



# WHITE EAGLE



**JOURNAL OF THE POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION**

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**[HTTP://WWW.PNAFPOLHERALDRY.ORG/](http://www.pnafpolheraldry.org/)**

## P.N.A.F. Loses Two Giants



**Rev. Paul von Lobkowitz  
1930–2004**

When Rev. Paul von Lobkowitz came to Denver in the mid-70s, the idea of a hospice was almost unheard of in the United States. Rev. Paul, a Czechoslovakian monk, of the princely house of von Lobkowitz, opened the Hospice of St. John (first called the Hospice of the Holy Spirit) in 1977. At that time it was located in a west Denver nursing home and had only a few patients. Only one other hospice existed in the country, in Connecticut.

Today, the Lakewood hospice has a 4 million dollar budget, with 40 patients on-site and others in homes. More than 19,000 people have died there. Revered by thousands for the care his institution gave their relatives, Fr. Paul—shown above with a nurse and a young patient—died at the hospice, on Saturday. He was 73.

He had suffered from diabetes for years and underwent heart bypass surgery 6 weeks before his death. In the  
*continued on page 3*



**Alecija Orłowska-Andrews  
1920–2004**

Alecija Orłowska-Andrews, a long-time resident of Baltimore, Maryland, was born November 6, 1920 in Warsaw during a time when Poland was again seeking its place in the world as an independent nation. Alecija's mother was of the Counts Orłowski, a title granted by the Pope, sometimes referred to as the black nobility. Her father was an industrialist of Swedish heritage who owned a steel mill in Sweden and would frequently travel between Warsaw and Sweden on business.

During World War II, after the Nazis had conquered the young restored Polish nation, Alecija—a teenager at the time—was rounded up in the streets of Warsaw with other youths and transported to Germany as forced labor on a sugar beet farm. She had heard that her Uncle, Count Orłowski, a pilot in the Polish Air Force, had flown his plane out of Poland to join the Polish Government in exile  
*continued on page 3*

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Mother Nature has either been teasing us or fooling around. At least she may have a very strange sense of humor, as in the old bromide, "It's not nice to fool with Mother Nature." We've seen strange and turnaround incidents this year here in the northeastern United States. It's as if we sort of eased into spring, not so like the "good old days."

This semi-annual issue brings news items of varied interests. Unfortunately we have much sad news to report. From Reuters we learned of the passing of Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, at the age of 94. This was followed by the demise of our beloved Board of Trustees member the Rev. Paul, Prince von Lobkowitz, who for over 30 years oversaw one of the only two (at that time)



Hospices, for the terminally ill. You can read about his historical past on page 1.

Then we had to deal with the death of Countess Alecja Orłowska-Andrews,

also reported on page 1. Another blow was the death of Princess Elżbieta Światopełk-Czetwertyńska, née Countess Wielopolska, the daughter of Count Albert Wielopolski. Finally came the passing of the mother of one of our Board members, Mrs. Celia Holewinski. *Requiescant in pace....*

On a less somber note, we are pleased to announce that the P.N.A.F. has been awarded an Unrestricted Grant of \$2,500 from the Rosensteil Foundation of New York, New York, sponsored by Lady Blanka Rosensteil. *Tysiącrotnie podziękowanie za miłościwy upominek....*

— Leonard J. Suligowski  
"Aby nam się dobrze działo!"

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**Rev. Paul von Lobkowitz (continued)**

hospital he told friends he wanted to "go home." He died 22 hours later.

"Everyone loved Father Paul. He was Hospice," said Mary Loffreda, who volunteered at Hospice of St. John for five years. Fr. Paul's philosophy was that the hospice should not be viewed "as a place of death, but as a place where a person could live life to the fullest, and when death comes, it will be almost an accident," said his successor and friend, the Rev. Peter Wellish. Fr. Paul told people, even though the quality of one's life changes at the end, it doesn't mean they couldn't enjoy things, whether it was "smelling the roses," having good food, or being in a beautiful hospice with loved ones around you. He believed that a hospice was a place where people could make peace with family members or come to grips with their own mortality, said Rev. Wellish.

He and his staff once worked for days to find the son of a dying woman who had given up the child for adoption years earlier. She died shortly after meeting her grown son, said Antonette Smith, former hospice board member. Rev. Wellish also described Fr. Paul, a member of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, as a "marvelous fundraiser" who could be a demanding boss. He insisted that his nurses wear white outfits and white caps, but eventually relented on the dresses and resorted to making caps when he could no longer order them from England.

Fr. Paul was born June 8, 1930 near Prague and studied nursing, gerontology and psychology in London. Services for him were held at 10 a.m. on March 18th, at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Denver. *Cześć jego pamięci!* ☙

### **Princess Elżbieta Światopełk-Czetwertyńska, née Countess Wielopolska (1913-2004)**

Countess Elżbieta Wielopolska (daughter of Count Albert Wielopolski by his wife, née Countess Elżbieta Zamoyska), born Spala, 8 October 1913; died Vancouver, 12 February 2004; married Warsaw, 22 November 1933, to Prince Władimir Światopełk-Czetwertyński 1907-1965 (son of Prince Seweryn Franciszek Światopełk-Czetwertyński by his wife Countess Zofia Przeździecka).

There are two children: Jerzy (born 1937) and Krystyna (born 1947). Both are married.

The funeral of Princess Elżbieta Czetwertyńska took place in Vancouver, Canada on 20 February 2004.

Prayers for the repose of her soul are greatly appreciated.

*"Abiit ad plures"*

**Alecija Orłowska-Andrews (continued)**

fighting against the Nazi occupation of her beloved homeland. Count Orłowski was presumed dead in action fighting for his homeland.

At the end of World War II, those that were rounded up on the streets of Warsaw and forcibly taken from their homes and families to work as forced labor in Nazi Germany were free. With Warsaw's total destruction and no way to find out if anyone survived, Alecija fled west on foot with other members of her camp for the protection of the Allied Armies. It was at this time that she met Colonel Robert Andrews, U. S. Military, and Aide-de-Camp to General Patton. Col. Andrews and Alecija were married at Hanover Castle, Germany, where Alecija received her oak leaves for horse riding.

Col. and Mrs. Robert Andrews moved to the U. S., where Mrs. Andrews pursued successful careers as a professional model, interior decorator and talented hostess.

Alecija Orłowska-Andrews was a trustee of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation (PNAF) for 35 years. It is not believed she was survived by any immediate family members. Mrs. Andrews died of complications caused by a stroke on April 16, 2004 in Baltimore. She requested that her body be donated for medical research.

*Cześć jej pamięci!* ☙

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## Dues and Donations

Edwin J. Andrews	\$50.00	Dr. Baron Stanisław L. Stawowiak	120.00
Marybeth Sulkowski	25.00	Baron Marcin M. Stawowiak	120.00
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## Does Anyone Want to Buy an Armorial?

William F. Hoffman, e-mail [wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)

Professor Kazimierz Rymut of the Polish Language Institute PAN in Kraków, one of the foremost experts on the subject of Polish names, recently told me he wants to raise money to put out versions of works such as his *Nazwiska Polaków* on CD-ROM. I think his experience producing an updated and greatly expanded version of *Dictionary of Surnames in Current Use in Poland* on CD showed him that CD versions of reference works can be much more extensive than printed versions, and are far less expensive to produce and ship. There are several more reference works he would love to make available in a cheaper, more comprehensive form; and I think many of us would love to have them. But it's the old story: he needs to come up with funding.

One way he hopes to do this is by selling some of the finer books from his personal library. Among them are copies of some of most important Polish armorials. He has copies of Paprocki's *Herby rycerstwa polskiego* (1584); Niesiecki's *Herbarz polski*, Vol. I-X (1839-1849); Boniecki's *Herbarz polski*, Vol. I-XVI + Supplements (1899-1901); and Uruski's *Rodzina. Herbarz szlachty polskiej*, Vol. I-XVI (1904-1938). These are reprints of the originals, so it is legal to send them

outside the country (original books of this sort are regarded as national treasures and cannot be sold abroad). He also has a set of all volumes published so far of *Polski słownik biograficzny* [*Polish Biographical Dictionary*] (Vol. I-XLI).

Prof. Rymut asked me to spread word that he is willing to sell these books, and I promised to do so. He has not set prices; they will be negotiable. If interested, write to him:

prof. Kazimierz Rymut  
Instytut Języka Polskiego PAN  
al. Mickiewicza 31  
31-120 Kraków  
POLAND

You can also e-mail him c/o Urszula Bijak, an English-speaking associate at the Institute, at this address: [urszulab@poczta.ijp-pan.krakow.pl](mailto:urszulab@poczta.ijp-pan.krakow.pl).

I hope no one will feel it is inappropriate for me to mention this here. It seemed quite possible that there might be someone out there who'd love to get hold of books of this sort. If that also helps Prof. Rymut give us more works that enlighten us on Polish names, so much the better! ☺

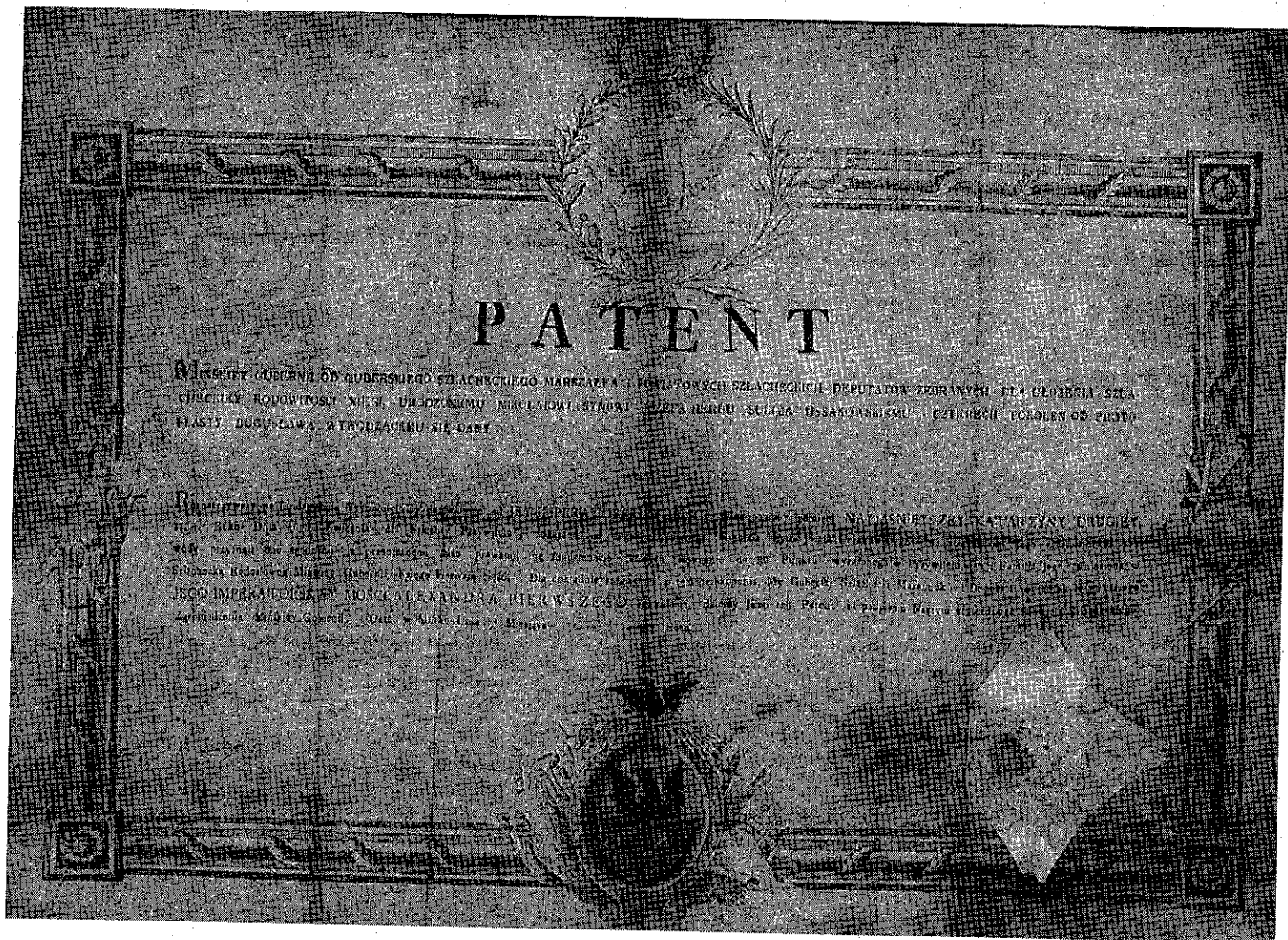
# P.N.A.'s Archival Diplomas, Heraldic "Letters Patent"

Over the years of the P.N.A.(F.)'s existence, we have accumulated many verifications of nobility from our membership, in the form of genealogical research submissions and facsimiles of actual Heraldic Letters Patent (Diplomas) issued by the Heroldia Królestwa Polskiego [Herald of the Kingdom of Poland] and by the Russian government's Office of Heraldry and Nobility after the final partitioning of Poland in 1795. This office was actually established in 1836, some 21 years after the Królestwo Polskie [Kingdom of Poland] was created. The Heroldia lasted until 1863 and issued patents of nobility during that period; prior to the establishment of the Heroldia (headquartered in Warsaw) patents had been issued by district courts. The Heroldia was one among many offices of the Królestwo Polskie, and under the strictest of rules set forth by the Czar's government for the verification of Polish nobility, the bureaucratic clerks were responsible for issuing "Letters Patent" or Diplomas. It took a long time to produce them, due to red tape, and exorbitant costs made it very difficult to obtain patent proofs of nobility under the government statutes. Those noble families still of means were, however, able to obtain the necessary documentation to insure the continuance of the noble family line.

We will present reproductions of three such documents, reduced in order to conserve space. The largest of them, reproduced below, measures 20½ by 15¾ inches, and confirms a charter issued originally on 21 April 1785 by her Imperial Majesty Catherine II, to the family of Mikołaj son of Józef (Sulima) Ussakowski. The following is a translation of the text of conformation:

*Patent of Minsk Province from the Provincial Marshal of the Nobility and County Noble Deputies assembled for the purpose of drawing up the register of noble descent, given to the one whose descent is being established, Mikołaj, the son of Józef (Sulima) Ussakowski, four generations from the protoplast, Bogusław.*

*Having examined the charter of nobility granted 21 April 1785 by her Imperial Majesty of immortal memory, Catherine II, and produced by the abovementioned Mikołaj, son of Joseph Ussakowski, as proof of his noble standing, we have recognized it as in conformance with the prescribed laws. On the basis of which, pursuant to Point 82 specified in the charter, he and his family have been entered into the first part of the Register of Nobility for Minsk province. For more*



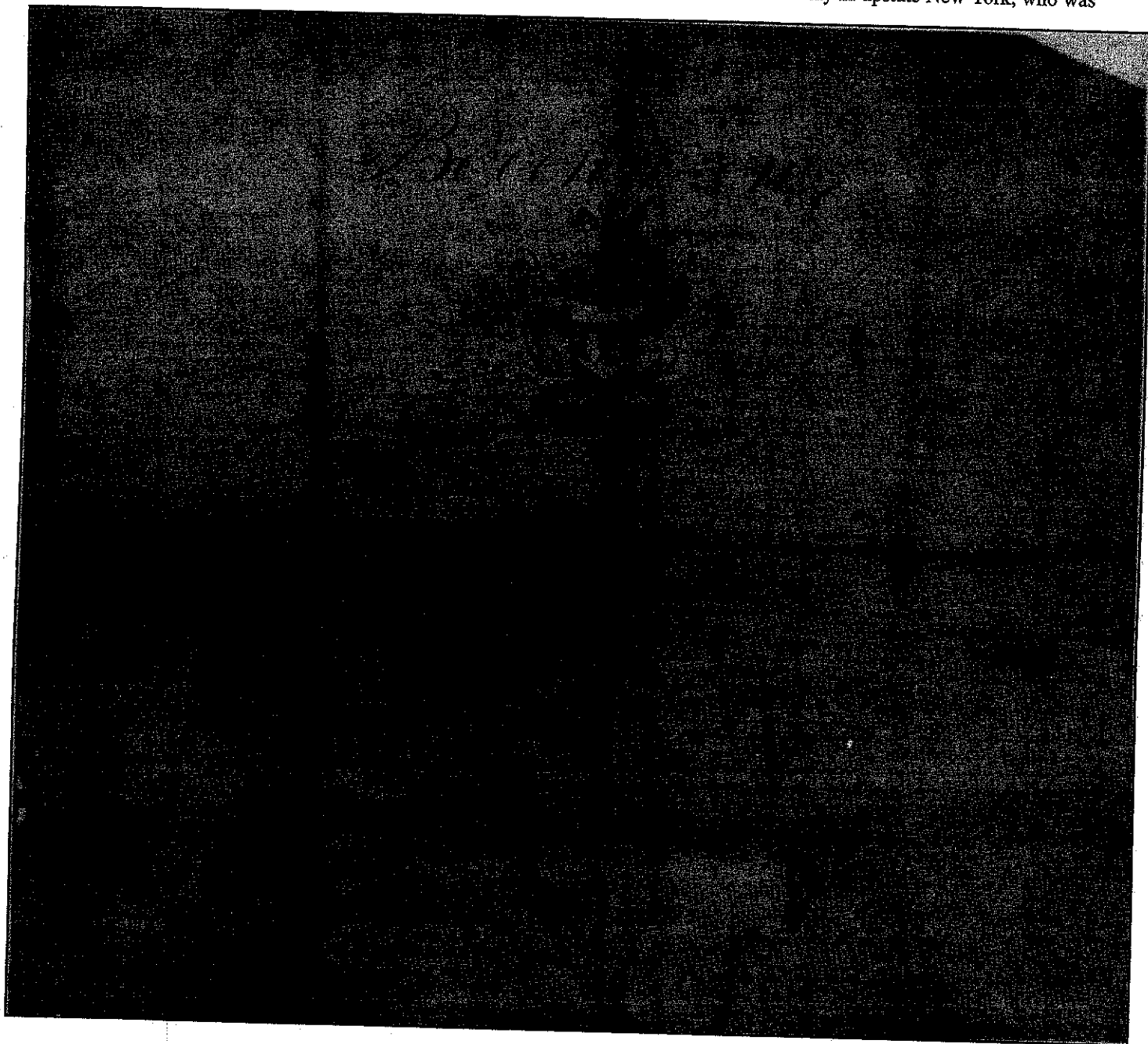


*precise assurance of which, We, the Provincial Marshal of Nobility and Deputies, in consequence of permission by His Imperial Majesty Alexander I, bestow upon him this Patent, confirmed with our signatures and the Seal of the Noble Assembly of the province of Minsk. Minsk, \_ day of the month \_ 1817. [The dates are illegible.]*

The second facsimilie, reproduced below, is dated 1797. It is very difficult to read and translate, due to the fact that the original (which your editor has seen up close) was handwritten in ink, not on paper, but on a chamois skin. This skin comes from the animal of the goat/antelope family. Along the bottom (not visible here) ran a series of short horizontal slits, through which wax seals and ribbons were hung. Over the years, through rough handling and stored packaging, the seals disintegrated and the ribbons fragmented. As with the afore-

mentioned patent, the only coloring is seen in the rendering of the *herb* [clan shield]. This second patent is for the clan of Radwan, and belongs to the noble ancestral house of Abucewicz. If that name sounds familiar to our readers, that is because it is the name of P.N.A.(F.)'s Chaplain, Msgr. John Abucewicz (ret.)

The final patent, reproduced on page 7, has a sort of story attached. I had become a member of the P.N.A.(F.) back in 1975; and in 1979 I became a charter member of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (P.G.S.A., membership #0110). I can boast that I have all P.G.S.A.'s newsletters, from Volume 1, No. 1 in my collection. Some issues later I began to contribute the English translations of clan histories from Niesiecki's *Herbarz Polski*. It was (as I believe) through these translations that I was contacted by the senior member of the Dabrowski family in upstate New York, who was



requesting a painting of his family clan arms of Dąbrowa. This was to be my very first attempt at providing a hand-painted rendition of this old family shield.

Mr. Dabrowski was able to furnish a somewhat tattered copy of his letters patent for the verification of his family lineage, listed within the text of the patent (as with the first one above) of the required generational family lineage for his claim. The document was dated 16 December 1843 and numbered as patent 417, issued by the "Heroldya Królestwa Polskiego."

Although the fascimile was in black and white only, I can tell for certain that the only coloring on this style of document was the clan shield, which appears centered at the bottom. I was able to verify this in a publication in my collection, *Heroldia Królestwa Polskiego. Katalog Wystawy* [*Herald of the Kingdom of Poland. Display Catalogue*], a catalogue of illustrated documents from the Bureaus of the

Russian National Historical Archives in St. Petersburg. For this who wish to refer to this source, examples of the renderings of this particular style of diploma appear on the following pages: 95) issued to Wincenty Bocka, h. Koziół; 98) Kazimierz Lubiński, h. Wieniawa; 99) Alexander Lubowiecki, h. Srzeniawa; 100) Antoni Plewiński, h. Prus III and, 102) Felician Zakrzewski, h. Bogoria.

All illustrations of this version are black and white, with the exception of the clan shields displayed in their actual colors. Although the design of the double-headed Russian Imperial Eagle had been modified on certain patent documents, the simple border design and text basically remained the same.

I'm sorry to say this story has a sad ending. Mr. Dabrowski never got to see the finished painting of his family shield. He passed away while the completed painting was en route to him. ☹



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS, NOTES, AND CORRESPONDENCE

*Irena Uderska, Associate Editor and London Correspondent*

**The 11th Duke of Devonshire**, head of the House of Cavandish, died in May. His elder brother and heir to the title was married to Kathleen Kennedy, the sister of John F. Kennedy. At the time of his brother's death the recently deceased Duke became heir to the title and estates.

His funeral took place on Monday 10 May 2004. Over 600 of his staff lined the one-mile route from Chatsworth House to St Peter's while members of the public stood in their thousands outside the church in homage to this great nobleman.

\* \* \*

**A state visit by Polish President Kwaśniewski** of Poland to London took place recently with very little if any publicity in the U. K. press. Many of the Polish people whose property was confiscated during the Nazi and Communist control of Poland believe him to have betrayed them due to his veto of payouts to Polonia's dispossessed.

\* \* \*

**Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London**, recently goaded Tony Blair with a "Hang Saudi royals" outburst.

\* \* \*

**Count André Walewski**, a direct descendant of Napoléon, and his wife Hélène, née Desmousseaux de Givré, have a second child, Armand, born at Neuilly-sur-sein on 24 February.

\* \* \*

**Prince Daniel of Saxony** is to enter politics as a candidate for the Christian Democrats in the Meissen area in the German elections this June. It was the Saxon Monarchs that were named as the hereditary Royalty of Poland in the famous May 3 Polish Constitution, which was never implemented due to the partitioning of Poland by Prussia, Austria and Russia.

\* \* \*

**3.7 billion British pounds** are sought by King Kabalega, known as Solomon I, of the former kingdom of Bunyoro in western Uganda, for atrocities committed during Victorian colonial terrorism.

\* \* \*

**Princess Tamara** has not been axed from the high-profile film "Carry on London." She is the daughter of Prince Adam Czartoryski-Bourbon and an Italian-Egyptian ex-model, and is said to be a distant cousin of the Spanish Royal family.

\* \* \*

**Spanish Royal Family Wedding**—Crown Prince Felipe of Spain and Letizia Ortiz will have increased security surrounding their upcoming wedding.

\* \* \*

**DNA test bid** for "Love Child" of Princess Louise, daughter of Queen Victoria—According to Locock family

legend, Henry Locock was the illegitimate son of Princess Louise, who led a bohemian lifestyle surrounded by artists and was outside Palace circles. Mr. Locock wants to compare the DNA of his grandfather with that of a member of the Russian Imperial and Royal family who had blood ties to Queen Victoria.

\* \* \*

**King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain** recently paid tribute to the 190 people killed in the commuter train bombings recently. The services and state funeral was held at the Almudena Cathedral in Madrid.

\* \* \*

**Provender Restored**—Helped by various heritage groups, Princess Olga Romanov is now restoring Provender, the historic house in Kent left to her by her mother, Princess Andrew Romanov née Nadine McDougall. Provender was originally the Black Prince's Hunting Lodge.

\* \* \*

**Esterhazy Family**—*Celestial Harmonies* by Peter Esterhazy has now been translated into English. It is an idiosyncratic account of the Esterhazy family. Count Peter is Hungary's foremost writer.

\* \* \*

**Peregrine Worsthorne's** book *In Defence of Aristocracy* has just been published in the U. K.

\* \* \*

**Dien Bien Phu Anniversary**—7 May 2004 was the 50th anniversary of the siege of Dien Bien Phu. This event immortalized two members of the French nobility: Colonel Christian de Castries, the Commander of Dien Bien Phu, and Geneviève de Galard-Terraube, the Angel of Dien Bien Phu, who refused to be evacuated and instead chose to stay and nurse the wounded. ☸



## Queen Juliana of the Netherlands

Queen Juliana, dubbed the "people's Queen" of the Netherlands, after she helped the country recover from World War II and oversaw the independence of its last remaining colonies, died 20 March 2004 of a lung infection in the Soestdijk Palace where she reigned from 1948 to 1980 and lived most of her life. Her husband Prince Bernhard and three of her four daughters, including Queen Beatrix, were at her bedside. The fourth daughter arrived from the U. S. soon after her death.



# New Additions to the Heraldic Library

- O dynastycznym szlachty polskiej pochodzeniu* (On the Dynastic Origins of the Polish Nobility), by Dr. Franciszek Piekosiński
- Wiadomość o kleynocie szlacheckim oraz herbach domów szlacheckich w Koronie Polskiej i Wielkim Xięstwie Litewskim* (Information on Noble Crests and Shields of Noble Families in the Polish Kingdom and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania), by Ewaryst Andrzej Kuropatnicki
- Spis szlachty Królestwa Polskiego, z dodaniem krótkiej informacji o dowodach szlachectwa* (Nobility lists of the Polish Kingdom with additional brief information on the furnished proofs of Nobility), printed by Bibliofiliska Edycja Reprintów.
- Słownik etymologiczny języka polskiego* (Etymological Dictionary of the Polish Language), by Aleksander Brueckner
- Heroldia Królestwa Polskiego, 1836-1861. Inwentarz* (Heraldry of the Polish Kingdom from 1836-1861. Inventory), by Małgorzata Osiecka
- Heroldia Królestwa Polskiego. Katalog Wystawy* (Herald of the Kingdom of Poland. Display Catalogue), by Sławomir Gorzyński
- Insignia symbole i herby polskie* (Polish Insignias, Symbols and Coats of Arms), by Alfred Znamierowski
- Herby szlacheckie Rzeczypospolitej Obojga Narodów* (Noble Clans of the Commonwealth of Two Nations), Tadeusz Gajl
- Znaki Pieczętnie Ruskie* (Ruthenian Sigillatory Emblems), Martinet Publishers, 1862
- Poczet Polaków wyniesionych do godności szlacheckiej przez monarchów austriackich w czasie od r. 1773 do 1918* (List of Poles elevated to the noble rank by Austrian Monarchs, 1773-1918), by Sylvester Kruczkowski
- Rodowód Herbu Śląskiego* (Pedigree of the Silesian Coat of Arms), by Małgorzata Kaganiec
- Najstarsze źródła heraldyki polskiej* (Oldest Sources on Polish Heraldry), by Helena Polaczówna
- Spis rodzin szlachty polskiej* (List of Polish Noble Families), by Leon Polaczek

The following books were donated by Irena Uderska:

- The Illustrated Book of Heraldry, An International History of Heraldry and Its Contemporary Uses*, by Stephen Slater.
- Poland: A Traveller's Gazetteer*, by Adam Zamoyski
- In Defence of Aristocracy*, by Peregrine Worsthorne
- Holy Madness: Romantics, Patriots and Revolutionaries 1776-1871*, by Adam Zamoyski
- The Princess from St. Petersburg: A biography of Princess Catherine Radziwiłł including the Cecill Rhodes Connection*, by Leda Farrant
- The Court Historian*, including Volume 7, 1, May 2002; 7, 2, December 2002; 8, 1, July 2003, including: Special issue to accompany the Society for Court Studies Concert of Royal and Coronation Music held at Westminster Abbey
- Rival Courts in Dynastic Europe*, by Jeroen Duindam
- Damnatio Memoriae*, by Christer Jorgensen
- Racine the Courtier*, by Jean Dubu
- The Meaning of Incognito*, by Ulrik Langen
- Edward the VIII: the Modern Monarch*, by Philip Ziegler
- The Man Who was Helen Cathcart*, by Hugo Vickers
- The Funeral of Edward VII*, by John Wolffe
- The Finest Cinema Performers That We Possess*, by Luke McKernan
- Saint Hyacinth of Poland: The Story of the Apostle of the North*, by Mary Fabyan Windeatt
- The Court Historial Newsletter of the Society for Court Studies*, Vol. II, Feb. 97, Vol. III, July 98
- Memorial Mass booklet for General Władysław Sikorski*, Principal Celebrant Rt. Rev. Sławoj Leszek Głódź, Bishop of the Polish Armed Forces, July 4, 2003
- Program for Polish National Opera, U. K. Performances Sadler's Wells*
- 1812 Napoleon's Fatal March On Moscow*, by Adam Zamoyski
- Warsaw from A to Z*, with opening remarks from Lech Kaczyński, Mayor of Warsaw ☙



## † Celia Holewinski (1909-2004) †

Celia Holewinski, age 94, of Hilbert, Wisconsin, passed away on Sunday, February 22, 2004, at the Calumet Medical Center in Chilton. She was born October 5, 1909 in Sugar Camp, the daughter of Michael and Pelagia (Radtke) Grosman. She married Felix Holewinski in the 1930s and the couple moved to South Milwaukee in 1942, remaining there till 1970. They moved then to Webster, Wisconsin. Husband Felix died in 1972. In 1980 she moved to Florence, Wisconsin, eventually making her last residence in Hilbert with her son, Felix. There she was an active parishioner at St. Mary's Catholic Church. She was an excellent cook, particularly with Polish recipes, as well as a talented seamstress. She is survived by her son, Dr. Felix Holewinski, a Board member and Trustee with the Polish Nobility Association Foundation, and by many nieces, nephews, and extended family. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by 10 brothers and sisters. *Cześć jej pamięci!* ☙

# A Translation from Szymon Konarski's *O Heraldyce i heraldycznym snobizmie* [On Heraldry and Heraldic Snobbery] *O Kłusownikach w Heraldycznej Kniei* [On Poachers within the Heraldic Woods]

## Part Two

Grocholski and his group were masters, but they were also lesser workers in the same field as S. Starykoń-Kasprzycki with his *Polska encyklopedia szlachecka*, which cries out to heaven for vengeance, as S. Szydłowski<sup>79</sup> and several others.

"Historians" of their own families comprise a separate group. Of them perhaps the most primitive author of monographs was "Prince" Aleksander Weryha (actually Darowski) with his work *Ród Książów Weryhów* [The Family of the Weryha Princes], Warsaw 1937.

The virulent defender of the Bems' non-existent title, "Count" Włodzimierz Bem de Cosban encountered much unpleasantness; he is the author of (among other things) a brochure that is amusing for the historian.<sup>80</sup>

One who does not deserve to be remembered fondly was a formerly well-known archivist in Warsaw, Aleksander Włodarski, the editor of the armorial *Rodzina* (by count S. Uruski) and numerous monographs. He made a particular contribution to the slandering of the armorial he edited with the publication of its 15th volume.

One may include among the less harmful authors Edward Rędziejowski,<sup>81</sup> and also Ludwik Korwin,<sup>82</sup> known for a number of works. After the first few pages one easily recognizes that we are dealing with utter ignorance (in the former case), or with works with biased goals (in the latter).

No small harm was done to Polish genealogy by foreign authors inspired by our specialists in embellishing the history of Polish families. In my judgment one should include in this category a publication such as a particular French armorial,<sup>83</sup> which is not well known in any case. Scattered through it we have monographs on such families as Arenberg, Bissac, and Caraman-Chimay, and others, as well as genealogies of the Bems-de-Cosban, Bielskis, Giżyckis, Gubrynowiczes,

<sup>79</sup> Stefan Graf von Szydłow-Szydłowski and Nicolaus R. von Pastinszky, *Der polnische und litauische Hochadel* [The Polish and Lithuanian High Nobility], Budapest, 1944.

<sup>80</sup> W. hr. Bem de Cosban. *Z kroniki Bemów* [From the Chronicle of the Bems]. Warszawa, this year.

<sup>81</sup> E. Rędziejowski Loyko, *Monografia rodziny Rędziejowskich-Loyko* [Monograph on the Rędziejowski-Loyko Family], 2nd edition, Kraków, 1891.

<sup>82</sup> L. Korwin, *Szlachta polska pochodzenia żydowskiego* [Polish Nobility of Jewish Descent], Kraków, 1933; *Szlachta Mojżeszowa* [Jewish Nobility], Kraków 1938; and *Szlachta neoficka* [Noble Converts], Kraków, 1939.

<sup>83</sup> *Arm. gén. de la nobl. titrée*. Edited by A. Messein, *op. cit.*

<sup>84</sup> W. Dworzaczek, *Genealogia*, *op. cit.*, p. 106, as well as an article in *Miesięcznik heraldyczny*, vol. XIV, 1935, p. 197.

Jabłonowskis, Montresors, and the Świdrygiełło-Świderskis. One may truly be amazed at the fantasy with which these monographs were written. It is perhaps not a matter of coincidence that the representatives of these seven families, entitled bombastically and baselessly, numbered among the friends of the "Herald," the Institute and Heraldic College at Saska Kępa in Warsaw.

A collection of nothing but absurdities is *Armorial des familles princières et comtales de Pologne*, [Armorial of the Ducal and Count Families of Poland], Groningue 1897, written by "le Comte de Saint-Obin."

Granted a title in recent times—perhaps less skillfully, but for all that more colorfully—is the family Wiśniewski (Wiśniewski), dukes and counts, as descendants of a dynasty founded in the year 550 (after Christ) by Prus I and ruling in "Polish Prussia." Named among the dignitaries whom this family produced was King Michał Wiśniowiecki (yes!) ruling in Poland (somewhat later). Also mentioned there are dates of confirmation of the ducal title of the family Wiśniewski "by the King of Poland in the year 1783," and of a title "of Prussian dukes on 16 December 1861" (I do not know who conferred the title). This glorious list of fantasies closes with the Austrian title of Count actually conferred on Tadeusz Wiśniewski on 13 March 1877. One can find this whole "salad" easily on pages 85-86 of *Annuaire de la Noblesse de France 1939-1950* [Yearbook of the Nobility of France, 1939-1950], published in Paris in 1951.

This same family is also written of on page 97 of "International Register of Nobility, (Bruxelles) 1955, publié sous la Direction de F. Koller." Mister Koller deprived the Wiśniewskis of their protoplast from 550, but preserved all the other highlights, along with King Michał and the dynastic descent, and described their clan shield in the words: "de Prusse (yes!), sur le tout (en coeur) un écu de gueules à une croix et demie, surmontée d'une couronne royale."

The well-known publication *Almanach de Gotha* also has some sins against us on its conscience. Professor Dworzaczek discussed many of these errors,<sup>84</sup> so I will not write about them here. I will mention only the infamous yearbook of Gotha (of counts) from 1862, in which, on page 654, the monograph of the Pilawita Potockis appears, with numerous errors, and behind it, as behind a Trojan horse, the monographs of the Potockis of arms Lubicz (p. 664) and the Rostworowskis (p. 725), which are complete fantasies.

When talking about the *Almanachs de Gotha* of all categories (for dukes, counts, and barons), one must emphasize that if the genealogies themselves of recent generations are usually given there accurately, the introductions to the histories of individual families and the titles mentioned for persons connected by marriage and mentioned in the contents of

the monographs must be regarded with a great deal of caution. This applies to both the lists of dignitaries and dates of conferment of titles, as well as the title of anyone who married the daughter of a duke, count, or baron.

I will not write here on the numerous errors of several authors of our armorials, as for instance those of Żychliński and A. A. Kosiński, because these matters have been discussed repeatedly by more important authors than myself, such as Baron Artur Reyski and Włodzimierz Dworzaczek.

The *Genealogisches Handbuch des Adels* [Genealogical Handbook of the Nobility], now being published (C. A. Starke Verlag, Limburg a. d. Lahn), which nurses ambitions of being the moral heir of the older publications of J. Pethes (*Almanach de Gotha*), includes also monographs of Polish families. The latter are very uneven. Alongside the respectable ones we have also the genealogy of the Tyszkiewiczzes, which could serve as a glaring example of how not to write a monograph. One of this publication's more recent volumes (1965) includes a genealogy of the Potockis of Pilawa arms, which, unfortunately, repeats many of the errors contained in the 1862 Gotha yearbook for counts mentioned previously.

A separate group of document counterfeiters—usually acting without evil intent—are pastors of parishes who produced certificates of baptisms, marriages, and deaths (I am speaking here of earlier times). How difficult was it to demand of the worthy pastor, a friend of the family of a wealthy patron of the parish, that while naming the fortunate father of a child being baptized, he might ennoble somewhat the title appropriate for his name? For this reason the description *Generosus*, and even *Magnificus*, cannot be taken as certain proof of nobility of persons to whom it is applied. Could the pastor refuse to add a single word to the document, if it was important to the patron and if refusal might prompt a decision to take away some of the manor's support for a poor rural church?

Full of initiative, Ludgard Grocholski thought up a way of obtaining "paper proofs" of titles, even though he fought so hard against "paper proofs" on other occasions. It is known, after all, that if such proof is lacking, that means nothing; but if there such proof, it can be useful. The moment the representative of a family mentioned in royal chancelleries' conferments makes use of some miracle from Wieladko, Grocholski stops screaming about "paper titles." The new procedure went as follows: with the aid of the active Aleksander Włodarski, an employee of the Main Archive, an extract from an old Latin entry was obtained from the archive—its authenticity confirmed in a wholly legal manner—in which the name of the client was preceded by that word so sweet to the ear, *comes*. Up to that moment all is in order; but the next step was having that document translated from Latin to Polish by a certified interpreter. The interpreter could not, after all, throw out the Polish word *hrabia* [count] slyly slipped in as an undisputable substitution for the Latin word *comes*. Today we know that the meaning of this word was quite different, but it had to seem to the interpreter that it was the only possibility. This translation of the document, legally certified by the authorities, went with Grocholski or his en-

voy to Paris, so that in our embassy or general consulate the accuracy of the translation—this time into French, of the word *hrabia* as *comte*—could be verified. Next the French official document, certified by the appropriate office of the Polish government, was on its way to Madrid. At that time the master of heraldry at the Spanish court was a man of very advanced age. The document presented to him left on its way back to Poland, provided with a notation that the royal chancellery in Madrid had taken note of its contents and stating, just in case, that in its records the fact of the existence of family X in Poland had been registered, which appeared as early as the 15th century with the appropriate title. In this manner "princely" families were registered in Madrid such as the Jabłonowskis, on 24 December 1927 (not to be confused with the well-known princely family of the same name, which has since died out); the Bielskis, on 29 May 1928; the Świdrygiełło-Świdarskis, on 26 July 1928; and the baronial family of Gubry-Gubrynowicz de Mengen, on 18 June 1928. W. Dworzaczek makes a very interesting reference to the latter family in his *Genealogia* on pages 128 and 147.

I do not know whether any other families passed through the royal chancellery in Madrid in this manner, but I do know of several who did not manage to do so, and that due to the "blunt" resistance of the Polish general consul in Paris. Intrigued by the frequency of notifications that translations of medieval documents had been certified, he ascertained what the causes were for this and refused to do further confirmations. Interventions did no good; and to top it all off, a civil war broke out in Spain and made the whole argument moot.

Despite all predictions, however, the matter was revived after the last war. It was initiated by "Count Chebda de Cienie Cieński." He registered his "Piast title" in the London College of Arms.

I do not know whether it was after this or before, but Zbigniew Belina-Prażmowski registered his "medieval title of baron" in the same manner, but in Edinburgh. Since he was not survived by a son, his "title" died with him. ☞

### Lady Blanka Rosensteil,

the sponsor of an unrestricted grant of \$2,500 to the P.N.A.F. from the Lady Blanka Rosensteil Foundation, New York, New York. Our sincere thanks to Lady Blanka!



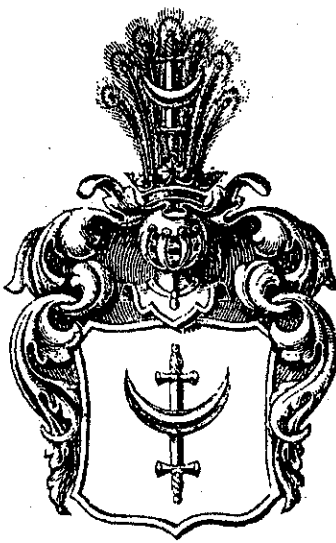
# Origin of the Trzaska Clan Shield

The following was prepared from an entry in the classic heraldic reference *Herbarz Polski* (by Kasper Niesiecki, S. J., Lipsk [Leipzig] edition, 1839-1846) by Leonard J. Suligowski, 218A North Henry, Brooklyn, NY 11222-3608. The blazon or verbal description of the arms below is first given in the authentic heraldic style, followed by a translation from the Polish description by Niesiecki. The right and left sides of a shield are identified from the standpoint of the bearer, i. e., the one holding the shield. His right would be your left and vice versa. The tinctures (colors) in heraldry are as follows: azure = blue; gules = red; sable = black; or = gold; argent = silver; vert = green. In heraldry all charges (pictures) on a shield are already assumed to be facing dexter (right side) unless otherwise specified. In Polish heraldry all animals or birds are assumed to be in their natural coloring unless otherwise specified.

**A**rms: Azure, two swords Argent in pale hilted and pommeled Or, conjoined at the blade's mid point and debriused of a crescent at a fess point, also Or. For a crest, a panache of peacock plumes, all proper, charged with the arms of the shield.

There is a new moon, as it were, not full, with both ends upward, yellow in a blue field, and two chipped sword pommels with crosses and hilts, of which one is in the middle of the moon, and the other beneath it. On a helmet above a crown is a peacock's tail, with the same moon and pommels. That is how Paprocki described it in his *Gniazdo cnoty* [Nest of Virtue], pages 45 and 1187, and in *O herbach* [Of Clan Shields], page 265; also Okolski in vol.3, page 240, and in *Klejnoty* [Crests], page 87. This clan shield is known by the names Trzaska, Biała and Lubiewa.

This shield was bestowed upon a knight named Trzaska [Translator—a word meaning “chip, splinter”] by King Bolesław the Brave [992-1025] on an occasion when an enemy rushed towards the King with drawn sword. The abovementioned knight blocked the way and shielded his lord, but could not withstand the enemy force for long. For when he struck at the enemy's neck with all his might, his sword shattered almost at the hilt. The King, seeing this, quickly gave Trzaska his own sword. With it the knight, who was strong by nature, not only hacked that enemy to death, but slashed others as well, so that a circle thick with bodies surrounded him. Finally this sword, too, broke off, and after



the battle had been won he gave it back to Bolesław. As a reward for his courage and beautiful heart, the King gave him the shield in this form. Paprocki adds that he was later called Lubiewa, because the knight endowed the Lubin monastery in Great Poland, where three members of this house, one after another, ruled as abbots, and in memory of this endowment by them, to this day that monastery uses the Trzaska shield in its seal.

In reading monastery charters Paprocki found these ancestors in ancient times from this house: Count Morcha of Biała in 1091; Count Mstygeń of Biała in 1180; and Klemens Szeliga of Janowice, chamberlain of Sieradz in 1436—but Paprocki also placed him under the Szeliga clan shield.

Some families with the name of this shield flourish to this day in the district of Łomża, such as Stanisław Trzaska, who in 1582 at Pskov dismounted from his horse and walked on foot towards the battle (Paprocki, *O herbach*, page 405); Paweł Trzaska in 1680; and Jadwiga Trzaska, a Benedictine nun at All Saints in Lwów. At the Horodło sejm and the Union of Lithuania and Poland it was Mojdyłon or Mejdałon Kufołowicz who took this clan shield for himself and his progeny (according to Bielski, page 314), or Czuśołowicz (according to Strykowski, page 542). There were Adam and Samuel in Warsaw district, and Walentyn, Paweł, Maksymilian and Kazimierz in Nur district in 1697. In 1778 Felix Traszka was the Łomża standardbearer. In 1788 Thomas was the Opoczno border marshal, per Krasicki.

## Families Bearing This Shield

Biały	Gołuchowski	Pancerzyński	Rojecki	Tysza
Bielski	Gołyński	Papliński	Ryczycki	Wędrogowski
Błażejowski	Kleckowski	Pątkowski	Sieklucki	Wyłężyński
Budkiewicz	Kotowski	Pielesz	Słupecki	Zabielski
Chojnacki	Kurnochowski	Podbielski	Sokołowski	Zakrzewski
Chrzyszczewski	Lubiewski	Podsędkowski	Świejkowski	Zimoszarski
Chrzczonowski	Michałowski	Ponikiewski	Szygowski	Zorawski
Dłuski	Nartowski	Popławski	Trzaska	
Glinka	Niemirowski	Popowski	Trzonkowski	

Kuropatnicki, Małachowski and Wieladek associate the following families as well with this shield: Kotutewicz, Moydyłon, and Świecikowski. ☞