldavia and Bukovina, but, due to various circumstances, did not use it). He was in Retirement from January 26, 1834, to November 12, 1836. Before continuing his civil service and before being promoted to rank, he was certified as capable and worthy and did not fall under circumstances that prevented him from receiving the Badge of Distinction for Impeccable Service. He is married and has a 2-year-old son, Faddey, who is with him, of the Orthodox faith.

I approve of all the above with my signature and the Seal of the Chisinau Regional Gymnasium. C[ity]. Kishinev. November 26, 1840.

Director of Schools of the Bessarabian Region NELIDOV (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 681. Арк. 320).

Document 1.3

Received December 10 [1840] No. 744

Senior Teacher of Parallel Classes

Vinnytsia Gymnasium

Alexander Hizhdeu

Report

The Khotyn City Police yesterday (i.e., the 4th of this December) announced to me that, as a result of my request, I was appointed by the Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District to the position of Senior Teacher of Parallel Classes of the Gymnasium, subordinated to Your High Nobility, obliging me to leave immediately for Vinnytsia.

In this regard, I most respectfully appeal to You with my humble request to allow me vacation for 28 days from the date of receipt of permission from local authorities, so that I can dispose of my property and prepare for the trip. At the same time, I have the honor to humbly ask you to kindly inform me: the teaching of which sciences is entrusted to me so that from my private library, which is inconvenient for transportation in winter due to its large number of books, I will be able to select and take with me at least works and publications related to the subject of my teaching.

Certificate issued to me in the title of Honorary Overseer of the Khotyn District School, I have the

⁷The above letter from I. Nelidov (Document 1.1) indicates another date for awarding A. Hizhdeu the degree of a Real Student of Kharkov University, which, judging by the document number, corresponds to the issuance of the first Certificate in the office of the educational institution

⁸ Most likely «Idiomatic», look: (Ощаденко, 1983: 141–142).

honor to present to Your High Nobility, and I am waiting for Your permission about the above.

Senior Teacher of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium Alexander HIZHDEU (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 681. Арк. 326).

Document 1.4

Received December 30, 1840

His High Nobility

Acting Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium Mr. Court Councilor and Cavalier Yakovlev

Report

I respectfully inform Your High Nobility of my arriving at the place of destination, and at the same time have the honor to inform You that Your order, in which, in explanation of my request of the 3rd of December, [You] allow me to extend the time of my appearance until the 20th, was delivered to me from the post office on the 21st, that is, through a day after the end of the time allocated to me, and although I immediately began to demand a travel card, but due to the absence of the district treasurer in Khotyn without the appointment of an acting representative, I received a travel card on the 27th, after which I arrived in the city of Vinnytsia today.

I hope that Your High Nobility will take notice of the circumstances, which I could neither foresee nor prevent, for my vindication.

Appointed as a teacher of parallel classes at the Vinnytsia Gymnasium

A. HIZHDEU

December 30, 1840. Vinnytsia (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 681. Арк. 375).

2. Caring brother

Alexander Hizhdeu was enrolled at the Vinnytsia Gymnasium as an acting senior teacher of history and statistics with permission to maintain a common student apartment, that is, to accept gymnasium students for accommodation for an appropriate fee. At that time, most of the teachers made a living with a salary of 300-400 rubles a year (Левицкий, 1883: 126). Different intellectual level and external eccentricity from the behavior of A. Hizhdeu (Чалый, 1894: 334) did not contribute to his rapprochement with his colleagues. Relations with the mathematics teacher Perelogov became especially tense, who, among other things, probably saw Hizhdeu as a competitor in attracting students to live in his apartment for a fee. The confrontation was sharpened by the conflict surrounding the student Majewski in mid-November 1841, the consequences of which can be documented until the beginning of July 1842. The fact is that according to a tacit agreement between the teachers, each of them could take care of those students who lived in his apartment, and receive a certain amount of profit from it. The student Majewski was a resident of Perelogov, and Alexander Hizhdeu's brother Boleslav⁹, in the words of the director of the gymnasium A. Yakovlev «the young man, that interfered in the not of his affairs», created a loud scandal that led to the transfer of A. Hizhdeu from Vinnytsia to the Kamianets-Podilskyi gymnasium (Documents 2.1–2.4).

Document 2.1

Project

Mr. Hizhdeu, Acting Senior Teacher

November 14, 1841. No. 818

Upon the verbal reporting to me by Mr. Perelogov, the senior teacher, that Your Nobility¹⁰ allegedly took 50 silver rubles from the 6th-grade student Severin Majewski to transfer him to an upper class, I at the same time demanded from You a verbal report on this circumstance in these 50 rubles, and how You then informed me that these funds were taken by You for private lessons for Majewski, so I gave You [the opportunity] to explain this to Mr. Perelogov, but since Mr. Perelogov submitted a note to me with the report dated November 13, given to him by the student Majewski, in which this student states that the indicated funds of 50 rubles in silver were taken by You under the pretext of providing support for the transfer of the student Majewski to an upper class and that 30 rubles in silver of these funds were allegedly taken by Your brother Boleslav Hizhdeu to transfer to You with the same with the aim of 11 < ... > ...

Therefore, I propose to Your Grace, without waiting for the arrival of the father of Majewski's student, to whom your brother Boleslav refers in the submission sent to me, to [give] a detailed explanation regarding the contents of the aforementioned note of Majewski, that attached to this [paper] and certified by me.

[Gymnasium Director A. Yakovlev] (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 440. Арк. 30).

Document 2.2

Project

Secretly

Mr. Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District December 18, 1841. No. 872

Last month, Mr. Perelogov, the Senior Teacher of the Gymnasium entrusted to me, verbally reported that Alexander Hizhdeu, acting as a History and Statistics teacher, took 50 silver rubles from a

⁹ About Boleslav Hizhdeu: (Ощаденко, 1983: 144–173).

¹⁰ **⟨⟨Vashe Blagorodiye**» – *rus*.

¹¹The following text was crossed out after several corrections. In general, it consumed that the student's father learned about the extortion of funds from his son and was going to come to the gymnasium to find out the circumstances.

student Severin Majewski, who lives in the common apartment he maintains, under the pretext of giving him a transfer to an upper class, and that in this case, there is a reason to think that these funds were taken for him, Mr. Perelogov. At the same time, calling Mr. Hizhdeu to me, I demanded from him an explanation as to whether he had taken the specified funds from the student Majewski and for what [educational] subject. Mr. Hizhdeu explained to me that these funds were taken by him in part personally, and part of them was delivered to him by his brother Boleslav Hizhdeu at the request of the father of the student Majewski, but not at all for the purpose that Perelogov spoke about, but for private lessons that are taught to this student, and that the reason for such an opinion on the part of Perelogov is either his dissatisfaction or the incitement of unfriendly people to this.

Not seeing any evidence in Mr. Perelogov's complaint and wanting to end the dissatisfaction that arose between him and Mr. Hizhdeu, I suggested that he come to an understanding with Mr. Perelogov in this matter, which Mr. Hizhdeu did with a letter. But Mr. Perelogov was not satisfied with this, he summoned Majewski's student and, having ordered him to write a note about this circumstance, handed it to me with a report. In this regard, I demanded a written explanation from the teacher Alexander Hizhdeu, instructing him to get the same from his brother Boleslav, and I offered the student Majewski to write [answers] to the questions I asked about this. I have the honor to present this case in the original for consideration by Your Excellence¹² and to add to this that, in my opinion, as can be seen from the thorough testimony of the student Majewski, the main culprit, in this case, was the brother of the teacher Alexander Hizhdeu, Boleslav Hizhdeu, the young man, that interfered in the not of his affairs and perhaps wanted to take advantage of the inexperience of Majewski's student and extort the mentioned money from him under an invented pretext, and who later, probably at the request of Majewski [father], when learned that the funds could not be used for the aim he proposed, gave them to his brother Alexander Hizhdeu, saying that he was instructed to do this by the father of Majewski's student for private lessons with his son. But since, even before this there was noticeable dissatisfaction between the teachers Perelogov and A. Hizhdeu, which could grow even more thanks to this case and become a source of unpleasant circumstances, then I consider their joint service at the Gymnasium entrusted to me incompatible

with its benefit. The student Severin Majewski himself, who is an inactive person in this case, is guilty of giving funds for an ignoble purpose due to inexperience and ignorance of the laws, and to an example [for others] should be punished by detention for several days in a punishment cell¹³.

[Gymnasium Director A. Yakovlev] (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 440. Арк. 32–33).

. д=14. On. 2. Cnp. 44

Document 2.3

Secretly

Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District St.-Peterburg, June 5, 1842. No. 332

Mr. Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium

The circumstances of the case, submitted to me by You in the report dated December 18 of last year under No. 872, although not fully disclosed by Your investigation, nevertheless lead to a strong suspicion of the acting senior teacher Hizhdeu in receiving funds from the student Severin Majewski for a request to allegedly transfer him to the upper class. In this regard, I suggest to Your High Nobility to have a strictly secret observation of all the actions of teacher Hizhdeu and to bring it to my attention immediately if you notice anything reprehensible in his actions. You will inform me about the consequences of your observations at the beginning of next July.

I agree with your opinion that the personal disagreements that arose between teachers Perelogov and Hizhdeu make their joint service impossible, I will keep this in mind in my general orders and the replacement of vacant teaching positions, in connection with which the maintained student apartment must be transferred to another person, or to come under the complete command of the superiors in all respects on general grounds, now not giving him hints about the transfer.

Trustee of the District Pr[ince] DAVYDOV (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 16).

Document 2.4

Project

Secretly

Mr. Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District July 6, 1842. No. 13

Under Your Excellency's secret order, dated June 5, No. 332, I have the honor to report that the acting Senior Teacher of the gymnasium entrusted to me, Alexander Hizhdeu, did not reveal anything reprehensible in his actions after the incident with student Majewski.

[Gymnasium Director A. Yakovlev] (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 28).

¹² «Vashe Prevoschoditelstvo» – *rus*.

¹³ A small room without windows in the hall of the gymnasium's second floor under the stairs to the attic (Kolesnyk, 2011: 206).

3. Inquisitive student

The South-Western region, which included the provinces of Kyiv, Volyn, and Podillia with its district center in the city of Vinnytsia, became part of the Russian Empire in 1792-1793. The ruling class of the population here was the Polish nobility, represented mainly by local landlords. Their children made up the majority of students in gymnasiums, the active Russification of which was launched after the defeat of the Polish uprising 1830-1831. At the same time, a campaign of lustration of the Polish nobility was launched, during which thousands of families were removed from this social group. The majority of Poles were dissatisfied with this state of affairs and supported the underground anti-Russian agitation of emissaries of Polish revolutionary centers abroad. Active sympathy for the revolutionary ideas of the agitators was found among the students. The most famous event was the exposure of the antistate student circle at Kyiv University in 1836–1838 (Бергер, 1873: 41–51; Владимирский-Буданов, 1884: 164–172). From time to time, anti-monarchist republican ideas and slogans were also expressed in the gymnasium environment. As for the Vinnytsia Gymnasium, we can mention the teacher of the Law of God pater Thoma Kujawski, tutor Józef Tworkowski (Boiko, 2023: 21–26, 29), 5th-grade student Apollinarius Rolle (Boiko, 2022: 158), French teacher Franc Girardot (Российский государственный исторический архив (РГИА). Ф. 733. Оп. 49. Д. 479. Π . 81–89). The tsarist government, concerned about this, tried to control the situation by introducing total monitoring of the moods of students and teachers of the former Polish provinces.

Alexander Hizhdeu got into a similar situation when in early March 1842, during a lecture on history and statistics in the 6th grade, he encountered active objections to the advantages of monarchical rule and the expediency of partitioning Poland from a student of Yarmukhovich. The teacher Hizhdeu was forced to inform the director of the gymnasium officially. In another document, he gave a positive description of this student, explaining the remarks he made with curiosity, an attempt to understand the essence of the issue. In the end, the educational district trustee found the case to be insubstantial and teacher Hizhdeu was «baseless» in dealing with such issues (Documents 3.1–3.4).

Document 3.1 His High Nobility Mr. Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium, the Court Advisor and Cavalier Aristarkh Alexandrovich Yakovlev Teacher Hizhdeu

Report

I made it my duty to most respectfully inform Your High Nobility that, while teaching statistics in the 6 class at two o'clock in the afternoon, I had the opportunity to encounter an objection from the student Yarmukhovich, which reveals his disapproval of the monarchical way of governing and the division of Poland, and although I, pointing out to him that these questions did not belong to the subject of my teaching in this lecture, refuted all the clumsiness of his judgments, yet he, despite this, boldly insisted on the correctness of his opinion, until I commanded him to be silent, to continue the teaching. Since this student holds the position of tutor for the students of the lower classes, I consider it my duty to bring this to the attention of Your High Nobility in order [You] make the most careful supervision of him and order him to refrain from any objections, how it is learning in the classroom requires. Teacher A. HIZHDEU

March 8, 1842. Vinnytsia (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 8).

Document 3.2

Returned March 30 [1842]

Ministry of Public Education

Kyiv Educational District

Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium

March 24, 1842. No. 5. Vinnytsia

Mr. Acting Senior Teacher of History and Statistics Al[eksander] Hizhdeu

As a result of Your report dated March 8 about the unreliability of the 6th-grade student Yarmukhovich, which he revealed at Your lecture on the monarchical method of government and division of Poland, I instructed You to have special supervision over the views of Yarmukhovich and try, quietly, to reveal for what purpose he did You objections on the mentioned subjects at the lecture to be sure of the true direction of his way of thinking, and for this reason I propose to Your Nobility to outline on this [paper] the consequences of Your observations of the student Yarmukhovich.

Director A. YAKOVLEV

By order of Your High Nobility, trying to covertly find out the purpose of the student Yarmukhovich's objections to me, I asked him questions related to the same subject and received answers from him that corresponded in everything to the point of view indicated in the study guide and revealed by me in the lectures. But since he usually has the habit of objecting to any statement that does not seem clear enough to him, it can be assumed that he raised these objections solely out of <u>curiosity</u>¹⁴. However, the true direction

¹⁴ Emphasized by A. Hizhdeu.

of his thoughts can be ascertained only as a result of prolonged observation, especially since, in his excuse now, he claims that I attributed to him the objection of another student who sat on the same bench (which I did not then notice, looking to the other side), but he does not want and refuses to reveal the name of this student, believing that it does not correspond to the obligations of the <u>fellowship</u>.

Acting Senior Teacher of History and Statistics A. HIZHDEU¹⁵ (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 9).

Document 3.3

Received May 5, 1842

Secretly

Ministry of Public Education

Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District

St.-Petersburg, April 24, 1842. No. 22

Mr. Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium

After reading Your report dated March 30 under No. 6, I find that the case described in it does not concern the morality of Yarmukhovich's student, but the baselessness of the Acting Senior Teacher Hizhdeu, and therefore this case did not require the movement determined by the Supreme Decree of April 23, 1839 year.

Trustee of the District Pr[ince] DAVYDOV (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 15).

Document 3.4

Note

Acting Inspector

His High Nobility

Mr. Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium,

the Court Councilor and Cavalier

Aristarkh Alexandrovich Yakovlev

July 25, 1842

As a result of Your High Nobility's verbal order to report my opinion about the 6th-grade student Yarmukhovich, I have the honor to report that I have always found him modest, obedient, exemplary, and benevolent.

Acting Inspector of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium SAMOYLENKOV (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 29).

4. Debts

«Cheltuieşte, dar uite ce a mai rămas» («Spend but see what's left»), Romanian folk wisdom says. Alexander Hizhdeu, endowed by nature with various talents, knew how to count and loved to do it. Otherwise, how could he teach statistics at the Vinnytsia Gymnasium? But with a rather modest way of life, he always lacked money. One of the reasons could be the main passion of his life – bibliophilia (Document 1.3 in the text; Liviu, 1932: 12; Ощаденко, 1983: 134; Балмуш, Романенко, 1985: 98–107). Publishing his works was not cheap either, as sponsors did not always respond to the author's request (Лаптева, 2003: 302–303). Isolated attempts to engage in entrepreneurship, which ended in a fiasco, did not contribute to the improvement of the situation, such as, for example, the above-mentioned maintenance of a student apartment, from which he was left with only debts¹⁶ (Documents 4.1–4.3).

Document 4.1

Received January 29, 1843

His High Nobility

Mr. Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium,

the Court Counselor and Cavalier

Aristarkh Alexandrovich Yakovlev

3rd Guild's Merchant Ivan Matveyevich Shabanov Request

As a result of the permission of Mr. Trustee of the Kyiv Educational District, [I] announced to my counterman Vasiliy Mikhailov my satisfaction with the two hundred rubles in silver due to me according to the receipt from the former teacher Hizhdeu, that is why I most humbly ask Your High Nobility to issue the above-mentioned money of two hundred rubles in silver to my counterman Vasiliy Mikhailov, in receipt of which I trust him, Mikhailov, to sign for me.

Ivan Shabanov, an illiterate. Vinnytsia burgher Gregory, son of Mark, Subotin signed in his place at his request and using a pen.

Јапиату 28, 1843 (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 442. Арк. 24).

Document 4.2

Project

Mr. Samoylenkov,

Treasurer of the Common Apartments

January 29, 1843. No. 64

To satisfy the debt of the former teacher Hizhdeu for his maintenance of a common apartment in the shop of the 3rd Guild's merchant Ivan Shabanov, as can be seen from the receipt of Mr. Hizhdeu dated September 23, 1842, and as was prescribed by Mr. Trustee of the K[yiv] E[ducational] D[istrict] on

¹⁵ The content of this explanation of the teacher A. Hizhdeu, regarding observations of the student Yarmukhovich, was outlined on March 30, 1842, in the submissions of the director of the gymnasium A. Yakovlev to the trustee of the Kyiv educational district and the Kyiv military, Podillia and Volyn governor-general by the trustee's order of 1839 No. 1638 (ДАВіО. Φ . Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 441. Арк. 10).

¹⁶ In fact, this business was very profitable, but only for "their own". Thus, in 1852, the director of the Nemyriv gymnasium together with the inspector had a profit of 3,800 rubles (Чалый, 1894: 289–290). In Vinnytsia at the end of the 1830s, the dissatisfaction of some teachers with the distribution of permits for the maintenance of student apartments mainly among the creatures of the director of the gymnasium became the reason for his resignation. (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 437. Арк. 1–3).

November 7, 1842, for No. 4913 and November 14 of the same year for No. 5195, I propose to Your High Nobility to issue to Vasily Mikhailov, counterman of the 3rd Guild's merchant Ivan Shabanov, one hundred rubles in silver at the expense of the funds due to him by the receipt of Mr. Hizhdeu.

[Director A. Yakovlev] (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 442. Арк. 28).

Document 4.3

Received February 6, 1843

His High Nobility

Mr. Director of the Vinnytsia Gymnasium,

the Court Counselor and Cavalier

Aristarkh Alexandrovich Yakovlev

the Podillia Provincial Gymnasium Senior Teacher of Slavic Language and Russian Literature

A. Hizhdeu

Report

Being in debt to B. Zhaboklitskyi and Klopotovski one hundred rubles in silver, I took it upon myself [obligation] to pay instead of them up to the sum of the common student apartments of the Gymnasium, which is under the leadership of Your High Nobility, when their sons will enter these apartments in the second half of the current academic year, and not being able to pay the indicated amount in full, I dare to humbly ask for mercy: 1st, to count for half of the money due from me, [from the sum that is] due to me from the Vinnytsia Gymnasium, for the time of my service there until September 12 of the last year, thirty-five silver rubles for apartment rent, and the same for the rest of the time until January 1 of the current year, fifteen silver rubles, to which I am already represented in the Podillia Provincial Gymnasium, which together amounts to fifty silver rubles; And the 2-nd, to postpone to me the payment.

Senior Teacher A. HIZHDEU

January 23, 1843. Kamianets-Podilskyi¹⁷

[Added] Keep in mind when providing apartments – Yakovlev (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 442. Арк. 39).

Alexander Hizhdeu's service in the Vinnytsia gymnasium ended in the summer of 1842. In September, as was planned by the trustee of the Kyiv Educational District, he was transferred to the Provincial gymnasium in the city of Kamianets-Podilskyi and then was a private lawyer in Podillia province until the end of the 1840 s.

This is how Alexander Hizhdeu was remembered by his colleagues at the Vinnytsia gymnasium in 1844 in the memoirs of M. K. Chalyi:

«Particularly persistent in absenteeism was one of the teachers who left before I entered the service – Hizhdeu, a Moldavian or Gypsy by origin, known, among other things, for the fact that, while still a student, he robbed the university library in Kharkov, taking with him, under the lining of his overcoat, very rare books, from which he wrote two essays on topics assigned by two faculties, and received two gold medals. This man was not sick and did not go to the gymnasium for weeks.

They told me the director sent a watchman for him one day.

- Go to the gymnasium, the director is angry, the retired soldier addresses him.
 - Now, dear, let me get dressed.

Hizhdeu, accompanied by a watchman, goes to the office; but when they approached the gates of the gymnasium, he flopped into the mud.

– Well, my dear, report to Mr. Director that I cannot appear before the students in such a dirty form.

Then he turned around and retired to his apartment» (Чалый, 1894: 334).

The end of A. Hizhdeu's stay in the Podillia province, as well as his further activities in Bessarabia, were scandalous, as follows from the official document of a graduate of the medical faculty of Kharkiv University in the early 1830s, civil governor of the Bessarabia Region (1863–1867) P. A. Antonovich:

«1. <...> Hizhdeu was brought to Bessarabia, his homeland, with two gendarmes in 1850 by order of the head of the gendarmerie, Count Orlov, because of his reprehensible lifestyle and for the fact that he was engaged in compiling completely inaccurate and slanderous requests for private individuals; information about this can be found in the message of the Kyiv, Podillia, and Volyn Governor-General, No. 8849 of November 18, 1850, to the Governor-General of Novorossiya and Bessarabia. From the same appeal, it is clear that Alexander Hizhdeu was at the same time a man serving in the office of the Governor of Bessarabia, who was accused of submitting a slanderous petition to the Governor General against the former Governor Averin on behalf of Dr. Semashko; but after the imperial manifesto of 1851, he was amnestied.

2. About the activities of Hizhdeu, after his return to his homeland under the escort of the gendarmes, there is information in the affairs of the office of Your Excellency: a request from Adjutant-General Baron Osten-Sacken dated March 30, 1854, at the request of

¹⁷This proposal of A. Hizhdeu was accepted and implemented (ДАВіО. Ф. Д–14. Оп. 2. Спр. 442. Арк. 66, 176). We know nothing about the final payment of the debt to the merchant Shabanov. We can only note that the deception of merchants-suppliers of common apartments for students by the administration of the Nemyriv gymnasium was a common practice (Чалый, 1894: 290).

the commander of the 5th circle of the gendarmerie corps and according to a letter from the regional leader of the nobility on April 7 of the same year regarding the intolerant character of the slanderer and disturber of public peace Alexander Hizhdeu, in which he asked the Head of Bessarabia Region to pay special attention to this fact and to hurry up with sending information. On April 19, 1854, under No. 6283, the Governor of Bessarabia reported to the Vice Governor-General of Novorossiya and Bessarabia that in the affairs of provincial and district institutions, it was clear that Alexander Hizhdeu had not devoted himself to useful activities, but is still engaged in drawing up petitions for private individuals, full of inaccuracies and complaints, thereby burdening institutions and even higher authorities; that from the complaints brought against Hizhdeu by people who entrusted their business to him, one can see his dishonesty towards his clients themselves, for which some examples are given; that, not limiting himself to drawing up inaccurate complaints and requests and abusing the trust of those who had the imprudence to entrust their affairs to him, Hizhdeu also harmed harmony in society, which was visible during the elections of the nobility in Chisinau, held in that year 1854. Because of this, the Governor of the region concluded that after the misdeeds of A. Hizhdeu, who did not correct even after his expulsion with the gendarmes from Kamianets-Podilskyi, expulsion from Bessarabia, which the leader of the nobility of the region is asking for, is not only useful but even

necessary for maintaining public peace in the border province.

15 years have passed since the first report, but even now I can only say what the Regional Governor said in 1854: Alexander Hizhdeu is always looking, and if he doesn't find it, he invents an opportunity to indulge his passion for denunciations, slander and intrigue. <...>.

3. <...> Returning to the object that caused this correspondence, I must say that so far, the [land]owner Hizhdeu has not given a single reason to suspect him of political correctness. <...>» (Liviu, 1932: 26–29).

Conclusion. In the 1840s, Alexander Hizhdeu became widely known as a writer and thinker, but from the early 1850s his scientific and literary activities began to fade. The reason for this was the intensification of negative changes in the psychotype of this talented person. The prerequisites for this could be traced already in his student years (Лаптева, 2003; Багалей, 1894: 19-24; Чалый, 1894: 334). The archival materials published above do not contradict this trend. The further development of the process was described in another document - the previously cited report of the Governor of Bessarabia P. A. Antonovich. (Liviu, 1932: 26–29). Everywhere there are signs of progressive sociopathy (Colman, 2009: Internet resource), which eclipsed the mature period of Alexander Hizhdeu's life and work, redirecting his outstanding natural talents into the area of endless confrontation with social threats, more often imaginary than real.

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