

Virág Rab

## The Life-Changing Travels of Loránt Hegedüs

### Abstract

**The purpose of the study.** This study looks at the changing role of travel in the life Loránt Hegedüs (1872–1943). It is part of a larger psychobiography of that important figure whose career spanned the Era of Dualism and the Interwar Period. The purpose of this study is to collect all historical data connected to the travels of Hegedüs that might be usable in writing a psychobiography of him as well as all documents that can help us understand his view of the world.

**Applied methods.** The sources used include published and unpublished memoirs; published descriptions of his travels that Hegedüs wrote for various periodicals; correspondence between that traveling Hegedüs and various family members, professors, colleagues, and friends; as well as official accounts of travels that he undertook as part of his professional duties. Besides these, the paper will make use of sections in his fictional works whose theme is travel as well as photographs.

**Outcomes.** We conclude that travel, along with other factors, especially his relationship to his godfather, the writer Mór Jókai, helped make the widely travelled Hegedüs more liberal than his class contemporaries. It also helped him to maintain his mental and physical health under extremely pressured circumstances.

**Keywords:** Loránt Hegedüs, Hungary, 20th century, biography, travel

### Introduction

This study is part of a larger work, the goal of which is to describe the exceptional and atypical life journey of Loránt Hegedüs, a member of the interwar Hungarian elite, focusing primarily on the question of self-realization. The research is built on documents (scientific, literary, and journalistic writings), showing him as he saw himself as well as how others – his family, friends, and colleagues – saw him. The work seeks to answer the question of why and how (that is, through what life strategies) was Hegedüs able in a historical era full of traumas to lead an extraordinarily productive, forward-looking life despite some serious failures to achieve his professional goals, even while often going against the grain of his own social group (for example, in speaking up against the Jewish Laws in 1938 and after in Parliament).

The main question of the more extensive work, to which this study belongs, is what made Hegedüs see the world differently than most of his contemporaries in the social group in which he was born. To what extent can we attribute this to his nature vs. his socialization? To answer this question, in that larger work, I plan to present the life of Hegedüs from many angles: what did he hold to be his life goals, goals that would give meaning to his life, and what kind of

importance and priority did he attribute in this to his work, his family and friends, and his health?

Our research so far has shown that Hegedüs did not always have the same goals and priorities. At different periods of his life, he gave different levels of importance to work (including his studies), health, and social connections.<sup>136</sup> To answer such a complex question as how changes occurred in what gave a subject their life's meaning, it is useful to utilize the tools of psychobiography<sup>137</sup>, which can often productively complement the usual research methods in the field of history.

Studying Hegedüs' travels provides a highly differentiated picture of how changes in the prioritization of work, health, and social connections were influenced by the specific social and more general cultural and historical conditions that Hegedüs experienced at various stages of his life. His travels tell us much about Hegedüs' system of values and how those evolved.

### **The Goals of the Study and Utilized Sources**

The purpose of this study is to collect all historical data connected to the travels of Hegedüs that might be usable in writing a psychobiography of him as well as all documents that can help us understand his view of the world.

The study conceives the concept of travel very broadly. It will examine all such actions, regardless of their goals, that involved a change of locale and occurred in a place other than where Hegedüs had his permanent residence. These travels include places where he studied, relaxed, or worked for shorter or longer lengths of time as well as those travels that he planned but was not able to consummate but which can be shown to have left visible marks in the course of his life. Moreover, the study will describe some thoughts that Hegedüs held on the role of travel in the lives of others.<sup>138</sup>

Since we are using a broad definition of travel, the sources vary greatly in origin and type. They include published and unpublished memoirs (from Loránt Hegedüs, his daughter, Mária<sup>139</sup>, and his oldest grandson, Sándor Zsindely Jr.<sup>140</sup>); published descriptions of his travels that Hegedüs wrote for various periodicals; correspondence between the traveling Hegedüs and various family members, professors, colleagues, and friends; as well as official accounts of travels that he undertook as part of his professional duties. Besides these, the paper will make use of sections in his fictional works when their theme is travel (for example, for the purpose of research or field work.) Photographs that are often the only documents from particular trips are also important sources. It is fitting in connection with the theme of this study that Hegedüs'

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<sup>136</sup> Rab, V. (2021)

<sup>137</sup> Psychobiography is at the intersection of psychology and history and explores the lives of prominent individuals through the application of psychological theories. Pontoretto, J. (2015): 460.

<sup>138</sup> Hegedüs wrote several biographies, including some of important Hungarian statesmen: on the writer and economist István Széchenyi (1791–1860), and the prime ministers Gyula Andrássy the elder (1823–1890), his son of the same name (1860–1929), as well as on the prime ministers Kálmán Tisza (1830–1902) and his son István Tisza (1861–1918).

<sup>139</sup> Hegedüs, M. (1977)

<sup>140</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007a), Zsindely, S. (2007b), Zsindely, S. (2007c)

private writings – which were saved for posterity by his sister Rózsika and her descendants – were found, during the late winter of 2010 in the family’s travel chests.

This study seeks to find a pattern over the course of Hegedüs’ life by describing the most characteristic attributes in the various stages of that life and by pointing out similarities and differences between them. For each stage of life – pre-adulthood (0–17), early adulthood (17–40), middle adulthood (40–60), late adulthood (60–71) – we will examine: 1) What motivated the trip? 2) With whom did he travel and with whom did he make contact? 3) What was the lasting effect of the trip on his life?

## Results

### Pre Adulthood (0–17)

As one would expect, the radius of Hegedüs’ travels was the shortest in this stage of life. We have evidence for his stays in various districts of Pest, Buda (Svábhegy<sup>141</sup>), Komárom, and Pápa, places where his immediate or extended family resided permanently or seasonally.

At the time of his birth, the Hegedüs family lived near Egyetem tér (University Square) in the 5<sup>th</sup> district,<sup>142</sup> but his recorded memories, almost without exception, are tied to another location in Pest, Józsefváros, in the 8<sup>th</sup> district. This is where the large ‘yellow house’ with a garden was located, where his godparents, the renowned novelist Mór Jókai (1825–1904) and his wife, the Hungarian actress Róza Laborfalvy lived between 1868–1882.<sup>143</sup> In his memoirs Hegedüs described the house, its residents and visitors,<sup>144</sup> those who lived in the neighborhood at the time, as well as his most memorable experiences there. Many of the latter were connected with recurring holidays such as St. Nicholas’ Day or Christmas.<sup>145</sup>

The Jókai couple owned another property in Buda, on the Svábhegy (Swabian Hill), since 1853, which they had transformed from a former stone quarry by planting fruit trees and flower beds. Hegedüs was brought there often when he was ill as a young schoolboy. This is where he edited his first newspaper and wrote his first poems. The Hegedüs family also had a house and garden on the Svábhegy on Tündér (Fairy) Street, which they had bought in 1875 when Hegedüs was three years old and that they used for vacations. Even in his old age, Hegedüs remembered this summer-home even in his old age as one of the most meaningful locations of his youth.<sup>146</sup>

Travel, often in connection with holidays, played a significant role in structuring his time. Trips occurred as a sort of ritual repeated in weekly, monthly or annual cycles (for example, winter or summer vacations). Komárom may have been one such a regular destination. This is suggested by a photograph made in Komárom, the earliest one we have of Hegedüs together

<sup>141</sup> Svábhegy is located in one of the central parts of the Buda Hills, today in the 12<sup>th</sup> district. Hegedüs and many members of his family (Rózsika Hegedüs, Mari Váli, Ferenc Zsindely) recorded many incidents from his childhood. Zsindely, S. (2007a): 9–10.

<sup>142</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007a): 8.

<sup>143</sup> When Hegedüs was eight years old, in 1880, his family apparently lived with the Jókais at 80 Külső Stáció Street. A családom. Az apai ág. (My family, paternal branch.) Zsindely, S. (2007c), n.p.

<sup>144</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1929): 260–261.

<sup>145</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1928): 6–7.

<sup>146</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1935), *Tündérek utcáján*, in: *Túl az óperencián Mesekönyv a kisunokámnak*. Budapest: Sylvester R. T. 28–30.

with his maternal grandmother.<sup>147</sup> The other recurring destination was Veszprém County. Mari (Mária) Váli (Mrs. József Peti, 1840–1915), Mór Jókai's niece lived in that county in Pápa for forty years between 1849 and 1889. It was only after 1889 that the manors of Etelka Jókay (1852–1939) and her husband Lajos Ihász in Lórinte and Hathalom became the locus of important family events.

As we can see, one motive for these trips was the maintenance of social connections, especially with immediate and more distant family members; the other motive was the maintenance of health or its restoration after an illness, most often an infectious one. This is consistent with what we have seen in examining other aspects of this stage of Hegedüs' life: social connections took first place followed closely by physical health in his list of priorities.

Travel in this stage of Hegedüs' life provided an opportunity to discover himself: he recognized what it was that he enjoyed doing (editing a newspaper, reading and writing in the villa of his godfather, Mór Jókai); he learned what was expected of him by others and of where his capabilities lay. In the time spent away from his parent's house, he received much encouragement from his relatives, and this had an effect on the development of his self-image. The trip that contributed the most to his turning into an adult was a two-week journey that he undertook by himself at the age of seventeen to Transylvania.<sup>148</sup> Since travel provided him with feelings of success, he was open to it at later stages of his life as well. He liked to return to the scenes of his childhood travels. Indeed, at the age of 26, he even came to represent the city of Pápa in Parliament.

### Early Adulthood (17–40)

It was in his early adulthood that Hegedüs traveled most often, to the most places, and with the most varied goals – study, work, research, honeymoon (at the age of 26), and rest. Among his destinations were the breadth of Europe from the Spitzbergs to the most southerly tip of Portugal's most southerly tip. It was also in this period that he visited North Africa and the United States of America.

His travels grew more frequent during his university years. He studied economics in Berlin for a year (in 1892) and sociology in London for another year (in 1893). At the same time, he made longer journeys to France, Spain<sup>149</sup>, Denmark<sup>150</sup>, and Scotland<sup>151</sup>. His main motive for travel during these years was to study. Following of the style of the 'Grand Tour', he traveled no doubt to broaden his knowledge. Within this larger plan, he concentrated on gaining knowledge necessary to his future political career. He sought to familiarize himself with various political systems and institutions in action. For example, he attended court trials in England.<sup>152</sup>

Hegedüs reported on his travel experiences in the pages of the Sunday News, (*Vasárnapi Újság*) for example: from Berlin on the celebration of Emperor William's birthday<sup>153</sup>, on the Irish

<sup>147</sup> Mrs. Károly Jókay, née Klára Csontos (1820–1882).

<sup>148</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007a): 8.

<sup>149</sup> *Vasárnapi újság* October 20. 1895, Vol. 42, No. 42. 693.

<sup>150</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1892b): 522–523.

<sup>151</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1893b): 677–678.

<sup>152</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007a): 14.

<sup>153</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1892a): 139–140.

debate in the English Parliament which led to a duel; or the natural beauties of a North-European boat tour.<sup>154</sup>

Following his university studies, he stayed in the United States for several months in 1897 to study the problem of emigration. Moreover, he visited Romania, the land of the Szeklers in Transylvania, as well as Upper Hungary (today's Slovakia). He wandered throughout Transdanubia and Slavonia (today in Croatia) so that he could study on location the causes of Hungarian emigration.

Hegedüs represented the city of Pápa in Parliament as a Liberal between 1898 and 1905 and Szepsiszentgyörgy as a member of the Party of National Work between 1910 and 1918. During this latter period as a member of Parliament he served as the chief rapporteur of the committee on finance and the military rapporteur of the Delegation (whose task was to coordinate joint policies with the Austrian half of the Dual Monarchy). Thus, he visited Vienna frequently. While there, he often stayed at the Hungarian embassy in Vienna, where he slept many a time in the same bed as his much-admired Sándor Wekerle Sr., three-time prime minister of Hungary and minister of finance had slept formerly.<sup>155</sup> Hegedüs usually travelled by train. Between his two bouts as an MP, Hegedüs served as the Executive Director of the National Association of Industrialists (GYOSZ), helping to organize the association throughout the country. Hegedüs worked in close cooperation with many Jewish industrialists, such as Ferenc Chorin Sr. in the first decades of the twentieth century and with his son, Ferenc Chorin, Jr. after World War I, both of whom were directors of the GYOSZ.<sup>156</sup> He no doubt worked with many Jews as he scoured the provinces for members of the organization. Such proximity and acquaintance insulated him from antisemitism, though that cancer was quite rampant in many members of his class.

In selecting his foreign destinations, copying played a role. Hegedüs was fond of following Széchenyi's example by travelling to Switzerland, Tyrol and Salzburg. Behind his enthusiasm for Scotland, we can sense the attachment to Walter Scott, just as behind his visits to Karlsbad can be seen as a result of his respect for Goethe. In his travels, as in other aspects of his life, we can sense that Hegedüs considered the Romanticism of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, that is, the era of Jókai, indeed, at times the novels of Jókai, to be his points of reference.

In connection with the motivation for his travels, we must mention Hegedüs' particular attraction to England (though it would be a mistake to identify this with 'anglomania'). After his university years, he even spent his honeymoon in London, though at the time Italy was much more fashionable for that purpose. The reason for Hegedüs' must have been that his hosts in London during his student years were an Italian family, with whom he remained on close contact even decades later. This is evidenced by a picture taken with the Giuseppi family in London when Hegedüs was around 60 years old.<sup>157</sup>

With whom did Hegedüs meet during his travels? He met with professors, his fellow students, hosts; and he often travelled in the company of his brother Sándor and with his friends, Frigyes Fellner (who was also Jewish background caused no problem in their relationship) and József Illés, both professors of law. It is worthwhile to note the names of some of the professors with

<sup>154</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1893a): 542–543.

<sup>155</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007b) n.p.

<sup>156</sup> Deák, G. (1990), Deák, G. (1992).

<sup>157</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007c)

whom Hegedüs studied. They included educators at the Friedrich William University of Berlin, founded in 1810 by Wilhelm Humboldt: the economist Adolf Wagner, Theodor Mommsen, who received a Nobel Prize in literature in 1902, Heinrich von Treitschke, the German historian and Friedrich Paulsen, the German philosopher, pedagogue and university professor. In England, where Hegedüs studied sociology, Herbert Spengler had the greatest influence on him. He remained in touch with the English polyhistor (philosopher, biologist, anthropologist, and sociologist) for practically the rest of his life. Not only did he keep up a correspondence with Spencer, but also visited him several times in England.

In this period – consistently with the results of my earlier researches – it is evident from the nature of Hegedüs' travels that his highest priorities were study and work. Connections with family and friends came second, while health took third place.

### **Middle Age (40–60)**

Hegedüs traveled much and to many places in this period as well. One set of his travels involved shorter and longer visits to immediate and more distant family members. We know about these travels not from Hegedüs but from his youngest daughter, Mária. Her reminiscences about family travels provide us with insights primarily about the kind of father that Hegedüs was. He had three children, all daughters. Their upbringing should not have been his duty by the standards of the time. Nevertheless, due to the frequent absences of his wife, he took over her duties almost completely, taking his daughters on vacation alone or in the company of his friends, most often that of Frigyes Fellner. Mária's earliest memory comes from when she was six years old, in 1912, and when Hegedüs was forty. The site of the family vacation was the German island of Norderney, situated between between the North Sea coast and the East Frisian islands. Its natural beauty was protected by being part of a National Park and was declared to be a bathing place in 1797, soon becoming quite popular. The family visited it several times.

It is also from the youngest daughter of Hegedüs that we learn that the family often visited Lórinte in Veszprém County, where her aunt? Etelka Jókay, the niece of Mór Jókai, lived with her husband Lajos Ihász and their adopted child, Miklós. The Hegedüs daughters called this huge manor their second home. Lórinte and Etelka Jókay often provided Hegedüs with a refuge of last resort. This was so after his two imprisonments by Hungarian Soviet Republic (see below) and also after his return from a sanatorium in Berlin in 1921. It was Etelka Jókay who provided the funds for his daughter to travel to Berlin to bring Hegedüs home.

A custom developed in the Hegedüs family to go on visits in the springtime, once the weather became pleasant again, alternating each Sunday between 63 Budakeszi Road, where the parents of Mrs. Hegedüs had their gardened house and 12 Tündér Street on the Svábhegy where the Hegedüses had their own house and garden. *'We were just headed for Svábhegy, Dad, Manci, and I when the fruit trees were beginning to bloom. That night, the Red soldiers took Dad away'*, wrote Mária Hegedüs in her memoirs.<sup>158</sup> This was the first time that Hegedüs was imprisoned by the communists of the 1919 Hungarian Soviet Republic. He looked upon this as a sort of travel. He was able to use humor as an avoidance mechanism. *'I'm staying in the hotel across the street'*, he wrote to his daughters. *'If they don't bring breakfast very soon, I'm moving to a*

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<sup>158</sup> Verba volant, scripta manent

different hotel,” he joked with his cell-mates. After being released from several weeks of imprisonment, he was arrested again by the Reds and locked in the basement of Parliament. This latter experience took a lot out of him. He called it his first experience of hell. After his release, the whole family went to Lőrinc to stay with Etelka Jókay.

In 1920, Hegedüs was a member of the Hungarian delegation to Trianon as an expert. Indeed, it was he who informed the Hungarian public about the events of the conference in the pages of the Pest News (Pesti Hírlap). This took its toll on his health, but at this time he still looked upon such difficulties as positive challenges and believed that he could save the country by creating a workable financial plan. However, once his financial plan had failed in the fall of 1921, he sought refuge in a sanitarium in Berlin for treatment of his physical and mental exhaustion. This crisis was a major turning point in his life. It was a great achievement that he was able to return to normal. This event demonstrates the healing power of travel, that it allows one to escape from the pressures of everyday. After this, travel for Hegedüs gained a close connection not only to physical health but mental health as well. We see this play out in the story of his wife as well, moreover, much of Europe’s population had need of similar treatment after World War I.

A missed trip is also connected to Hegedüs’ self-confinement in Berlin. He was disturbed for decades by the fact that because of his illness he was unable to accept an invitation from Columbia University in New York. He reflected on this event even in 1937, sixteen years after his illness.<sup>159</sup> His recovery in 1921 was greatly helped by another journey: his daughter Margit rented a private railroad car from the Hungarian Railroad Company to take him home. She was afraid that if he ran into someone he knew during the trip, he would regress. They were accompanied by a nurse, who was to stay with him for many years. His writing did much to aid Hegedüs return to health. Though in thought only, he continued to travel, thus keeping a distance between himself the harsh reality of what was happening in Hungary and with his health.

The maintenance of health held an important place among the reasons for his travels after this episode. *‘I have a headache that is export worthy. I’m taking it to Switzerland’*, he wrote to a friend.<sup>160</sup> He often visited Karlsbad in Czechoslovakia expressly to refill himself with energy after hard work. It is evidence of his lack of snobbery and his political openness to Hungary’s Little Entente neighbors that he chose Karlsbad, even though Baden-Baden, in Germany, was much more fashionable.

We know very little about the trips at this stage of his life that were undertaken to maintain social connections. We have a photograph that tells us that he spent his summer vacation in 1931 with the poet and novelist Mihály Babits in Esztergom.<sup>161</sup>

In connection with his travels, a fortunate incident (for him) must be mentioned that was recorded by his grandson, Sándor Zsindely Jr., Hegedüs arrived for the funeral of Franz Joseph in 1916 on a special train, but he did not take that train back since he wanted to spend an extra day in Vienna. Due to a badly set switch at Herceghalom (near Budapest) the returning special

<sup>159</sup> Kornis, Gy (1938), 426.

<sup>160</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007a): 48.

<sup>161</sup> Zsindely, S. (2007c)

train – on which Hegedüs did not ride – crashed into an oncoming freight train. This was one of the largest accidents that had happened on Hungarian railroads up to that time.

One journey that Hegedüs undertook was special because unlike the majority of his travels, which acquainted him with foreign lands and cultures, this one also brought him into contact with his own national community. This was the pilgrimage that he made to New York in 1928 for the dedication of the Kossuth Statue on Riverside Drive near Columbia University on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848. The statue was funded by the American Hungarian community but the dedication was visited by a large delegation from Hungary. Travel, as is well known, can have a big impact on the development of identity when the traveler experiences the sense of belonging to a single nation as part of a group tour. For Hegedüs this tour was significant. Not only did it reinforce his Hungarian identity, conceived as a liberal one on the model of his interpretation of Kossuth, about whom he had written in his literary works. At a luncheon in New York at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel that was held in his honor by the American Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, he asked for the help of the American Hungarian community to support Hungary in its search for justice in the revision of the Trianon Treaty. But he also asked for the help of American Hungarians to instill a sense of democracy in Hungary in opposition to the ‘reactionary and feudal’ forces at home. He claimed that it was these forces that had prevented him from realizing his plan for saving the Hungarian monetary system in 1921. *‘I promise you that [when I return to Hungary] I will do everything in my power to set Hungary in the service of American ideals.’* (*‘Fogadom nektek, hogy Magyarországot, amíg tőlem telik, az amerikai eszmék szolgálatába fogom állítani.’*)<sup>162</sup>

Ever since his gymnasium days, the travels that appeared in his literary and historical readings must have had an effect on Hegedüs. By the time he reached adulthood, he was convinced that travel develops one’s judgment, broadens one’s perspectives, and helps one become a better citizen of his country by exposing the traveler to different opinions and customs. This is shown in one of his novels, where he describes the effects that reading about the travels of Byron’s Childe Harold had on the development of István Széchenyi’s personality.<sup>163</sup> In this novel Hegedüs also points out that for Széchenyi’s generation of Romantics travel was a way of finding oneself. Thus, among the motives of travel for Hegedüs, knowledge of oneself played an important role.

### Late Adulthood (60–71)

The era lasted only ten years and was marked by illness. It was the era in which Hegedüs wrote his great biographies and dedicated the most attention to his family. The time that the family spent together was often in connection with travel. These travels, like those of his early adulthood, included regularly recurring destinations. Once a year, for example, he visited his daughter Mária’s family on their provincial estate in Baj. He usually made this trip via a chauffeured car borrowed from work (GYOSZ), which almost always broke down on the trip. It is worthwhile to consider here the vehicles used by Hegedüs. The most characteristic mode of long-distance transportation in the era was rail. This is what he used most often to travel between cities. Within cities he used taxis since he did not know how to drive. There is one

<sup>162</sup> Amerikai Magyar Népszava, March 19, 1928, Vol. 29, No. 67. 3.

<sup>163</sup> Hegedüs, L. (1943): 92.



picture of him on an airplane. His grandson wrote on the picture that Hegedüs was a fan of flying from early on. We cannot tell exactly when the picture was taken, but probably sometime between his 40<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> years.<sup>164</sup>

His grandson, Sándor Zsindely Jr., took two trips with him in this period. The first was to Abbazia in 1939 during the Easter vacation. In his memoirs Zsindely mentions a scampi dinner by the Adriatic, the salty scent of the sea waves and the curvy walks along the shore. In 1941 they spent time after Christmas together in Lillafüred. The grandson remembered the deep snow on the benches by the lakeside walk and the strange dining room of the Palota (Palace) Hotel.

In the summer of 1942, half a year before his death, Hegedüs spent several weeks in Szováta with his daughter Mária and his granddaughter the little Zsuzsi. It is telling what he brought along on these several-week-long stays: a large stack of writing papers and writing utensils. If he got bored of walking, he wrote his books. These trips became more frequent as time went on. His grandson explains that this was because they became increasingly important to his mental and physical well-being.

At the end of his life, Hegedüs wrote about one more missed journey which filled him with great sadness, because he knew that he could not make up for it any longer. All his life, he would have liked to have attended the Bayreuth Festival, one of the most significant opera festivals in the world. It was a summertime musical tradition begun in 1876 by Richard Wagner for the presentation of his operas. Regrettably Hegedüs was never to make this journey.<sup>165</sup>

### Conclusions

The patterns of travel and the rituals and customs related to it, show strong similarities to all three earlier studied areas of Hegedüs' life, namely his work, his social connections, and his psychological and physical health. Hegedüs considered travel as a means of creating balance in his life. He intuitively used it as a strategy to increase his well-being in all three areas. The travel that was connected to study and work were means by which he met his obligations towards society at large. This was induced by his family socialization and the example of his much-respected elder relatives. At the same time, his travels to England, Scotland, the United States and even Germany probably contributed to making him more liberal than were many of his contemporaries in his social class, the educated Christian gentry. His admiration of and close relationship in his youth to the great romantic liberal nationalist writer Jókai also contributed to this attitude. Travel in the company of his family occupied the most time in his travels and this contributed to his stable family relationships. Stable family relationships in turn undoubtedly supported his ability to pursue his career. His close relationship with his children and grandchildren can be attributed to their joint travels, since while one is away from home one experiences relationships more intensely. His travels related to the maintenance of health clearly contributed to his ability to overcome the pain of failures and were key preconditions for new ventures. In addition, these kinds of journeys, especially that of entering a sanitarium, demonstrates that travel can be a means of self-expression. It allowed Hegedüs to make a break with his earlier government career.

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<sup>164</sup> Ibid.

<sup>165</sup> Ibid.

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