

## KING CAROL I AND CROWN PRINCE FERDINAND'S VISIT TO CRAIOVA (1–3 OCTOBER 1890)

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**Abstract:** The end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, more precisely the year 1890, represented for the people of Craiova the opportunity to witness a new royal visit, this time a very special one, because for the first time the Crown Prince Ferdinand visited the city of Craiova with his uncle, King Carol I. The visit lasted 3 days, 1–3 October, being perhaps one of the most eventful visits, at least in terms of the very busy schedule. Many schools were visited, both girls' and boys' schools, as well as hospitals or prisons were among the objectives of the visit. The Craiova society was involved in the big event, with demonstrations taking place in which many people participated. There was also criticism in the anti-dynastic press of the time, many aspects of the organization of the visit being attacked. The visit remains one of reference for Craiova, the magnitude of the event echoing in the press and the documents of the time.

**Keywords:** Craiova, visit, Carol I, Ferdinand, theatre.

The end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century brought a new royal visit to the capital of Oltenia, a moment which, like the previous ones, was tried to be managed as well as possible by the local administration. In this sense, some documents reveal the way in which part of the preparations were developed. Through a telegram received by the Madona Dudu Church Trusteeship a few days before the event, the trustees were informed by the Dolj County Prefecture about the visit that was to follow. Thus, they were informed that King Carol I together with His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, as well as the Prime Minister, General Manu, were to arrive in Craiova on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 1890. At the same time, an appeal was made to the trustees go to the station for the proper welcome<sup>1</sup>. At the level of the Trusteeship, the necessity of the decorations was later discussed, the gate and the door of the church being targeted. It was an absolutely necessary preparation because, as correctly foreshadowed, the Sovereign together with the Crown Prince were to go to the Madonna Dudu Church<sup>2</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> Dolj County Service of National Archives (hereinafter referred to as S.J.A.N Dolj), Madona Dudu Church Trusteeship Fund, file no. 22/1890, f. 57.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibidem*, f. 59.

for the first time, thus being part of the important objectives that required increased attention in order to prepare for the visit. The documents also include a price of these decorations, 233.50 lei<sup>3</sup>.

The visit therefore began on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 1890, on a beautiful autumn day, at approximately 5 p.m.<sup>4</sup>. The royal train made its solemn entrance in the station of the city of Craiova to mark a new visit of the Sovereign, this time together with the Crown Prince Ferdinand, the visit being announced to take place until Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October<sup>5</sup>. The population gathered to meet him was large. The king, descending from the wagon to the cheers of the crowd<sup>6</sup>, is greeted by General Anghelescu, commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army Corps. The notables of the city, the civil and military authorities, were present, among them could be mentioned: Senator Logadi; deputies Pesiakov and Săulescu; the first president of the Court of Appeal Mr. Stănescu; the general prosecutor Mr. Columbeanu. Also present were D. G. Constantinescu, the principal of the high school with the entire teaching staff, Mrs. Fabre, the principal of the Central School for Girls, along with the teaching staff, and more. The population, made up of all strata of society, was large, with 300 peasants in national costumes also present.

Mister Boldescu, receiving the King with bread and salt, stated the following:

“Your Majesty, presenting you bread and salt, I welcome your Majesty to the capital of Oltenia. The citizens of Craiova will never forget the honour you are doing today by visiting it for the first time, Your Majesty together with the Heir to the Romanian Throne. The people of Craiova consider this august visit as a sign of Your High affection for them, and therefore express their gratitude to you, assuring you of their devotion and love. Long live Your Majesty! Long live Her Highness the Queen! Long live His Royal Highness Prince of Romania!”<sup>7</sup>.

The king received bouquets of flowers from the ladies present, the county prefect presenting to the Sovereign the representatives of the authorities. The guard of honour, singing the national anthem, was composed of an artillery battery with music and flag. Carol I then had conversations with various personalities in the beautifully arranged train station. After the welcoming from the station followed the already consecrated trip to the Madonna Dudu Church. The carriage, escorted by two artillery platoons and 300 peasants on horseback, present in carriages also the representatives of the authorities, travelled the established route, passing on the streets Carol I, Justiției, Buzești, Lipsani, Madona Dudu, reaching the cathedral. His Holiness the Bishop performed the divine service, after which, walking the

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<sup>3</sup> *Ibidem*, f. 63.

<sup>4</sup> *Journal. Carol I of Romania*, vol. II, 1888–1892. Establishment of the text, translation from German, introductory study, and notes by Vasile Docea, Iași, Polirom Publishing House, 2014, p. 197.

<sup>5</sup> “*Voința Națională*”, year VII, no. 1801 (B), of 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1890.

<sup>6</sup> *Idem*, year VII, no. 1802 (B), of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1890.

<sup>7</sup> “*Official Gazette of Romania*”, no. 149, of 4<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

streets Madona Dudu, Unirea, Bibescu, Mihai Bravu, Jianu, he reached the place where he was to be hosted, namely the palace of Mrs. Elena Glogoveanu, where Carol I also enjoyed a beautiful reception. The streets were decorated with arches of triumph, tricolour flags were hoisted on the houses, and on the streets, on both sides, were present the students of secondary and primary schools<sup>8</sup>.

The organization of the reception was also criticized in the anti-dynastic press of the time. Thus, the newspaper *Adevărul* published the letter received at the editorial office by a certain Răducanu Georgescu, a merchant from Craiova, deeply dissatisfied with the context of organizing the royal visit. He said the following:

“Dear Director, today, on the occasion of His Highness, the King’s arrival in our city, the police summoned me through its envoys to put flags or carpets on the shop and house, because the King is passing on our street. Following my answer that I have no flags, no carpets, and no means to procure them, Inspector Commissioner Costinescu came, together with the police officer Ioan Grecescu, and they threatened me. The policeman ordered the commissioners gathered near him to write down all those who did not want to put anything in front of the houses to greet the King, that he would show them the consequences” (...)<sup>9</sup>.

In the following issues, the anti-dynastic attitude already established by the newspaper *Adevărul* led by Alexandru Beldiman, exploits these moments extensively, publishing anti-dynastic texts, ironies towards the Sovereign and the Royal House and more. Thus, the above-mentioned letter sent by Răducanu Georgescu is resumed, in its preamble being specified that: “In order to identify the Romanians, that the dynastic are in the Romanian country nothing more than servants, we give place here to the next letter” (...). Also, in the same issue of the newspaper, is mentioned the receipt to the editorial office of an alleged telegram from Craiova:

“A telegram from Craiova informs us that the few dynastic still in the capital of Oltenia have opened a subscription in order to buy a carriage for His Majesty the King. This initiative was taken following allusions made by the Sovereign, that his financial situation is very shaky and compromised”<sup>10</sup>.

In the next issue of the “*Adevărul*” newspaper is published an extensive profound anti-dynastic text from the newspaper *Luceafărul* from Craiova, which the *Adevărul* editorial office considered *fellow*. The article, entitled “*King Carol I and Romania*”, had been published in the perspective of the visit made by the Sovereign to Craiova. Without being fully addressed, it should be noted, however, that the text referred to the following register: “This King made the country miserable, He is the

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<sup>8</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>9</sup> “*Adevărul*”, year III, no. 634, of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1890.

<sup>10</sup> *Idem*, no. 635, of 4<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

one who destroyed the hopes of the Romanian people”, the text concluding with the exhortation “The fall of Carol I and the monarchical system will be the signal of Romania’s rise”<sup>11</sup>. These types of articles, obviously exaggerated, characteristic of the tabloid press, are important, however, for a closer observation of the Romanian anti-dynastic press of that era.

Returning to the series of events of the visit, the King together with Prince Ferdinand arrived at Elena Glogoveanu’s<sup>12</sup> palace around 7 pm, where they were greeted by her with flowers, more precisely with two beautifully arranged bouquets. The notables of the city were also present, among them being able to be mentioned: Mrs. Teodorini, Gârleşteanu and not only, Senator D. Brăiloiu, Colonel Cristofi, Mr. Kițu, Măldărescu, Săulescu as well as a series of senior officers. The female students of the central boarding school, led by the principal Fabre, sang the national anthem, Carol I being pleasantly impressed by the beautiful moment, having discussions with Mrs. Fabre highlighting the Sovereign’s satisfaction for the way everything was prepared. At 7:30, lunch took place, an important moment of the day attended by a number of personalities of the city, including: Mrs. Glogoveanu, the President of the Council of Ministers General Manu, His Holiness Bishop Ghenadie, the commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army Corps General Anghelescu, Senator Brăiloiu, Colonel Logadi, deputies Pesiakov and Boldescu, the President of the County Council Mr. Șomănescu, the first president of the Court of Appeal Mr. Stănescu, the general prosecutor Mr. Columbeanu, the president of the standing committee Mr. Leonardescu, the prefect of Dolj county Mr. Economu, the prefect of Mehedinți Mr. Urdăreanu, the prefect of Romanați county, Mr. Kintescu, the prefect of Gorj Mr. Cămărășescu, first president of the tribunal Mr. Herescu, chief prosecutor Mr. Ghețoiu, the dean of the bar association Mr. Kițu, the head of the interior ministry cabinet, Mr. Manu<sup>13</sup>. A really impressive list of personalities who emphasize once again the importance of the moment of honour such local visits, in different cities of the country, managed to engage a great organizational responsibility on the part of local authorities.

In this context of lunch, Deputy Mayor Boldescu held a toast:

“Sir, for the first time Your Majesty is visiting, accompanied by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, the Craiova Bans Citadel. For us, this great day is a double celebration, the proud and happy citizens express to you, through me, their gratitude, love, and full devotion. The reception they give to Your Majesty and the Prince of Romania is not enough to express how they feel in their souls for the throne and the dynasty. Sire, the citizens and, especially the ladies of Craiova have instructed me to express to you their deep regrets that they could not see among them our Sovereign Augusta, but the hearts of all are with Her

<sup>11</sup> Idem, no. 636, of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>12</sup> “Voința Națională”, year VII, no. 1802 (B), of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1890.

<sup>13</sup> “Official Gazette of Romania”, no. 149, of 4<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

Majesty, for their reverence Her is unflinching. Long live Sire! Long live Her Majesty the. Queen! Long live Your Royal Highness!”

To the beautiful words spoken, the Sovereign responded with a message:

“The brilliant reception and the well-felt wishes with which you greet us on behalf of the citizens, give me a new proof of the love and devotion that Craiova has shown me in all circumstances. Thanking you for these dear feelings to My heart, I am happy that I was able to come, together with My nephew, in your midst, after the manoeuvres in which I found with vivid gratitude the beautiful appearance of the Oltenian soldiers. I have known their bravery since the victory at Rahova. Convinced that the people of Oltenia will keep these warlike qualities in the future, and that I will always be able to rely on their faith, I dedicate this glass to the prosperity of Dolj County and the health of the people of Craiova who received us with so much love and warmth. Long live Craiova!”<sup>14</sup>.

After lunch, a large demonstration took place at the palace<sup>15</sup>. Around a quarter past nine in the evening, peasants with the townspeople, with music, torches, and flags, stopped at the stairs of the palace. The king, going out to meet them, had a speech by a peasant, on behalf of the peasantry:

“Great Lord, the peasantry of Dolj welcomes with joy, through my voice, the coming of Your Majesty and His Royal Highness Crown Prince in our midst. When the news spread in the Jiu Valley of Your Majesty's arrival, our hearts leaped with joy at the happiness of coming to worship our King and Master. But we have come, magnified Lord, to place also this time at your feet all our love, all our faith and obedience. We have come with joyful souls to prove to Your Majesty our deep gratitude for all the good deeds which Your Majesty has bestowed upon his people. Under Your brilliant Lordship the Romanian peasant acquired the sacred rights of the undisturbed citizen, under You he received land for food and schools for light, under You the glory of his name passed beyond the borders. Long live the Great Lord, many years on the Throne of the country, for the happiness of the Romanian people! Long live our Great Queen, whose heart is a true source of gentleness and consolation for her people! Long live You Royal Highness, fragile offspring of the Romanian Throne, and make heaven that when you ascend this throne you will never forget the brilliant deeds of our Great King and your illustrious uncle, Carol I. Long live Romania!”<sup>16</sup>.

This pretentious, even bombastic speech of the peasant before the King underlines once again the extent to which the local administration was preparing such a visit at the highest level. Certainly, for that peasant the moment was absolutely

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<sup>14</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>15</sup> “*Voința Națională*”, year VII., no. 1804 (B), of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>16</sup> “*Official Gazette of Romania*”, no. 149, of 4<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

memorable given the importance of the role he played that evening. The sovereign responded to the message in a cordial manner:

“I listened with vivid gratitude to the heartfelt words by which you showed Me, on behalf of the peasants, their feelings of faith for Me. I have always had the greatest love and I took the strongest interest in your guild, because I recognized in it the hope and the future of the country. Thank you and I want you, who are here, to show all your fellows my love and faith in them”<sup>17</sup>.

After this moment, although it was late, the King, together with Prince Ferdinand and a large procession, travelled by carriage through the beautifully illuminated streets of Craiova, stopping at the public garden where the two got out of the carriage for a few moments, after which they returned at the palace, led by the same numerous and enthusiastic crowd. At 11 o'clock in the evening, the King retired to his apartments<sup>18</sup>. In the *journal*, he mentions the large population present, appreciating the moment as “of great delight”, in which “enormous masses of people” participated<sup>19</sup>.

The next day, on the morning of Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1890, the weather was described as “wonderful”, being “very warm”<sup>20</sup>. At half past eight, the King together with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Ferdinand, together with the President of the Council of Ministers General Manu, the commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army Corps General Angheliescu, the head of the Royal Military House General Barozzi, the county prefect Mr. Economu, Colonel Schelarie and the aide-de-camp went in a carriage to visit the Bucovăț penitentiary, as well as the army tannery that operated there. The chief prosecutor of the Court of Appeal, Mr. Columbeanu, as well as the chief prosecutor of the Tribunal, Mr. Ghețoiu, presents to the Sovereign a report on the situation of the convicts in the penitentiary, as well as their number, but also information on the staff working in that penitentiary. The moment is enlivened by the presence of the students of the rural school from Bucovăț, who together with the teachers, sang the national anthem. King Carol I then headed to the church, where he was greeted by His Holiness the Bishop of Râmnic. The priests of the church performed the divine service in the presence of the Sovereign, so that later the King could visit in detail the kitchen to see what kind of food was prepared for the convicts, also the infirmary, the halls, etc. The convicts had the opportunity to be heard by the King, who willingly pardoned or reduced the sentences of some convicts, those who were considered to have behaved well. The military tannery was next on the list, the Sovereign being greeted by Intendant Găman, who was in charge of the tannery, but also by other personalities such as the technical director of the tannery, Mr. Călugăru.

<sup>17</sup> “Voința Națională”, year VII., no. 1804 (B), of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>18</sup> “Official Gazette of Romania”, no. 149, of 4<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>19</sup> *Journal. Carol I of Romania*, vol. II, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibidem*.

This was followed by a tour of the model room, the work rooms, Carol I offering a series of recommendations regarding the work of the leathers intended for boots. After the visit, around 10 o'clock, the Sovereign together with Prince Ferdinand returned to the city, being acclaimed by the rural population around Bucovăț, the bridge on Jiu being decorated with flags and greenery.

The day continued with a visit to Carol I High School, where the Sovereign was greeted by the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Boldescu, the high school principal, Mr. Constantinescu, as well as the teaching staff. The King makes your presence felt in the great hall of the high school where Professor Ilarian, a music teacher, instructed the students to sing several songs, one of the students giving a welcome speech to the King, offering bouquets of flowers to him and to Prince Ferdinand<sup>21</sup>. A visit of the high school classes followed, Carol I testing and observing the students' knowledge, at the end declaring himself fully satisfied with what he had found, congratulating the teaching staff, especially the principal Constantinescu. The visit continued not far from the location of the high school, namely at the Lazaro-Otetelișanu girls' school. The guests were greeted by the principal Radovan together with the teaching staff. Various songs were sung by the students of the school, the guests also receiving flowers. The halls of the school were visited, and here the King was pleased. Followed the Central School for Girls, where Carol I and Ferdinand were greeted by Miss Fabre and the school staff. After a series of songs, a speech was given by the student Constantinescu, also offering bouquets of flowers to the guests. Here, too, the classes were visited, the King asking questions about the way the students were prepared, about the subjects that were taught and more. The bedrooms, the dining room, were also visited, at the end showing the satisfaction that things were working properly. It was followed by a visit to St. Ilie Church, rebuilt from its own funds and assets. The king met with the representative Sava Șomănescu and the administrators Barbu Ionescu and Barbu Rioșeanu, the Sovereign expressing his gratitude for the way the church was cared for<sup>22</sup>. As it appears from the *journal*, the day was a very busy one in terms of visits<sup>23</sup>.

At half past twelve there was lunch at the Glogoveanu Palace, where King Carol I and Prince Ferdinand talked to the notables of the city, a total of 24 people, a place of honour occupied by Elena Glogoveanu. At 2 o'clock the official reception of the civil and military authorities, the notables of the city and the county, as well as of the *Muntele de Caritate* charity society took place. Discussions took place for an hour, after which the King together with the Crown Prince, together with General Manu, also the prefect of the county and a suite, boarded the carriages on their way to the Philanthropy Hospital. The director of the hospital Dr. Vercescu, as well as the medical staff, greeted the guests properly. The wards were visited by the King, being interested in the condition of the patients, the available treatments, and the way

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<sup>21</sup> "Official Gazette of Romania", no. 150, of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>23</sup> *Journal. Carol I of Romania*, vol. II, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

they were treated, interacting directly with the patients. The good condition in which he found the hospital satisfied the Sovereign, bringing appreciation to the medical staff. The series of visited objectives continued with the School of sons of soldiers, where they were greeted by the school principal, Lieutenant-Colonel Tătărescu, presenting the civilian and military teaching staff. The students of the school, seated in line, performed manoeuvres to handle weapons at the King's command, which was acclaimed by the students. In the exercise hall several students who were preparing for musical performances created a musical moment for the guests. After that the students went to the classes, which the King carefully inspected, going through each one and asking questions to the students. They went to visit the library, the bedrooms, the weapons room, the dining room, etc., Carol I being impressed by the cleanliness he found, being finally fully satisfied with the way the school worked, considering that it could be given as model both at the level of hygiene and at the level of military instruction and education. Thanking the teaching staff, the Sovereign went to the girls' secondary school where he was greeted by the teachers led by Mrs. Gogu, who offered bouquets of flowers. The activity took place here in a similar way to the previous ones, the students of the school, after an artistic moment with songs, went to the classes that Carol I went through, witnessing the way the students were examined in different subjects. Thanking the teachers, the guests then went to the old diocese, where the Palace of Justice was to be built. The Bishop of Râmnic greeted the Sovereign at the entrance to the church, the latter together with Prince Ferdinand attending a service, the trip then continuing to the School of Trades of the county which was led by the mechanical engineer Popescu. The workshops were carefully visited, identifying their specifics: mechanics, carpentry, smelting, etc. The return to Glogoveanu Palace followed so that lunch could be held at half past six<sup>24</sup>. And this time the notables were present, among them being able to be mentioned: Mrs. Glogoveanu, Prime Minister General Manu, commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division General Cruțescu, prefect Economu, deputy mayor Boldescu, general director of Railways Mr. Duca, as well as other military and political figures. Towards the end of the lunch, senator Bolintineanu held a toast in honour of the health of Their Majesties and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Ferdinand, a moment that animated the audience. And that evening, as in the previous evening, at the palace there was a demonstration with music and torches of the people of Craiova who came to greet the guests. A citizen gave a beautiful speech in honour of the Sovereigns and Prince Ferdinand, a speech complemented by the cheers of the crowd present. During all this time, King Carol I and Crown Prince Ferdinand were on the balcony of the palace, attending the moment organized by the people of Craiova. Next to them was the deputy mayor Boldescu, whom the Sovereign thanked, assuring him of the beautiful feelings he had for the people of Craiova<sup>25</sup>.

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<sup>24</sup> "Official Gazette of Romania", no. 150, of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibidem*.



The evening ended with a beautiful theatrical performance<sup>26</sup>. Carol I together with His Highness Crown Prince Ferdinand, and the deputy mayor Boldescu, went to the theatre around 9 o'clock, where a gala performance was organized by the theatre committee. The moment, a special one, engaged the population of the city, the carriage hardly being able to cross the streets to the theatre because of the crowd present. Arriving at the theatre, the Sovereign, together with the Crown Prince, were received by the theatrical committee, the box being prepared, and the ovation continuing during the journey to the box. The notables of the city, the ladies from the high society of Craiova, were present that October evening, the theatre being adorned with flowers and flags, all eyes being fixed on the honourable guests.<sup>27</sup>

Particularly interesting are the impressions of Crown Prince Ferdinand about the visit to Craiova captured in correspondence. In a letter sent to his brother Carlo, Ferdinand said the following:

“From Pitesti we went to Craiova for two days. The reception that was given to us there was fabulous, and I do not mean the official one, which is the same everywhere, but the one of the population that is not arranged and prepared, but absolutely spontaneous and from the heart. We stayed there with old Mrs. Glogoveanu, in a very beautiful house. Everywhere I looked I found Craiova more European and more western than the other Romanian cities. One evening we went to the theatre, but I watched less the play and the acting and more the ladies, of course, and during the show which was quite long, I was able to do so in complete peace; they didn't dislike it either. Among them there were some really beautiful ones (...)”<sup>28</sup>.

The Craiova theatre, with a special history, hosted many memorable moments. The beginning of the theatre is inevitably linked to the name of Theodor Theodorini, director of the Craiova theatre for almost 20 years. The maintenance of the theatre is also linked to the name of the Theodorini family, so that in 1886 the building was radically repaired and modernized, now having electric lighting with its own motor, a red plush for armchairs, in tune with the edges of the boxes and the curtain, the hall having at the same time a special acoustics. Beautiful moments passed marked by theatrical performances on historical themes, sometimes in the presence of the royal family<sup>29</sup>. Unfortunately, the beautiful building of the theatre was burned by fire on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1927, being completely destroyed<sup>30</sup>. Returning to the series of events of

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<sup>26</sup> *Journal. Carol I of Romania*, vol. II, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

<sup>27</sup> “Official Gazette of Romania”, no. 150, of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>28</sup> *The Letters of King Ferdinand of Romania*, vol. I, establishing the text, notes, and introductory study by Sorin Cristescu, Târgoviște, Cetatea de Scaun Publishing House, 2015, p. 81.

<sup>29</sup> Alexandru Firescu, Constantin Gheorghiu, *History of the Craiova National Theatre: 1850–2000*, Craiova, Aius Publishing House, 2000, pp. 32–42.

<sup>30</sup> Mircea Georgescu, Mihai Murărețu, Lucian Purcaru, *Yesterday's Craiova: 1927–1947*, vol. I, Cluj-Napoca, Argonaut Publishing House, 2020, p. 24

the visit, leaving from the theatre to the Glogoveanu Palace took place at half past ten<sup>31</sup>, thus ending the second day of the visit.

The next morning, Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1890, being the last day of his stay in Craiova, was announced the same as the previous one from a meteorological point of view, being a very warm day<sup>32</sup>. Carol I, together with Crown Prince Ferdinand, Prime Minister General Manu, the head of the Royal Military House General Barozzi, the prefect of the county Mr. Economu as well as the deputy mayor Mr. Boldescu, undertook a visit to the bridge under construction over Jiu, the King being greeted there by Mr. Sturdza, along with a large number of engineers, and an entrepreneur, Mr. Foreanu. In that context, the Sovereign examined the plan for the construction of the bridge, both for the railway and for carriages and pedestrians. From there, the Sovereign and the Prince headed back to the city, visiting the P. Trișcu School, being greeted by the mayor's assistant D. M. Trișcu, and teacher Herescu. After inspecting the classes, observing the students on the activity in class, the King thanked D. M. Trișcu for the way he took care of the school establishment left to the city by his father. The visit continued, targeting various schools and hospitals, such as the Madona Dudu Hospital for the alienated. At half past twelve lunch took place, during which the Sovereign held a toast of thanks for the good hosting he received among the people of Craiova. After lunch, the time to leave for Bucharest followed. Saying goodbye to Elena Glogoveanu, the King together with Crown Prince Ferdinand boarded the carriage on their way to the station, where a crowd of people, full of enthusiasm, was waiting for them<sup>33</sup>. Around 2 o'clock, the royal train left the station in Craiova<sup>34</sup>, thus ending a beautiful visit, the last in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that the Sovereign would make in Craiova, and the first visit of Crown Prince Ferdinand to the Capital of Oltenia.

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<sup>31</sup> *Journal. Carol I of Romania*, vol. II, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>33</sup> „Official Gazette of Romania”, no. 150, of 5<sup>th</sup> October 1890.

<sup>34</sup> *Journal. Carol I of Romania*, vol. II, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

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