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On the Question of Sources of the S. V. Maksimov's Book "Siberia and Katorga"

Abstract

The article examines archival sources which, as the author has identified, were used by the writer S. V. Maximov in chapter 3 ("The Times of Alexander II") of part 3 of his book "Siberia and katorga". The identified archival documents match the text of the said chapter of the Maximov's book, which has allowed the author to assume that they were used by the writer, when working on this chapter. Maximov did not provide notes and references to the documentary sources used in the book, and the question of the sources of his work remains open. As a related unique historical material (in the said chapter as well), the question of sources of "Siberia and katorga" is of some significance. Having analyzed the Maximov's text, Russian philologist M. I.

Shcherbakova identified many sources, but could not find archival sources for chapter 3. Comparative analysis confirms the author's conclusions that documents from the Russian State Archive of the Russian Federation (files of the Third Section, i.e., memo of the Tobolsk governor A. I. Despot-Zenovich to the Governor-General of Western Siberia O. A. Dugamel) provided basis of the chapter "The Times of Alexander II." Comparative text analysis of the chapter and the memo has revealed their complete or partial equivalence, which allows the author to conclude that S. V. Maximov rewrote the report of the Tobolsk governor and structured the chapter "The Times of Alexander II" of his book "Siberia and katorga" on the basis of the memo synopsis. Thus, the article proves that Maximov, when working on chapter 3 of his book, used archival materials of the higher government institutions; this is a new step in identifying the sources of his work and it maps out further research in this direction.

### Keywords

Archive, S. V. Maksimov, A. I. Despot-Zenovich, archival document, source, "Siberia and katorga," political exiles, participants of the Polish revolt of 1863-1864, Third Section.

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