

Loránd Eötvös University

Faculty of Arts

## Abstract of PhD Thesis

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### *Senior József Szinnyi's Manuscript Legacy*

*Further Data Regarding Senior József Szinnyi's Biography and Professional Profile  
Based on His Manuscript Legacy Preserved in Libraries and Archives*

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1. The antecedents of the research and the short summary of the aim of research

The professional award of library science and *librarians has borne Senior József Szinnyei's (1830-1913) name since 1992.* „The József Szinnyei award can be awarded to librarians who have performed outstandingly during a longer period of time and enhanced the development of their profession with their work and initiatives.”<sup>1</sup> Despite the above, Szinnyei's life and professional profile haven't been explored in their depths. This can be explained on one hand by the amount of his legacy (a 64-volume diary, several thousands of letters etc.), on the other hand by ethical aspects; as one of my colleagues has mentioned: „the researcher decides to leave the hornet's nest alone, he/she had better leave the job for somebody else.”

The aim of my PhD dissertation is to allow those who are interested to inspect Senior József Szinnyei's manuscript legacy, to summarize and publish in a verified and retrievable form the data and information gained during the research. While processing the data regarding Senior József Szinnyei's diaries and correspondence, it became more and more obvious that the literary canon is not always „true”. I was helped through this problem by Balázs Bábel's, archbishop of Kecskemét-Kalocsa, thoughts: „The lesson we have learnt from history is that people are neither good, nor bad. Even the greatest saints have their own shadow (...). *We should explore the past with the greatest accuracy, and we should examine the inner motivations as well.*”<sup>2</sup> The latter sentence has had a great effect on my attitude as it helped me through my research crisis and became a task to be fulfilled which facilitated the impartial, pious approach of truth.

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<sup>1</sup> 3/1999. (II. 24.) NKÖM rend. 20. § (1)

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Bábel Balázs érsek úrral beszélgettünk / – C –. In: Kalocsai Hírlap, 2. évf. 2011. 11. sz. (márc. 18.) p. 7.

## II. The presentation of sources, the methodology of data gathering and processing

As the content-focused revision of the entire gathered sources (if we consider my work as a teacher as well) would take at least twenty years, my research has remained *pars pro toto* due to the 64-volume diary and several thousands of letters written by Senior József Szinnyei. Nevertheless, I have tried to define the documents that have been read and been taken notes of, so that a further research should be able to take them into consideration. I have explored entirely (taking notes and photocopying them) the documents available in the Manuscript and Old Publications Collection of the National Széchenyi Library, in the Hungarian National Archives, in the ELTE University Archives, in the Archives of Rév-Komárom District and the manuscripts from the County Archives of Nyitrajánka<sup>3</sup>.

From the Szinnyei legacy preserved in the Manuscript Archives and Old Book Collection of the Library of Hungarian Academy of Science I have processed Senior Szinnyei József's entire correspondence and some letters addressed to him, his diary covering the period 1830-1849 and 1872-1879, and the year 1913<sup>4</sup>.

The thesis synthesises the results of a 10-year research. In the introduction and epilogue I present the methods I have applied and the data that I have gained. While processing the data regarding Szinnyei's life and work, I have taken into consideration the opposing statements previously published in the Szinnyei-related writings. According to the principle „Truth lies in manuscripts after all”, the sources collected and systematized during the research have been partially included in appendix 13. and 14.

I have chosen as a motto of my thesis Attila József's thought „Tell the truth, not only what is real” as I haven't been aware of the fact how difficult it is to explore

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3 See details in: Gyurcsó Júlia: *Idősb Szinnyei József bibliográfia. II. Kéziratos hagyaték, könyvtári és levéltári iratok (1792-1913)*. Budapest : Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, 2011. 308 p. – CD added. The publication was sponsored by the National Cultural Fund and it is available online in the Hungarian Electronic Library (MEK): <http://mek.hu>. To be noted: my dissertation is *not identical with the second volume of my Senior József Szinnyei bibliography*. The aim of my book was to commemorate the 180th anniversary of Senior József Szinnyei's birth and *to record* and collect all the existing Szinnyei-related documents. Whereas my dissertation informs about the *content* of the material published in the mentioned bibliography. I have already mentioned this in my publication: „The aim of the present volume was to attempt a wholistic recording of the existing documents, but the dissertation tried to explore „truth, not only facts” by examining the causes that lie behind the unanswered questions”. (p. 6.)

<sup>4</sup> See my notes: in the 13. and 14. insert of my thesis.

manuscript legacies and especially diaries. The researcher often finds himself/herself in the situation that he/she has to deal with intimate matters and the following questions arise: Is this allowed? Is it necessary? What principles determine the publication (or not) of such data? There is a conflict of interests between the researcher's and the everyday ethical norms, as the researcher's aim is to publish the gained data and to define the causes, however as a civilian he/she would stick to the rule that one should only say positive things about people, or say nothing. Reading Szinnyei's diary I had wrestled with myself for months until by chance (?) I came across Balázs Babel archbishop's formerly mentioned thoughts in a newspaper issued on *Senior Szinnyei József's birthday*.

III. The structure of the thesis, the main theses, the summary of the most important findings, further research possibilities:

The main part of my thesis comprises three chapters. The first chapter deals with Szinnyei's manuscript legacy preserved in libraries, the second with the Szinnyei-related documents of the archives. The third chapter presents senior József Szinnyei's life and professional profile. The most important biographical data, professional events and the date of publication of his most important works (in an *enlarged* and *revised* form compared to the chronology which appeared in the already mentioned first Szinnyei bibliography) are included in the Chronology. The chronological table is followed by the Bibliography and Uncatalogued Archive Documents.

The provenance indicators which ensure the retrieval of manuscript sources and special literature sources are to be found in the footnotes. Senior József Szinnyei's portrait, handwriting (his letter addressed to his son, József Szinnyei Junior), the copy of József Szinnyei award, Senior József Szinnyei's death-notice are included in the Appendix, other documents and some primary data (extracts from his correspondence and diary) in the Insert (No.13-14.).

The theses of the dissertation reveal important aspects related to senior József Szinnyei's manuscript legacy preserved in libraries and archives, his life and work. The theses, form chapters and topic-related selected passages, determining the structure of the dissertation. In the following I will give a short summary of my findings:

Senior József Szinnyei's manuscript legacy is preserved by the *archives of two libraries*<sup>5</sup>. The most Szinnyei-related documents (e.g. his 64-volume diary, much of his correspondence) can be found in the Archives and Old Book Collection of the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Science<sup>6</sup> (MTAK), and much relevant material is also available in the Archives and Old Publications Collection of the National Széchényi Library (OSZK)<sup>7</sup>. (The catalogue of the University Library of ELTE does not contain Szinnyei-related manuscripts.)

Archive documents<sup>8</sup> concerning Senior József Szinnyei's life and work may be found in the „Old Archive of the Academy”(RAL<sup>9</sup>) which is the special collection of the Archives of the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Science, In the Archives of the University Library of the ELTE<sup>10</sup>, in the Hungarian National Archives (MOL<sup>11</sup>), in the Archives of Rév-Komárom District<sup>12</sup> and the County Archives of Nyitravánka<sup>13</sup>.

Senior József Szinnyei was born on the 18th March 1830. into a wealthy (merchant) bourgeois family. After his father died in 1835, and his mother's death one year later, the uncle, a respected Komárom tanner, became his and his three sisters' legal guardian until the death of their aunt (their mother's sister) in 1845. He attended the Benedictine Grammar School in Komárom and the Piarist Grammar School in Nyitra, he went to the 2-year university preparatory school in Pest (1st-2nd class of philosophy), then he made his philological studies in Győr being supported by his brother-in-law and guardian, Dr. Zsigmond Beöthy. He started to study law in Győr in the autumn of 1847, but he could only finish his first year studies because of the revolutionary events that followed one year later. Later he did not get a degree<sup>14</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup>See details in: Thesis 1. (p. 15-31., 35-72.)

<sup>6</sup> See by items in: Gyurcsó Júlia: *Idősb Szinnyei József bibliográfia. II. Kéziratos hagyatéka, könyvtári és levéltári iratok (1792-1913)*. Budapest : Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, 2011. p. 24-229. (1-3847. bibliographical item; within 1 item generally 1, but even 191 letters can be found)

<sup>7</sup> See by items: *ibidem*. p. 231-239. (3865-3955. bibliographical items)

<sup>8</sup>) See in details: Thesis p. 32-34., 73-79., 258-282.

<sup>9</sup> See by items: Gyurcsó Júlia: *Idősb Szinnyei József bibliográfia. II. Kéziratos hagyatéka, könyvtári és levéltári iratok (1792-1913)*. Budapest : Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, 2011. p. 230. (3848-3864. bibliographical items)

<sup>10</sup> See by items: *Idem*. p. 241-262. (3959-4144. bibliographical items)

<sup>11</sup> See by items: *Idem* p. 240. (3956-3958. bibliographical items)

<sup>12</sup> See by items: *Idem* p. 263-264. (4145-4160. bibliographical items)

<sup>13</sup>See by items: *Idem*. p. 265. (4161-4170. bibliographical items)

<sup>14</sup> See details: Thesis 3. chapter p. 80-103.

Senior József Szinnyei's diary is also a document that contains important data about local history and the history of the period. His entries from 1848/49. inform about the social background of the Hungarian revolution and war of independence, about the circumstances of his promotion as a lieutenant and the days of retaliation.<sup>15</sup>

Senior József Szinnyei, following Dr. Zsigmond Beöthy's, his brother-in-law's advice, submitted an application at the Ministry of Internal Affairs in order to request the change of his family name from *Ferber* to Szinnyei. His first application had been refused in Vienna. The authorization was granted on 29th July 1848 and appeared in the official Gazette, but it was withdrawn on 3rd December 1849 by Haynau's decree. His application which was handed in again on 3rd February 1864 was rejected on 1st June 1864. He was allowed to use the name<sup>16</sup> Szinnyei only after the Ausgleich of 1867 after having been granted the definitive authorization on 2nd July 1868.

Senior József Szinnyei was a passionate collector<sup>17</sup> of books. His correspondence and diary inform us about a considerable collection of printed *1848/49 revolutionary material*. He gathered the data (with the exact indication of the sources) related to Petőfi, his poems published in magazines, newspapers, almanacs, his correspondence, travelogues and other writings, and also the publications dedicated to the poet, and published them under the title „*Sándor Petőfi in the Hungarian Literature: 1837-1847*” first in Történeti Lapok, then in the Almanac of the Petőfi Society. Szinnyei's data gathering and the process of publication can be traced back in his

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<sup>15</sup> <sup>15</sup> See details: Thesis 3. chapter p. 96-102. –no.13. insert of the Thesis MTAK Archives **Ms 797/347**, 353, 355, 405, 437, 447, 449-450, 452-454, 548, **Ms 798/8**, 236, 344, 523, **Ms 799/29**, 220, 288, 442 letters.

<sup>16</sup> See details: Thesis 14. insert p. 99-100.

– See also: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/231**, **Ms 799/474** letters.

<sup>17</sup> See: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/5**, 12, 14, 21, 24-25, 42-49, 94, 141, 192-196, 200-201, 225-229, 231-234, 272-273, 275-276, 280-281, 305, 310, 316, 347, 352-356, 358-362, 369-371, 407-417, 421, 428, 449, 452, 460, 462, 467, 510, 513-514, 520, 530-533, 580, 593-594, 598, 616-620, 630-634, **Ms 797/2**, 62-66, 68, 75, 77-83, 86-87, 92-93, 97-116, 137, 146, 154, 158, 163, 171, 180, 184-185, 191, 198, 202, 204, 212-215, 239, 318, 323, 335-226, 348, 354, 404-405, 408-409, 414, 418, 422, 425-432, 435-436, 438-442, 447, 454, 460, 464, 466, 500, 521, 545-546, 551, **Ms 798/5-6**, 8-9, 36, 42-43, 48, 71, 76, 81-83, 100-103, 123, 164, 171, 173, 176-183, 185-186, 200-201, 208, 210, 251, 256, 259, 271-275, 280, 282-283, 288-291, 298-301, 306, 328, 338, 373, 379-380, 383-384, 414, 420, 434, 449-450, 456, 470, 482, 487, 498, 500, 509-510, 516, 520, **Ms 799/19**, 27, 40, 58-67, 69, 71, 79, 97, 100, 103-109, 112, 126-142, 163, 289, 292, 296, 437-439, 442, 444-445, 463-464, 474-476, 482, 494, 496, 504, 506-508, 511, 517, 537-539, 541-542, 569, 576, 578-590, 593, 597, 612, 635, 641 letters. See: Thesis 13.insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/352**, **Ms 797/184-187**, 189-190, 444, **Ms 798/12**, 71, 207-208, 210, 384-392, 394-402, 407, 410, 414, **Ms 799/380** letters.

correspondence<sup>18</sup>. His articles concerning the printed media<sup>19</sup>, his repertoria<sup>20</sup> and his bibliography „The lives and work of Hungarian Writers volumes 1-14. Budapest. Hornyánszky<sup>21</sup>, 1891-1914.”<sup>22</sup> processed data originating in his *collections of data, newspapers, death-notes and autobiography of writers*.

Senior József Szinnyei had been the employee<sup>23</sup> of the University Library from 23rd December 1872 until 9th November 1888 (during Ágoston Trefort's ministership). He was appointed as a temporary librarian on 26th April 1875, and was commissioned to direct temporarily the University Library on 17th December 1876.

He was given the permanent position of a librarian on 13th August 1879, he worked in the Newspaper Library of the National Museum from July till November 1884, also working in the University Library in the afternoons, then he was transferred to work full time in the Newspaper Library. Senior József Szinnyei was hired by the University Library due to his politically influential brother-in-law, Dr. Zsigmond Beöthy, the latter having *a key role* in the removal of the library to the new building and in the resignation of two library directors, Dr. Ferenc Toldy and Dr. Árpád Horvát.

Senior József Szinnyei was commissioned by the Hungarian Academy of Science to make a draft for a repertorium in 1872. In 1873 he was asked to gather the material and edit „*The Scientific Repertorium of Hungarian and Foreign Magazines*”. The first volume was published in 1874 „*I. Class. History and Its Auxiliary Sciences. The*

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<sup>18</sup> See: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/352**, **Ms 797/184-187**, 189-190, 444, **Ms 798/12**, 71, 207-208, 210, 384-392, 394-402, 407, 410, 414, **Ms 799/380** letters.

<sup>19</sup> See: Thesis 14. insert p. 108-120. – See also: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/7**, 91, 92, 200, 232, 258, 315-316, 352, 386, 405, 469, **Ms 797/62**, 64, 75, 96, 138, 146, 149, 152, 156, 165-167, 203, 211, 222-226, 320-321, 347, 353, 367, 413, 424, 428, 458, 464, 466-468, 484, 549, **Ms 798/2**, 7, 26, 60, 77, 96, 120, 124-131, 152, 185, 209, 215, 312, 344, 411, 433, 440, 452, 516, 521, **Ms 799/16**, 51, 56, 90, 99, 123, 148, 220, 262, 291, 317, 343, 446 jelzetszámú levelek

<sup>20</sup> : Thesis 14. insert p. 2-79. –

<sup>21</sup> See: Thesis 14. insert p. 138. – p. 780-795.

<sup>22</sup> See by items: Thesis 3. chapter p. 104-233. – See also: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/15**, 45-48, 92, 141, 153, 167, 187, 291, 305, 347, 353, 354-355, 421, **Ms 797/82**, 96, 129-130, 132, 141, 161, 208, 227, 230, 272, 336, 343, 405-406, 414, 424, 460, 472, 478-479, 483, 528, 539, **Ms 798/50**, 73, 84, 86-87, 92-93, 95, 148-149, 307, 324, 339, 412, 440, 446, **Ms 799/155-156**, 176, 181, 193, 196, 202, 204, 206, 209, 210, 254, 279, 284, 289, 291, 298, 336, 374, 378, 380, 635 letters.

<sup>23</sup> See: Thesis p. 33-34., 3. chapter p. 110-113., 135., 138., 235-237., 14. sz. insert p. 2-78. – See also: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/46**, 56, 92, 93, 141, 353-355, (428), 531, **Ms 797/82**, 87, 129-130, 135, 141, 219, 227, 229-230, 237, 272, 278, 405, 424, 460, 469, 472, 541, **Ms 798/1-2**, 12-13, 86-87, 90-91, 94, 187, 189, 207, 250, 254, 310-311, 313, 337, 339, 379, 391-395, 403, 405, 407-411, 415, 495, 510, **Ms 799/37**, 54, 74, 78, 157, 343, 478, 601, 635 letters.

*Repertorium of Hungarian Magazines, Almanacs, Calendars and School Notifications 1778-1873.*”

The subtitle of the second volume was „ *II. Class. Natural Sciences and Mathematics 1. Repertorium of Hungarian Specialist Magazines, Almanacs, Calendars and School Notifications 1778-1874*”. The third volume is known as „ *I. Class. History and Its Auxiliary Sciences 2. Newspapers 1731-1880*.” The process of repository making, data gathering and the methodology of data processing can be well reconstructed from the manuscript legacy (diary, letters, archive documents)<sup>24</sup>.

Senior Szinnyi József was commissioned to establish a private library for Prince József<sup>25</sup> on his estate in Alcsút<sup>26</sup> in 1874. This special task and change of surroundings helped Szinnyi's recovery<sup>27</sup> from the shock caused by the loss of his two little sons.

In 1876 Senior and Junior József Szinnyi had applied successfully for the compilation of a specialist bibliography for natural sciences and mathematics which was published in 1878 by the Society of Natural Sciences bearing the title „*Bibliotheca Hungarica Naturalis et Matheseos. The Hungarian Bibliography of Natural Sciences and Mathematics 1472-1875*.”

The original sources regarding the compilation of the bibliography, of material gathering and the methodology of data processing are accessible in the 14. appendix of my thesis.

Senior József Szinnyi had initiated several times the establishment of a *national newspaper library*. He sent his first appeal invitation to the Reform governmental (Deák-supporting) newspaper on May 27th 1872 with the title „*Let's Establish Newspaper Libraries*”, but the article appeared only on 2nd June 1872 and was given the title „*Our Newspapers*”. The establishment of such a newspaper library was authorized only a decade later on 30th June 1884. My essay „*József Szinnyi's*

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<sup>24</sup> Habsburg József Károly Lajos (1833-1905) Austrian prince of Lotaringia, Hungarian and Czech prince, royal cavalry general, the chief conductor of the Royal Hungarian Army till his death in 1869, member of the board of directors of MTA, then its honorary member (he established an arboretum on his estate in Alcsút and made botanical research). József palatine's son (1776-1847) from his 3rd marriage. Rómer Flóris (1815-1889) was his educator.

<sup>25</sup> See: Thesis p. 154, 156., 14. insert p. 80-90. See also: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives Ms 797/134-135, 229, 479, 539, 541, Ms 798/86, 88, 360, 399, 402-407, 508, Ms 799/374, 378, 381-383 letters.

<sup>26</sup> See: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives Ms 797/133, Ms 798/383 letters.

<sup>27</sup> See: Thesis p. 236-237., 14. insert p. 78-79. – See also: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives Ms 796/9, 47, 167, 218, Ms 797/161, 199, 269, 312, 371-374, 377, 486, Ms 798/93-96, 149, 157-158, 160-161, 188, 430, Ms 799/84, 87-88, 165, 182, 568/b, 635 letters



*Reports Regarding the Newspaper Library and Other Documents Concerning the Functioning of the Newspaper Library*” which is accessible in the *analecta* catalogue of the Archives and Old Publications Collection of the National Széchenyi Library informs about the coming into being of the newspaper library and its functioning<sup>28</sup>.

The thesis does not attempt to present Senior József Szinnyei’s *entire late bibliographical work based on diary entries*, but the information and data regarding the already processed bibliography „*The Lives and Work of Hungarian Writers*” were published<sup>29</sup> in the 13. and 14. inserts of my thesis .

I have accomplished the aim of my research: I explored thoroughly Szinnyei’s correspondence in its entirety and his diary from 1830-1849 and 1872-1879 and from 1913, and I think that I could throw light on the propelling forces and personal motivations<sup>30</sup> as well.

The thesis tackles in detail the background of József Szinnyei’s employment at the University Library, his relationship with Árpád Horvát, the building of the new library, the process of its settlement and answers the controversial questions<sup>31</sup> that arose in the specialist literature. The functioning of the National Newspaper Library is presented through Szinnyei’s annual *Reports*, and his correspondence and diary

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<sup>28</sup> See: Thesis p. 239-244., 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/3**, 6, 10, 11, 21, 23, 32, 65, 66, 77, 79, 128, 133, 176, 190, 197, 200, 201, 229, 240, 248, 272, 301, 305, 310, 312, 316, 326, 363, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 375, 387, 395, 396, 411, 419, 420, 422, 467, 510, 515, 518, 520, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 564, 596, 597, 635-655. **Ms 797/62**, 68, 87, 89b, 118, 159, 163, 186, 239, 249, 250, 253, 259b, 260, 288, 289, 312, 320, 325, 334, 336, 337-338, 354, 364, 369-370, 377, 400, 405, 408, 409, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 421, 438, 453, 473, 492, 493, 517, 551, 554, 556, **Ms 798/17**, 25, 48, 74, 80, 105, 109, 141, 166, 174, 188, 236, 249, 259, 261, 299, 300, 309, 313, 316, 318, 319, 321, 326, 336, 341, 342, 344, 348-357, 365, 368, 426-427, 435, 459, 464, 481, 482, 487, 493, 505-506, 517-519, 523-525, 527-528, **Ms 799/19**, 22, 27, 40, 47, 65-69, 83-84, 87, 98, 101, 152-153, 171-172, 219-222, 229, 236, 246-237, 252, 257, 260, 264, 267, 271, 283, 292, 295, 300, 302, 304-308, 310-321, 323-331, 333-335, 337-338, 341-346, 348, 350-351, 354, 356, 361, 385, 419, 441, 445-446, 456-457, 481-482, 505, 543, 553, 588, 590, 605, 610, 635 letters. – See also: 14. insert p. 138. –

<sup>29</sup> See: Thesis p. 239-244., 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/3**, 193, 248, 359, 408, 410, 440, 522, 526-527, 593, 598, **Ms 797/92**, 98, 128, 158, 283, 408, 413, 419, 424, 436, 468, **Ms 798/86**, 94, 125, 131, 186, 209, 236, 269, 271, 286, 316, 318, 448, 469, **Ms 799/66**, 69, 107, 142, 236, 243, 274, 348, 439, 483, 485, 497, 504, 506, 534, 556 letters.

<sup>30</sup> See e.g.: Vértessy Miklós: Szinnyei József és Horvát Árpád. Az Egyetemi Könyvtár története 1875-76-ban. In: Az Egyetemi Könyvtár Évkönyvei I. Budapest. Tankönyvkiadó, 1962. p. 97-104. és Klimes-Szmik Katalin: Horvát Árpád néhány szava az Egyetemi Könyvtár Rendezése ügyében. Szilágyi Sándor igazgató kinevezésének előzményei. In: Az Egyetemi Könyvtár Évkönyvei XIII., 2007. p. 9-25.

<sup>31</sup> See: Thesis p. 239-244., 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/2-3**, 7, 11, 24, 128, 133, 190, 225, 226, 234, 240, 248, 281, 352, 358, 362, 462, 510, 523, 526, 618, 631, **Ms 797/65**, 63, 77, 86, 97, 146, 204, 223, 237, 278, 335, 405-406, 408, 419, 436, 463, **Ms 798/48**, 58, 74, 79-80, 83, 86-87, 91, 94, 96, 121, 128, 173, 176, 261, 285-286, 299, 307, 350, 352, 365, 368, 373, 403, 469, 482, 498, **Ms 799/40**, 47, 51, 54, 58, 65, 69, 83, 98, 112, 126, 238, 268-269, 275-276, 290, 310, 336, 338, 345, 348, 355, 457, 463, 483-485, 487-488, 494, 497, 500, 503-505, 507-508, 529, 537, 545, 549, 553, 563, 564, 569, 576, 578-579 letters.

(explored till 1879) provide many new data regarding the compilation of his bibliography, „*The Lives and Work of Hungarian Writers*”.

The primary research material included in the 13. and 14. insert gives an insight into the workshop secrets of the „*The Scientific Repertorium of Hungarian and Foreign Magazines*” and „*Bibliotheca hungarica historiae naturalis et Matheseos*” = *The Hungarian Bibliography of Natural Sciences and Mathematics: 1472-1875*” and authentically informs about the methods applied<sup>32</sup> by Szinnyei. The selected passages make us know the story of his family name change and of his participation in the 1848/49 war of independence. The part referring to the establishment of Prince József’s library in Alcsút reveals details about Szinnyei’s professional profile which have been completely unknown so far.

In my thesis I aimed at presenting the original texts in such a way as the texts should be able to speak for themselves. The inserts form an important part of my thesis and I recommend the *diary extracts* systematized according to the important stages of Szinnyei’s life and work especially to those who are interested and who like to read between the lines. Much of my notes (1876-1879.) were not included into the thesis, due to lack of space and time, nor were my copies of his letters.

The exploration of the entire correspondence addressed to Senior József Szinnyei and of his diary (1880-1912) could be the subject of *a further research*. Senior József Szinnyei’s activity (1893-1894) as the *temporary director* of the National Széchenyi Library coincided with Béla Majláth’s and János Csontos’s dismissal and for this reason it is likely that his diaries can provide further data to the once so much tackled *Csontos-case* (by the press).

#### IV. Publications related to the topic of the thesis

- Gyurcsó Júlia: *Idősb Szinnyei József bibliográfia 1-2. köt. I. Nyomtatásban megjelent írásai és a róla szóló irodalom (1848-2010), II. Kéziratos hagyatéka, könyvtári és levéltári iratok (1792-1913)*. Budapest : Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, 2011. 343, 308 p. – CD added. – The publication was supported by the National Cultural Fund. – It is also accessible online in the Hungarian

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<sup>32</sup> See: Thesis 13. insert MTAK Archives **Ms 796/528**, 590, **Ms 799/197**, 206, 219, 241-242, 257, 260, 265, 275, 282, 289-290, 297-298, 306-307, 318, 330, 338, 549 letters.

Electronic Library (Magyar Elektronikus Könyvtárban). – Review: Szabó Sándor: Szinnyei univerzuma. In: Könyvtári Figyelő, 22. (58.) évf. 2012. 2. sz. p. 351-353.

- Gyurcsó Júlia: *Idősb Szinnyei József születésének 180. évfordulójára*. In: *Idősb Szinnyei József bibliográfia I. Nyomtatásban megjelent írásai és a róla szóló irodalom (1848-2010)*. Budapest : Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, 2011. p. 6-16.

- Gyurcsó Júlia: *Adalékok id. Szinnyei József életrajzához és szakmai pályaképehez könyvtárakban és levéltárakban őrzött kéziratos hagyatéka alapján*. In: *Idősb Szinnyei József bibliográfia II. Kéziratos hagyatéka, könyvtári és levéltári iratok (1792-1913)*. Budapest : Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, 2011. p. 5-23.

- Gyurcsó Júlia: *Főhajtás. Id. Szinnyei József, a legnagyobb magyar bibliográfus szakmai pályaképe*. – In: *Jókai-díj / szerk. Végh József*. – Rév-Komárom : Budapest : kiadja a Jókai Közművelődési és Múzeum Egyesület, Falvak Kultúrájáért Alapítvány, 2010. – p. 38-47. – Arany Díszoklevéllel jutalmazott pályamű.

- *Id. Szinnyei József szakmai pályaképe* / Gyurcsó Júlia. Budapest : ELTE, 2007. – 10 p. URL: <http://epika.web.elte.hu/doktor/>, <http://www.hok.eltebtkt.hu>