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**M. M. SPERANSKY'S CONTRIBUTION IN DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE OF BUSINESS
DOCUMENTATION IN THE LATE 18TH AND FIRST THIRD OF THE 19TH CENTURIES**

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Abstract

In Russian science, it is generally accepted that Karamzin is a reformer of the Russian language, when heavy artificial forms alien to the Russian mentality or popular language were rejected and replaced with mobile, living forms. However, one person, even as famous and talented as N. M. Karamzin could not be the only language converter. Formation of the new forms of Russian literature, and enrichment of vocabulary of the emerging literary language were also facilitated by his predecessors such as, D. I. Fonvizin, N. I. Novikov, G. R. Derzhavin, A. A. Petrov and others. We consider it possible to include among them M.M. Speransky. The present paper proves that M. M. Speransky was the creator of Russian business communication.

Keywords

M. M. Speransky – Russian language reforms – Business communication language

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Introduction

Late 18th, the first third of the 19th century, is a special period in the history of Russian language and Russian literature. N. M. Karamzin was not the only writer and reformer. According to V. D. Levin, "it is quite possible to agree with I. I. Dmitriev, who asserted that when Karamzin spoke at the author's field..., the deliberate system already preceded his initiative"¹. In many ways, development of the Russian language contributed to the works of predecessors, among them a special place is occupied by M. M. Speransky.

Individual style of M. M. Speransky is a fairly high degree of perfection. There is no doubt that Speransky, who had so talented begun his activity, could have done a lot more in the "field of literature", but what he had done turned out to be sufficient to be counted among the converters of the language.

Herodion Vetrinsky, in his "The Rules of Higher Eloquence" quoted from publisher of Speransky's essays as: "Judging by the time (1792) this author was hardly the first between all our literary celebrities who worked on the position of the cornerstone of the building of the new Russian word"².

When analyzing speech and language of the works of M.M. Speransky as a representative of culture and a carrier of new literature, attention is drawn to some features that distinguish the language of his works in terms of content and forms used.

Speech of M. M. Speransky is not a stereotypical speech, repeating rubber phrases and stamps, is a speech of a creative person, clearly expressing the intentions of its author and causing an adequate understanding of the addressee. It is the adequacy of understanding that makes speech effective. That is why M. M. Speransky can be counted among the "pioneers" of the new Russian literary language, carriers and owners of an elite type of speech culture, possessing all the norms of the literary language.

Features of M. M. Speransky's style

The main requirement that M.M. Speransky imposes on the writer, is clarity of the exposition, which is necessary in not to bothering the readers with "difficult conjugation of concepts". "No matter what syllable he writes, the god of good taste imposes an indispensable law on him to be clear"³. In the mentioned work ("The Rules of Higher Eloquence"), that freedom, ease, diversity and naturalness in the construction of speech are already visible, which Karamzin subsequently "instilled in our literary language".

I. Chistovich, in the History of the St. Petersburg Theological Academy (St. Petersburg, 1857), recognized the indisputable fact that "the language of the author, in its grace, is very different from most of the writings of its time and has many virtues". At the same time, he explains his position as follows: "The author expressed concepts that perfectly correspond to the nature of modern eloquence, especially spiritual, as opposed to the oratory of the ancients, and expressed them at a time when French theory prevailed in

¹ V. D. Levin. Essay on the stylistics of the Russian literary language of the late 18 - early XIX century (Moscú: 1964), 116.

² M. M. Speransky, The rules of higher eloquence (San Petersburgo: 1844), III.

³ M. M. Speransky, The rules of higher eloquence... 373.

The science of literature, everything in poetry and eloquence reduced to one external reasons and motives and recognized the imitation of external nature as the main principle of art". Chistovich speaks of Speransky's speech, which in many places is "animate, pictorial and sublime". The abundance of excellent examples of eloquence (although limited to the works of ancient classics and French literature), but cited with strict intelligibility and with the explanations of the author himself "faithful, intelligent and vivid, also honors his taste"⁴.

M. M. Speransky was interested in the stylistics of individual speech, the ideas about which he revealed, setting forth the concept of the theory of syllable. Already at that time, the question was raised about the style-forming differences of a syllable, about the most characteristic features of the language of an individual, regardless of profession.

Speaking about the properties of words and concepts, MM Speransky after V. K. Trediakovsky emphasizes the meaning and necessity of the correct use of the words: "And this is what is called not knowing your language: it is not knowing the total price of words. So, one can disfigure a thought with words, suggesting it incorrectly, or accepting to its expression the wrong signs that the use commands". Therefore, when using words, says Speransky, should be guided by firm rules. The author considers clarity, variety of form, unity, parts should be diverse, but the whole is one of the common properties of a good style.

In the book of I. V. Katetov "Count M. M. Speransky as a religious thinker" (Kazan, 1889) posted a review of the youthful essay of a seminary teacher: "The flaws in a somewhat fanciful and intertwined language with Slavonic and appeal to French samples of the community with others, but the subtlety of criticism, purity and elegance of taste, deep psychological analysis, strict logical separability of concepts, clarity and liveliness of presentation, animated presentation and, finally, techniques that elevate him, as a real professor over the teachers-speakers, compilers and collectors of routine essay rules are all such virtues that would do honor to a professor of eloquence and at another time familiar with the best theories and models of eloquence"⁵.

The official and business style of M. M. Speransky

On the duty of his civil and bureaucratic service, Speransky had to deal mainly with official business papers of a state scale: he made manifestos, decrees, drafts, reports, notes, reports that were endorsed by the king or ministers.

The manifesto of July 13, 1826 is the most striking example of such documents. Professor V. A. Tomsinov writes about this document as follows: "Whatever historians say about this manifesto, it is remarkable in its content and style"⁶.

Speransky wrote extensively and intelligibly extensive projects of state transformations, acts, decrees, regulations. The author himself was proud of his ability to arrange everything so that all parts are so naturally interconnected that none of them can be pulled out without destroying the whole. Getting the task to prepare any business

⁴ M. M. Speransky, The rules of higher eloquence... 79-80.

⁵ I. V. Katetov, Count M. M. Speransky as a religious thinker (Kazan: 1889), 899.

⁶ V. A. Tomsinov, The light of the Russian bureaucracy. East porr. M. M. Speransky (Moscu: 1991), 308.

document, Speransky showed an exceptional talent of a man who knew how to understand and clearly express the idea of the boss in such elegant forms that the author himself could not find.

All three sovereigns under whom he served this talent, and numerous ministers and officials of various ranks and branches of service enjoyed this. According to V. O. Kliuchevskogo, "Speransky introduced into the untidy 18th century Russian office an unusually straightened mind capable of endlessly working and an excellent ability to speak and write. To all this, of course, he was a real find for the clerical world. This prepared his unusually fast service career"⁷.

The reform projects and Speransky's notes are not without any ominous reasoning: "No government can be consistent with the spirit of the times, it cannot stand against its omnipotent action". "The spirit of the people is changing according to circumstances. Every century has its own physiognomy... "And the main conclusion from all that has been said: that" not the people are adapted to the ruler, but the rule to the state of the people, "relevant as never before!"⁸.

It should be noted that M. M. Speransky was neither a writer nor a poet (although he had all the prerequisites for this), but simply a high-ranking official who wanted to remake the order existing in the empire through reforms, we agree that he could papers, documents, statutes, regulations, written by him, to convey their vivid sense of reality, to express views on various social problems.

In Speransky, already in the early years of his state activity, a conviction arose in the possibility of rational and systematic reorganization of society, a conviction coming from the very spirit of the Enlightenment. He planned the radical reform plan as a "perestroika" in Russia. In the archive of Alexander I, the term of the great update designated "Perestroika" designated by Speransky⁹.

According to the classification of M. V. Lomonosov, state papers are "prose speeches about important subjects," they assumed a high style of presentation. But within this style, the nature of the texts varied depending on the topic or the addressee (notes to the sovereign, manifestos, decrees, letters to statesmen, etc.).

Scientific subjects assumed in the special literature the accuracy of expressions, abstractness and objectivity of presentation, which characterizes the main features of the scientific style of speech.

This is how M. M. explains. Speransky relationship between law and management (scientific subjects, legal terms): "The word "right" comes from the word "rule": persons and places are established by law, but the law does not rule itself. Management operates according to the law, but the law differs from management"¹⁰.

⁷ V. O. Klyuchevsky, Works in 8 volumes. T. 5 (Moscú: 1989), 198.

⁸ M. M. Speransky, The rules of higher eloquence... 26.

⁹ Russians, The book on the history of the Fatherland XIX - early XX century. (Collection of articles) Part I. San Petersburgo: 1995), 4.

¹⁰ M. M. Speransky, Fragment about the Commission of the Code. Guide to the knowledge of laws (San Petersburgo: 2002), 194.

Contemporaries highly appreciated Speransky's literary talent, his reformist (transforming) activity in the field of professional language.

In the texts of laws, decrees, reports, explanations prepared by Speransky, we find certain patterns, clichés, i.e. standardized not only the language, but also the design itself. So in such texts stylistic uniformity was formed, a reasonable selection of means was made, which later led to the formation of the official business style of the Russian literary language. Here is a sample document: "I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am not in any Masonic lodge or in any society, either within the empire or outside, I don't belong to it and will not continue to belong..." (From the explanation of the secret adviser M. Speransky in St. Petersburg September 11, 1822).

At the same time, Speransky does not go beyond the "high calm" in which his reports, reports, notes to the sovereigns are sustained: archaisms and old slavonic beliefs give these texts the elation and solemnity required by court etiquette.

From the report on the affairs of 1810, submitted to the emperor Alexander I, M. M. Speransky on February 11, 1811, "... I will be given a sim to that happy position, in which I always wanted to devote all the fruit of my work to you alone, not looking for noise or praise, completely alien to me".

We have before us a sample of a business letter of "high" style, addressed to a crowned person, a majestic speech and courteous, but without servility. And: "Have mercy on me, most gracious Sovereign, do not betray me to reproach anyone who wants to make himself long from my position, staining and disfiguring me at will."

With these words, the reformer of Alexander I calls for virtue and condemns the low passions of his persecutors, who "not seeing the exact goal and the end of the changes, were frightened of harmful ology".

Acknowledging the usefulness of criticism and the harm of complacency, the reformer considered it an indispensable condition for familiarizing with the true state of affairs on the ground is close communication with the people, for which he received visitors with requests and complaints from morning to evening when he was governor in Penza and Siberia. On this occasion, he wrote: "Complaints... always the essence of a good sign. They signify a general urge towards perfection; the people are awakening. A state that finds everything perfect is asleep in deceased ignorance or slain by slavery". And as a slogan or warning for all subsequent rulers and rulers, the following phrase sounds: "The forced accomplishments are not strong, THEY WILL VIOLATE NATURE!".

With the correct selection and use of the words found for the depicted object, there is a specific image seen by the writer. Before the reader a picture of the true state of affairs emerges, the description is given by the author in figurative comparisons and skillfully selected epithets. Pursuing education reform, M. M. Speransky saw the "root of evil" in the ranks by which all the successes of the civil service are measured, "for not only differences, but also all the benefits are combined with the ranks".

Expression and expressiveness of the language of the treatises and documents of M. M. Speransky encourages the reader to believe in the author's desire to remake this "despotic" world, to end ignorance and illiteracy.

Much of what worried M. M. Speransky, who paid so much attention, effort and time in his journalistic works, did not materialize, remained “under the cover” of the desks of their imperial majesties, and the author, reflecting on the failed plans of his state activity, concludes: grief, the most sensitive for every person is to part with his ideas of good and find something impossible that would be so obvious. This is the torture of Tantalus to see the good, grab it and never catch it. This is the fate of almost all the best human desires”.

Poetics of the language M. M. Speransky achieved a skillful selection of stylistic tools, their bright emotional coloring.

The author makes extensive use of such a rhetorical figure as repetition: he serves as a means of organizing the period, which, in turn, gives speech a solemn, sublime sound: “if the sovereign is not a man on the throne, if his heart does not know the person’s obligations, if he doesn’t gracious grace and peace, the story “with a black brush will add that you were the tyrant of your fatherland”. “Me, imprisoned in my office, me, neither according to my kind, nor according to the property not belonging to their class”, – for the logical intonational identification of “me”. “And here... the same sky, the same salutary light of the sun, the same people, a mixture of good and evil”. The stylistic effect achieved by repetition is enhanced.

In one epithet, he could give the reader a clear idea of the “flagrant violence”, the “sorrows of the abundant”, used by the metaphor to describe the crumbling state control system in the city of Penza, where the state of the urban system is likened to work “on a rotten and squeaky machine”.

The presence of rhetorical tropes and figures, emotionally colored vocabulary, syntactic periods, giving business documents M. M. Speransky expressiveness, along with standard stationery formulas, clichés – evidence that the official business style of the literary language was not yet formed, and the syllable M.M. Speransky combined office and business elements and figuratively publicistic. But this synthesis was the basis of the author’s individual style of M. M. Speransky as an outstanding enlightener and publicist-reformer.

M. M. Speransky sensitively caught the scale of what was happening, knew how succinctly to convey the idea in a word, along with expressive means of description. These are the letters Speransky – the vast majority of them. These are his official reports, notes, provisions and treatises.

All that came out from the pen of a publicist-reformer is life itself in its various manifestations, prompting him to take up the pen and thus interfere in the order of things, influence events, and achieve a goal. Every time it is a civil act, an urgent need, full of great historical meaning. His scientific essays, business notes or private letters - everything appears as pages of a narration about time and about himself, a bright and picturesque narration. And, of course, the main advantage of the language M. M. Speransky is the clarity of his presentation.

This clarity and brevity manifested themselves in the very first political treatises of the early 19th century: “You must know your people, you must know the time. National knowledge is as difficult as self-knowledge, who can boast that he knows himself”¹¹. “The

¹¹ M. M. Speransky, Fragment about the Commission of the Code... 261.

spirit of the people is the whole, and the character of the people is the dominant part of it". It would seem, how much need to bring arguments to reveal the meaning of the "purpose of the hostel". But Speransky is content with several sentences: "Not the purpose of the hostel to make everyone completely happy, but the goal: 1) secure everyone, 2) certify work, 3) prepare for higher order, educate". And concludes his reasoning with words that can be attributed to our today's hostel: "The hostel cannot make everyone happy and satisfied, cannot satisfy all the endless desires. To blame the hostel, to demand more from it than it can give, is a disease of our century"¹². Is this disease inherent in our age?

The works of M. M. Speransky not only stated the facts and informed about current problems. He explained and convinced his readers that Russia needed laws, that the Russian people needed education, that it was impossible to enlighten the people without first liberating them from slavery.

Notes, notes, reports, decrees and manifestos that he drafted carried informational material about what was being done in the government, what new formations in the life of the state should take place.

Working outside Petersburg, for example, as Siberian Governor, M. M. Speransky collected information from the petitioners, was interested in sore" questions, studied the state of affairs, and his reports from the provinces clearly expressed the author's own attitude to reality, which he saw and felt with his whole being. Hence, strict documentary, credibility, accurate description of events with an emotional charge and an openly expressed position. So that the hopeless situation of the Siberian region is clear to all, Speransky gives details, details, introduces into the situation in which all this "disgrace" occurs. Rhetorical questions, expressive metaphorical vocabulary, appeals to the reader, addressee, exclamatory and interrogative sentences complement the expression of expression.

Mastery of the word M. M. Speransky and his achievements in the field of the Russian language were characterized by A. V. Nikitenko: "Speransky disposed of the means of the national language with full authority characteristic of higher talents and higher ideas: this was especially expressed in the sphere of state ideas, where the real place of his activity was"¹³.

New literary language in its updated and improved form M.M. Speransky introduced into the sphere of administrative and legal public activities. It was the common language of the people, which was spoken and religious preaching, and science, and art, they spoke and the state through the mouth of their enlightened figures. Speransky transformed a business syllable that was extremely difficult and often incomprehensible to him. For the clerical style of speech, he did the same that Karamzin and Zhukovsky did for the syllable of literary and spoken (Second Par... 1906).

"The administrative language of Speransky is the true language of the mind, which has mastered all the essence and subtleties of the affairs set in motion by a complex state mechanism. In everything that is written to them, impeccable correctness and purity of expressions prevail, every word is put in its place, every fold or turn of speech is consistent with the properties of thought and its shades. No matter how complicated the questions

¹² M. M. Speransky, Fragment about the Commission of the Code... 193.

¹³ A. V. Nikitenko, Memories of M. M. Speransky (San Petersburgo: 1872), 4.

that occupied him were, they fit under his pen so simply, freely, easily and harmoniously, as if it were a matter of the most ordinary"¹⁴.

The work of the enlightener on the clerical style of the literary language, which left the "mandative" language of documents in the distant past, deserves special characteristics. The statements of many writers, scholars, historians, journalists - M. Korf, N. Grech, F. Bulgarin, V. Klyuchevsky, S. Seredonin, A. Nikitenko and other connoisseurs of the Russian word emphasizing the significance of M. M. Speransky's use of new language forms and a simplified syllable is perceived by us as an assessment of his innovation in the field of Russian literature and give every right to speak about his priority in this area.

Findings

Thus, summarizing the above, the following conclusions can be made:

1) The language situation in Russia at the end of the 18 – beginning of the XIX century makes it possible to find out that this period is characterized by the emergence of a new Russian literary language, the transformation of the Church Slavonic language into a more simplified version of it, accessible to all social groups of the population.

2) The moral culture of "linguistic personality" M.M. Speransky is determined by the fact that he belonged to the number of new people of his time, enlighteners – reformers, Russian intellectuals of the first half of the XIX century – people educated, encyclopedic educated, whose sources of knowledge lie in self-education and continuous self-improvement. The elite type of speech culture, which M. Speransky had, is the embodiment of the general culture of a person, a person in all its manifestations: whether in a business conversation, in a lecture, in an official conversation in the office of a reigning person, in a meeting of the State Council or in a secular casual conversation about gadgets. Clarity and brevity, aphoristicity and accessibility are the distinguishing features of MM's language and style M.M. Speransky.

3) Contribution made by M.M. Speransky in the development and formation of the norms of the Russian literary language, is undeniable. Especially great is his merit in the development of office style and pedagogical rhetoric. They developed and presented language samples that are harmoniously refracted in the language of scientific descriptions, religious sermons, fiction, in the style of speech of public servants, in journalism. The content and materials of the chapter devoted to the description of the contribution of M.M. Speransky. In the development of the norms of the new literary language in such functional varieties as scientific, business and publicistic speech, Speransky allows us to put his name on a par with such prominent figures of Russian culture and science as V.K. Trediakovsky, M.V. Lomonosov, N.M. Karamzin and others.

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