

# Filologické vědy

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# SARAH TOLSTAYA IS THE BRIGHT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANTIC GROUP

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**Summary.** The article is devoted to the research work of the forgotten authoress of Sarah Tolstaya. The stages of creative way of authoress are analyzed at the beginning of XIX century. The introduction to the scientific turnover of the marked materials will assist deeper further researches in Russian literature.

**Keywords:** the forgotten authoress; Pushkin epoch; romanticism; literature; research activity; woman work.

Woman literature of the first half of XIX century is known for many representatives of poetic and prosaic works; however, their creative inheritance is underestimated by modern literary critics. Unfortunately, the most representatives of the Pushkin epoch are remained in that century where they were created.

The aim of the article is to acquaint with the work of one of the forgotten representatives of woman literature Sarah Tolstaya, to give general description of her vital and creative way on the basis of researches of literary critic O. Biletskiy. Sarah Tolstava is unknown poetess, and in opinion of O. Biletskiy, every author is needed, regardless of his contribution to the development of literature and to investigate in a context of other authors. And that is why, to our opinion, Sarah Tolstaya deserves attention from the side of critics and readers. Let even far later than the expected hopes, but, however, better late than never.

The countess Sarah Tolstaya is not very popular representative of woman literature of the beginning of XIX century that «flashed as a shadow, not so long, and anybody couldn't meet her talent» [3]. As well as the most women-authoresses and poetesses of her epoch, Sara quickly flashed by both on literature and on life, leaving the some steps on her way. As her age was short, in fact she lived only 18, literature got Sara's poetry and prose in Russian literature.

During child's years Sara had read many books. The personal interests Sara promoted literature works of Byron, Goethe, T. Moore, V. Scott, L. Tick, F. Schiller, and others. Reading developed perception and romantic dreaming. «From this time, – wrote her researcher, – the God's flesh had already fallen back in the soul of young person, but she was old for feelings. Sara did not write yet, but she already was a poet» [3]. Certainly, painting and music did not go round her attention. However her origin as a poetess, to our opinion, some interlace with Ie. Kulman:

- 1) almost all time conducted with nature:
  - 2) began to write in early age;
- 3) both knew many languages, although Ie. Kulmanknew them more than S. Tolstaya;

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4) wrote in different languages, although S. Tolstaia did not write almost in Russian language;

5) died in very early age.

O. Biletskyi names S. Tolstaya the last woman-authoress romantic. «And they will tell (women-authoresses) not only by their feelings that have not names, but on feelings that sometimes are routines» [3]. We have not information about the life and work of young talent. In the article «What was the reason of autograph's silence» Leo Berdnikov marks, that mentions «...there are no articles in the literary encyclopedias and this name is forgotten in Russian culture» [2]. Only source, where the author found mentions about a young authoress is description of biography and work of Sara Tolstaya is a book «... book of medium format in big eighth, printed on a good paper without any polygraph embellishing with signature on the title sheet: «Works in poems and prose of Sara Tolstaya» (M., 1839) [2].

Sara Tolstaya is a daughter of count Fedor Tolstoy and gipsy Avdotya Tugaeva. Sara got home education by the means of her father who was well-educated person. He knew some languages and taught the daughter. When Sara was 6 years, she freely communicated and wrote in French and German languages, and in 9 had learnt English. And in relation to Russian, she knew it badly and began to study only for a year to her death.

Creative activity of Sarah Tolstaya lasted not long, as she began to write in 14, and in 18 already left this world, dying of tuberculosis. But in her works we will not find «...nothing special, certain, subjective. These are only that have the forms of poems. Poems are cleanly лирическая: love, friendship, feelings of presented nature, and heart feelings» [2]. Among the plots of Sara Tolstaya, it is possible to mark the themes of nature, music, love. But love unusual, that was not yet inherent to the young person. The play «Feeling that hasn't the name» is the best example

of display of Sara's sense. She describes it, points epithets and comparisons, but cannot understand that sense, what had made influence of her shower and rocked her heart is love.

In the opinion of V. Belinskiy verses of Sarah Tolstaya «...we understand them only when they are combined and in the connection with life of the young poetess ...» [1, p. 656]. Thus, becoming familiar with the life and other works of author, it is possible to understand the moods of her soul, dream and experiencing.

«All these poems are full of feelings and one thought and than the feeling is melancholia, and thought is thought about the death, about the calm grave with spring flowers...» [1, p. 656]. Thus, Belinskiy sees in work of Sarah Tolstaya the moods of events and dreams that did not come true, maybe, left bad remembrances in her soul. A desire to turn lost, find the rest for the soul and body, brought a young author over to such plots in her work. Certainly, that desire of a young girl is resulted in the crash of all her hopes and desires. And it was not fated to Sarah's hopes come true.

Unfortunately, the verses, written by Sara in different languages and in that amount that we wanted, did not reach to us and not saved, that did not give to possibility to detail them and learn creative work of young poetess and investigate influence on the development of Russian literature.

Thus, Sarah Tolstaya as well as other women-authoresses, for short period of life did the contribution into the development of Russian literature. She showed the example, that a young person can change the world around, to show feelings, attitude toward the surrounding world. Being a patient, she did not abandon hope on changes, she simply created the example, maybe, showed to other, that it is not needed to sit in place, it is necessary to search something new and walk ahead.

## Empirický a aplikovaný výzkum



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