



FRENCH WRITER PROSPER MERIM HISTORICAL NOVEL THEME

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Abstract: *This article presents ideas about the work of the French writer Prosper Mérimée, his historical novel, and its importance today.*

Key words: *novel, French literature, French historical novel, aesthetics, exclusivity, historicism, chronicle*

French literature is one of the greatest literatures in the world. Taking the baton from ancient literature, it began to live an independent life in the Middle Ages, and even centuries later, it maintains its lofty purpose in the completely changed conditions of today. For Russian readers, this is one of the most popular pieces of literature.

Sufficiently strong Russian-French literary ties were established as early as the 18th century, and from the 19th century they became an integral part of the culture of the two countries, enriching each other aesthetically and spiritually through interaction and mutual reflection.

Although Merimee wrote *Chronique du regne de Charles IX*, *La Chronique du regne de Charles IX*, one of the best French historical novels, she became famous primarily as a novelist. In the narrative genre, Merimee solves a very difficult task: to reveal the character of other peoples, other times through one story.

The event, distinguished by exclusivity, gives the works a romantic sound; The identification of a characteristic characteristic of a certain people and a certain period, that is, a concrete historically determined character, indicates the transition from "local color" to realistic historicism.

In a letter to I. S. Turgenev. Merimee explained his method as follows: "For me, there is no task more interesting than a detailed analysis of a historical character. I believe that it is possible to achieve the reconstruction of the past man in a similar way to what Cuvier used to restore the Megaterium and many extinct animals.

The laws of similitude are as indisputable to the inward as they are to the outward. Consequently, Merimee pays special attention to the typification of psychology. His services are especially great in the development of the realistic principle of typification. Merimee's heroes often lead a double life, and the writer goes deep into the secret of a person's inner life, reveals the duality of the nature of his contemporaries. The deepening of psychologism had an impact on artistic styles, in particular, changes.



Chronicle of the reign of Charles IX (French: *Chronique du règne de Charles IX*) is a historical novel written in 1829 by the French writer Prosper Mérimée. In the play, France in the 16th century, the love story of the young nobleman Bernard de Merge and the court beauty Diane de Turgy is closely related to the Catholic struggle with the Huguenots and the events of Bartholomew's Night.

Chronique du règne de Charles IX by Prosper Mérimée is one of the best French historical novels. In it, Merime "gets used to" the psychology and customs of her compatriots who lived in France in the 16th century.

Merime did not take the form of a historical novel created by the romantics. Mérimée struggles with "romanticism," for example, in the famous "Conversation between Reader and Author" Chapter VIII, where she interrupts the narrative in the name of aesthetic contention.

Merimee published his first major narrative work, the historical novel *Chronicle of the Reign of Charles IX*. Chapter XVII of the *Chronicle* (The Spectator) appears in the January issue of the *Revue Francaise*; and at the beginning of March, the entire book was already published by Alexandre Meunier. As you can see, the novel was written very quickly in a few months.

This hasty work did not completely satisfy Merimee, and he carefully revised the text of the novel with each new edition of it. Soon "Chronicle" began to be translated into foreign languages. In Germany it appeared in 1829; a year later, it was published by one of the American publishers; At the end of May 1830 (issue 28), Anton Delvig's *Literary Gazette* published chapter XI of "Chronicle" under the name "Duel". The opera "Les Huguenots", written in 1835 and central to Giacomo Meyerbeer's work, was first staged on February 29, 1836, based on the novel, at the Paris Opera.

When Merime worked on the *Chronicle*, he did not rely on the works and publications of scientists, but on the real testimonies of contemporaries and participants in the events. The main sources of Merime's novel were the books of the Huguenot poet Agrippa d'Aubigne, the biography and memoirs of Brantome, the notes of military leaders Montluc and Lanou, and the diaries of a Parisian citizen. Pierre de l'Etoile Undoubtedly, François Rabelais also helped him to understand the people of the distant sixteenth century.

Many reviews that appeared shortly after the publication of the novel, especially criticism of Merimee's freedom from the exaggerations and one-sidedness of the romantic school, emphasized the laconism of the language, the skill of describing the characters.

Merime's view of the individual is historical: "... the actions of people who lived in the 16th century cannot be approached with the criteria of the 19th century."

The events of the period are seen through the fate of Bernard de Merge, and the conflict between Catholics and Huguenots that led to the Night of Saint Bartholomew and the Wars of Religion is reflected in the love story of this Protestant for the Catholic Diane. Unification (Love for Mérimée, unlike other historical novelists, does not have a



uniform, non-historical character, but takes on the characteristics of the period described). The same contradiction becomes the source of the tragedy of the de Merge family: the brothers Bernard and George stay in different camps, and a bullet fired by Bernard ends George's life.

Historical characters, including King Charles IX, are described by the writer as individuals. Not the opinions or wishes of individual people, but the general state of the national consciousness, the morals of the people determine the development of historical events.

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