The Journal of the Kórnik Library No 18

Summary

DISSERTATIONS AND ARTICLES

Jan Seredyka: The Activities of Great Poland Senators at Seyms in the Second Half of Sigismund III Vasa's Rule (1611 - 1632)

This article embraces studies of ten successive seyms from the second half of Sigismund Third's rule, held in 1611, 1615, 1616, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1629 (I), 1629 (II), 1631 and 1632. Enclosed statistical tables show the frequency of particular groups of Great Poland senators against the background of the remaining Crown representatives. The frequency of the participation of individual Great Poland senators in Seym assemblages has been calculated. An analysis of these data indicated that their general presence — slightly exceeding 20 per cent — was comparatively lower than that of other representatives of the Crown and the whole senate of the Republic. Only one senator from Great Poland (The Archbishop of Gniezno) took part in all ten seyms, but even he did not always arrive at the beginning of sessions. Great Poland's representatives occupied only 86 seats out of the 400 reserved for them. To every Seym there came only a dozen or so deputies, instead of forty, and only a few participated in all sessions. This meant, that only few men from Great Poland, mainly senators from the clergy, were relatively permanent advisers to the King.

Tomasz Naganowski: The Collecting of National Relics at the Kórnik Castle in the Nineteenth Century

This article discusses problems of creating and developing objects of national significance at Kórnik during the Partitions. The author discusses the collecting of relics of the past, during particular periods of the Partitions: the times of Titus (who died in 1861) and Jan Działyński (died 1880), and also Władysław Zamoyski (died 1924), and the ideological expression shaped during these years.

The protection against destruction and oblivion of material relics evidencing the splendour of the Polish State, with the intention to preserve them for the future, has been an essential part of activities of Kórnik owners during the period when national consciousness was being shaped. These activities involved the gathering and protecting of works of art, craftsman products, objects of everyday use, ornaments, jewelry, weapons, State symbols, etc., which would evidence historical achievements, manifest and prove the vitality of Poles. National relics, recollecting historical, scientific, literary and artistic images of the country, became a weapon in political struggles towards achieving independence.

Andrzej Mężyński: The Reception of Kórnik Publications 1829 - 1923 (Publication Program and Repertoire, Distribution)

This article discusses certain aspects of the reception of scientific books published by Titus and Jan Działyński in the years 1829-1882. They published 79 titles in 116 volumes, contributing to the development of several branches of

268 SUMMARY

knowledge. In their activities, they consequently followed a publication program based on a correct assessment of requirements of Polish 19th century science. This program was received favourably by contemporary scientific opinion, particularly as regards source publications and mathematical-natural and technical books. Translations from classical literature and homographic reprints of the oldest Polish texts even went ahead of the development of scientific writing on these subjects in Poland.

The subsequent stage of study was to determine how books published by Titus and Jan Działyński reached readers and to assess the effectiveness of all activities linked with distribution. The majority of these publications was distributed through book shops. Titus Działyński published his books in limited editions (150 -- 200 copies), they found their way only to few bookshops causing difficulties in obtaining a copy and frequent complyints of readers. Jan Działyński, however, got in touch with all more important book shops in Poland and delivered his books (circulations of 1100 copies) for commission sale. The author describes conditions of distribution of Kórnik books: prices, rate of discount for book shops, cost of transport. Data concerning the sale of all publications are shown in tables. Obstacles in the distribution of Działyński publications have been analyzed. The most significant seemed to be the high price of books resulting from high printing costs, Although these prices caused many critical remarks among readers, these opinions were not sufficiently considered by the Kórnik publishers in their activities, the same concerned other voices from the readers' market. This led to several negative consequences, substantially influencing distribution and reception. Making publication activities independent from profits made on sold books which facilitated a consequent realization of program presuppositions - was, however, a possible aspect of the private Działyński patronage.

Facts elucidated in this article are to prepare a starting point for further studies of the reception of books published at Kórnik and specify functions the Działyński publications fulfilled in Polish 19th century scientific life.

Jan Pyzio: Józef Chociszewski's Links with the Kórnik Library

The Kórnik Library keeps relatively comprehensive source materials concerning Józef Chociszewski's book selling and publication activities during his contacts with the Library, from the time his book shop was founded in Poznań in 1896 until his death in 1914. An analysis of these materials made it possible to distinguish four types of Chociszewski's links with the Library in which the two parties appear in various relations towards each other. They were clearly determined by the Library's social function and Chociszewski's writing, publishing and book selling activities. In regard to his activities, Chociszewski saw the Kórnik Library as an institution playing the following role:

- a patron of activities directed at the development of education and national consciousness among lower classes of society, particularly a patron of his publication plans and producer of particular publications;
 - a source base and workshop of writing and publication works;
 - a partner publication institution;
 - purchaser of publishing production and book-shop stock.

The author discusses particular types of these links which represented the basis of Chociszewski's contacts with the Kórnik Library.

Zofia Byczkowska: The Popularization of Belles-Lettres in Folks Periodicals in the Kingdom of Poland in the Years 1866-1898

The author defines the role played in the second half of the 19th century by folks periodicals in the Kingdom of Poland, in regard to informing rural readers of publications available on the book market. Specific conditions created by the policy of Tsarist authorities deprived readers of basic means of acquiring books, such as libraries and book shops.

Reading among the rural population, taken as a general phenomenon, was just becoming popular in those years. Folks periodicals constituted the basic reading matter in villages. Their contents not only contributed to the fact that peasants began to read but created a community of cultural experiences among Polish society. One of the forms of creating this community was the advertisement of books, which was to equip peasant readers with a uniform literary experience. The objective of this work is to characterize two basic problems: a) what type of literary experiences could be gained by peasant readers who read literature advertised in periodicals; b) to what degree were these experiences common with other classes of society.

The author analyzed book advertisements from two folk periodicals issued in the Kingdom of Poland in the years 1866-1898: "Zorza" (Dawn) and "Gazeta

Świateczna" (Holiday Paper).

During the initial period of their activity, the periodicals advertised a great number of texts. Towards the end of the century, the number decreased, but the share of literary texts increased successively. Texts from the highly-artistic circulation constituted the basic part of advertised belles-lettres. At the end of the discussed period, their percentage clearly grew, mainly at the cost of literature for the people. There appeared various strategies in advertising these two types of literature. Highly artistic texts, predominant in numbers, were not very intensively propagated, their principal task was to equip readers with knowledge on general-national literary resources. Texts for the rural population, adapted and simplified, intended for the majority of readers, were properly selected and advertised with a much greater frequency.

Literary texts, advertised in folks periodicals, differed from all other books by the actuality of advertisement — a fact which deserves attention. This concerns, above all, highly artistic works, most of which were novelties on the book market.

A relatively large number of authors was advertised, though most were represented by only one work. Advertisements included, however, works of a small group of authors — in this case, several a dozen or some scores of titles were popularized. This concerned chiefly writers of highly artistic literature. Most of advertised literary books were published in the Kingdom of Poland.

Halina Tumolska: Stefan Giller of Opatówek (in the Light of Kórnik Materials)

This article recalls Stefan Giller (1834-1918), a little known poet, writer and cultural activist from the Kalisz region. On the basis of archival materials extant at the Kórnik Library, the author reconstructed an image of Giller's literary achievements against the background of contemporary currents and tendencies.

The author concludes that Giller — a writer and pedagogue — should not have been overlooked. He undoubtedly influenced the shaping of Poles' patriotic attitudes during Partitions, when all sings of cultural vitality acquired a deeper meaning. From this point of view, the activities of provincial writers and activists were important for the country as a whole.

This article represents the first more extensive interpretation of the subject and contributes to the knowledge of the history of regional culture in the second half of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries.

TEXTS AND SOURCE MATERIAL

Anna Filipczak-Kocur: The Grodno Confederacy of the Lithuanian Army in 1609 - 1610

In 1609 the army serving in Livonia established a confederacy under the authority of Samuel Kazanowski, demanding overdue pay form quarters of service.

In 1609 Sigismund III began an official war with Russia, devoted to this end most financial resources granted by the Seym chiefly intended for the Livonian Army. This was why the Treasury was unable to fulfil its obligations towards the confederates for the period of one year.

If taxes proposed by the Seym had been used in accordance with plans, they would have sufficed to pay the arrerage to the Livonian Army and ensure pay for at least another year. This would have helped to keep and even to extend the Livonian territory. Sigismund III, however, undertook the risk to regain the Swedish throne by attempting to subordinate Russia and — in the future — join forces of Russia and Poland against Sweden. This plan failed, however. The failure also destroyed any hope of success in Livonia. This article is based on an extensive source base, including materials from the Raszyński Library in Poznań.

Jan Rzońca. The Attitude of Senators to the King's Proposition to Convene the Seym in 1619

The author discusses the problem on the basis of manuscript, comprising 26 letters written by senators, extant at the Kórnik Library (call number 330). The letters, dated from 30th Septembert to 30th October 1618, contain replies to the King's letter concerning the convention of the Seym.

None of the senators questioned the purposefulness of an earlier than required by law convention of the Seym. All agreed that the Seym should deal exclusively with problems of the country's defence, the majority suggested to convene the Seym in January, 1619. The Tartar-Turkish threat was generally recognized as the greatest danger. Less attention was given, however, to extending war activities against Moscow and Sweden in Livonia.

In subsequent letters, the King complied with the Senators' wishes but emphasized further support for the Moscaw and Livonian war.

Bogumiła Kosmanowa: A Project of Zygmunt Celichowski's Transfer from Kórnik to Lvov

This article, documented by extensive fragments of correspondence extant at the Polish Academy of Sciences Kórnik Library and the Ossolineum National Institute Library in Wrocław, represents a contribution to the situation of workers at Polish scientific libraries during the Partitions.

Zygmunt Celichowski (1849 - 1923), since 1869 librarian of Jan Działyński at Kórnik, turned, at the and of 1873, to Wojciech Kętrzyński, employed in Lvov, at the Ossoliński National Institute Library, previously also a Kórnik librarian, with the request for help in his intended transfer to Ossolineum. Finally, after several months, he changed his plans and — just as Kętrzyński — remained in

SUMMARY 271

Lwov, as his intended transfer to the Jagellonian University in Cracow failed. Celichowski was satisfied with his work up to date, but he had doubts what would happen in the future if Jan Działyński — who was very ill — died. Finally, he not only remained, but even strengthened his position at Kórnik and became one of the most respected men in Great Poland. The extensive correspondence includes many details elucidating library work, undertaken scientific works, there is also interesting information on contemporary scholars and realities involving life within the Kórnik Castle.

Tomasz Naganowski: Brandstaetteriana at the Polish Academy of Sciences Kórnik Library

This article brings information on materials of the literary archive concerning the writer Roman Brandstaetter, acquired by the Library. The archives include: manuscripts of prose, poetry and drama writings, correspondence, press items and materials relating to Brandstaetter's professional and social activities. The author-discusses particular parts of manuscripts, includes biographical elements and describes the literary workshop of the well known poet, drama writer and translator.

Marceli Kosman: Report on Activities of the Polish Academy of Sciences Kórnik Library in 1979

This successive annual report prepared by the President, concerning Library activities, analyzes general problems (structure, budget, making new stores available, personnel — particularly the raising of qualifications), scientific-research work and collections (new acquisitions, setting in order, arrangement, accessibility).

The Scientific Council and Management made particular efforts to prepare a new conception of the Library's principal source publications — Acta Tomiciana (materials for the history of the rule of Sigismund the Old). The Management decided to continue the series (Vol. XVIII being prepared and re-edit the first eight volumes published in the middle of the 19th century, since they fall short of present day scientific requirements.

The Library actually employs two assistant professors and six doctors. Further assistant and doctoral dissertations are prepared.