

Abstract:

The aim of this thesis was a detailed research of watermarks in the work of the Printer of the Prague Bible. The watermarks should serve as a contribution to a future catalogue of watermarks in Bohemian prints. The source of the watermarks are folio formats of titles printed by the Printer of the Prague Bible, which are in the possession of the National Library in Prague.

The theoretical part of the thesis outlines the history of European papermaking and basic information about the reasons for the introduction of watermarks into papermaking. It also briefly introduces filigranology as a discipline and its state in the Czech Republic, and gives a number of examples of practical applications of filigranology. It also describes the methods of visualising watermarks, the rules for recording them and the reasons that led to the selection of the sample for the survey.

The watermarks were recorded using the tracing paper method. While this method did not allow us to clearly identify absolutely all close variants, it served well to identify sheets suitable for further work with a more precise visualization method.

As part of the survey, at least two copies of each title were compared and the distribution of watermarks in each copy was graphically represented in summary tables. The relatively low diversity of watermarks in the Prague Bible supports the assumption that the Printer of the Prague Bible entered the craft with good capital support. Of the titles surveyed, the chronicle *Martimiani*, published within a short time after the *Prague Bible*, has the greatest diversity of watermarks. In the other titles (*Pasionál* and *Knihy dvoje o lékařství proti Štěstí a Neštěstí*) the diversity of watermarks again decreases.