

Ovakvim primjerima iz francuske političke povijesti obiluju Starčevićeva djela i govori. Na mnoštvu mjesta spominje Mazarina, Bourbone i ustavne slobode. Detaljno je o tomu pisao u *Ustavima Francezke*.

Sadržajna raščlamba pokazuje kako su *Političke iskrice* znatno bliže Starčeviću nego Mažuranićevu diskursu.

4. Zaključna napomena

Činjenica što je izvrstan poznavatelj opusa Ivana Mažuranića i Ante Starčevića, kao i hrvatske povijesti 19. stoljeća, izniman erudit i znatan publicist – Josip Horvat, jednako kao i niz uglednih istraživača njihovih opusa i hrvatske povijesti, dospio u nedoumicu te *Političke iskrice* pripisao Mažuraniću, svjedoči o tomu kako je začudna bliskost između filozofskih i pravnih stajališta suradnika okupljenih oko prvoga demokratskog i liberalnog glasila u Hrvatskoj. Očito, što je o pravu i državi, javnom mnijenju i slobodi, ljudskim pravima i pravnoj državi mogao napisati doktor filozofije iz Like u veličanstvenoj i prevratničkoj, a za hrvatske zemlje ujediniteljskoj 1848. godini, nije bilo daleko od onoga što je mislio veliki pjesnik i uzbuditelj hrvatskoga puka, uza sve razlike koje su među njima postojale. Izložene usporedbe i argumenti u članku potvrđuju kako su doista obojica bili u stanju napisati takve aforizme. Međutim stil, jezik, forma, sadržaj, nazori i poruke uspoređeni s njihovim cjelokupnim stvaralaštvom znatno više govore u prilog autorstvu samotnika iz Žitnika. Tako glasi odgovor na pitanje u naslovu članka – autor nije pjesnik i odvjetnik Ivan Mažuranić, nego vjerojatno mladi doktor filozofije i zatočnik hrvatskih pravica Ante Starčević.

Who is the author of *Political Sparkles* – Ivan Mažuranić, Ante Starčević or ...?

Summary

This paper questions the authorship of the series of 24 aphorisms published under the title *Political Sparkles*. The text was printed in the first Croatian oppositional democratic journal *Slavenski Jug* from 10 December 1848 to 20 January 1849 and signed by the initials of the first and the last letter of the Latin alphabet – A. Z. Half a century ago, Josip Horvat ascribed the authorship of this series of aphorisms to the poet and lawyer Ivan Mažuranić (1814–1890). The attribution became afterwards predominant in the research literature. However, an attentive analysis of the text brought to an interesting discovery.

Attitudes and expressions in these aphorisms are more prone to the discourse of the young philosophy doctor Ante Starčević (1823–1896) than to that of the famous

writer from Novi Vinodolski. The paper first sets out several reasons in favour of the hypothesis of the possible authorship of Mažuranić, and then outlines the evidences that prove that his authorship is contestable or improbable. Further research has shown that the series *Political Sparkles* abounds in phrases and constructions that are recognisable in the works of both authors, but after numerous comparisons and insights they appear more frequently in the petitions, addresses, epistles and articles of Starčević. A detailed analysis of the text shows that the ideas are closer to those in the works and authors that were read and studied by the rebel from Lika Starčević. Comparison between the attitudes of the two writers brings to light not only a striking proximity and a similarity of style, but also a closeness of their arguments that might have placed excellent experts on the horns of dilemma. The exposed arguments lead to the conclusion that the style, language, form, content, views, and messages of the *Political Sparkles* with regard to their whole opus of the two authors speak considerably more in favour of the anachorete from Žitnik. That is the answer to the question in the title – the author is not the poet and barrister Ivan Mažuranić, but in all likelihood the philosophy doctor and champion for Croatian state rights Ante Starčević.

Key words: political sparkles, aphorism, authorship, philosophy of law, Mažuranić, Starčević