

Abstract

The subject and main aim of the bachelor thesis, “*Mario Pratesi and Tuscany*” is to introduce a quite unknown and hardly accessible author writing in the 19th and 20th century, and his native land.

The introductory section outlines the historical background and presents the highlights that are related to the unification of Italy. A description of the author’s life and a chronological review of his works follow.

The next chapters are devoted to Tuscany, the author’s native land. We try to find out to what extent Pratesi’s creation was influenced by the environment in which he was born and grew up. Next is an analytical part, in which we introduce several major topics that the author uses in his novels (focusing on numerous elements) and according to those we attempt to create a comprehensive picture of Tuscany and its inhabitants at the time. This is based on two major works, the novels: *L’Eredità* and *Perfidie del caso*. A brief insight into the language of Pratesi’s works with emphasis on regional and dialect influences is considered too.

In conclusion we outline the strengths and weaknesses of the author’s novels and try to figure out why Mario Pratesi is an author rather less well-known, both in the Czech Republic as in his native country, Italy. We will try to put the author in historical and literary context, too.

Key words

Mario Pratesi, Tuscany, Grand Duchy of Tuscany, novels, *L’Eredità*, *Le perfidie del caso*