"JESzcze Polska nie ZGINęŁa"
(Poland has not yet perished)

POLAND: A THOUSAND SPRINGTIMES
AN EXHIBITION
By Sally Haines

KENNETH SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY
University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045

This catalog of a 1979 exhibition in the Department of Special Collections, “One Thousand Years of Polish History and Culture,” is dedicated to Anna Cienciała (November 8, 1929 – Xmas Eve 2014), Professor Emerita of History and Russian & East European Studies (REES) at the University of Kansas. Recipient of numerous awards in recent years, in November 2014 she was presented with the Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland.
On Saturday, April 7, 1979, there will be a special opening of two complementary exhibits in the Kenneth Spencer Research Library. The first, PERSPEKTYWA POLSKA, is an internationally acclaimed exhibit produced by the American Institute of Polish Culture, recounting the thousand-year history of Poland in pictures and documents. The AIPC exhibit, which will remain on show until April 14, includes portraits of major historical and cultural figures, such as Copernicus, Poniatowski, Kosciuszko and Pułaski (major figures in U.S. history as well as in Poland), Chopin, Mickiewicz, Piłsudski, and Paderewski; photographs of architectural monuments, both the great palaces and the living archaeology of medieval cityscapes; and the treasures of Polish art – painting, sculpture, and decoration. It is a graphic and evocative account of a thousand years of violent, tragic and triumphant history: of repeated invasions, repressions and partitions, but of repeated glorious rebirth.

The opening ceremony and reception will begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 7, in the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, with Mrs. Lewis S. Rosenstiel, Coordinator of “Perspectywa Polska” and President of the American Institute of Polish Culture, as the guest of honor. Incidental music drawn from 18th and 19th century Polish sources will be played during the reception on harpsichord and other instruments.
In this exhibition we have attempted to illustrate the historical meaning behind the opening words of Poland’s national anthem – “Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła” – “Poland has not yet perished” – words that have become the symbol of her indestructibility. Poland’s written history began over a thousand years ago, although the ancestors of the Slavic tribe called the Polanie first appeared in the North Central European plains in prehistoric times. This exhibition spans the millennium since King Mieszko I accepted Christianity for Poland in 966 – the thousand springtimes of Poland’s hope and rebirth.

All the materials shown are from the Department of Special Collections; over half are from the 16th and 17th centuries and this reflects the unusual strength of our printed book and manuscript resources for this period of Polish history. The materials on show include a 1493 edition of the Nürnberg Chronicle containing the earliest known panoramic view of the city of Cracow; a group of manuscripts concerning Polish-Vatican relationships in the 16th century; illustrations of Polish costume from the earliest times down to the 19th century; publications relating to the early 20th century activities of the Piłsudski Brigades; editions of Copernicus and of Marie Skłodowska-Curie; and examples of contemporary Polish science fiction. We hope that this selection will inspire the reader to delve more deeply.

NOTE: It has been 35 years since this exhibition was first mounted and a quarter of a century since a second rendition saw the light of day. With a few exceptions we have not attempted to bring it up-to-date with regard to changed political realities such as the break-up of Yugoslavia, or new anthropological and archaeological findings and changes.

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BEGINNINGS


The chromolithographic costume plates appearing in the exhibition are from Racinet’s Costume historique. Historical personages are identified; details of costume are taken from seals, tombstones, illuminated manuscripts, etc.

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THE FIELD DWELLERS

Poland is a Slavic country; the Slavs, like most Europeans, are of Indo-European stock and language and moved into Europe in remote antiquity from southern Asia. Present-day Poland includes regions that were the Slavic ancestral home before the great migrations of Slavs during the fourth to sixth centuries, A.D., eastward to create Russia, westward to what are today the Czech and Slovak Republics and southward into the Balkan Peninsula where are located Bulgaria and the area made up of Slovenes, Serbs, Croats, Bosnians, Montenegrins, Macedonians, and other South Slavs known after 1918, and until recently, as Yugoslavia. The Slavs who stayed put were the ancestors of the people of present-day Poland.

Whether or not the Lusatian culture (which existed in what is now southeastern Poland and ended in about 500 B.C.) was Slavic, it is known that the Slavs had settled permanently in that area after 500 B.C. and that they were in the surrounding areas before that time. Poland’s written history covers the thousand years since the beginning of the reign of Mieszko I in 963, and conversion to Christianity in 966, but evidence found in a cave in Kraków province indicates that pre-historic man lived on the territory 180,000 years ago. The Biskupin settlement (between Bydgoszcz and Poznań) unearthed in archaeological excavations in 1933 provides the earliest evidence of actual human settlement in the area and dates from the 7th to 3rd centuries B.C.

At the beginning of the 10th century two Slavic tribes held sway over the territory: the Wislanie (Vistula dwellers) in the Kraków region and the Polanie (field-dwellers,
from the Polish word for field: pole) in the Poznań area. When the Wisłanie temporarily succumbed to Bohemia, the Polanie moved to consolidate the territory and provided it with the Piast dynasty which was the last for 400 years: whence the name Polska or Poland.

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ON THE DISAPPEARANCE OF A BALTIC PEOPLE CALLED THE PRUSSIANS

During the latter half of the 12th century, repeated subdivisions and the gradual breakup of hereditary principalities returned Poland to a state of feudalism. In the 13th century a lack of central authority made her vulnerable to invasion by the Lithuanians to the North, the Tatars to the South. In 1266 Prince Konrad of Mazovia sought assistance from the Teutonic Knights (a German order founded during the Third Crusade). Under papal immunity and the pretext of converting the pagan Prussians (like the Lithuanians, a Baltic people) the Knights wiped out the Prussians forever, and then threatened Poland. This had the effect of strengthening Polish efforts at reunification.

During the 14th century the monarchy was re-established; King Kazimierz III, the Great (reigned 1333-1370) consolidated royal authority, codified the laws and established taxation and a monetary system. But the "Prussians", as those Germans on Balto-Slavic territory came to be called, continued to be a threat until the fall of Hitler’s Third Reich.

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POLAND: 13TH AND 14TH CENTURIES
1. HENRY IV, THE JUST (PROBUS), DUKE OF SILESIA, OF THE PIAST DYNASTY; DIED 1290

2. AN ABBESS OF THE CONVENT OF THE CISTERCIANS OF TREBNITZ (IN SILESIA), FOUND IN 1208 BY DUKE HEBRY I, THE BEARDED, HENRY IV’S GRANDFATHER

3. YOUNG WOMAN OF THE HIGH NOBILITY

4. A MEMBER OF THE MIDDLE CLASS

5. KONRAD, DUKE OF MAZOVIA, SON OF KAZIMIERZ II, THE JUST; DIED 1237

6. OAFIA, KONRAD’S WIFE

7. AN ABBOT FROM THE ABBEY OF OLIVA, NEAR GDAŃSK

8. A BISHOP

9. BOŁESŁAW V, THE CHASTE, KING OF POLAND AND NEPHEW OF KONRAD; DIED 1279

10. WŁADYSŁAW THE SHORT (LOKIEJEK), KING OF POLAND; BORN 1260, DIED 1333

11. LESZEK THE BLACK, BROTHER OF WŁADYSŁAW THE SHORT AND HIS PREDECESSOR ON THE THRONE OF POLAND; DIED 1289. HE HAD SUCCEEDED BOLESŁAW THE CHASTE WHO DIED WITHOUT HEIRS

12: PRZEMYSŁAW, DUKE OF OPPELN (IN POLISH SILESIA); DIED 1295

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AN EARLY VIEW OF KRAKÓW and the surrounding area from the work known as The Braun & Hogenberg Civitates.

The *Civitates orbis terrarum* is a city atlas, showing plans and views of the cities of the world. Parts 1-5 are by George Braun and Frans Hogenberg (1535-1590). Volume 6 shown here is by Anton Hierat (active 1597-1627) and Abraham Hogenberg (1608-1553) and includes a number of other Polish and Lithuanian cities including Poznán and Warszawa, Grodno, Łowicz, Vilna and Zamość. Published in six volumes between 1572 and 1618 in Cologne, the *Civitates* was projected by Georg Braun, of that city; more than 100 artists and cartographers were involved in its creation.

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POLAND: 14TH AND 15TH CENTURIES
1, 2: PEASANTS FROM THE VICINITY OF KRAKÓW, 14TH AND 15TH CENTURIES

3, 4: NOBLEMEN OF THE 2ND HALF OF THE 15TH CENTURY

5, 6: A GENTLEMAN OF THE MIDDLE CLASS AND A NOBLEMAN IN ATTIRE WORN BETWEEN 1333 AND 1434

7: PEASANT FROM MAZOVIA

8: GRAND MASTER OF THE TEUTONIC ORDER

9: KAZIMIERZ THE GREAT, KING OF POLAND; DIED 1370 AT AGE 60 AFTER A 37 YEAR REIGN

10: JADWIGA, QUEEN OF POLAND, GRANDDAUGHTER OF KAZIMIERZ THE GREAT, DAUGHTER OF LOUIS OF ANJOU, KING OF HUNGARY AND POLAND. WHEN SHE MARRIED WŁADISŁAW JAGIELLO, GRAND DUKE OF LITHUANIA, THE TWO STATES WERE UNIFIED. JADWIGA DIED IN 1399

11: WŁADISŁAW JAGIELLO, GRAND DUKE OF LITHUANIA AND KING OF POLAND; DIED 1434

12: WŁADISŁAW, DUKE OF OPPELN (IN POLISH SILESIA), PALATINE OF HUNGARY, NEPHEW OF KING LOUIS OF ANJOU. HE WAS DESCENDED FROM THE POLISH DYNASTY OF THE PIASTS

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THE WORK OF A KRAK PRINTER

Miechowita Maciej z Miechowa (1457?-1523). *Chronica Polonoru[m]*. Impressum Craccovię: per Hieronymu[m] Vietore[m], 1521.

*Summerfield E944*
Kraków printing began in 1474 and reached full development in the 16th century with such works as the *Chronica Polonorum* of Miechowita Maciej z Miechowa, published in 1521 by one of the greatest Kraków printers, Hieronym Vietor. The woodcut title-page of this work appears in almost every history of Poland. This is the 2nd edition; the first was suppressed by King Sigismund I the Old (reigned 1506-1548) because it contained remarks critical of the king.

The author had studied at the universities of Padua and Bologna and his humanist leanings are revealed in this as well as in his other works, all of which were popular all over Europe. The *Chronica* continues the work of Długosz (*q.v.* below) to 1506. Maciej z Miechowa, with the versatility of many another Renaissance man, was not only a historian but also physician, geographer, astrologer, and professor and rector at the University of Kraków. As geographer, he attacked the authority of Ptolemy and was the first to give a documented and systematic description of the peoples of Eastern Europe.

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IOANNIS DLUGOSSI
SEV
LONGINI
CANONICI QUONDAM CRACOVIENSIS
HISTORIÆ
POLONICÆ
LIBRI XII.
QVORVM SEX POSTERIORES NONDVMI EDITI,
NVNC SIMVL CVM PRIORIBVS EX MSRIPTO RARISSIMO
IN LVCEM PRODEVNT
EX BIBLIOTHECA ET CVM PRÆFAOTIONE
HENRICI L. B. AB HVYSSEN
RVSSTORVM CÆSARI A CONSILIIS INTIMIS,
BELLICIS ET IVSTITIÆ &c.
PRÆMITTITVR
PRÆTER VITAM AVTORIS ET DOCTORVM
DE EO TESTIMONIA
SAMVELIS IOACHIMI HOPPIII,
SCHEIASMA DE SCRIPTORIBVS HISTORIÆ POLONICÆ,
PVRIMIS ANNOTATIONIBVS
AVCTVM
GABRIELIS GRODDECKII P. P.
AC BIBLIOTHECARII GEDANENSIS
ACCEDVNT
VTROQVE INDICES LOCVPLETISSIMI.

FRANCOVRTI,
SYMPTIBVS IOANNIS LVDOVICI GLEDITSCHII
& MAVRITII GEORGIUS WEIDMANNI
ANNO M DCX I.
FIRST COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF POLAND


This is the first volume of Historiae Polonicae libri XII, Frankfurt, 1711; Leipzig 1712, the first complete version of 15th century historian Jan Długogsz’s extensive history of medieval Poland. The original, which was the first comprehensive history of Poland covering legendary times up through 1480, was the 12 volume Annales seu Cronicae inclyti regni Poloniae (Annales or Chronicles of the Famous Polish Kingdom).

Długosz, Poland’s most distinguished historian before Joachim Lewewel in the 19th century, prepared his history from original documents. It served as the source for Polish history while still in manuscript form until this complete version was published over two centuries after his death. Długosz studied at the University of Kraków, was a canon, and secretary to the Bishop of Kraków and to statesman Zbigniew Oleśnicki. Later her served, as had fellow humanist Buonaccorsi, as tutor to the sons of King Kasimierz IV Jagiellonczyk.
KITH AND KIN IN KANSAS


*Summerfield E215*

This work by an Austrian diplomat is full of wonderful illustrations and information about Poland. Herberstein travelled as an envoy to Russia for the purpose of convincing Prince Basil III to join Poland in a war against Turkey.

The urus, also known as the European wood bison or wisent, and in Poland as the żubr, the Polish bison (*Bison bonasus*) is one of two extant species of bison, a kissin' cousin of the American buffalo of our Kansas plains. Although the żubr was hunted to extinction in the early 20th century (the last Polish beast was shot in the Białowieża Forest in 1919), the descendants of these lowland bison have been re-introduced from animals in captivity elsewhere in Europe and thrive again in Poland, albeit as a vulnerable if not endangered species.

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LA VIE DU CARDINAL
JEAN FRANÇOIS COMMENDON
DIVISÉE EN QUATRE LIVRES.
ÉCRITE EN LATIN
PAR ANTOINE MARIA GRATIANI
Evêque d'Amélie.
ET TRADUITE EN FRANÇOIS
Par Monsieur FLECHIER.

A PARIS,
Chez Sébastien Mabre-Cramoisy, Imprimeur du Roi,
rué Saint Jacques, aux Cicognes.
M. DC. LXXI.
AVEC PRIVILEGE DE SA MAISTRE.
GRAZIANI'S BIOGRAPHY OF COMMENDONE


Jean François Commendone (1524-1584) was appointed papal nuncio to northern Europe in 1561. This work was written by Graziani, Bishop of Saint Amelia, diplomat, historian and secretary to Commendone. The biography deals primarily with Commendone’s second stay as nuncio to Poland during the interregnum of 1572-1573. He had served there earlier from 1564 to 1565.
Letter written on parchment, in Latin, from Giovanni Francesco Commendone to Antionio Maria Graziani, dated 23 September 1570.

All manuscripts shown in this exhibition are from the Graziani-Commendone collection, a large group of letters, letter-books, documents, reports, historical texts, notes, etc., apparently owned by Graziani or his family. It is thought that much of it was acquired for the purpose of writing a history of the 16th century.

Along with many more Polish items in the Department of Special Collections, it was acquired for Kansas through bookseller Alexander Janta. A detailed description of the collection can be found in our reading room.
St. Miłosierny Panu Andrzejo, w protektorze Włodzimierzu, na rzecz miasta Krakowa.
Ostatni lišta pisala sam do v. m. pr. pana Clemente nga de
bold ma v. m. na om lišta keš w. m. de kula r. m.
prina ujega z Cankova de date 22. septembra pisala
Trijergom ia bi bil prvič cotenijem. Grom od v. m.
danimam gorejšjeg v. m. za zasnovani. Dva Novrja
selce pr. tezem, glede na kula prazna našega
kosa, se bi bil r. villatumb iz W. M. do. Langa, do Cankova
venoval na prvištjo gotovinska mi ta. Pog. Krol
Francaša še izjemno mal na. Svede na obsege. Od nih
so obnovani ali nekaj la ali majhno miša t. ja. najše. Dvo
še ugo slovbe. v. mes. 12. ml od tuda
le še danu pr. te. v. m. pr. godini keš na mi podobila
mi. Jemec totem o. Abh. bi. 18. otroval. Je mi. car
časti. Cenejev stara obiskali. do.št. sta pr. te pr. te
vrcali i. smrži. po odrediti. ajo so vidni kešne rošči
nabo večbrešenjo mi. pravil. kešem bi napred
po. Leš nažal. iz ničen. 1. v. mes. 2. v. m. našega
woman.
Glej sam ti. m. pr. tešal. Štaj p. namama na
dvanajstih des. kom. keš p. joši. ab. uv. št. p. roši
na nekaj št. šest. kom. 16. št. in nep. bi nego,
čo. Vajne v. Vencemuv ugo obiskan. ab. na pamet
maj nakl. iz. maj v. t. p. p. v. v. ab. v. gise
naš. Sr. seštek. še ugo v. št. p. v. v. ab. v. gise
v. v. št. p. v. v. ab. v. gise
HE GAVE THEM THE SHIRT OFF HIS BACK

Letter written in Polish, from Adam Konarsky (1518-1574), Bishop of Poznań, to Jan Zborowski, Royal Castellan and Hetman, on the way home from France. Dated 9 November 1573. MS 2:III.A2:11

Konarski was the head of the Polish-Lithuanian delegation to Paris to invite Henry III Valois (1551-1589) to be King of Poland. Through Konarski’s efforts, Henry’s opposition to the Henrician Articles and the Pacta Conventa was broken and he was forced to swear to Polish terms.

Jan Zborowski (died 1604 or 1605) had been a member of the delegation and apparently was back in Poland by this time. In this letter, Konarski writes that he and his party had delayed for two days waiting for the King, who had gone to Paris with his mother to speed up preparations for the trip [to Poland?] He also reports that the King of France is ill [with smallpox?]. Konarski then recounts that in Fulda bandits have robbed him of everything, down to his last shirt.

Henry’s coronation took place on 21 February 1574. On learning of the death of his brother, Charles IX, he fled Poland on 15 May 1574 to assume the throne of France. In spite of good intentions, he was an incompetent ruler. He was murdered in 1589 by a knife-wielding Dominican friar.

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Queen consort of Stefan Batory, King of Poland, Anna Jagiellonka (1522-1596), as Queen of Poland, in Pruzany, Letter, written in Polish, to her starosta (steward) in Kobryń, Stanisław Warszicki. Dated 19 December 1588, with the Queen’s signature and seal.  

MS Box 205

Anna Jagiellonka was the wife of Stefan Batory. This letter is her confirmation of the right of Zacharias Czuẓelff Wincentowicz to the village of Stryjów in Kobryń, Poland, and his subjects’ permission to fell trees in the virgin Kobryń Forest throughout his lifetime, in thanks for hospitality recently extended to the king and queen during an overnight stay in his home.

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Reinhold Heidenstein (1556?-1620): Warhaffte gründtliche und eigendtliche Beschreibung des Krieges, welchen der nechstgewesene König
Poland began her 222 year experiment in elective kingship and “gentry democracy” with Henry of Valois, first of eleven monarchs of five different nationalities. Following Henry’s short reign, Stefan Batory was elected King of Poland by the nobility. A Hungarian and Prince of Transylvania 1571 to 1576, he reigned over Poland 1576 to 1586. His ten years of rule were filled with internal and external strife. He overcame the Gdańsk uprising of 1577 and in 1579 to 1582 was victorious in a war against Muscovy under Ivan the Terrible for control of Livonia and the Baltic region. This work is an account of the latter struggle, written by Batory’s secretary and historian Reinhold Heidenstein, in a German translation by Heinrich Rätel. The original work, De bello Moscovito quod Spephanus, rex poloniae, gessit, was printed in Kraków in 1584.

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REINOLD HEIDENSTENII
SOLESCII SECRETARII REGII
CANCELLARIUS.
SIVE
DE
DIGNITATE & OFFICIO
CANCELLARII
REGNI POLONIAE.

DANTISCI MDCCXLII.
APUD GEORGIVM MARCVM KNOCHVM.
Sigilla Regni antiqua quaedam
The history of the rise in importance and the growing power of the office of the Chancellor (Kanclerz) is a complicated one; these posts functioned from the 12th century until the end of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in 1795.

During that 700 year period the chancellor was interpreter of the law and of the legality of the monarch’s decisions. He served as head archivist of all written documents, was responsible for the working staff of under-secretaries and archivists of the kancelaria itself and was the intellect behind the throne, ultimately responsible for foreign policy. He represented the king and kept him out of unnecessary wars, putting the damper on any sort of political folly.

From the 15th century on there were two chancellors’ offices, with equal powers, The Great Chancellor, Kanclerz wielki, and the Deputy Chancellor or Podkanclerz. In the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth there four such offices, and during times of fragmentation there were even more, supposed to be in contact at all times and to come up with common policies; documents issued from their offices had to be in accordance with existing law. Naturally, there were conflicts among supposed equals.

These royal chancellories also functioned as schools for future chancellors and supported intelligent applicants from all social classes and not just nobility. Many of them went on to important ecclesiastic and secular posts, or stayed on as staff in the chancellory. Among these students were Jan Długosz, Marcin Kromer, and Jan Zamoyski, all of whom are represented in this exhibition.

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**MISCHIEF MAKER**

**Piotr Skarga (1536-1612):** Autograph letter signed, to Graziani, 13 November 1565.  

The Polish Jesuit Skarga was a popular preacher and orator, a prolific writer and a high profile figure of the Counter-Reformation in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Cursed by his critics (in Latin!) they called him “Praecipius turbator regnii” (Principal mischief-maker of the kingdom!)

Skarga’s most famous work, widely and wildly popular in his lifetime, was Zywoty świętych, or Lives of the saints, 1579, an attack on the tolerance of heretics; years
later, in the 18th and 19th centuries, his *Kazanie Seymove*, or Sejm sermons, written in 1597 but not much noted at the time, eclipsed the Lives in popularity, especially during the Partitions of Poland.

The *Sermons* read like a present-day castigation of America, addressing as they do internal quarreling, lack of patriotism, weakness of the king (read: President), immorality (read: sex, drugs, rock ‘n’ roll), tolerance of the wrong people (read: left-wing Commie types). On the other hand, he also deplored the plight of the poor. He is highly regarded in these latter days, not primarily for his religious ideas, but for his advocacy of political and socio-economic reforms.
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CHRONICA,
SIVE
HISTORIAE
POLONICAE COMPENDIUM
DIOSA, AC PER CERTA LIBRORUM CAPITA AD FACILEM MEMORIAE VECENS FACTA DESCRITIO:

AUTHORE MAGNIFICO
PIRO IOANNNE HERBERTO
DE FULSVIN, REGNI POLONICI SENATORE.

CUM CAEFL. MAEST. GRATIA & PRIVILEGIO
AD ANNOS DECEM.

BASILEAE, EX OFFICINA
OPORINIANA. ANNO 1571.
COOL HAT!


*Summerfield B2486*

Herburt was private secretary to King Sigismund II Augustus (reigned 1548-1572), last ruler of the Jagiellonian Dynasty. The king is depicted in this woodcut wearing a fur hat. This work is a history of Poland to 1548, based on Kromer's *Poloniasive De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum.*

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OLD HABITS


*Summerfield B1840*

The most famous of early works on costume, known all over Europe and undoubtedly consulted by Shakespeare, it is shown here in the 1st edition. This library also has the 4th edition of 1859-1860, with new engravings reproduced from the first three editions, entitled *Costumes anciens et modernes*.

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Marcin Kromer was a historian and writer educated at the Universities of Bologna and Kraków. He became secretary to King Zigmunt II August (reigned 1548-1572), the last of the Jagiellon dynasty) and was Bishop of Warmia during his latter years.

This small encyclopedia *Polonia* (Poland; or, *On the location, customs, and government of the Commonwealth of the Polish Kingdom*), is of the greatest importance for the history of Poland; it served as an international guide to the country and her institutions and was reprinted in many editions. This is the first edition authorized by Kromer: the earlier Frankfurt editions of 1575 were full of errors.

Kromer’s most important historical work *De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum*, Cologne, 1589, is shown below. All of Kromer’s works were well known both in Poland and abroad.
--Polonia: sive, De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum libri XXX. Coloniae Agrippinae: in officina Birckmannica sumptibus Arnoldi Mylij, 1589. Summerfield E914

This is the 4th and most complete edition of Kromer’s history of Poland; it was one of the earliest basic sources of information concerning Muscovy.

Our copy is bound in an uncataloged music manuscript on vellum: a good example of early recycling that inadvertently preserved many a worthwhile text or piece of art or music.

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THE POLISH MEDICI


Zamoyski was still a young man and Chancellor of Poland when he delivered the Oratio (Speech in which Henry of Valois renounces the throne [of France]), on the occasion of Henry of Valois' acceptance of the throne of Poland; Zamoyski was a member of the embassy sent to Paris to persuade Henry to become the first of Poland's electoral kings.

Henry's reign did not last long and within the year he fled to Poland to become King of France in 1574. Zamoyski's career was just beginning: Marshal of the Polish army, patron of the arts and one of the most influential statesmen of eastern Europe, he also founded the Zamoyski Academy which drew artists and architects, historians, poets, theologians, lawyers and publishers, from all over Europe. The Zamoyski family was one of Poland's oldest and most renowned.
KALLIMACH


During the 15th century the ideas of the Italian Renaissance reached Poland. By the 16th century, known as Poland’s “Golden Age”, Polish culture and science (think: Copernicus) were flourishing with humanist groups such as those established by Callimachus and Conrad Celtes, modeled on Italian university literary and scientific circles.

Buonaccorsi, called Callimachus, the most influential humanist in Poland, was poet, historian and diplomat. He lectured at Kraków University and was tutor to the sons of King Kazimierz IV Jagiellonczyk (reigned 1447-1492), and remained in Kraków the rest of his life. His Historia de rege Vladislao describes the reign of Władysław III of Varna (reigned 1434-1444), King of Poland and Hungary who died in the War of Coalition with the Turks.

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NOT A VALID PHOTO-ID

With bookseller Alexander Janta’s description of the item: MS Box 205

Passport issued to Antonio Maria Graziani in Cracow on April 28, 1574, signed by Henry III as King of England with the small Royal seal. Except for a few damp stains the document is in fine condition. Signatures of Henry Valois as King of Poland are among the rarest to be found. His stay in Cracow lasted only 5 months.

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Regni Poloniarum in Sarma

tia Europae vel diximum amplissimum, potentissimum, cum aliis multis praeclassis rebus, tum modo gubernationis a ceteris omnibus Regnis dissertis, in quibus Reges sive Senatus conflito, equitum confesso, ex votis privato legem omnibus servant, nisi virtute inuata regantur, in tyrannide facile profanata. In Polonia autem Reges non nascuntur, sed communibus Senatus sive equitum sufragis elibentur, ita etiam sua auctoritate eo runde nobil decernere possunt, quamuis sint potentissimi, militibus voluntariorum superbiisque quosque Reges superantes. Soli enim Polonae Principes innitissimi reperiantur, qui ex solis voluntariorum Nobilium ducentorum milium quotiescunt opus fuerit, exercitum fortissimum et omni genere armorum promptissimum sine illis stipendios contra hos emendare possunt, Nobilissimam universam omnibus solutae reeditum, bellac tantummodo munera obire pro aris et sociis tentantur, quod si voluntarii milites non sufficerent, de suis propriis gentibus trecenta militiae mercenariarum omnium conscribere possint. Ita cum sit potentissimum Rex Poloniae, tenens secundum legem Senatus scriptum, invenire tenuit, seipsum amplissimum, Regnus imperio, Regna vero Maximi et Partes vicecim Senatum et Nobilium libertate temperat, inquit: quidem terminos omnes ordinis Regni cum ipsa Rege continentur, quod sit Rex quandoque officio suo desideret, publicas libertates sibi oppressum aspicient, aut autiti in cuncta, quae ad hunc angustiam sumum subiecti, prohibetur, et ita Rex Poloniae grauisissimus Senatorum consilium in uitum. Senatorum vero ipsi, sive universi Equites vicecim, sive Regiam Maximatem reuereantur, amant, honorant, ipsam ac positiiones privatas universas funditur pro nonnulla quae bono illius esset, dere parati sunt. Senatorum autem sunt Regis (penes quem est summa maxima 39).
GENTLEMAN OF VERONA


Summerfield E1150

This is the first edition of one of the most important chronicles of the Slavonic countries, and contains interesting observations of Turkey and Hungary as well. The printer, Maciej Wirzięta, was Kraków’s first native Polish printer and the most important in the latter part of the 16th century. This work is Wirzięta’s crowning glory and one of the finest examples of Polish book-illustration of the period.

The author, Gwagnin, was originally Alessandro Guagnino, a native of Verona, Italy; he joined the Polish army in 1561 under Sigismund II Augustus and became a Polish citizen. He was witness to many of the historical events described in this, his most important historical work. It was reprinted often during the 16th and 17th centuries in Latin, Italian, German, Czech, and Polish.

***
EARLIEST KNOWN PANORAMA OF KRAKÓW: from the cradle period of printing


According to legend, Kraków was founded by the mythical king Krak. It was Krak who slew the dragon of Hawel Hill that had terrorized the townspeople by demanding that cattle and sheep be brought to his cave as ransom for human lives.

This woodcut is from the incunable called the Nürnberg chronicle, the most magnificent illustrated book from the “cradle” period of printing. (All Western books printed before 1501, i.e. during the first fifty years after the invention of printing from movable type in about 1450, are called incunabula, or incunables, from the Latin incunabulum meaning cradle.) The Chronicle was printed in Nürnberg, 1493, by Anton Koberger, with woodcuts by Michael Wohlgemuth (Dürer’s master) and Wilhelm Pleydenwurff. The work is an account of world history from Creation to June 1, 1493. At the end is a chapter treating of Poland and its origins, the life of St. Stanisław and the “splendid city” of Kraków with its “renowned university”. The chapter is illustrated with the two earliest known views of Kraków.
OPIELVS IUNIOR nondum excelsus ex episcopis, cum
pater Popielvs seniorem decederet, nihilominus concordi
procerum patruorum; voluntate Princeps creatur, an-
no anno Christi 835. Tentura Principis & Reip.eura ali-
quor delectis ex patruorum numero demandatur. Quam
diu iis obtemperat, bene habuit. Nuberat annos e-
gregios, sapient patriorum monitis consiliijs, pro arbi-
tratu viuire, cum aequalibus copulatur, comproate fre-
quenter, choros ducere, notcestotas dinagari, pueras persequi, interditi,
dormire, Inipubl, nihil curare. Vnde ad omnia tandem inepus cepit om-
nibus effe delpecul. Patru, vt viam inueniret tam perditos mores corri-
gendis, deliberavit ut filio ex vosem quam ait formam elegans. Hheutonicici
principis eiusdem filiam. Sperabant ea duce farariun libidine animam
ad res ededas applicaturum, ad sumptorem maliebrem naturam foreque
eliam incitamentum. Verum res in contrarium celis. Vsoe dueta totus libi-
dinibus immersus, aurititia etiam augecente, magistritus, dignitatis, & ho-
nores vendebat. crudelitiam in suis, saltem, vt me neretur, cum se amore
Indignum, virtute nullo praeitum vel ipse indicaret. Peeperat ei vseor duos
filios, Popielum & Lchum. Ea ut imperium filii, & liberis fradiret, animad-
uerat Principis mariti ignotia, omnibus rationes excogitaret. Metuebat un
primis Patriorum marii autoritatem & potestatem, quippe qui integra vitee-
rent, prudentes, morumque granitate conspiciui, & populo gratia, ne forte i
marito mortuo, imo adhuc vivo, aliquando a multitudine praefati, ad impe-
rium.
POLONORVM IMAGINES.

Iustus Coefico filius, vir simplex & oppidanus,
Popielom vi xo re & liberis portentosè extinctis, poft co-
mitia Procurem Crucifexia frutstra bis habita, quasi diu-
nitius Princeps Polonis datus efft. Cùm enim filium ex vi-
xore sua Repicha natum, ritu gentili, viuente adhuc Popielo,
subra-

PYASTVS CRUSPHI
CENSIS.

43
The mythical beginnings of the Polish state constitute one of the great subjects of Polish legend. The *Principum* contains portraits and brief biographies of both the legendary and the real rulers of Poland up through Stefan Batory. One mythical ruler was Prince Popiel, an evil man, despised throughout the land for his cruelty. When his subjects rose up against him he fled to safety (he thought) in a tower at Kruznica on Lake Gopło, where he was eaten alive by mice. The honest and humble wheelwright Piast (portrait opposite Popiel’s) known for his goodness, was then elected to succeed the wicked Popiel.
OF BURNING MAPS AND MEN


*Orbis Maps 2:175*

Map from the 1535 edition of the Geographia. Text on verso: De Moscovia and Moderna Hungariae, Poloniae, Russiae, Prussiae, & Valachiae. Swiss Protestant reformer John Calvin ordered the burning of as many copies as possible of this edition when Spanish polymath (including geographer) and nontrinitarian Michael Servetus, hated by both Protestant and Catholics, was burned for heresy in 1553.

Ptolmy’s fame as a geographer rests on his *Geographia*. It was considered to be the most comprehensive and accurate work on the subject in antiquity and well into the Renaissance. R.A. Skelton has noted that, “During the 15th century the maps accompanying the *Geographia* were turned into Latin, copied ... and (from 1477) printed ... to illustrate the manual of mapmaking in the text and ... as the only available complete and consistent world atlas. The great discoveries gave a fresh impetus, from 1490 onwards, to the printing of the *Geographia*, but they also progressively discredited Ptolemy’s world picture and diminished its authority”.

***
POLAND: END OF 16TH CENTURY

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12

1, 2: LITHUANIAN PEASANTS

3, 4, 5: NOBLEMEN, LAST QUARTER OF THE 16TH CENTURY

6: PEASANT FROM THE VICINITY OF KALISZ

7: NOBLEMAN, END OF THE 16TH CENTURY

8: STEFAN BATORY

9. MUNICIPAL MAGISTRATE FROM KAZIMIERZ ON THE VISTULA

10. STANISŁAW ZOLKIEWSKI, 1547-1620, GRAND HETMAN (COSSACK COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF)

11. DAUGHTER OF A LORD.

12. ROMAN SANGUSZKO, MARÉCHAL DE CAMP OF LITHUANIA, END OF 16TH CENTURY

***
PEREGRINATIONS OF A PRINCE


Summerfield B1982
An account of a journey to the Levant made by Prince Radziwiłł in 1582-1584; with a woodcut portrait of the author. This copy once belonged to the library of Nieswicz Castle in Lithuania, hereditary seat of the Radziwiłł family. On the front past-down endpaper is the bookplate of Prince Stanisław Radziwiłł, who was killed in the Polish-Soviet War of 1919-1920.

***
BARBAROUS TREACHERIE

Eleazar Gilbert: Newes from Poland. Wherein is declared the cruell practice of the popish clergie against the Protestants. London: Printed by E.P. for Nathanael Butter, 1641. B5805

The precarious situation of the Protestant Church in Poland is described in this little pamphlet which bookseller Alexander Janta called, “an extremely rare ephemeron”. The subject of Newes from Poland is well summed up on the title-page: “Newes from Poland. Wherein is declared the cruell practice of the Popish clergie against the Protestants, and in particular against the ministers of the city of Vilna ... ”. Read it over, and you shall find it “a most unparalled story for barbarous treacherie”.

***
TEENAGE QUEEN: JADWIGA AND THE CORONA REGNI POLONIAE


Fold-out plate showing the female rulers of Poland (most, in fact, consorts, not Commanders-in-Chief), from a work on constitutional law.

Polish Liberation has meant different things to different people during Poland’s thousand year history and even involves the rights of females to be head of state. (The last part of Zdotrzymanego indygenatu pruskiego dobro pospolite of 1696 deals with the rights of both females and males for succession to the Polish throne.)

Nevertheless, except for the mythical Queen Wanda, Jadwiga is the only female who turns up early in the ranks of Polish regents. Born in 1373 or 1374, she became
queen at age ten, and in spite of her youth was said to be a remarkably skilled negotiator and peacemaker. She brought religion and learning to her subjects and was one of the earliest to recognize the beauty of the Polish language. At age twelve, not yet so liberated, she was forced to renounce her own choice of husband, a Hapsburg prince, to marry the forty-year-old Grand Duke Jagiello of Lithuania.

The legendary Queen Wanda (daughter of Krak, mythical founder of Kraków) also sacrificed her life’s desires for the good of Poland. When word of her unusual beauty reached German prince Rytgier he desired to marry her; she refused to marry a German and he invaded her kingdom in revenge, whereupon she threw herself into the Vistula to drown rather than marry him.

***
Christliches Sendbriefen
An
JOHANNES III.
König in Pohlen / Großfürst zu
Litauen / Reussen und
Preussen / &c. &c.

Wie auch
an den Raht der Stadt Dantzig
abgesertiger.

Worinnen von der Freyheit des Gewissens gehandelt wird.

Amsterdam /

Gedruckt vor Jacob Claus, Buchhändlern.

1678.
AND THE FOX IS IN THE TOWN-

George Fox (1624-1691): Christliches Sendschreiben an Johannes III, König in Pohlen. Amsterdam: Gedruckt vor Jacob Claus, 1678. Summerfield B1628

The English Quakers, like the Polish Socinians, were dissenters regarded as subversives in a highly unstable ecclesiastical and political climate. Quaker principles were misunderstood and until the Act of Toleration in 1689, their writings usually failed to receive the licensor’s imprimatur, and only the boldest dared print the name and address of the bookseller on their publications. Like their Polish brethren they found asylum and freedom of the press in Holland.

George Fox, Quakerism’s founder, recognized the similarities between Quaker beliefs and those of the Polish Brethren and felt that “There is a seed in Poland that desires Friends”.

“Quaker” was originally a term of disparagement for a member of the Society of Friends: my own theory is that the quaking of those giving testimony in the absence of a trained clergyman was simply the manifestation of stage fright in those not accustomed to speaking in public. The adrenals were helping with the expression of the spirit in a very new way of looking at things spiritual.

Another Friend, William Ames, travelled in Poland and observed that the country was “… in the bondage of slavery both within and without”. This letter by George Fox was a plea to Jan Sobieski to allow freedom of religious belief in Poland.

***
WAR DIARY


Jakub Sobieski was the father of King Jan III Sobieski; he was a chamberlain in Kraków, wrote a number of literary and historical works and fought in the Khotyn War of 1621 in which Poland was victorious over the Turkish army. This work is a diary of that war.

***
BORDER CROSSING

Guillaume Le Vasseur, sieur de Beauplan (1600-1673): Description d’Ukranie, qui sont plusieurs provinces du Royaume de Pologne. A Roüen: chez Iacques Cailloüé, 1660. Summerfield B1674

This work is one of the earliest descriptions of Ukraine. It contains information on the geography, natural history, anthropology and political situation of this area, a part of the Polish Commonwealth until 1665. Beauplan describes the life and customs of the Polish gentry as well as of the Cossack population, those independent borderland farmer and hunter warriors who developed a semi-military existence in order to cope with perennial threats from the outside.

Beauplan himself was a cartographer and fortifications engineer who spent many years in Poland, sixteen in Ukraine. He prepared extensive maps of both countries. The map that appears in a few copies of this edition is, unfortunately, lacking in the University of Kansas copy.
CONTAINING
HIS TEN YEERES
TRAVELL THROUGH
THE TWELVE DOMINIONS OF
Germany, Bohmerland, Sweitzerland, Netherland,
Denmarke, Poland, Italy, Turky, France, England,
Scotland, and Ireland.

Divided into III Parts.

The 1st Part Containeth a Journall through all the said twelve Dominions: Shewing particularly the number of miles, the joyful of the Country, the situation of Cities, the descriptions of them, with all Monuments in each place worth the seeing, as also the rates of hiring Coaches or Horses from place to place, with each daies expenses for diet, horsemeat, and the like.

The 2nd Part Containeth the rebellion of Hugh Earle of Tyrone and the appeasing thereof: Written also in forme of a Journall.

The 3rd Part Containeth a Discourse upon severall Heads, through all the said severall Dominions.

AT LONDON
Printed by John Beale, dwelling in Alderstgate Street. 1617.
LIONS AND LAMBS

**Fynes Moryson (1566-1630):** *An itinerary written ... first in the Latine tongue, and then translated ... into English:* containing ... ten yeeres travell through the twelve dominions of Germany, Bohmerland, Sweitzerland, Netherland, Denmarke, Poland, Italy, Turky, France, England, Scotland and Ireland. At London: Printed by John Beale, 1617.

Moryson made a journey to Poland in 1593 and his comments are based on his observations. This is the most comprehensive account of Poland from the end of the 16th century, and in it are described towns, local customs and daily life. Like many another traveler he notes Poland's religious tolerance and great diversity of religious persuasions existing together in peace.

***
LE ROI MICHEL KORIBUT WIESNOWISKI (1669)

GRAVURE DE J. ALLART COLLECTION DE LA PSE IZA CZARTORYSKA
PIAST IMPERFECT


Plate showing King Michael Korybut Wisniowiecki (reigned 1669-1673). This volume was issued in 50 parts of 4 plates each; the text apparently was never published.

With the death of Jan II Kazimierz Vasa in France in 1672, the Polish Vasa line, a continuation of the Jagiellon dynasty, came to an end. Jan had abdicated the throne in 1668 and a proposal was put forth during the election that a native Pole, a “Piast”, be chosen. The new king, Wisniowiecki, was incompetent and totally lacking in political instincts and soon became a tool of the magnates. Magnate opposition was led by Jan III Sobieski who assumed the throne in 1674 following Wisniowiecki’s death.

***
PRZYWILEIE

constytucie

SEYMOWE,

za Pánowania I° Krolewskiey Mści

iana Kazimierza,

Roku Pańskiego, M. DC. XLIX.

W Krakowie.

THE POLISH SEJM


Summerfield E935 item 1

Polish common law began to be supplemented in the 13th century by German or Magdeburg Law. It assured personal freedom for the urban population, self-government for towns, and their own judiciary. Peasants paid fixed rents and had the right to leave the village.

Coming forward in time a few centuries, the Polish Sejm, or Parliament, first met as a national body with representatives from all parts of Poland, at Piotrków in 1492, and thereafter in Warsaw. There were two houses of Parliament: magnates and princes of the Church, sat in the Upper House, with nobles sent as deputies by the Provincial Diets, ensconced in the Lower House.

The Sejm became powerful after Henry III of Valois had to swear at his coronation not to act without its consent. Voting was unanimous, by medieval custom. Under a wealthy Crown the system worked, but it was under a bankrupt Crown in 1652 that the Liberum Veto was instituted; veto power could be exercised by any deputy or magnate (ultimately by any foreign power) to dissolve the Sejm when there was opposition to a bill. Those noblemen who united against such abuse of power often found themselves involved in civil war. And it was the wars of the 17th century, especially the war with Sweden 1655-1660, that ruined the country. War and its aftermath, famine and plague, destroyed one third of Poland’s population.

Parliamentary reform did not come about until some 130 years later, after the first partition, under the last Polish king Stanisław August Poniatowski and the Constitution of 3 May 1791. Although three partitions were eventually carried out and Poland disappeared from the map of Europe until 1918, this constitution and the Kosciuszko Insurrection were an inspiration to Poland during her years of bondage.

***
MORE CALVIN THAN HOBBES


One of the earliest histories of the Reformation in Poland, by Poland's leading 17th century Protestant (Calvinist) historian. An earlier edition was published in Utrecht in 1652.

***
FATHER, SON, AND ...

Christoph Sand, the younger (1644-1680): Bibliotheca Anti-Trinitariorum. Freistadii [Silesia]: apud Johannem Aconium, 1684.

Summerfield B1431

Sand was, like his father, a famous Polish Socinian. When he died he left behind the manuscript of a concise bio-bibliographical dictionary of anti-Trinitarian writers since the Reformation. The Bibliotheca Anti-Trinitariorum is an essential source for the student of Unitarianism. Additional commentary on the history of Polish Socinianism by various writers was added by Benedykt Wisowaty who prepared the manuscript for publication. One interesting addendum is the account of Unitarian printers. This little volume attracted a great deal of attention in England.

***
TO POLAND VIA PICARDY


This map was published by a member of the Jaillot family of cartographers. Jaillot turned out a number of atlases during the 17th and early 18th centuries based on Sanson’s original maps. Sanson was the founder of the French School of Cartography of the 17th century, inspiration for which actually lay in the work of the Dutch and Flemish School rather than in any French publications. Almost all the engravers Sanson employed were either Flemish or from the border province of Picardy, where Sanson himself was born.

This large map of Poland and Lithuania includes parts of the Ukraine and White Russia. It is made up of two sheets pasted together.

***
RACOVIAN CATECHISM IN LATIN

Racovian catechism in Latin. Catechesis ecclesiarum, quae in regno Poloniae, & magno ducatu Lithuaniae ... affirmant. Racoviae, 1609.

Summerfield A245

This little volume is one of the most famous and important works in the theological literature of Europe of the 17th and 18th centuries. Our edition is a Latin translation by Hieronim Moskorzewski, with a 1609 Raków imprint (although some bibliographers consider it to be a Dutch reprint of a later date), of the so-called
Racovian Catechism, or Creed of the Polish Socinian Church, also known as the Polish Brethren, Arians, Antitrinitarians, and considered to be predecessors of the Unitarian Church.

This small religious movement, with centers in Raków and Lublin had been established by Fausto Paolo Sozzini (1539-1604), an Italian. He began to draw up the Catechism in 1603 with the help of Peter Stoinski; after the death of Sozzini (Socinus) it was entrusted to Moskorzewski and Valentinus Smalcius.

In a catalog accompanying a recent exhibit of Polonica at the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Samuel Fiszman notes: “Among the various trends in the Polish Reformation ... [the Socinian movement] was the most radical in its new understanding of Christian doctrine and also in the field of social and political reform ... ; Their founders ... came to tolerant Poland where their faith was not prosecuted as heresy. In their main center in Raków, they organized a flourishing Academy and a very active publishing house. The origin of their ideas lay in Renaissance rationalism. Along with Antitrinitarianism and the use of reason in the interpretation of the Holy Scripture, one of their basic convictions was ... religious tolerance. ‘We do not grant,’ wrote Jan Przypkowski, ‘anyone the liberty to violate, in private or in public, the freedom of conscience, nor the liberty to propagate religion by force and violence.’”

The Socinian press ceased to exist in 1638 when the movement was expelled from Poland at the instigation of the Jesuits. Many members found asylum in Holland, whence, ironically, Dutch dissenters had earlier fled to Poland.

***
Krotnie zebrawie

Dawaliśc Pomorzanie wszystcy zelo powinni,
Każdy był powinien i swej w jarzeczcie piełny.
To tylko cztery lata sprawcy co gdyby
Dzięku zbyw był, szynszmy dla bzeć i bębszy.
Wszakże ile tyle żyć, który rzeczy wielkie
Zyjac czynić, dosyć żyć, przetrwa wieki wsielskie.

Lata od Narodzenia Bożego 895.

Emowit, synowi swemu Piastowi obyczaim po-
Gńskiem pogrzeb odprawowy na krolestwo wsta-
pie. Ten osobliwo rostropnością y meszwm
niemniej tej czula opatrznością lud w swym po-
czyniu sprawował, y każdego nieprzyjacielu z grą-
nie państwa swegoego, czesto kroćle ile jedno trą-
ślo znamniej odpłacił. Węgry, Czechy, Królewiczy y Pomor-
czyki do trybun danania sobie przepędził; y siła spraw znamie-
tnych stanowi krolestku godnych zofistowyszy, y tylko czte-
y lata na krolestwie wielu swego przepędził, w niedystra-
zym wiele z tego świata zjedł. Syna jednego Leska czwarte-
go, po sobie zofistowil.
SCITHS AND SARMATIANS


*Summerfield D356*

A Polish translation of Gwagnin's *Sarmatiae Europeae descriptio*, first published in Kraków by Matthias Wierzbieta in 1578, and also displayed in this exhibition: one of the most important chronicles of the Polish Commonwealth.

The Sarmatians were an Iranian people who spoke the Indo-European language Scythian. They flourished for 900 years from about the 5th century B.C. to the 4th century A.D. in the western part of Scythia, an area encompassing today's Ukraine and southern Russia and the north-eastern Balkans. They declined during the period of the Great Migrations of the Huns and Goths; their descendants are the present-day Ossetians.

Since the 17th century Sarmatia has come to be a wholly romantic concept and an unofficial name of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. In geology the southern part of the East-European craton is known as the Sarmatian Craton.

***
ROZDZIAŁ
PIERWSZY

O Personie Naszey Hospodarskiej.

ARTYKUL I.

Wszyscy Czywatele Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego,
tyjm jednym prawem pilanym, y od nas danym sadzeni
być maia.

A przydą my Hospodar obiecuim y słubniem Roż,
pod rzącz przysięgi koroniny uczynili wszys-
tkim Czywatelem wksyżkich Ziem Państwowych
Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego. J
wsyżkich Książat Panów Rad Duchownych y
Swierckich Panów Choragiewnych Knacko-
miast wwsyżkich poddanych Naszych y wszys-
tkich stanów w tym Państwie Naszym w Wielkim Księstwie Litewskim y innych wszyskich Ziem zdarne ku temu Państwom przysłucha-
iscych podczaszy od wyszyżnego stanu z do niższego y tymi jednymi
prawy y Artykalnymi w tymże Statucie niżej pisancym y od nas
danymi sadzić y sprawować mamy. I Także cudzoziemce y zagra-
niczniki Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego przysiędata y skromnol
wielobyciadem przybyje ludzie y tymże prawem maia być sadzeni y
na tych Prowincjach gdzie po wyszapi,

a ZTGMYNT III. w Krakowie na Koronację św. Koronie Polskiej w
W. Xiedw Litewskiemu i rawa y Starma potwierdza, y wędący nich sadzie
obieceu, Roku 1585. tit Confirmationis lurium generalis fol. 447.

ARTY-
THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN COMMONWEALTH

Statut wielkiego xięstwa Litewskiego ... od roku 1550 do 1647 y przydano aż do Seymu roku 1690. W Wilnie: w drukami Akademiey Societatis Jesu, 1694. Summerfield D413

A volume of Lithuanian laws and statutes. By the end of the 14th century Lithuania had become one of the largest states in medieval Europe and included Byelorussia and large parts of Ukraine and Great Russia. Lithuania and Poland were united in a dual monarchy in 1386 by marriage of Lithuanian Grand Duke Władysław Jagiello and Queen Jadwiga of Poland, a union that provided a strong bulwark against the growing Teutonic threat. In the battle of Grunwald (Tannenberg) in 1410, the combined Lithuanian-Polish army defeated and permanently weakened the Teutonic Knights in one of the most famous battles of the Middle Ages.

Lithuania was fully merged with Poland by the Union of Lublin in 1569. The Commonwealth now had a common Sejm (Parliament), although armies, treasury and other government offices remained separate. Although the immediate result for Lithuania was rapid economic, social and cultural development, the Union and consequent Polonization contributed ultimately to national antagonisms. In the three partitions of Poland in 1772, 1793 and 1795, Lithuania passed to Russia.

***
TENDE IS THE KNIGHT


The *Relation historique de la Pologne*. Paris, 1686, was a valuable encyclopaedic account of Poland, based on firsthand observation by a man who was courtier and secretary to King Jan Kazimierz. This London translation differs in a number of respects from the original: in addition to a chapter on the Polish Socinians there is a chronological abridgment of Polish history including a note on the imaginary King Popiel whose father was “debauched and effeminate” and who was himself eaten by mice.

***
ONE-UPSMANSHIP


Warsaw in 1656 as seen from the Praga bank of the river Vistula: in the foreground are Swedish cavalry and infantry. Carl Gustav X, King of Sweden, had invaded Poland in 1655. The engraving is one of 124, 59 of them Polish views, in the seven-part work. The engravings are by Erik Jonsson Dahlberg (1625-1703). Dahlberg’s name does not appear on the title-page because his title (Grefve) was higher than Pufendorf’s (Baron) and protocol would have demanded that the work be listed under Dahlberg, with Pufendorf in secondary position; thus Pufendorf decided to omit Dahlberg’s name altogether. It does appear on most of the copper plates.

***
Nie w drogich Tepobanach, ani w złotej Lidzie,
Z których z kruszcu leciał komu Midzie,
Twe Rodowite cene nabyły Kamienie,
Lecz tam gdzie się bogaci dowcip w Hipokrenie.

Niech kto w Tajgecie Palmy, na skroń radosnym wyrwie,
KRZYŻ MAZEPÓW w Parnassie, w Lawr trwały że kwitnie
Niedźwi, bo gdzie Hypokren, a RZEKI HERBOWE,
Tam y-Kupressy kwitną w Korony Lawrowe.

Frigyjki Ganimedes niech się wzbią w chłuby,
że od Orla porwany, przy stole Cekuby
łowiszowi nalewa: w teźże wzniosł Honory
OBIDOWSKI, gdy ORŁEM w Garskie wleciał Dwory.
EPITHALAMION


This work, written in a mixture of Polish and Latin, celebrates with poetry the wedding of two local Kievian notables; it is an interesting example of eastern European Baroque typography and illustration from the 17th century press of the “Monastery of the Catacombs” in Kiev, the city absorbed from Poland into Russia by the Treaty of Moscow with Sobieski in 1686.

***
STUDY-ABROAD

Catholic Church: Rituale sacramentorum ... ad... regni Poloniae usum. Cracoviae: typis collegij majoris, Universitatis Cracoviensis, 1725-1730. Altera pars.

The 18th century book of liturgy displayed here was a gift of Edmund Czerwinski, former KU Associate Professor of Russian and Polish.

The period of feudal disintegration and political fragmentation in Poland during the second half of the 12th and greater part of the 13th century was on the cultural side a period of flowering. Dominican and Franciscan orders established monasteries that became centers of cultural activity. Many Poles studied abroad. The earliest known manuscript of Polish religious poetry, the Bogurodzica dates from the 13th century; Polish liturgical music dates from about 1230. Many of these early poetic and musical compositions are recent discoveries; in fact, most turned up after World War II.

***
PARTITION DRAMA

Stanisław August Poniatowski was Poland’s last monarch (reigned 1764-1795). During his reign the Poles experienced a national cultural revival. But Frederick II, King of Prussia, knowing that Poland would be unable to effectively resist outside forces, in 1769 proposed the partition of Poland to Russia’s Catherine the Great and to Joseph II, Emperor of Austria. One third of Polish territory was annexed, with no resistance, in 1772. This dramatization of the first partition is attributed to English theologian Theophilus Lindsey. The work was popular and appeared almost simultaneously in French, German, Dutch, and, of course, Polish.

***
DIET FOR KINGS


This German translation of *Histoire de diètes de Pologne pour les elections des rois* was first published in Paris in 1697. The work is a valuable source for the history of the electoral monarchy in Poland, beginning with Henry of Valois and the *correctura iurum*, a reform of the constitution resulting in Poland’s conversion from a limited monarchy to a republic with an elected head. Election intrigues are described, from the beginning up through the interregnum after the death of Jan III Sobieski and until the election of Fredryk August II, Elector of Saxony, in 1697.

***
Nachricht
von denen in der
Hochgräflich-Zaluskischen
Bibliothek
sich befindenden
raren polnischen Büchern,
heraus gegeben
von
Johann Daniel Janozki.

Dresden 1747.
bei George Conrad Walther,
Königl. Hofbuchhändler.
GHOST OF ITS FORMER SHELVES


This volume holds a catalog of the greatest Polish 18th century library, a good part of it relating to Polish history, formed over forty-three years by Count Załuski and his brother Andrew, Bishop of Cracow.

Consisting originally of about 300 thousand volumes and 15 thousand manuscripts, it came to St. Petersburg as war booty in 1795 to form the nucleus of the Imperial Russian Library; in the process of careless transport and transfer of some parts of the collection to other institutional libraries during the next fifteen years, it was depleted by almost a quarter.
**THE OATH OF KOŚCIUSZKO**


Shown here in the Appendix to the *Histoire* is the oath of Kościuszko taken in the Kraków marketplace upon proclamation of the national insurrection: “I, Tadeusz Kościuszko, swear to the Polish nation, in the presence of the Almighty, that I will never twist the power which has been entrusted to me to oppress any citizen, but that I will use it only to defend the integrity of my country, to recover national independence and to affirm complete freedom in my country.”

Zającček was a delegate to the Four Year Sejm that ratified the Constitution of the Third of May (the text of which is also included in the Appendix), and participant in the war against Russia in 1792 and the Kościuszko Insurrection of 1794. On the left is the last page of the text of the *Acte d’insurrection, publié à Cracovie le 24 mars 1794.*

***
HERO OF TWO CONTINENTS


The plot of this novel by Jane Porter (1776-1850) centers on the leader of the Insurrection of 1794, Tadeusz Kościuszko (1746-1817). Like Kaziemierz Pułaski, Kościuszko had fought in the U.S War of Independence; he fortified Bemis Heights (Battle of Saratoga) and thus contributed significantly to the American victory. Upon his return to Poland he led the uprising. Although the Poles were successful in early battles, a numerically superior enemy suppressed the insurrection inside of three months. In 1795 the third partition wiped Poland from the map of Europe.

Kościuszko had been wounded and taken prisoner by the Russians in 1794. Freed after two years, by 1797 he had made his way back to America where he was given a hero’s welcome. Thomas Jefferson called him “as pure a son of liberty as I have ever known and of that liberty which is to all, and not to the few and rich alone”.

O’Hegarty C3552
Two large collections of Porter family papers are to be found in the manuscripts collections in the Department of Special Collections, mostly Jane Porter’s letters to her brother Robert Ker Porter (author of Travelling sketches in Russia and Sweden). Jane Porter’s Thaddeus of Warsaw, here in an 1845 edition but originally published in 1803, was her first of many novels; nine editions of Thaddeus before Kościuszko’s death in 1817.

***

THE BATTLE OF VIENNA


King Jan III Sobieski (reigned 1674-1696), talented statesman, politician, and patron of the arts, is perhaps best known in connection with The Battle of Vienna, 1683, illustrated here in a plate from Zaydler’s Storia della Polonia, Florence, 1831.

The Swedes had been driven from Poland three years after the 1655 invasion, but the country was weakened and her recovery was interrupted by the outbreak of the Polish-Turkish War of 1667 for the control of Ukraine. Jan Sobieski led Polish troops to victory in The Battle of Khotyn in 1673 and was elected king a year later. The Turkish danger still existed, however, and a decade later Turkish troops had defeated both the Austrian and Russian armies and stood at the gates of Vienna. Sobieski hastened to Vienna and as commander-in-chief of the combined Christian forces scored a glorious victory over Ottoman troops in the Battle of Vienna, on November 12, putting a permanent end to the Turkish advance and saving Europe in the process.
Kollektor II.
Vom Entstehen
und
Untergange
der
Polnischen Konstitution
vom 3ten May 1791.

Non autores, sed rationum momenta quaerenda sunt.

Cicero.

1793.
FROM “KOŁATAJ’S FORGE”


This work on the enactment and fall of the Polish Constitution of the 3rd of May 1791, was first published in Polish in Metz in the same year as the German edition shown here, written in collaboration with two other members of the writers’ group dubbed “Kołłątaj’s Forge”. Politician, philosopher, educator, and rector of Jagiellonian University, Kołłątaj wrote important works in the fields of history, ethnography, and social philosophy, and was one of the authors of the Constitution of the 3rd of May.

Accomplished by the Four Year Sejm, the Constitution was the second anywhere in the world to formulate principles of government in written form (the U.S. Constitution was the first.) It brought reforms, abolishing the Liberum Veto and the elective monarchy. It was an attempt to introduce a parliamentary monarchy that would limit power of the magnates and strengthen rights of the burghers. Kołłątaj was also one of the organizers and leaders of the 1794 Insurrection that broke out after the second partition.

***
FATHER OF THE ORBIS COLLECTION: “T.R”. SMITH


Map showing the partitions of Poland: RED: Austria, YELLOW: Russia, GREEN: Prussia, after the third and final partition in 1795. At this point in history the Royal Republic of Poland disappeared from the map of Europe until after the First World War, except for (a) The Duchy of Warsaw, 1807-1812, and (b) Congress Poland, 1815-1830.

The Homann Heirs were map publishers in Nürnberg between 1730 and 1813. The late Thomas R. Smith, former Professor in KU’s Geography Department and father of the Orbis Collection in the History of Cartography, notes that although this map may have been produced in 1795 around the time of the last partition of Poland, the coloring and the note in German appear to have been added to an earlier map.

***
POLAND: 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

1. LITHUANIAN PEASANT
2, 3, 4, 5, 6: NOBLES
7. MOUNTAINEER FROM THE CARPATHIANS
8. PEASANT FROM THE PALATINATE OF LUBLIN
9. NOBLEWOMAN
10. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMIES OF POLAND

***
Although the beginning of the 15th century had seen translations from Latin into Polish coming off the Kraków presses, it wasn’t until the Reformation that Polish became a literary language in its own right. In 1543 Kraków printer Marek Szarffenberg printed the first original literary work in the vernacular, a discourse by Mikołaj Rej (author of the famous statement: “Poles are not geese; they have their own language”).

Nevertheless, Polish students of past centuries, like students everywhere today, were better off knowing some Latin, and this work was a Polish-Latin dictionary designed expressly with them in mind, printed in Kalisz.

Early imprints from this capital city of the Kalisz province are rarities.
FAIR POLAND


A Polish church fair is here pictured in the first volume of Zaydler's *Storia della Polonia*. Today in Poland many of the folk customs and observances of former times are perpetuated in organized cultural events in big cities, but, especially in rural areas, a wealth of folk traditions is still alive and spontaneous. One Polish scholar, Andrzej Zieleniewicz notes, The rural church fairs and processions, the songs and dances, legends, traditions and folk art are what truly distinguish Poland from any other country on the face of the earth”.

But in fact these traditions are alive and well in much of Eastern Europe.

***
GOLDEN RULE DAYS


*Children B2665*

Stories for children about Jadwiga and Jan Sobieski, in a work said to be a compilation and translation “from the French of N.-A. de Salvandy, the Countess Dohojowska, Olympia Chodzkowa, and other sources.”

Education in Poland has ancient traditions. Formal schooling for the priesthood began in the first cathedral schools established in the 12th century. In 1364 Kazimierz the Great founded the University of Kraków, 2d oldest university in Central and Eastern Europe. In the 16th century, Poland’s greatest political thinker, Frycz Modrzewski, considered teaching the most honorable of all the professions. The most important date for education in Poland is 1773: in that year the world’s first ministry of education was founded, when the Sejm established the Commission of National Education. The aim of the Commission was to “free instruction from
metaphysics and scholasticism”. Mathematics and the natural sciences were brought to the fore, and “education was integrated with the life of the country, its culture and history”. (from Poland: a handbook, 1974)

After the partitions, the partitioning powers attempted to russify and germanize the schools and the educational achievements of the Enlightenment experienced a setback. The volume displayed, with Russian and Polish on facing pages, is the Project for the New Regulation of Schools in the Vilna University Educational District.

Prince Adam Czartoryski was Curator for the district and a member of the Council for School Affairs in the Russian Ministry of Education. He had submitted to the Council “Principles of Public Education in the Russian Empire”, drawn up by Hieronym Strojanowski, Rector of the University. Modeled on the principles put forth by the Polish Commission on National Education, that document became the basis of the whole Russian school system. It is almost certain that Strojanowski is the author of our volume and it was based on the above “Principles”.

***
NOW VOYAGER


Krasinski was writer and diarist, senator, author of comedies and opera libretti, freemason, warrior in the Polish army, and as of 1816, director of the Warsaw Theater and ultimately Knight of the Order of Saint Stanislaus.

***

Autodidact Grabowsky was historian, bookseller, collector, archaeologist and antiquarian. His historical view of the city of Kraków was first published in 1822, just one of many productions, often illustrated, of this scholar of the oldest monuments of Kraków and of Polish folk customs.
POLAND: 19TH CENTURY

1. PEASANT FROM THE VICINITY OF KRAKÓW
2. YOUNG WOMAN FROM THE VICINITY OF KRAKÓW
3. FARM BOY FROM THE VICINITY OF KRAKÓW
4. SERVANT FROM KRAKÓW
5. PEASANT IN WORK CLOTHES
6. PEASANT FROM SAMOGITIE
7. LITHUANIAN PEASANT
8. UKRAINIAN PEASANTS
9. COSSACKS FROM THE UKRAINE

***
BREADBASKET OF EUROPE

Robert Johnston (1783-1839): Travels through part of the Russian empire and the country of Poland. London: Printed for J.J. Stockdale, 1815.

Chapters 11 and 12 of Johnston's Travels are concerned with Poland. Johnston reflects on everything from the devastation of the city of Warsaw to howling wolves in the deep forests, and the state of agriculture. He says, “In no country have we seen a richer soil, and more susceptible of agriculture, than in Poland. Every acre ... is capable of great improvement, and the country at large might become the granary of the North of Europe.”

Until 1945, Poland was primarily an agricultural country, but today a much higher percentage of Poland’s labor force is employed in non-agricultural industries and services; agriculture has not lost its importance, for Poland's natural features and climate are conducive to farming, but industry has greatly reduced its share in the national income and employment figures since the institution of agrarian reforms after World War II.

***
Most Eminent Polish Historian


Lelewel is said to be the most renowned Polish historian of all times. He was a Professor of bibliography at the University of Warsaw, and of World History at the University of Wilno, where he was a foremost representative of the National Government during the November Insurrection of 1830-1831. The uprising was crushed and Lelewel joined the exodus known as the Great Migration. In addition to his work as teacher and researcher in Polish and world history, he authored innovative studies in numismatics and geography. He is best known, however, for his work in historical methodology and was the first to apply an interdisciplinary approach to the study of history. This is the first edition of his history of Poland as told by an uncle to his nephews.
JEWES AND THE KALISZ PRIVILEGE OF 1264

John Thomas James (1786-1828): *Journal of a tour in Germany, Sweden, Russia, Poland, during the years 1813 and 1814*. 2d edition. London: John Murray, 1817. 2 volumes. Vol. 2. C3658

In his *Journal* James records his impressions of a journey through Volhynia and Galicia. On the left is an aquatint of the courtyard of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków.

The text to the right is an account of Polish Jews. In 1264 Jews were given full legal protection by the Kalisz Privilege issued by Prince Bolesław Pobożny, the Pious. Jews had begun to settle in Poland in the latter half of the 12th century, and before the Kalisz Privilege they enjoyed the protection of the ruling princes as *servi camerae*. They specialized largely in moneylending and minting. The Counter-Reformation and the ousting of the Socinians notwithstanding, Poland achieved a degree of religious tolerance unmatched in the rest of Europe. The Kalisz Privilege, the first of its kind in Christian history, served as the basis for existence of the Jewish community in Poland for many centuries.

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POLAND: 19TH CENTURY

1 4 5 2 3 8 9 10

7 6 11 12 13

1. JEW RETURNING FROM THE SYNAGOGUE
2, 3. JEWISH WOMAN AND CHILD
4. JEWISH CARRIAGE DRIVER
5. PEASANT FROM THE VICINITY OF LUBLIN
6. LITHUANIAN PEASANT
7. PEASANT FROM SAMOGITIE
8. POULTRY MERCHANT
9, 10. WOOD CHOPPER AND WOODCUTTER
11. ONION MERCHANT
12. LAWYER
13. DAIRYMAID

***
SOCIALISM SZCHMOSOLISM

The Polish Socialist Party (Polska Partia Socjalistyczna = PPS) was founded in 1892. Józef Piłsudski was one of its prominent leaders. The PPS was not at all a homogeneous body and some of its leaders felt that thoughts of Polish national liberation were out of place at that point in time; the first consideration was the construction of a socialist system that would come about only after the international revolution, and as one of its results. Once socialism was victorious on an international scale, the question of Polish nationalism would solve itself. Thus to this group a nationalistic platform was a contradiction of socialist principles. Piłsudski had other ideas.

***
b) Na komendę „Cel!” pistolet podnosi się do wysokości prawego oka; wskazujący paliec prawej ręki przekłada się na cyngiel tak, by drugi staw palca był na cyngiel i celuje się. Lewą rękę odrzuca się, jednocześnie z podniesieniem pistoletu, za lewe biodro.

PIŁSUDSKI AND THE PIŁSUDSKI BRIGADES


B4855
One of a collection of thirteen pamphlets on military commands and muster prepared as a manual for the Piłsudski Brigades.

Jozef Piłsudski (1867-1935) was one of Poland’s greatest statesmen. He joined the PPS in 1894 and began publication of the secret party organ Robotnik. At that time he was one of those party members who felt that national emancipation should go hand in hand with socialist aims. He organized the Polish Legions which fought on the side of the Central Powers against Russia in World War I. However, he refused to fight any longer when it was clear that Germany would not allow a truly independent Polish government; after imprisonment in Germany he returned home to become Head of State, 1918-1922.

Poland reappeared on the map, after 125 years, on 11 November 1918. The Versailles Treaty of 1919 re-established the Polish-German frontier; Piłsudski established the Polish-Soviet frontier after defeating the Red Armies in late summer, 1920. He retired from public life in 1923, but fearing that political instability endangered Poland, he stages a coup d’etat in 1926 and developed an authoritarian government. He died in 1935, while World War II threatened, the greatest challenge to Polish nationalism yet to come.

***
THE POLISH QUESTION

A NOTE ON THE JOINT PROTECTORATE OF THE WESTERN POWERS AND RUSSIA

BY

JOSEPH CONRAD

LONDON: PRIVATELY PRINTED BY CLEMENT SHORTER
MARCH 1919
“BETWEEN POLONISM AND SLAVONISM … INCOMPATIBILITY”


“Polonism … having been a factor in the history of Europe and having proved its vitality under oppression, has established its right to live. That spirit, despised and hated by Germany and incompatible with Slavonism [i.e. Russian Pan-Slavism] because of moral differences, cannot avoid being (i.e., its renewed assertion) a subject of dislike and mistrust.”

These words of Korzenowski, better known as Joseph Conrad, are from his political essay written in 1916. Only twenty-five copies of this pamphlet were printed, all on handmade paper.

***
Найміт Петлюру продав Україну польським панам!

Пані спалили й пограбували Україну—смірть панам і Петлюроюцям!
ANTI-POLISH POSTER


The original of this facsimile poster was published in 1920 by the Kiev Branch of the All-Ukrainian Publishing House, artist unknown. Translation: “The mercenary Petilura has sold out Ukraine to the Polish landed gentry. The Polish nobles have burned and sacked the Ukraine. Death to the Polish nobles and to Petliura’s followers!”

Jozef Piłsudski had expanded Poland’s eastern frontiers after the Polish-Soviet War (1919-1920), an action resulting in the incorporation of several million Ukrainians and White Russians into Poland. Simon V. Petliura (1879-1926) was a Ukrainian nationalist leader who joined the Polish forces under Piłsudski’s command.

***
CLEVELAND DESPERADO


Anti-establishment writer Tom L. Kryss (a.k.a. The desperado from Cleveland) may or may not really be a Polish-American who changed his name from Tomasz L. Krzywkowski and wrote a Polish-American book about rabbits. Images for all ages.

***
THE SCIENCES IN POLAND

The books here displayed scarcely suggest the considerable scientific accomplishments of Poland during her thousand-year history. Beginning as early as the 13th century her scientific output has been great, but for various reasons that contribution has been little known to the rest of the world.

This department’s lack of Polonica in the sciences reflects that situation (one exception is the good number of Polish offprints in the Sir Gavin De Beer collection of embryology and systematic zoology); in addition, we leave the buying of books in the physical sciences to the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, Missouri, and in the history of medicine, with the exception of medical botany, to Kansas University’s Clendening Medical Library in Kansas City, Kansas.

Fortunately we can display works by Copernicus and Skłodowska-Curie, two of the greatest scientists of all time and all places, items we acquired in connections other than our interest in either Poland or Science. The works you see here are not without interest, however, and are further evidence of the fact that there are “Polonica” to be found in a great many of the collections housed here.

***
RECHERCHES
SUR LES
SUBSTANCES RADIOACTIVES.

THÈSE PRÉSENTÉE A LA FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES DE PARIS
POUR OBTENIR LE GRADÉ DE DOCTEUR ÉS SCIENCES PHYSIQUES;

PAR
Mme SKlodowska Curie.

DEUXIÈME ÉDITION, REVUE ET CORRIGÉE.

PARIS,
GAUTHIER-VILLARS, IMPRIMEUR-LIBRAIRE
DE BUREAU DES LONGITUDES, DE L'ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE,
Quai des Grands-Augustins, 55.

1904
Chemist and physicist Madame Curie was the most distinguished Polish scientist of the modern era and arguably the greatest female scientist in history. This work on radioactivity is the second edition of the published form of her doctoral dissertation at the Sorbonne in 1903.

Her teacher and friend Henry Becquerel had discovered the radioactivity of uranium compounds; she was to find that radiation was characteristic of elements, not of chemical compounds. Later, working with her husband Pierre Curie she discovered in uranium ore, in a mineral called pitchblende (a.k.a. yellowcake) two new radioactive elements, polonium (named in honor of her native land) and radium.

The Sorbonne dissertation was her report of the further confirmation of her evidence and determination of the atomic weight of radium: Ra 225.93, the final product of four years’ work.

Marie Skłodowska’s interest in science was stimulated by her father, a professor of physics in Warsaw. She left for Paris and the Sorbonne in 1891 and married Pierre Curie in 1895. For their discoveries, the Curies and Becquerel were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903. Marie went on to receive a second Nobel in 1911, this time for chemistry, for isolating pure radium. She kept close ties with her homeland and on a visit to Warsaw in 1921 established the Curie Institute for Radioactive Research.

***
The German for ostrich is Der Strauss!

The great 18th century Swedish naturalist and father of modern taxonomy, Carl Linnaeus, invented an artificial system of classification of plants and animals. Whereas a natural system is based on a maximum correlation of attributes, an artificial one considers only one or a few characteristics; for instance, a field guide in which flowers are arranged by color is utilizing an artificial system and evolutionary relationships are not considered. Artificial systems, arbitrary but practical, had been convenient for the enormous task facing 18th century naturalists, who were swamped by the rapid increase in plant and animal discoveries by the great explorers.

Klein, town clerk of Gdańsk, published this general survey of birds arranged according to an artificial, numerical system based on the differences in their heads, tongues, and feet. It includes a Polish-Latin, Latin-Polish dictionary of names. It was the opinion of at least one ornithological bibliographer that Klein’s treatises “are just as dry as the birds he preserved by ‘drying’”, but “possess the advantage ... of being illustrated by fairly good plates”.

***
Every exhibition should have a botany book or two in it, no matter what the subject of the exhibition. This translation into Polish is by Szymon Pisulewski (1808-1859), author of a number of botanical and zoological works in his own right.

The poor physical condition of Eduard Winkler’s book of “simples”, or medicinal plants, almost renders it unfit for display, but despite the large collection of botanical books in the Department of Special Collections, spanning five centuries, this is one of only a few with a Polish imprint, and it does serve to illustrate the fate of many a field guide to plants (or birds, or insects, or herpetofauna) although in this day and age publishers make sturdier bindings for such often roughly used tomes.

The Slavic root *lek* of the title is said to be related etymologically to the English *leech* with all of its medical connotations.

***
A NEW LIGHT
OF
ALCHYMIE:
Taken out of the fountain of
NATURE, and Manuall
Experience.
To which is added a TREATISE of
SULPHUR:
Written by Michael Sandivogius:
i.e. Anagrum matricaly,
DIVI LESCHI GENUS AMO.

Also Nine Books Of the Nature of Things,
Written by PARACELSUS, viz.
\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Generations} & \quad \text{Renewing} \\
\text{Growthes} & \quad \text{Transmutation} \\
\text{Conservations} & \quad \text{Separation} \\
\text{Life} & \quad \text{Death} \\
\text{Signatures} & \quad \text{of Natural things.}
\end{align*}
\]

Also a Chymicall Dictionary explaining hard places
and words met withall in the writings of Paracelsus,
and other obscure Authors.

All which are faithfully translated out of the
Latin into the English tongue,

By J. F. M.D.

London, Printed by Richard Cotes, for Thomas Williams, at the
Bible in Little-Britain, 1650.
SULPHUR THREADS AMONG THE GOLD


B1843

Better known as Sendivogius, this most famous of Polish alchemists first published his Novum lumen chymicum in Prague, in 1604. The work shown here in English translation, was sixteen years ahead of Francis Bacon’s Novum organum.

Oddly enough for an alchemist, Sendivogius asserted that experiment was the only teacher of truth; he was also the first person in the history of chemistry to note that oxygen existed in the air and was ‘the food of life’. He frequently cited Paracelsus, whose theories on the use of medical substances and mineral baths for the treatment of disease were very popular in Poland.

TO THE MOON ALEX: on the darker side of this mysterious science was the Polish nobleman and sorcerer Alex Twardowski, the “Polish Faust” who is said to have sold his soul to the devil in exchange for alchemical powers; legend has it that through his last-minute repentance and invocation of the Virgin Mary, he escaped hell but is spending eternity on the dark side of the moon.

***
ADDITION WITH ADALBERT


Tylkowski was an itinerant professor of mathematics, philosophy, and theology who wrote a series of introductory texts on geometry, meteorology and arithmetic. This is a very rare little volume.

***
Equisetum granulosum
sub aqua repens
Every exhibition of books should have a botany book in it, no matter what the larger subject. In this instance we show the “living fossil” *Equisetum* from Hellwing’s Flora. This is the only living genus from the family Equisitaceae, a group of vascular plants that reproduces by spores rather than seeds. As a class, the Equisetopsida dominated late Paleozoic forests for millions of years, and there are numerous species of the genus alive today.

On family expeditions into the wilds when I was young, we were all delighted when we found a crop of *Equisetum* near our camp. The scouring rush, known in German as “Zinnkraut”, or tin-plant, was a source of fascination to me as I pulled the sections apart and reattached them to a different node on a different plant of the same species. And because the stems are coated with silicates, they make for great pot scrubbers in the absence of steel wool. The Japanese find them superior to any sandpaper for the final polishing of wooden objects.

The botanical bibliographies call this volume “an early German regional flora”. Indeed Hellwing was a German clergyman in the ‘regional’ Prussian town of Angerburg, now Wegorzewo in NE Poland; his flora was printed in the Polish city of Gdańsk, of shipyard fame, and birthplace in 1980, the year following the first incarnation of this exhibition, of the independent trade union Solidarność.
OMNIVORE.

1. Kruk właściwy.  
   Corvus corax.

2. Kruk wrona.  
   Corvus cornix.
Green eggs, hold the ham.

Our two ornithological volumes exhibited are from the Ellis Collection of natural history consisting of some 15,000 volumes, about 5,000 of which, plus a large number of manuscripts, original drawings and other miscellanea, are concerned with ornithology. The Ellis collection came to Kansas in 1945 through the generosity of the collector Ralph N. Ellis, Jr. (1908-1945); this material formed the nucleus of the Department of Special Collections, established in 1953.

The author of this volume on the eggs of Polish birds was Director of the Zoological Museum at the University of Warsaw. He is best known for an important monograph *Ornithologie du Perou*, 1884-1886 in 4 volumes, based on observations of Polish naturalists Constantin Jelski (1837-1896) and Jan Sztolcman (1854-1928).
REVOLUTIONVM LIB. I.

anno suum complect circuitum. Post hunc Jupiter duodecennali
revolutione mobilis. Deinde Mars, qui biennio circuit. Quantum
in ordine annuæ revolutionis locum obtinet, in quo terram cum orbe

I. Selenæum fixum Sphaerae immobiles.

II. Saturni anno 30 revolutionum.

III. Ioani 12 annorum revolutionum.

IV. Titania

V. Saturni annorum revolutionum.

VI. Mercurii annorum revolutionum.

Iunari tanquam epicyclo contineri diximus. Quinque loco Venus
nono mensis reducitur. Sextum denique locum Mercurius tenet,
/octaginta dies tempore circumcurrens. In medio vero omnium
residet Sol. Quis enim in hoc pulcherrimo templo iam habe
in altis vel melior loco poneret, quam unde totum simul posset il-
Luminare? Si quidem non inepte quidam lucernam mundi, alii men-
tem, alii rectorem vocant. Thricegiftus sepulchrum Deum, Sophocles
Eleftherius inuenit omnium. Ita profecto tanquam in solio regali Sol

C 3 residens
“COPERNICUS IS A FOOL” -- Martin Luther

Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543): *Astronomia instavrata.*
Amstelrodami: excudebat Wilhelmus Iansonius, 1617.

Summerfield C406

Milołai Kopernik, generally better known by his Latin name Copernicus, turned the medieval world inside out with a theory that debunked the notion that Earth was the center of the universe. The Copernican heliocentric concept was truly revolutionary (no pun intended) and laid the foundation for an upheaval in all areas of human thought. It is said that the first printed copy of *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* was presented to the dying author on his deathbed in 1453. Four years earlier Martin Luther had called the man a fool; even after the volume saw the light (no pun intended) Luther did not read it and mistakenly believed that Copernicus denied the moon’s motion. Still others rejected the theory because they were acquainted with it and couldn’t reconcile the principles of the system with the literal interpretation of the Bible.

Barbara Bienkowska of the University of Warsaw has noted that, “The finest traditions of the controversy with and for heliocentrism are represented ... by the most famous school of old Poland – the Cracow Academy ... ; On the other hand the Cracow Academy hung on longest to the geocentric theory ... and was the last of all Polish schools to recognize the heliocentric theory. This is one of the eloquent proofs that a sincere and real cult of Copernicus as a great scholar and illustrious student of the Cracow Academy could be accompanied by a slashing criticism of his theory in the minds of Polish scholars of that time.”

Although in many quarters Copernicanism was heresy during the 16th and 17th centuries, the Protestant countries were safe from the Inquisition and it was in Holland that the third edition of the Copernican opus, displayed here, was published, under the title *Astronomia instavrata.* The folio format of the first two editions was reduced in the third to quarto so that it could be bound with a set of tables previously issued by the editor and thus be a more complete and usable work. Thus three-quarters of a century after its first appearance, the work was still a practical manual for astronomers; even after it was superseded by the works of such greats as Kepler, Galileo and Newton, it was still honored as a classic in the history of science.

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ORNITOLOGIA
POWSZECHNA
CZYLI
OPISANIE PTAKÓW
WSZYSTKICH CZĘŚCI ŚWIATA
przez
HR. KONSTANTEGO TYZENHAUZA
CZŁONKA WIELU TOW. UCZONYCH.

Z dodatkiem kilku tablic.

WILNO.

NAKŁADEM AUTORA.
DRUKIEM TEOFILA GLÜCKSBERGA.
1843.
Sowa niszarna
(Strix macroptila)
A COMPANION TO OWLS


*Ellis Aves C873*

This Polish naturalist was soldier in the Napoleonic wars, count, landowner, painter and above all, ornithologist and member of the Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauk in Warsaw, the Warsaw Society of the Friends of Science.

Tyzenhaus attempted with this work to describe the birds of the world. He illustrated Taczanowski’s *Oologia ptaków polskich* of 1862, also shown in this exhibition, both works from our Ralph N. Ellis Collection of ornithology and natural history. He collected mammals and bird specimens numbering in the thousands from the areas of present-day Belarus, Lithuania and Ukraine.

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### № 42. Pobrewniicε Wafferbau aus Dunajec Fluße.

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### № 43. Partynier Wasserbau aus Dunajec Fluße.

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*Note: The document contains historical records related to construction projects involving materials and locations.*
MANY A DROP TO DRINK

Wasserbaue im Königreich Galizien. Poland, circa 1823. MS 113

124 hand-colored maps of planned improvements to the water-ways of the province of Galicia (then in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, now divided between Poland, Ukraine, and Rumania). With texts giving brief histories from circa 1804, projected and fulfilled improvements (under the flap) and statistical tables (shown here, first parts only).

***
LITERATURE, LANGUAGE AND MUSIC
A NOT SO GRIM REAPER


A number of the works on display are a good source for the study of Polish costume: the chromolithographs by Racinet, engraved colored plates by Jacquemin, colored and uncolored plates in the two volumes of Zaydler, and plates in the costume books by Kretschmer and Vecellio.

The colored lithographs of the work shown here, by Zienkowicz, are particularly interesting: Harvest-home in the environs of Sandomir illustrates the rich harvest tradition of a country which until recently was primarily agricultural. Poles today celebrate an annual Harvest Festival in early September. In olden days the best girl reaper would bestow on the master of the house the gift of a wreath of wheat and rye adorned with flowers, fruits, and ribbons; feasting and merry-making followed the ceremony. Although folk costumes are not now in general use in Poland and are worn mostly for festivals and national celebrations, Poles in rural areas wear folk dress on church holidays and for family celebrations such as weddings.
CARMEN PATRIUM

Maciej Kazimierz Sarbiewski (1595-1640): Lyricorum libri IV.
Antwerpiae: ex officina Plantiniana Balthasaris Moreti, 1632.

Summerfield C384

Sarbiewski has been called “The Christian Horace”. This poet and theoretician of poetry wrote only in Latin, and while studying in Rome was named poet laureate by Pope Urban VIII. He studied also at Wilno and became a professor at that University. Later he served as royal confessor to King Władisław IV Vasa (reigned 1632-1648).

Sarbiewski’s most famous work is the Lyricorum libri tres, first published in 1625 and reprinted many times in many languages. Shown here is the Antwerp, Plantin-Moretus edition of 1632. Included in this collection is Sarbiewski’s translation into Latin of the oldest known Polish song, the “Bogurodzica” (Ad Virginem Matrem quem D. Adalbertus conscripsit), the manuscript of which dates from the 13th century.

Soldiers’ songs such as this one had the character of national anthems and were the predecessors of the Polish national anthem (official as of 1926) composed in 1797 by Jozef Wybicki for the Polish legions in Italy and popularly known as “Dabrowski’s mazurka”. The “Bogurodzica”, shown here, was sung by the Polish knights during the great battle and victory of Polish-Lithuanian forces over the Teutonic Knights, at Grünwald in 1410.

***
FISH AND GUESTS


A story, surely not apocryphal, has it that this Jesuit and French gentleman of letters G.F. Coyer visited Voltaire in the latter’s castle at Ferney and had such a pleasant time that he promised to return again for three months *every year* from then on. Voltaire responded that indeed Don Quixote had mistaken inns for castles but here Coyer was mistaking castles for inns.

Coyer authored this history of the life and reign of King Jean III Sobieski of Poland; it was frequently reprinted and was translated into Russian, German, and English.  

***
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE


A Newsweek reviewer once called Stanisław Lem “the Pole who may be the greatest living writer of science fiction”. Born in Lwów, Lem started out in medicine but went over to writing SF in 1946. Literary critic, screenwriter, essayist, Lem is a prolific author whose works have been translated into forty-one languages [as of 2014]. The work shown here is a translation of the Cyberiada, first published in Kraków in 1967.

The Department of Special Collections is the primary source for KU Libraries’ resources in science fiction; we used to be asked why – both why at the University at all and why in the rare books collections. It is because the Department is concerned with the research collections of the future and with those present and future scholars who will study the 20th as well as earlier centuries; because SF has become a respectable academic subject and is taught by our own respected SF author, James Gunn, now retired; and because a former student, Larry Friesen, now a lunar geologist, helped give the collection a start back in the 60s and supported it for years.

Largely due to Jim Gunn’s efforts for many decades we have been able to add substantially to the growing body of hardbacks, paperbacks, magazines and manuscripts, the common stuff as well as the ephemeral and the unique. The future came quickly and the collection is being used well into the third millennium: in the fall of 2014 a course is being offered by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures in the Science Fiction writers of Russia and Eastern Europe.

***
ADAM AND THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT OF PATRIOTISM


Adam Mickiewicz (1798-1855) was Poland’s greatest poet and a major representative of Polish and European Romanticism. While still a student at Wilno University he was arrested for pro-Polish activities and the funding of the patriotic Society of Philomaths, for which he was deported to Russia, never to be allowed to return to Poland.

He then travelled through the rest of Europe and was briefly professor of Slavic languages at the Sorbonne, Paris. He spread the ideas of popular revolt wherever he went. During the “Springtime of Nations”, the period of European revolutions, 1846-1849, he organized a Polish Legion in Italy. It was while he was on a similar mission in Turkey during the Crimean War that he was stricken with cholera and died.

Mickiewicz’s literary themes were predominantly Polish; his major work was the epic Pan Tadeusz.
CONRAD FOR LANDLUBBERS

Polish novelist writing in the English language, Joseph Conrad, was born Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski. His father had instilled in him an interest in English literature by encouraging him to read the novels of Scott, Cooper and Dickens in French and Polish translations.

Orphaned at age twelve, he became bored with school in Kraków and at age sixteen, with a longing for the sea, joined the French merchant service. Four years later he joined the British merchant navy where he remained for sixteen years and learned English. By age forty he had become a famous writer in his third language, in his adopted country.

Conrad often complained that he was falsely labeled a sea writer: “The sea is not my subject. Mankind is my subject.”

There is no sea in The secret agent. Thought by many to be the most influential and important of Conrad’s novels, it is a perceptive look at revolutionaries in exile and reads like a scenario for the 60s or 70s in America. This 1923 edition (the original was published in 1907) is a limited, private printing by T. Warner Laurie, no. 35 of 1000 copies signed by the author.

***
FIRST HISTORY OF POLISH LITERATURE


*Summerfield B1862*

A bio-bibliographical dictionary of Polish writers, and the first attempt at a history of Polish literature. This first was followed in 1627 by enlarged editions published in Venice and Frankfurt respectively.

***
UNDERGROUND OR ESTABLISHMENT?


Consisting of twelve loose leaves of poetry and four loose plates, all in a slipcase, from the New American Poetry Collection, once called Literary Ephemera back in Beat Generation days, because the emphasis was on the non-academic, underground literature of the “action” writers – often published in mimeographed or other ephemeral forms. Although many of the writers who were “underground” when the collection was started in 1963 (e.g. Allen Ginsberg, Robert Duncan, Diane Di Prima) are now Establishment, collecting emphasis is still on the new young writers. As our *Guide to the collections* puts it, “Now we shall have to hunt for the new fringe.”

***
N°1 JULLIEN'S ORIGINAL MAZURKA,
OR THE
CELLARIUS VALSE.

N°1, THE ORIGINAL MAZURKA.
DEDICATED TO
MONS. E. COULON
COMPOSED BY
JULLIEN.

LONDON, PUBLISHED BY JULLIEN 3, MADOX STREET, NEW BOND STREET.
THE LIGHT FANTASTIC


Jullien was a big name in the world of popular music in England in the middle of the 19th century, but his musical life began and ended on a sour note. French born, he studied at the Conservatoire, but because his musical interests ran more to light than to long-hair, he was ousted, and after a brief stint conducting the band of the Jardin Turc he fled to England to escape bad debts. In London he put together a good orchestra and held promenade concerts; he wrote an opera that failed, and eventually returned to Paris where he was thrown into debtor’s prison, went mad, and died soon after.

Displayed here is his Original Mazurka. By “original” is apparently meant “the first introduced into England”. The Mazurka, the Polish national dance (the Polka, meaning Polish girl, was of Bohemian origin), was introduced into Germany by King Augustus III of Poland in the 18th century; from there it reached France, and apparently Mr. Jullien was responsible for making it popular in England.

His composition is advertised as “Danced by the fashionable company at Baden-Baden, Spa, at the court balls of St. Petersburg, Vienna, etc. and lately introduced into England by Mr. Jullien ...; The music is in three-four time, and rather slow, but it is differently accented from a waltz. The first and third measure ... are the most dwelt on, and it is this which marks its national character. In Poland the original characteristics of this dance have been preserved, but the Nobility of St. Petersburg have ... simplified it, and rendered it a most elegant and graceful dance.”

Modern day Mazurkas are largely derived from the music of that most famous of Polish musical geniuses, Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849). It has been said that Chopin’s melancholy music is so Polish that his Mazurkas have us dancing and weeping at the same time.

***
Jakby chwilowo zapomniał o tem, co przedtem mówił Masce ss-tej: »Góźnie mnie... łarwy piekle, wy Erynyje. Nie dośćcigniecie mnie już Orestesem, którym ukląkł u ołtarza i któremu Bóg, promienia swego użyczyl. Rozumiesz! Rozświetlił mi w głowie Bóg, Apollo, Chryzus i Erynia przechodzą mimo... Zwolony Orestes dał ziemi swojej uwolnienie od kłatywy«.

CHÓR I MARSZ WESELNY
Z DRUGIEGO AKTU AKROPOLIS

[Music notation image]
Through the years Kansas University's Department of Theater and Film has hosted a number of distinguished theater and film directors, playwrights and other theatre folk from Eastern European countries, Poland among them. Displayed here is a playbill from *Akropolis*, written by that most extraordinary of Polish dramatists from the Young Poland period, Stanisław Wyspiański (1869-1907). In his short life of 38 years this innovator and reformer was an unusually productive playwright, poet, painter, architect, sculptor, musician, stage designer and master interpreter, through the power of his words, of the human experience in general, of Polish life and politics - and psychology in particular.

***
AMBROSII
CALEPINI
DICTIONARIUM
UNDECIM LINGVARUM,
IAM SEPTIMO
ACCURATA EMENDATIONE, ATQUE INFINITORVM
LOCORVM AUGMENTATIONE, COLLECTIS EX HONORBvm AVTO-
RVM MONUMENTIS, CERTIS & EXPRESIS SYLLABARVM QUANTITATIS NOTIS, OMMNISQUE VOCUM SIGNIFIC.
ATIONIBVS, HOCSTIBVS, VOCUNDIVM FORMIS, PROVERBIALIBVS SENTENTIIS, CETERISQUE AD LATINI LERTONIS PRO-
PRINTEM, ELIGIANTIBVS, ET COPIAM PERTINENTIBVS SCIBVS, QUÆ MAEAM TR ADIACENTIBVS, DIGNITATIBVS, CER-
POTENTIBVS EX ORATORVM, VSSUSQUE VULGARIBVS, AC COM-
MODITATIBVS NON PRODIERIT.

Refertur ad omne Latinus vocabulum,

HEBRÆICA, BELGICA,
GRÆCA, HISPANICA,
GALLICA, POLONICA,
ITALICA, VENÆRICA,
GERMANICA, ANGLICA.

ONOMASTICVM VERO:
hoccell,

PROPRIOVM NOMINVM, REGIONVM, GENITVM, PRELVVM, MONI-
TORVM, PROPOREXTRVM, MARIVM, STAGNORVM, MUNICIPIVM, MONSVM, & SCIENTIUM CATALOGVM, MAXIMVM
VSSUM ADHERITVM, EXPLICATVM, & PRAXISVRVM COMEAM
EXPLANATIVM, FECUM AD HOCSTVM.

CVM GRATIA ET PRIVILEGIO IMPERATORIO,
BASILEAE,
APVD HENRICPETRINOS.
MY BIG FAT POLISH DICTIONARY


This hefty tome consists of almost 2,000 pages and is 15 inches tall, but, sad to say, is the only Slavic language represented therein.

A dictionary of eleven languages: Latin, Hebrew, Greek, French, Italian, German, Belgian, Spanish, **Polish**, Hungarian, and English. According to famous Polish Socinian Christoph Sand, the translation of words into Polish was by Piotr Maczynski, also a Socinian. Although printing errors abound in the Polish section, its value lies in its inclusion of many words originating in the 16th century that cannot be found in other dictionaries.

***
POLISH LADY.
(National Costume)
Published by T.H. LACY, 89, Strand, London.
BROADWAY ABROAD

**Thomas Hailes Lacy (1809-1873):** Female costumes, historical, national, and dramatic, in 200 plates. London: Thomas Hailes Lacy, theatrical publisher, 1865. 

A man of many talents, Mr. Lacy was a 19th century playwright, theater manager, actor, bookseller, and in this case, publisher of books of use to all of the former. His greatest claim to fame was the production of acting editions for actors themselves.

Prior to his death, having no heirs, he sold out to his American partner Samuel French who had moved to London in 1872.


***
SMALL BUT MIGHTY


Polish patriot, known as “The Bard of Warsaw”, leftist, pro-Communist and pro-authoritarian poet, Dobrowolski was the editor of this collection of revolutionary song-texts.

***
A shout of thanks out to my colleagues who helped with images: Kathy Lafferty of Spencer Library’s Public Services supervised student assistant Abbey Ulrich’s scanning of book illustrations and Tim Churchill’s photo-shoot of oversized plates as well as the tiny Dobrowolsky miniature book. Loel “Annie” Barr spiffed up the wooden eggs and other added images; technical writer John Brewer inserted all into the text, and Marianne Reed, Digital Scholarship Specialist, worked with me to add this volume to KU ScholarWorks.