



Numismatik August Sedláček

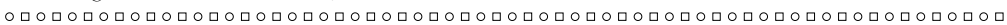
O n d ř e j K O L Á Ř


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August Sedláček, the numismatist

One of the most important Czech historians – August Sedláček (1843–1926) – produced fifteen volumes of the Castles, chateaux and strongholds of the Bohemian Kingdom, plus several other historical books. He studied at the Prague university, and later on, he worked as a secondary school teacher in Litomyšl, Rychnov nad Kněžnou and Tábor. Since 1899, when he retired, he lived in Písek. In Prague, the former county commissioner in Písek and collector František Karel Miltner piqued his interest in numismatics. In Tábor, Sedláček became a member of an informal group of numismatists represented by the local secondary school teachers. Similarly as his colleagues, he was a frequent attendant of the Prague numismatic shop owned by František Rudolf Chaura. He used to be a curator of the school numismatic collection in the secondary school in Tábor. He was in touch with the numismatist of the National Museum in Prague, Josef Smolík. He became a director of the Municipal Museum in Písek, and he was in charge of the museum numismatic collection. His interest in monetary history is well documented by his published articles and manuscripts found in his estate. His private numismatic collection is preserved in the original wooden box in the Museum of Prácheňsko in Písek, and it consists of more than 1,700 pieces. Sedláček was not a systematic numismatic scholar, but his studies together with private collecting activities and his work in the school collection in Tábor and museum collection in Písek enabled him to use numismatic information – more marginally and illustratively – in his academic publications.

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