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THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET AND THE SLAVONIC WRITTEN TRADITION IN THE COLOPHONS OF RADUL THE GRAMMARIAN – WALLACHIAN MEN OF LETTERS FROM THE 16TH CENTURY

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The article focuses on the colophons of the two unique manuscripts that testify the fruitful literary activity of Radul the Grammarian as copyist and illustrator, and his sejourn in the Bulgarian lands, nearby Nikopol, in the 16th century. They are *Harl. MS 6311B*, 1574, from the Library of British Museum in London, and *NBKM 873*, 1572, from the National Library in Sofia. Both are copied with the specific middle Bulgarian orthography with two signs of nasals, typical for the Wallachian written norms adopted upon Bulgarian influence. The main objective is to present in type-set version the overall text of the two colophons; to analyze them by juxtaposing the given historical information, and to discuss the personality of Radul the Grammarian. The final result aims at enlarging the picture of the contact zone from the both sides of river Danube as zone of active interactions in Ottoman times, and to point out the Cyrillic as a cultural code of belonging to the Orthodoxy, to the middle Bulgarian liturgical language and literature which preserve the cultural-religious identity.

Keywords: Radul the Grammarian, Bulgarian–Wallachian cultural interactions, 16th century

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