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***A PROVERB DOES NOT UTTER TO THE WIND: FOLK STORY BY V. I. DAHL***  
**“A SKILLED CRAFTSMAN WILL NOT GET LOST ANYWHERE”**  
**IN THE MIRROR OF RUSSIAN PAREMIAS AND THE EXPLANATORY**  
**DICTIONARY OF THE LIVING GREAT RUSSIAN LANGUAGE**

**Abstract**

Are the “Proverbs, sayings and household term of the Russian people” and the “Explanatory Dictionary of the Living Great Russian Language” considered to be “by-products of prose” by V.I.Dahl, or is his artistic creation “a complex heterogeneous text whose center is the Dictionary”? Justifying the close connection of Dahl's linguistic and literary works, we consider them as components of his unique experience of popular science and public education, developed by the tireless efforts of popular science. On the example of the 'article' “A skilled craftsman will not get lost anywhere”, the features of Dahl's prose are highlighted, but it is precisely the mutual interpretation of the paremias and plots (paremias behind the text as the background and mirror of the work) that clarifies Dahl's position on the issues of public education relevant for the 19th century, as well as on the need to create folk books and train soldiers in literacy and handicraft. The results of our study enable to conclude the following. First, plot conflicts revealed during the Dahl's work's analysis can be considered as prototypical situations that are somehow meaningfully correlated with the illustrative-paremic materials of Dahl's dictionary. Second, proverbs and sayings, replicas and constrictions of Dahl in the dictionary accompany (behind the text) the plot of his work, on the one hand, creating a basis for its interpretation, on the other hand, manifesting the author's vision of the everyday wisdom of the folk 'article' as a whole; they also 'explain' the characters and 'comment' upon their actions.

**Keywords:** V. I. Dahl, “Explanatory Dictionary of the Living Great Russian Language” (Dictionary), proverb, paremia, "Soldiers' Leisure Activities", folk 'article', literacy, handicraft.

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