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«PHYSICIST AND LYRICIST»: UNKNOWN PETRO STEBNYTSKYI

Summary

The aim of this article is to draw in the context of biographical studio, the psychological portrait of Petro Yanuarovych Stebnytskyi (1862-1923) – active participant of Ukrainian social and political movement, bookman, publicist, statesman, Minister of Education and Arts of the Ukrainian state during P. Skoropadskyi.

Along with the general scientific and special historical methods (organizing, typology, historical and comparative, issue-chronological) principles of biographical approach to intellectual history were applied

In particular, author took as a basis two unknown facets of the creative personality: his longstanding bureaucratic service in the imperial financial institutions and deep admiration of literature, in which P. Stebnytskyi found peace and moral relief. The analysis of correspondence of the leader gives the opportunity to affirm about life drama of «physicist» by profession and «lyricist» by vocation of the soul, caused by liveness of P. Stebnytskyi and lack of faith in national life, impossibility of intelligent-intellectual to change the surrounding reality. It is alleged the idea that public figure was sensual person, put high

requirements for himself and others, had strict self-discipline, tireless work ethic, moralistic attitude to life, the same courage and commitment to follow duty. It is proved that P. Stebnytskyi belonged to that cohort of intellectuals, people from the Ukrainian environment that integrated into Russian society, but was not fully absorbed by it. On the contrary, in imperial environment, surrounded by like-minded people, the activist evolved from «malorose» to the nationally conscious Ukrainian. Contemporary social and political conditions elaborated, in our view, the archetypal image of the Ukrainian for self-identification intelligent in the context of the all the diversity of national and state processes of the late XIX – early XX century. In our opinion, the creation of detailed biographies of Ukrainian officials, including P. Stebnytskyi, is one of the priorities of modern history, but without knowing the emotional and psychological experience of the individual and intellectual depth, the research studies are impossible.

***Key words:** Petro Stebnytskyi, ethnic identity, psychological portrait, publicistics, poetry.*