

The aim of this thesis has been to create a comparative critical analysis of the two Czech translations of the French novel called *Germinie Lacerteux* by the Goncourt brothers, written in 1865. The first part of the thesis contains detailed information on the life and works of Edmond (1822 – 1896) and Jules de Goncourt (1830 – 1870) as well as an outline on a wider historical and literary context of their works, with a remark on their activities in other fields, such as art, literary criticism or history, as well as their legacy of the Goncourt Academy. Particular attention has been paid to their journal, *Journal : mémoires de la vie littéraire*, which, embracing 45 years (1851 – 1896), comprises their experience in the literary and art circles as well as other observations, and represents a valuable source illustrating their period. A position of the unique couple of writers in French realism is defined here and a particular stress is put on their pioneer role in the emerging naturalism. This movement was associated with specific methods of creations, mainly based on the collection of documents and notes from different social environments. This chapter is followed by a part dedicated to the reception of the novel analyzed in France, where its argot and depiction of the lowest classes met, on the one hand, with blistering criticism, as well as recognition by some of the writers (Zola, Daudet, Hugo, etc.), on the other. The reception of the work in the Czech culture covers a wider field: the reactions, mostly positive, to the Goncourt brothers as well as their works in general are mentioned in this part. However we have observed that the authors, as well as other French naturalists, were introduced to the Czech literature rather late, after almost thirty years. This influenced the reception of the French naturalism in the Czech culture: it did not meet with such an interest it had deserved.