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***POLONICA* IN THE BOOK COLLECTION OF PIOTR DUNIN-WOLSKI (1531-1590), SENATOR AND BISHOP OF PŁOCK¹**

***Polonica* w księgozbiorze senatora i biskupa płockiego
Piotra Dunin-Wolskiego (1531-1590)**

Abstrakt

Biskup Piotr Dunin-Wolski był bibliofilem, miłośnikiem i znawcą literatury hiszpańskiej, doskonale zorientowanym w prądach kulturowych epoki i utrzymującym kontakty naukowe i dyplomatyczne. Zgromadzony okazały księgozbiór (ponad 1000 tomów) przekazał do biblioteki Collegium Maius Akademii Krakowskiej oraz do biblioteki kapituły katedralnej płockiej. Wśród zgromadzonych ksiąg na uwagę zasługują dzieła profesorów padewskich oraz ich polskich uczniów, humanisty i teologa Jakuba Górskiego oraz prawnika Wawrzyńca Goślickiego, autora dzieła *De optimo senatore*. Zakupione księgi sygnował superexlibrisem z herbem Łabędź i napisem w otoku: *Petrus Dunin Wolsky D[ei] G[ratia] Episcopus Plocensi*.

Słowa kluczowe: Piotr Dunin-Wolski, biskup płocki, Padwa, Bolonia, księgozbiór renesansowy, polonika

Abstract

Bishop Piotr Dunin-Wolski was a bibliophile, lover and expert on Spanish literature, perfectly familiar with the cultural currents of the epoch and maintaining scientific and diplomatic contacts. He donated a large collection of books (over 1000 volumes) to the Collegium Maius library of the Krakow Academy and to the library of the cathedral chapter in Płock. Among the collected books, noteworthy are the works of Padua professors and their Polish students;

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¹ This article was based on an analysis of the printed source: *Volsciana. Katalog renesansowego księgozbioru Piotra Dunin-Wolskiego, biskupa płockiego*, ed. A. Obrębski, Kraków 1999.

of the humanist and theologian Jakub Górski; and of the lawyer Wawrzyniec Goślicki, author of *De optimo senatore*. He signed the purchased books with a superexlibris with the Swan coat of arms and the inscription in the rim: *Petrus Dunin Wolsky D[ei] G[ratia] Episcopus Plocensis*.

Keywords: Piotr Dunin Wolski, Bishop of Płock, Padua, Bologna, Renaissance book collection, Polonica

In 1642, in Krakow, in the publishing house of Franciszek Cezary, the work of the Bishop of Płock, Stanisław Łubieński (1574-1640), was posthumously published, entitled *Series vitae, res gestae episcoporum Plocensium...*, and a year later (1643), in Antwerp, a collective edition of Stanisław Łubieński's works, *Opera Posthuma historiopolitica variique discursus, epistolae et aliquot orationes [...]*² was published in print by Jan Meurisius (Apud Joannem Meurisius). Like the work by the first biographer of the Bishop of Płock, Piotr Dunin-Wolski, written by the canon of Płock, Wawrzyniec of Wszerecz (1538-1614), also the mentioned biographical work of Stanisław Łubieński (in which he describes the lives of the rulers of the Płock diocese until the fifteenth century) was developed on the basis of Jan Długosz's (1415-1480) catalogue of Płock bishops,³ which has not been preserved to date.

Among the chronologically consecutive descriptions, Łubieński placed as 54th the description of the life, deeds and diplomatic trips of Piotr Dunin-Wolski (1531-1590), who held the office of the Bishop of Płock in the years 1577-1590.⁴ He was an outstanding Renaissance expert on books, who before his death, in his testamentary legacy of January 1, 1590, bequeathed his private book collection to the *Collegium Maius* library at the Krakow Academy and to the cathedral library in Płock.⁵ The Płock canon Wawrzyniec Wszerecz gave the following information about the gift of books to the Krakow Academy in the description of the then Płock Bishop: [...] *multam praeterea supellectilem librorum praecipuorum theologorum egregie concinnatam et exornatam eccelsiae eccelsiae suae reliquit; plurimam in sacris et humanis litteris Graecorum, Latinorum, Italicorum, Hispanicorumque authorum Academiae Cracoviensi legavit [...]*⁶ And canon Wszerecz noted about the books donated

² W. Graczyk, *Stanisław Łubieński (1574-1640), pasterz, polityk i pisarz*, Kraków-Tyniec 2005, p. 174; 337-339; A. Obrębski, *Siedemnastowieczny biogram Piotra Dunin-Wolskiego, biskupa płockiego i dyplomaty*, „Notatki Płockie”, 27/1982, no. 2-3, p. 17.

³ A. Obrębski, op. cit., p. 17.

⁴ S. Łubieński, *Series vitae, res gestae episcoporum Plocensium...*, Cracoviae (In Officina Francisci Caesarij) 1642, pp. 178-183 (Library of the Major Seminary in Tarnów, ref. no 363 (former/Pilsen) [BWSDT/SD/call no. 363]). In the past, the book belonged to the polyhistor Szymon Starowolski, as evidenced by the provenance entry on the title card of the work: *Simon Starowolski Cantor Tarnoviensis Ecclesiae Collegatae Tarnoviensis offeret, mpp.*

⁵ [...] *quantum Ecclesiam suam sponasam amverit, luculenter testatus est, supellectilem certe omnem Ecclesiasticam, tam in auro et argento, quam etiam in vestibus sacris, quae fatis et elegans fuit, cum in legatione Romana versaretur, egregio opere et magno sumptu comparata, una cum perisstromatibus, ac nobilissima Bibliotheca Ecclesiae Plocensi sponasae suae donavit*, see S. Łubieński, op. cit., p. 182-183. See also W. Budka, *Dar biskupa płockiego Piotra Wolskiego dla katedry płockiej*, „Silva Rerum”, 1928, no. 4, pp. 138-141.

⁶ K. Piekarski, *Odkrycie „Volsciany” w zbiorach Biblioteki Jagiellońskiej*, „Silva Rerum”, 1928, no. 4, p. 8, as cited in: L. de Wszerecz, *Vitae abbreviatae Eppum Plocensium*, in: *Monumenta Poloniae Historica*, vol. 6, Krakow 1893, p. 617.

to the Płock cathedral: [...] *Librorum praecipuorum theologorum egregie concinatum et exornatum episcopus Wolski ecclesiam suam reliquit* [...].⁷

Piotr Dunin-Wolski was a high-ranking clergyman of the Old Polish era, an outstanding humanist, a diplomat in the service of King Sigismund Augustus and Stefan Batory, a little later (as from 1574) the Crown's vice-chancellor, from 1576 the grand chancellor of the Crown, a canon of Gniezno, Płock, Poznań, Krakow, the Bishop of Przemyśl, and as from 1577 the Bishop of Płock.⁸ He was a bibliophile and owner of a valuable library collected with great expertise in Pułtusk in Mazovia. Comprehensively educated; he initially studied at the Lubrański Academy of Poznań and then in Italy at Bologna and Padua, where he appeared as *Petrus Wolsens f. d. Pauli* in 1549⁹ to witness the awarding of the degree of Doctor of Medicine to Marcin Próchnicki.¹⁰

Between 1561-1573 he stayed in Spain, in connection with the execution of Sigismund August's rights to the inheritance from his mother (Queen Bona Sforza) seized by King Philip II, trying to regain the so-called Neapolitan sums.¹¹

There he was composing his book collection with great expertise, supplementing it also during his visit in Italy (1579-1582), where he stayed in Rome at the papal court, watching over Polish affairs. In 1582 he visited the museum and library of the famous Italian humanist, doctor and botanist, Ulysses Aldrovandi (1522-1605).¹²

Bishop Wolski was an experienced bibliophile, great lover and connoisseur of Spanish literature, who in the second half of the 16th century, after King Sigismund Augustus (1520-1572) and Primate Stanisław Karnkowski (1520-1603), owned the third most abundant private library in Poland,¹³ thus joining the tradition of the bibliophile primates: Jakub of Sienna (1413-1480) and Maciej Drzewicki (1467-1535).¹⁴

As already noted, by virtue of his will, the largest part of the book collection he accumulated, namely 307 volumes of Spanish prints, 402 volumes of various prints with his accession note, 72 volumes of Italian and legal literature, and about 200-300 volumes of so-called non-accession prints Bishop Wolski donated to the *Collegium Maius* library of the Krakow Academy, while 79 works in 134 volumes he bequeathed to the Płock chapter.¹⁵

⁷ „...ksiąg wybranych teologów pięknie oprawionych swojemu kościołowi biskup Wolski pozostawił”, as cited in: W. Graczyk, *Najważniejsze skarby kultury narodowej w Płocku*, „Studia Płockie”, 31/2003, p. 174.

⁸ W. Graczyk, *Piotr Wolski-Dunin (1530-1590), biskup płocki, humanista, dyplomata, bibliofil*, in: *Encyklopedia Katolicka* (dalej: EK), vol. 20, Lublin 2014, col. 904.

⁹ D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, *Dzieła XVI-wiecznych padewskich profesorów prawa, filozofów i filologów w zbiorach Biblioteki Jagiellońskiej oraz ich proveniencja*, „Studia Środkowoeuropejskie i Bałkanistyczne”, 27/2018, p. 14.

¹⁰ Ibidem, see footnote 14.

¹¹ S. Kosiński, *Pochodzenie i początki kariery politycznej Piotra Dunin-Wolskiego*, „Studia Płockie”, 9/1981, pp. 94-97.

¹² D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 14.

¹³ J. Korpała, *Dzieje bibliografii w Polsce*, Warszawa 1969, pp. 29-30.

¹⁴ J. M. Marszalska, *Prymasi Jakub ze Sienna (1413-1480), Maciej Drzewicki (1467-1535) i Stanisław Karnkowski (1510-1603) – bibliofile, erudyci i pisarze*, in: *Urząd prymasa w Polsce. Geneza – oddziaływanie – znaczenie*, eds. W. Graczyk, J. M. Marszalska, L. Zygnier, Warszawa-Ciechanów 2018, pp. 143-153.

¹⁵ Over the years, the books brought to Krakow were dispersed in the library's warehouses. Kazimierz Piekarski drew attention to them in 1928, postulating the need for a monographic study, but he did not take up the subject himself. Several decades later Andrzej Obrębski undertook this task by publishing the study: *Volsciana. Katalog renesansowego księgozbioru Piotra Dunin-Wolskiego, biskupa płockiego*, Kraków 1999. Books bequeathed by

The books were delivered to Krakow in mid-1592, transported by Master Waclaw Baseniusz.¹⁶ His education, extensive scientific and diplomatic contacts, especially visible during his stay in Italy and Spain, as well as interests in many fields of humanities had an impact on Wolski's bibliophilic interests. Among the collected books on various subjects, the works of Padua professors (and their Polish students) deserve special attention, including 12 works by Karol Sygonius (1520-1584), a high class scholar, erudite, expert in ancient authors and the history of the ancient world, professor at the University of Padua, who was called *maestro amatissimo*, and whose students were, among others, Jakub Górski, professor and rector of the Academy of Krakow, and chancellor Jan Zamoyski, who was given private lessons by Sygonius.¹⁷

Among the works of Karol Sygonius in the collection of Piotr Dunin-Wolski, nine volumes deal with historical topics and these are mainly works on ancient history, discussing the history of Greece – referred to as the times of Athenians and Spartans – and the history of ancient Rome. It is worth noting that on the pages of two works describing the period of the Roman Empire: *Historiarum de occidental Imperio libri XX* [...], published in Bologna, (Apud Societas Typographiae Bononiensis) in 1578¹⁸ and *Historiarum de regno Italiae Libri Quindecim* [...], published in Bologna (Apud Iordan Zilettum) in 1574¹⁹ on the endpaper at the bottom of the cover there have been preserved index notes by Jan Brożek (1585-1652), a famous Krakow mathematician, astrologer, doctor of medicine and theology, professor and rector of the Krakow Academy.²⁰

An interesting and important work on historical topics in the book collection of Bishop Wolski is the dissertation by Karol Sygonius regarding the history of the Jewish nation, *De Republica. Hebraeorum libri VII ad Gregorium XIII Pontificem Maximum* [...], published in Bologna (Apud Ioann Rossium) after 1582,²¹ and here are also Jan Brożek's index notes, made by hand of the Krakow mathematician, on the endpaper, at the bottom of the cover.

Many books collected by the Bishop of Płock concern a variety of issues that fit into the mainstream of humanistic science, culture and art. There are also eulogies of Latin science, history, cultural studies, philosophy, mathematics, astronomy and law. Among others, they

Wolski to the Płock chapter were looted by the Germans during World War II (1940) and taken away with the remaining seminary collection (manuscripts, incunabula, old prints) to Königsberg. See. W. Graczyk, *Najważniejsze skarby kultury narodowej w Płocku*, op. cit., pp. 174; idem, *Księgozbiór kapituły katedralnej w Płocku w XVI i XVII wieku*, „Studia Płockie”, 27/1999, pp. 196-197; idem, J.M. Marszałska, *Księgi rękopiśmienne i stare druki w zbiorach Biblioteki Wyższego Seminarium Duchownego w Płocku. Z dziejów kultury polskich bibliotek kościelnych w dawnych wiekach*, Kraków 2010, pp. 20-21, 25-26; K. Piekarski, op. cit., pp.127-138; B. Bieñkowska, *Katalogi księgozbiorów*, „Przegląd Biblioteczny”, 2001/3, pp. 281-283.

¹⁶ Waclaw Baseniusz (*Venceslai Basennij*) is mentioned in *Statuta nec non Liber Promotionum philosophorum ordinis in Universitate Studiorum Jagellonica ab anno 1402 ad annum..., 1849*, Publ. J. Muczkowski, Kraków 1849, pp. 233, 238; cf. also *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., p. 17.

¹⁷ D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 12; S. Kot, *Polska złotego wieku a Europa. Studia i szkice*. Warszawa 1987, pp. 226-230.

¹⁸ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1138, p. 222; BJ/St. Dr./call no. 393451, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 14, footnote 19.

¹⁹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1139, p. 223; BJ/St. Dr./call no. 393397, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 14, footnote 19.

²⁰ *Ibidem*.

²¹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1137, p. 222; BJ/St. Dr./ call no. 5901861 and BJ/St. Dr. 593435II, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 15, footnote 22.

include *Orationes septem. Pro eloquentia. IIII. De usu linguae Latinae retinendo* [...], published in Venice in the publishing house of Giordano Ziletti in 1560,²² or Aristotle's *De Arte rhetorica libri tres* [...], published in Bologna (Ex Officina Alexandria Benattii) [after 15 September 1565], containing translations and interpretations by Karol Sygonius.²³

In his book collection, Bishop Wolski had also the works of other renowned Padua professors, including Francesco Robortello (1516-1567) of Udine,²⁴ an outstanding philologist, Hellenist and great expert on antiquity, a promoter of the use of the vernacular in science, and also Marco Mantova Benevides (1489-1582), a Spaniard ennobled in Italy, an outstanding lawyer, doctor of civil law (1511) and canon law (1524).²⁵ Particularly noteworthy in the collection of the Bishop of Płock are works by Francesco Robortello, including the chronology of Livius, *De convenientia supputationis Livianae Annalium cum marmoribus Romanis quae in Capitulo sunt* [...], published in Padua (Apud Innocentium Olmum) in 1557²⁶ and dealing with the Roman history during the reign of Emperor Augustus, *De vita et victu Populi Romani sub Impp Caes. August. Tomus primus, qui continent libros XV* [...], published in Bologna (Ex Typographia Io. Bapt. & Alexandri Benaciorum & Ioannis Rubei sociorum) in 1559²⁷ as well as the work *De republica recte administranda atque aliis ad moralem disciplinam pertinentibus rebus* [...], published in Venice [Ed.] Francesco Robortello [Francesco Portonari] in 1578.²⁸

Apart from meeting Francesco Robortello and Karol Sygonius, during his studies in Padua, Piotr Dunin Wolski also encountered another prominent scholar, humanist, writer, lawyer and collector – Mantova Marco Benavides.

From the period of his stay in Italy and his fascination with Italian culture, flourishing in humanistic scientific thought, including law, stem three works by the aforementioned Spanish lawyer, preserved to this day in the Jagiellonian Library, purchased by Bishop Wolski for his library. These are: *Ephemerologium nunc primum in studiosorum* [...], published in Padua (Lorenzo Pasquato Excudebat) from 1579,²⁹ *Psalmorum exquisita paraphrasis qua studiosi sacrum literarum diligenter* [...], a Padua edition (per Lorenzo Pasquati) from 1579,³⁰ and *Speculi vitae opus* [...], *nunc primum in studiosorum*, also published in Padua (per Lorenzo Pasquati) in 1577.³¹

²² *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1141, p. 223.

²³ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 62, p. 51; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 593341II, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 15, footnote 23.

²⁴ D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., pp. 26-27.

²⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 24.

²⁶ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1049, p. 208; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 393380III, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 18, footnote 53.

²⁷ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1331, pp. 255-256; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 393481III, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 18, footnote 55.

²⁸ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 332, p. 97; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 59381III, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 19, footnote 56.

²⁹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 725, s. 158; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 593535I, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 24, footnote 100.

³⁰ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 726, p. 158; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 593537I, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 24, footnote 101.

³¹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 727, p. 158; BJ/St./Dr./call no. 593536I, in: D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 24, footnote 102.

The influence of the Padua scientific (humanistic) milieu on the bibliophilic interests of Piotr Dunin Wolski is eminently visible, both in the subject matter of the collected books, their authors (some of whom he knew personally) and the type of binding of the preserved books. In addition to the works of the aforementioned professors of the University of Padua collected at that time by Bishop Wolski, the works of their pupils or other outstanding authors of Polish origin whom he met personally are also noteworthy.³² It is the Polonica, of which a dozen or so are preserved in the so-called Krakow's collection, that strongly emphasize the interests and contacts of Bishop Wolski with many prominent Poles during his stay abroad.

Among the remarkable authors and scholars of this period is the work of an outstanding Polish humanist, lawyer, theological writer, and polemist, further rector of the Academy of Krakow and royal secretary, a student of Sygonius – Jakub Górski (ca. 1525-1585),³³ *Animadversio sive Crusius in theologos Wirtembergenses [...] et Stanislai Socolovii operam in aedenda Ecclesiae Orientalis Censura calumiantes*, Cologne edition of Maternus Cholinus from 1586,³⁴ with an oval provenance seal on the front page of the work, *Petrus Dunin Wolski ep. Plocensis*.³⁵

In his book collection, Bishop Wolski also possessed an outstanding legal work by an eminent humanist and speaker, political writer, patron of scholars, and from 1601 the Bishop of Poznań, Wawrzyniec Goślicki (1530 or 1538-1603), entitled *De optimo senatore libri duo*, (var. B) published in Venice by Giordano Ziletti in 1568.³⁶ It was co-bound with the thematically related work, *De senatu Romano libri duo*, also published in Venice by Giordano Ziletti in the annex [after 28 June] 1563.³⁷ Its author was chancellor Jan Zamoyski (1542-1605),³⁸ another eminent humanist (from Padua) orator and advisor to the kings Sigismund Augustus and Stefan Batory. Undoubtedly, Bishop Piotr Dunin Wolski tried to collect the works of outstanding Padua scholars whom he encountered during his stay in Italy and, above all, at Padua, as evidenced by the titles of the works of Karol Sygonius, Francesco Robortello or Marco Mantova Benavides, which have survived to this day and also their students' works, among others, Jan Łasicki's (1534-after 1599), a Polish historian, theologian, and supporter of Calvinism and the Czech brothers. On the preserved work of Łasicki *De Russorum, Moscovitarum et Tartarorum religione, sacrificiis, nuptiarum, funerum ritu e diversis scriptoribus [...]* published in Spira by Bernard Albin in 1582,³⁹ there are a handwritten Russian gloss of Jan Brożek on p. 270 and a few marginalia. From the so-called accession note, with a visible date: *1586 22 Aprilis*, it can be concluded that the work was bought or included in the collection at that time.

³² The subject matter is based on the analysis of the source edition of the work: *Volsciana. Katalog renesansowego księgozbioru Piotra Dunin-Wolskiego, biskupa plockiego*, ed. A. Obrębski, Kraków 1999.

³³ E. Ozorowski, *Górski (Gorscius) Jakub (1585-1652)*, canon of Krakow, professor at the Academy of Krakow, canonist, in: *Słownik Polskich Teologów Katolickich* (dalej: SPTK), vol. 1, ed. H. E. Wyczawski, Warszawa 1981, pp. 569-670 (bibliography provided there), *Statuta nec non Liber Promotionum*, op. cit., pp. 201, 273, 276.

³⁴ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 510, p. 126.

³⁵ *Ibidem*.

³⁶ *Ibidem*, entry 512, p. 126.

³⁷ *Ibidem*, entry 1313, p. 250.

³⁸ M. Butkiewicz, *Jan Zamoyski (1542-1605), politician, chancellor, creator of the Zamoyski ordinance, patron*, in: *EK*, vol. 20, Lublin 2014, col. 1234-1235.

³⁹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 635, p. 145.

Therefore, the question arises whether the influence of the mentioned Padua scholars on their Polish students had an impact on collecting works by Poles studying under their supervision. The analysis of the preserved book collection of the Bishop of Płock in this respect confirms the conviction that for Bishop Wolski it was of significant importance, both from the substantive point of view of the collected (purchased?) works and for social considerations. This is confirmed by the subsequent Polonica in the collections of the Bishop of Płock, including the famous historical work by the court chronicler of Jan Zamoyski – Reinhold Heidenstein (1553-1620), *De bello Moscovitico, commentariorum librum sex* [...], which was published in Krakow by the Lazarus Printing House (Drukarnia Łazarzowa) in 1584.⁴⁰

It is worth mentioning that at that time this was managed by its owner, also from Padua – scholar Jan Januszowski (1550-1613), secretary of King Stefan Batory, a printer, translator, and spiritual writer, with time, the owner of the printing house after his father – Lazarus Andrysowic – the so-called Lazarus Printing House, which he managed in the years 1577-1603.⁴¹ Januszowski was a royal archtypographer and later a co-creator of the printing house at the Zamoyski Academy,⁴² ennobled in 1588 by King Sigismund III Vasa. From 1591, he started signing papers as a royal and church archtypographer.⁴³ His extensive Italian contacts put him among Krakow's printers of the sixteenth century to the undisputed first place, since, as an expert on the European typography of Latin nations (Italy, France, the Netherlands), he followed Aldus Manucius, Krzysztof Plantina or Robert Estienne in the composition of the page, typeface of printing fonts, and precision of their implementation.⁴⁴ It should be noted that the Bishop of Płock had in his library two more prints with historical content (undoubtedly Polonica) coming from the Lazarus Printing House. Was this then the result of the Padua contacts, which Wolski had with Jan Januszowski in his so-called Padua period

⁴⁰ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 568, p.134. *De bello Moscovitico commentariorum libri sex*, Kraków 1584, Lazarus printing house (according to B. Kocowski 1585); next edition: Basel 1588; at M. Kromer, *Polonia sive de origine et rebus gestis Polonorum libri XXX*, Cologne 1589; in the collection: *Rerum Moscoviticarum auctores varii unum in corpus congesti*, Frankfurt 1600; reprint: Jan Heidenstein in *Rerum Polonicarum librii XII*, Frankfurt am Main 1672, books 3-6; Polish trans. J. Czubek (missing a preface and a few paragraphs) titled *Pamiętniki o wojnie moskiewskiej w 6 księgach*, Lvov 1894, „Biblioteka dla młodzieży”, series II, vol. 11; German trans.: H. Rätel, *Warhafte, gründliche und eigentliche Beschreibung des Krieges welchen... Stephan Batori... geführt*, Görlicz 1590; Russian transl.: *Zapiski o moskowskoj wojnie*, Petersburg 1889.

⁴¹ Jan Januszowski first printed the Bible translated by Jakub Wujek, a Jesuit, in 1599; he was also the almost exclusive publisher of nearly all of Jan Kochanowski's works, he printed Piotr Skarga and Reinhold Heidenstein's historical works. Plebeian bourgeois literature also came out from the presses of his printing house. At the request of Mikołaj Firlej, the governor of Krakow, Januszowski sorted out and published a set of laws for public use: *Statuta, prawa i konstytucje koronne*. He also attempted to create a national font and to determine the Polish spelling. In 1594, with these fonts he printed the so-called attempt at a new Polish spelling, entitled: *Nowy charakter polski*, in which, a.o., Jan Kochanowski, Łukasz Górnicki, and Jan Januszowski expressed their views on spelling. See. H. Szweykowska, *Książka drukowana XV-XVIII wieku. Zarys historyczny*, Wrocław-Warsaw 1983, pp. 109-111; E. Ozorowski, *Januszowski (Łazarzewic) Jan (1550-1613), archdeacon of Nowy Sącz, author; translator; publisher of theological treatises*, in: SPTK, vol. 2, ed. H. E. Wyczawski, Warsaw 1981, pp. 166-169 (there bibliography also provided); *Statuta nec non Liber Promotionum*, op. cit., p. 432.

⁴² W. Zachorowski, *Januszowski Jan Łazarzowicz (1550-1613), pisarz, tłumacz, drukarz*, in: *Słownik Pracowników Książki Polskiej*, Warszawa-Lódź 1972, pp. 366-367; he helped Jan Zamoyski set up an academic printing house in Zamość between 1594 and 1597 by providing it with fonts from the Krakow printing house which he ran after the death of his father Lazarus Andrysowic.

⁴³ H. Szweykowska, op. cit., p. 110.

⁴⁴ *Ibidem*, entry pp. 85-90, 108.

or the desire to have these titles in their collection? Or perhaps due to the high quality of printed works for which his publishing house was famous? Or were there other reasons why Piotr Dunin Wolski acquired these works for his collection? It might be assumed with high probability that all these reasons were taken into account by Bishop Wolski.

Also from the Krakow Lazarus Printing House in Krakow comes a historical work on the election of King Sigismund III Vasa, *Ordinum Regni Poloniae de electione Sigismundi III regis ad diversos principes Christianos, legationes, epistolae, responsa* [...] published in 1587,⁴⁵ and the work of Andrzej Patrycki Nidecki (1522-1587), a Polish humanist, philologist, author of polemical writings, publisher and commentator of Cicero, *Notae in duas M. Tullii Ciceronis orationes* [...] published in print after 13 VIII] 1583.⁴⁶ The title page retains the author's dedication to Piotr Wolski: *Pe. Volscio Dunino Episc. Plocen. Princ. Benigniss. Auctor*. On another work by Nidecki, *Notae in duas M. T. Ciceronis orationes: Pro Ligario, pro rege Deiotaro* [...] published in Krakow by the Lazarus Printing House in 1583,⁴⁷ there is also an author's dedication to Bishop Wolski: *Ampliss. Viro Pe. Dunin Volscio Episc. Plocen. Auctor aeger*.

In 1583, from the Krakowian Lazarus Printing House other works appeared that were owned by Bishop Wolski: *De factis et dictis Jesu Christi commentarius* [...] by Krzysztof Warszewicki (1543-1603), a Polish historian, political writer, publicist, speaker and diplomat; and of a prominent Polish Renaissance poet Jan Kochanowski (ca. 1530-1584), *Elegiarum Libri IIII* [...] was published in 1584.⁴⁹ The extent of his interests and the broad scientific and personal contacts of Bishop Wolski are visible in the names of the authors and their works, which he gathered over the course of several decades in his Pułtusk library. Among the Polonica gathered with expertise were also the works of Marcin Kromer (1512-1589), *De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum libri XXX. Oratio in funere Sigismundi Poloniae regis* [...] the Basel edition of Jan Oporinus of 1555⁵⁰ and *Monachus sive colloquiorum de religione libri quattuor*, the Cologne edition of Maternus Cholinus of 1568.⁵¹ It is worth noting that in the introduction to the work by Marcin Kromer *De origine et rebus* [...] Francisco Robortello mentions, among others, his pupil Łukasz Podoski, later canon of Krakow, secretary and diplomat, who stayed in Padua from 1555 to 1558, writing: *Lucas Podoscus auditor meus, iuvenis propter singularem vistutem et eruditionem mihi charissimus*, he also recalls Patrycy Nidecki.⁵² It is not known in what circumstances Marcin Kromer, a Polish humanist, historian, excellent diplomat and later bishop of Warmia, met the famous professor of Padua, Robortello. However, Kromer's inclusion of a letter written by Robortello as an introduction to his work *De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum libri XXX*, printed in 1568 in Basel, confirms this fact.

It is also unknown whether the aforementioned works of Marcin Kromer were purchased by the Bishop of Płock for his collection or received from the author himself, as there is no

⁴⁵ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 640, pp. 145-146.

⁴⁶ *Ibidem*, entry 840, p. 175.

⁴⁷ *Ibidem*, entry 841, p. 175.

⁴⁸ *Ibidem*, entry 1253, p. 241.

⁴⁹ *Ibidem*, entry 624, p. 143.

⁵⁰ *Ibidem*, entry 626, pp. 143-144.

⁵¹ *Ibidem*, entry 625, p. 143.

⁵² D. Quirini-Popławska, K. Frankowicz, op. cit., p. 18, footnote 8; I. Chrzanowski, S. Kot, *Humanizm i reformacja w Polsce*, Lwów 1927, pp. 193-195.

visible evidence as to how he acquired them. Thus, the “group of Padua schollars”, which included also Polish students of the masters of the university in Padua, with their works, was significantly visible in the circle of bibliophilic interests of Bishop Piotr Dunin-Wolski.

In the era of the spreading Reformation, the book collections of many priests (especially of the higher rank) contained a fundamental work of Cardinal Stanislaus Hosius (1504-1579), which had a doctrinal significance as the author formulated in it the program for the renewal of the Catholic Church. It was *Confessio catholicae fidei Christiana*, published in Vienna, at the printing house of Michał Zimmermann in 1560.⁵³ Its first complete edition occurred in 1557 in Mainz, at the printing house of Francis Behem by Jan Patruus.⁵⁴ The title of another work (Polonicum) is connected with Cardinal Hosius; its author was Stanisław Reszka (1544-1600), a diarist and diplomat in the service of Stefan Batory, a Cistercian abbot in Jędrzejów, and from 1599, a secretary of Stanislaus Hosius and his biographer.⁵⁵ This work, entitled *Domini Stanislai Hosii vita* [...], published in Rome in the publishing house of Francesco Zanetti and Giacomo Ruffinelli by Giacomo Tornieri in 1567 was a biography of Cardinal Hosius and appeared after his death.⁵⁶

The title page of the work shows the dedication entry of Reszka for Bishop Wolski: *Rmo Dno Epo Plocen. Author*. In the book collection gathered over many years in the residence of Płock bishops in Pułtusk, among the Polonica there are two corresponding works preserved to this day, written by Stanisław Orzechowski (1513-1566), a canon of Przemyśl, historian, author of political and religious writings, ideologist of nobles’ golden liberty, and author of the first biography of Hetman Jan Tarnowski.⁵⁷ Both works came from the press of Krakow’s typographers: Lazarus Andrysowic and Mateusz Siebeneycher. They were: *Pro dignitate sacerdoti oratio* [...] printed by the aforementioned Lazarus Andrysowic in 1561⁵⁸ and *Fricius sive De maiestate Sedis Apostolicae* [...], co-bounded with it, in the typography of Mateusz Siebeneycher, published in 1562.⁵⁹ Both had also been consulted, as evidenced by the marginalia in Latin on the pages. From the Krakow Siebeneycher’s publishing house also *Postylle, part I: Ozimia* [...] by Jakub Wujek from 1584 has been preserved as well in the collection of Bishop Wolski.⁶⁰

It is worth noting that over thirty preserved works from the library of Bishop Wolski bear visible traces of the use by the Krakow academic Jan Brożek, in the form of handwritten index notes left on the margins of the books or on the endpaper, at the bottom of the cover. Some of the marginal entries had been made on the pages of the books much earlier, before they

⁵³ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 586, p. 138.

⁵⁴ M. Juda, *Przywileje drukarskie w Polsce*, Lublin 1992, pp. 75-76.

⁵⁵ J. Kalinowska, *Reszka Stanisław (1544-1600), polski humanista, kanonik warmiński, sekretarz kard. Stanisława Hozjusza*, in: EK, vol. 7, Lublin 2012, col. 29-30; E. Ozorowski, *Reszka (Rescius) Stanisław (1544-1603?), kanonik warmiński, teolog-polemista*, in: SPTK, vol 3, red. H. E. Wyczawski, Warszawa 1981, pp. 495- 496 (bibliography provided there).

⁵⁶ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1038, p. 207.

⁵⁷ D. Chemperek, *Orzechowski Stanisław (1513-1566), pisarz, publicysta*, in: EK, vol. 14, Lublin 2010, col. 866-868 (bibliography given there); H.E. Wyczawski, *Orzechowski Stanisław (1513-1566) kanonik przemyski, teolog polemista, autor uznanych traktatów*, in: SPTK, vol. 3, ed. H. E. Wyczawski, Warszawa 1981, pp. 265-271 (bibliography provided there).

⁵⁸ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 1329, p. 255.

⁵⁹ *Ibidem*, entry 1330, p. 255.

⁶⁰ *Ibidem*, entry 1304, p. 249.

reached the hands of the Bishop of Płock. These were works from various fields of science, including philosophy, theology, history, grammar, and medicine.⁶¹ A few works are considered to be Polonica, although they were not written by Polish authors or published by a Polish publishing house. Yet, they referred in various ways to Polish themes, including interesting notes or dedications related to many figures of public life in Poland at that time. *Epistolarium of Libria XII. – Praefationes...*, published in Venice in 1580 by Aldo Manucjusz (Aldo Manuzio il Giovane)⁶² and preserved until today in the Jagiellonian Library is such a work. The catalogue of books prepared by Andrzej Obrębski shows that this work contained letters to: Stanisław Fogelweder, Andrzej Gostynski, Jakub Górski, Piotr Myszkowski, Andrzej Patrycy Nidecki, Paweł Stępowski, Jan Zamoyski and Andrzej Zebrzydowski, while on the protective card there is a remark written by Jan Brożek's hand: *Manutius epistolam Jacobii Gorscii examinat folio 448, he wrote thickly like a Masurian*.⁶³ The same was true of *Sermones in Epistolam Divi Pauli ad Philippenses. Ad viduam iunioem. – Basilius Magnus sanctus, Epistolae duae...*, in the translation of Flaminio Nobili, published in Rome by Giuseppe degli Angela's publishing house in 1578,⁶⁴ where one of the pages contains a preserved note concerning Cardinal Stanislaus Hosius: *Flaminio Nobilio...dat. Sublaci Cal. Augusti Anna Iuboelaei 1575 Tuus in Christo Stanislaus [Hosius] Card. Varmiensis m.p.* On the other hand, the work *Speculum haeticorum. – Liber de peccato originali. – Liber de perfecta iustificatione [...]* (Lyon, Antoine Vincent, Thibaut Payen) from 1541,⁶⁵ considered a librii controversii (devoted to refuting heretical errors), on one of its pages contains an entry written by Marcin Sporn, *Sacrae Theologiae professor*, prior of the Polish Dominican province. He left the entry dedicated to the bishop of Krakow, Piotr Gamrat, with the following content: *Reverendiss. [...] Domino Petro de Gamratis [...] Episcopo Cracoviensi Frater Martinus Sporn Sacrae Theologiae professor, prior provincialis provinciae Poloniae Ord. Praed. S[alutem] et sempiternam felicitatem*,⁶⁶ thanks to which the work was classified as a Polonicum. Numerous marginal notes, mentioned by Andrzej Obrębski in his work, testify to the reading of the aforementioned prohibitum. Wolski's collection included another Polonicum, a work on geographical and historical themes, whose author was a student of Luther and Melanchthon, a teacher and rector of the school at Ifeld – Michael Neander Soraviensis, *Orbis terrae divisio compendiaria et plana [...] compendium chronicorum sive historiarum omnium aetum, gentium, gentium imperiorum ac regnorum [...]*, published in Leipzig by Georg Deffner [after February 21] 1586.⁶⁷ On card 52, the author, Michael Neander, placed a congratulatory letter addressed to King Stefan Batory: *Ad Stephanum regem Poloniae [epistolae] gratulatoria et supplicatoria [...] Ex Ifelda [...] Anno 1580, 8 Januarij [...] Michael Neander*.⁶⁸

Furthermore, on the work of Nenna da Bari Giovambatista, entitled *I Nennio [...]* and published in Venice by Giovanni Andrea Valvassori in 1542,⁶⁹ there appears an entry

⁶¹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., p. 26.

⁶² *Ibidem*, entry 733, p. 159.

⁶³ *Ibidem*.

⁶⁴ *Ibidem*, entry 609, p. 141.

⁶⁵ *Ibidem*, entry 994, p. 199.

⁶⁶ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 994, p. 199, the original entry included in A. Obrębski's catalogue is quoted.

⁶⁷ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 833, p. 174.

⁶⁸ *Ibidem*.

⁶⁹ *Ibidem*, in entry 835, p. 174, the original entry included in A. Obrębski's catalogue is quoted.

comprising the following: *Alla sacra et Serenissima D. Bona Sforza Aragon, Regina di Polonia* [...] *Giovambatista Nenna da Bari. Da Bari di nono di Settembre Dei MDI*. Due to this entry, the work is considered a Polonicum in the collection of books inherited from the Bishop of Płock, Piotr Wolski.

Considering these varying works (Polonica), their authors, and themes, a reflection arises that the acquiring (purchase, offering) of the aforementioned books was strongly connected with the personal contacts of the bishop of Płock Piotr Dunin Wolski with the Padua masters and their Polish students as well as with the subject matter that interested the Mazovian hierarch of the Renaissance era. Thus, the time spent in Italy strongly marked not only the political (diplomatic) but also cultural contacts. This is also visible through the prism of those books (Polonica), which emerged from the local presses of Krakow printers, who *nota bene* had been studying in Padua (Jan Januszowski) as well. From the orientation of these books, it can be seen that the scientific community of Padua (Bologna) and a little later of Krakow had an impact on Wolski's scientific and literary interests maintaining and deepening his intellectual contacts in line with the Renaissance trends of the epoch. The Renaissance book collection of Bishop Wolski (including Polonica), as indicated by the descriptions of the bindings in the catalogue of Andrzej Obrębski, was not special or sophisticated from the point of view of bookbinding, which was characteristic of the binding of King Sigismund Augustus' books. The vast majority (as the descriptions indicate) of Bishop Wolski's books were bound in light (yellowish), smooth parchment and the front and back covers were tied to secure the volume.⁷⁰ The question arises whether this type of binding in almost the entire book collection was used due to material or pragmatic considerations or perhaps the content of the work and above all its author was more important for the bibliophile than a sophisticated and probably much more expensive binding. Perhaps there were other considerations for this type of binding. Kazimierz Piekarski, the discoverer of Volsciana in the collection of the Jagiellonian Library, on the basis of the analysis of the used material (parchment) and the visible calligraphic gothic inscription running along the spine of the book, put forward the thesis that the binding on the works collected by Wolski had visible Italian characteristics typical of the area at that time (parchment) and Spanish (the mentioned inscription on the spine). It was characteristic for the sixteenth-century Polish bindings to use boards and brown-coloured leather with elements of decoration with blind pistons and a knurl⁷¹. Therefore, the binding of books, including Polonica on the shelves of the Płock bishop's library, had the characteristics of Italian and Spanish binding, confirming the penetration of Renaissance European influences in book culture. Like every bibliophile, Wolski signed his books with ownership marks in the form of superexlibris (on the binding) and exlibris usually placed on the title or pre-title cards of the books he had collected. A significant number of books had the aforementioned bishop's superexlibris with the Swan coat of arms and the inscription in the rim: *Petrus Dunin Wolsky D[ei] G[ratia] Episcopus Plocensis*, however, the Polonica discussed above were not signed with it, but usually only those works whose binding consisted

⁷⁰ The author draws conclusions about the binding of the books on the basis of the description of the book collection made by Andrzej Obrębski (Volsciana), so this is only a suggestion that can be used for further scientific considerations, perhaps extended with new documents, e.g. correspondence or bills for the provision of bookbinding services, which may, perhaps be stored in the archives in Pultusk or Płock, cities associated with the person of Bishop Piotr Wolski.

⁷¹ *Volsciana. Katalog...*, op. cit., pp. 9-11, in: K. Piekarski, op. cit., pp. 136-138.

of a board and embossed leather with a graphic representation of the coat of arms on the front of the binding.⁷²

Piotr Dunin Wolski was undoubtedly not only a scholarly bishop, perfectly oriented in the ideological and cultural assumptions of the epoch, possessing and maintaining wide scientific and diplomatic contacts, but also, following the example of many eminent figures from the European (e.g. Aldrovandi) or the Polish circles (Kromer, Hosius), a lover of books, which he collected almost all his life with expertise, paying attention to the author's person, content of the work, its purpose, and binding. This is evidenced by the books that have survived to modern times in the collection of the Jagiellonian Library, including the Polonica gathered by the Bishop of Płock, that reflect his Italian contacts from the Padua period.

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⁷² The coat-of-arms superexlibris of Wolski's *Swan* can be found on the front part of the binding, among others on the work of Aristotle, *Opera nova accessione theologiae seu philosophiae mysticae...* (Lyon 1581), see *Volsiana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 50, p. 50, or on Cicero's work, *Orationes omnes...* (Basel 1583), see *Volsiana. Katalog...*, op. cit., entry 265, p. 85.

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