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## THE COLLECTIO AUTOGRAPHORUM OF THE IMPERIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY. ITS CONTENTS AND HISTORY IN ST. PETERSBURG AND WARSAW

In the mid-1840s, the so-called Collection of Autographs and Documents (Collectio Autographorum, Коллекция Автографов и Грамот) was created at the Imperial Public Library (IPL) in St. Petersburg from a part of the library's manuscript holdings. It formed an important basis for research for eight decades. The reborn Polish state reclaimed a part of it, large enough to determine that at that point it ceased to exist as a separate collection.

The Collectio Autographorum has not been studied yet individually as a historically formed collection.<sup>1</sup> Thus, providing an overview of its origins as well as a guide to its contents and the history of its components upon liquidation may prove to be a valuable contribution to studies on historical library collections.

The basic groundwork of the Collectio Autographorum and the history of its creation at the IPL have been retraced based on materials from the Department of Archival Documents of the National Library of Russia.

The fundamental source for any research on the contents of the Collectio Autographorum is its old catalogue, held at the Manuscript Department of the Russian National Library. This item has no individual shelf mark and is not available to readers under an ordinary loan procedure.<sup>2</sup> It is a codex in a cardboard binding with leather back and corners, and a dust jacket of well-worn marble paper. It has a 37 cm long back, a 22 cm large panel and is 10 cm thick. The foliation covers 293

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1 Here, we can only list a short sketch by Józef Korzeniowski, "Zapiski z Rękopisów Cesarskiej Biblioteki Publicznej w Petersburgu and Innych Bibliotek Petersburskich" ["Notes on the Manuscripts of the Imperial Public Library in St. Petersburg and other Petersburg Libraries"] in: *Archiwum Do Dziejów Literatury i Oświaty w Polsce* [Archives of the History of Literature and Education in Poland], vol. 11, Kraków, 1910, pp. 359–360.

2 A small fragment of this catalogue can be found in a microfilm kept in the National Library of Poland (mf No.A 1942).

leaves, however, the numerous blank ones have been left unnumbered. The 19th-century binding is typical of the manuscript catalogues produced at that time at the IPL. On the back, the titles of particular volumes have been embossed with golden letters on a black background. The back of the old autograph catalogue became detached some time ago and most likely has not survived to this day, therefore we cannot be absolutely certain as to the historical title of this item. The two 20th-century “manuscript use cards” (“Лист использования рукописи”) inserted into the item bear the title “Inventory of Autograph Collections” (“Инвентарь собраний автографов”), but there is also a loose 20th-century leaf with a handwritten title “Old Autograph Catalogue” (“Старый каталог автографов”). The latter title will be used in the present study.

The old catalogue of the Jan Pieter van Suchtelen collection represents a similar kind of source. Likewise, this item bears no shelf mark. Its binding and size resemble the previous publication. The back fell off, but has survived to this day. The title “Catalogue of Autographs from Count van Suchtelen’s Collection” (“Каталог Автографов Коллекции Графа Сухтелена”) is embossed with gold letters on a black background. The item has two foliations: one up to f. 235 and the other up to f. 272.

Apart from the above, another valuable source is the “List of manuscripts and documents from the ‘Autograph’ Department of the Russian Public Library in St. Petersburg restored between 1924–1925,” drawn up by Witold Suchodolski, representative of the Polish Delegation, on 27 October 1925.<sup>3</sup>

Also, modern library and archival aids from the National Library of Russia, the National Library of Poland in Warsaw and the Central Archives of Historical Records (AGAD) in Warsaw are important for studies on the contents of the Collectio Autographorum.

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In 1795, Catherine II made a decision to establish the Imperial Public Library in St. Petersburg,<sup>4</sup> and on 27 February/11 March 1805, pursuant to a special rescript by Emperor Alexander I of Russia, a Manuscript Depot was founded at the library, managed by the famous book collector Peter Dubrovsky.<sup>5</sup> These events, so beneficial to Russian culture, coincided in time with one of the most devastating tragedies in Polish history: the Third Partition of Poland and the annihilation of the Polish state. Many Polish collections taken from the defeated country were brought to St. Petersburg to form part of the IPL holdings.

3 A copy of this document from the National Ossoliński Institute is held at the National Library: BN gps акс. 6617.

4 Ц. И. Грин, “Екатерина II и основание Российской Национальной Библиотеки” in: *Петербургские чтения* 97, С.-Петербург, 1997, pp. 566–569.

5 Т. П. Воронова, “Первые страницы истории Депо Манускриптов”, *Рукописные Памятники*, вып. 1, Санкт-Петербург, 1996, p. 11.

The core of the newly created St. Petersburg book collection were the holdings of the “Library of the Commonwealth Also Called Załuski”.<sup>6</sup> In 1796, Mikhail Antonovsky, assigned to the preliminary sorting work, identified 10,425 items in the manuscript collection brought from Warsaw. Subsequently, from June 1806 through September 1807, the Załuski manuscripts were transferred to the Manuscript Depot. It was then that the first lists of manuscripts of the Załuski Library were drawn up in Russia; the provisional shelf marks assigned in this process were often put on the manuscripts, indicating the number of the relevant box (*Caisse*) or the letter which designated the cabinet (A–G).<sup>7</sup>

Together with the Załuski manuscripts, parts of the Niasvizh collections were transported to St. Petersburg, while some items from the Radziwiłłs’ Archives were taken there as a consequence of their temporary loan to Puławy, where they were seized by the Russian authorities following the November Uprising.<sup>8</sup>

In 1795, the Archives of the Crown of Poland and the Duchy of Lithuania were removed to St. Petersburg, and from there a considerable part thereof was handed over to Prussia four years afterwards. In 1809, certain documents were selected from the Polish archival materials stored in St. Petersburg for transfer to the Manuscript Depot of the IPL.<sup>9</sup>

Naturally, holdings unrelated to Poland were also incorporated into the manuscript collection of the Petersburg book depository. In 1805, at the request of the Library Director Alexander Stroganov, Emperor Alexander I purchased a collection of manuscripts from Peter Dubrovsky, gathered by the latter during his revolutionary mission in France. It consisted of invaluable manuscripts that originated from Parisian monasteries, St. Germain des Prés in particular (where many precious archives had been stored over the centuries, such as those of Pierre de Séguier), the Bastille Archives, as well as numerous items donated by or purchased from various scholars and artists. Before Dubrovsky sold his collection to

6 М. Д. Моричева, *Библиотека Забуских и Российская национальная библиотека*, Санкт-Петербург, 2001, pp. 18–25.

7 Olga N. Bleskina, “The Załuski Library in Petersburg” in: *The Inventory of Manuscripts from the Załuski Library in the Imperial Public Library*, Warszawa, 2013, pp. 12–13; K. Kossarzecki, “The Załuski Family and their Library”, *ibid.*, pp. 81–87.

8 J. Korzeniowski, *op. cit.*, pp. 223–224; *Katalog Rękopisów Biblioteki Narodowej* [National Library Manuscript Catalogue hereinafter referred to as *The Catalogue*], series II, vol. II, B. St. Kupść and K. Muszyńska (eds.), Warszawa, 1980, p. 110; P. Buchwald-Pelcowa, “Biblioteka Nieświejska Radziwiłłów. Fakty, wątpliwości, pytania” [“The Radziwiłłs’ Library in Niasvizh. Facts, Queries and Questions”], in: *Rocznik Biblioteki Narodowej*, vol. XLI, Warszawa, 2011, p. 9.

9 J. Korzeniowski, *op. cit.* p. XI; S. Ptaszycki, *Cesarska Biblioteka Publiczna i Metryka Litewska w Petersburgu*, [The Imperial Public Library and the Lithuanian Chancery Public Register in St. Petersburg], Kraków, 1884; J. Jankowska, “O tak zwanej Metryce Litewskiej w zasobie Archiwum Głównego Akt Dawnych w Warszawie” [“The So-Called Lithuanian Chancery Public Register in the Holdings of the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw”], in: *Archeion* 32, Warszawa, 1960, pp. 31–35; I. Sułkowska-Kurasiowa, “Archiwum Koronne Krakowskie” [“The Cracow Crown Archives”] in: *Archiwum Głównego Akt Dawnych w Warszawie. Przewodnik po Zespółach* [Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw. Guidebook to the Collections], J. Karwasńska (ed.), Warszawa, 1975, p. 30.

the IPL, he had arranged the archival materials acquired into thematic collections, assembled together in characteristic Morocco leather bindings.<sup>10</sup>

Following the November Uprising, the holdings of the Warsaw Amateur Scholars' Society Library, with its many medieval codices that came from dissolved monastic libraries,<sup>11</sup> and the Public Library at the University of Warsaw<sup>12</sup> were also incorporated into the IPL collections, along with smaller book collections such as the Czartoryski one from Puławy<sup>13</sup> or the Dereczyn collection of the Sapieha family.<sup>14</sup>

In 1836, the IPL holdings were supplemented by the manuscript collection of Jan Pieter van Suchtelen, donated by the collector's son, Constantin. Suchtelen gathered his collection predominately at the time when he was the Russian ambassador at the Stockholm royal court. The fact that he participated in the occupation of Paris in 1814 must also have played a significant role in its creation. When the Russian army took over the Kingdom of Westphalia, Suchtelen managed to incorporate the conquered archival materials into his collection.<sup>15</sup>

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In 1846, Dmitry Buturlin, Director of the Imperial Public Library, submitted a report to the Minister of Public Education, Sergey Uvarov, in which he emphasised that since taking up his position (in 1843), he had taken particular care of the manuscript collections, previously kept in great disorder.<sup>16</sup> He underscored that many of the manuscript Polonica held at the IPL had gotten irrevocably lost due

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- 10 Т. П. Воронова, *Первые страницы*, pp.10–11; id., “Предисловие”, in: *Сборник Документов Коллекции П. П. Дубровского. Каталог*. Составители Т.П. Воронова, Т.В. Луизова, Ленинград, 1979, pp. 5–10; id., “П. П. Дубровский и сен-жерменское рукописи”, in: *Книги. Архивы. Автографы*. Москва, 1973, pp. 104–114; Т. В. Луизова, *Собрание рукописей П.П. Дубровского в Гос. Публичной библиотеке им. М.Е. Салтыкова-Щедрина*, Вопросы истории, 1952, issue 8, pp. 150–154; А. Д. Люблинская, “Западные рукописи в Ленинградской Публичной библиотеке”, *Советская наука*, 1940, issue 10, pp. 96–107.
- 11 Z. Strzyżewska, “Z historii konfiskat zbiorów WTPN po Powstaniu Listopadowym” [“On the History of Seizures of the Warsaw Amateur Scholars' Society Collections After the November Uprising”], in: *Zeszyty Staszicowskie* [The Staszic Notebooks] 2000, vol. 2, pp. 167–198.
- 12 Z. Strzyżewska, *Konfiskaty warszawskich zbiorów publicznych po powstaniu listopadowym. Biblioteka Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego i Warszawskie Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauk. Materiały i dokumenty z archiwów rosyjskich* [Seizures of the Warsaw Public Collections After the November Uprising. Libraries of the University of Warsaw and the Warsaw Amateur Scholars' Society. Materials and Documents from Russian Collections], Warsaw, 2000, pp. 21–69.
- 13 I. S. Zwieriewa, “Habent sua fata libelli. Z dziejów polskich księgozbiorów prywatnych włączonych do Cesarskiej Biblioteki Publicznej w latach 1832–1850” [“Habent sua fata libelli. On the History of Private Polish Book Collections Incorporated into the Imperial Public Library from 1832–1850”], *Rocznik Biblioteki Narodowej*, vol. XLIV, Warszawa, 2013, pp. 263–268.
- 14 Ibidem, p. 263.
- 15 Т. П. Воронова, *Документы Великой французской революции в собрании П.К. Сухтелена*, Санкт-Петербург, 1992, pp. 4–6.
- 16 Report by Dmitry P. Buturlin submitted to Sergey S. Uvarov, St. Petersburg, 25 I/6 II 1846, NLR, Otdel Arkhivnykh Dokumentov (Department of Archival Records – OAD), f. 1/1, d. 1846/18, ff. 1–1v.

to the previous lack of proper supervision.<sup>17</sup> To remedy this situation, efforts were made to put all manuscripts together and organise them according to language.<sup>18</sup> Once this rather mechanical activity was completed, the holdings were classified into 18 thematic groups based on a bibliographic system prepared by the previous IPL Director, Alexey Olenin. Furthermore, the items were divided into three formats, paper manuscripts were separated from parchment ones and all of them had running numbers assigned.<sup>19</sup> In this way, nearly two years of cataloguing work by an entire team of librarians came to an end in 1846. This resulted in 28 volumes of catalogues including 21,288 descriptions<sup>20</sup> with identifying shelf marks (such as Pol, F, ch, IV and 100, which stood for: manuscript in Polish, folio format, on paper, history division and running number).

To a certain extent, the *Collectio Autographorum* was created independently of the main manuscript corpus of the IPL, as it incorporated hand-written (or personally signed) texts by rulers, politicians, members of the military and researchers, as well as original documents. It was initially composed of 335 numbers in 709 volumes.<sup>21</sup>

According to an official report submitted to the Ministry of Public Education, the collection could be divided into three major sections. The first one contained original documents, including records of the Kingdom of Westphalia secret police as well as records from Livonia, Courland, Prussia and Poland removed from Warsaw in 1795.<sup>22</sup> The second (and largest) one consisted of correspondence of monarchs, diplomatic reports, and letters of famous commanders, scholars and writers. The authors of the report considered this group to be particularly valuable as it conveyed knowledge of many previously unknown facts of political history and the history of literature. It included the collection of Peter Dubrovsky brought from France, as well as letters of the Radziwills, the Sapiehas, Jan Karol

17 “Не все даже рукописи помещались в хранилище, часть оных была заброшена на открытых полках в Ларинской зале между печатными книгами. При такой небрежности в хранении, утраты делались неизбежными, и в самом деле многие из манускриптов и грамот, везенных в 1833 году из Варшавы [strikethrough in the original], преимущественно такие, которые касаются истории Литвы и Польши, теперь оказываются пропавшими”, *ibid.*, f. 1v.

18 *Ibid.*

19 “Только после этой механической работы возможно было приступить к описанию и классификации рукописей, писанных на одном языке, по содержанию на 18 отделении, сообразуясь с библиографическую систему покойного директора г. Оленина, при чём каждое отделение в свою очередь было разделено по форматам и рукописи на пергамене были отделены от писанных на бумаге”. *Ibid.*, ff. 1v.-2.

20 *Ibid.*, ff. 2 et seq.

21 Information on the *Collectio Autographorum*, [St. Petersburg, 1846 r.], *ibid.*, f. 14a.

22 “Эти коллекции можно разделить на три разряда. К первому принадлежат подлинные документы и грамоты как юридического, так и исторического содержания, они составляют 26 коллекций и 63 переплётых. Число заключающихся в них грамот и документов 3006. Сюда же должно причислить коллекцию бумаг тайной полиции бывшего вестфальского королевства в 32-х переплётых и две коллекции бумаг, относящихся до Лифляндии, Курляндии и Польши, которые были привезены из Варшавы в 1795 году в 5 переплётых”, *ibid.*

Chodkiewicz, Gottfried Leibniz, Antioch Kantemir, Voltaire, Jean Jacques Rousseau, Józef Andrzej Załuski and Jan Henryk Dąbrowski.<sup>23</sup> The third group were letters very often bearing nothing more than the original signature of a notable figure, even though interesting historical sources could be found here too, as the report assured. This group consisted predominately of the Suchtelen autograph collection.<sup>24</sup>

Hence, an exceptionally rich and original collection of manuscripts was created, with greatly diverse materials as far as their contents, chronology and provenance are concerned. Its contents are certainly worth a more detailed overview.

#### FROM THE ZAŁUSKI LIBRARY

- “Various” documents of the German princes and state officers from the 17th century.<sup>25</sup>  
Letters of Sigmund III Vasa to Szymon Rudnicki, Bishop of Warmia in the early 17th century.<sup>26</sup> Drafts of papal letters, mainly of Pope Sextus V.<sup>27</sup> Correspondence of Stanisław Leszczyński from the period of the penultimate interregnum.<sup>28</sup>
- Letters to F.O. Mencke, law professor at Leipzig University, and others,<sup>29</sup> as well as to Johan Benjamin Schilter, pastor in Naumburg (letters from 1655–1679).<sup>30</sup> Writings by Konrad Potinum, pastor of Wittemunden in Frisia,<sup>31</sup> and Samuel Schelvig, pastor of Gdańsk (from 1694–1697).<sup>32</sup>

- 23 “Второй разряд состоит из переписки царственных особ, донесений чужестранных посланников своим дворам и из коллекции и писем известных полководцев, учённых и литератов. К этому разряду относится 303 коллекции в 487 переплётках. Все эти коллекции чрезвычайно важны, потому что в них скрывается многие неизвестные факты, которыми может обогатиться, как политическая история, так и история литературы. В этом разряде особенно обращает на себя внимание 137 коллекций, в 167 переплётках вывезенных г. Дубровским из Франции, в которых заключается 11 045 отдельных писем и донесений, также коллекций бумаг и писем князей Радзивиловых и Сапер, Ходкевича, Лейбница, князя Кантемира, Вольтера, Руссо, графа Залуского, генерала Домбровского”, *ibid.*, f. 14av.
- 24 “К 3 разряду относятся собственно так называемые автографы нередко состоящие из одних подписей знаменитых лиц. В прочем и здесь иногда встречается любопытные документы исторического содержания. Эти автографы составляют 3 коллекции в 122 переплётках, из них коллекция покойного графа Сухтелена, известная в Европе, содержит в себе 10 762 автографа”, *ibid.*, f. 146.
- 25 Coll. Autogr. 166 (burnt); Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 13v.–14 (very detailed description of the item’s contents).
- 26 Coll. Autogr. 215 (burnt).
- 27 Coll. Autogr. 272 (BN 4880).
- 28 Coll. Autogr. 284 (burnt).
- 29 Coll. Autogr. 161 (burnt).
- 30 Coll. Autogr. 162 (burnt).
- 31 Coll. Autogr. 163 (burnt).
- 32 Coll. Autogr. 164 (burnt).

- Letters addressed to Kacper Horn, doctor of medicine,<sup>33</sup> and to Adam Kochański, royal librarian and mathematician (from 1669–1690).<sup>34</sup> Speeches and other academic writing by Georg Albrecht Spontin, professor at the Wittenberg Academy.<sup>35</sup>
- Correspondence of Gottfried Leibniz (1646–1716) with handwritten letters and notes by the eminent philosopher and mathematician. The texts had been collected and sorted by Johann E. Kapp, professor at Leipzig University, from whom they were purchased for the collection of Józef Andrzej Załuski.<sup>36</sup>
- Also, many other texts by European (mainly German) scholars, members of the clergy and politicians, mostly from the 17th and 18th centuries.<sup>37</sup> Here, what is worth noting are the four volumes of letters to the Saxon-Polish court historian from the turn the 17th and 18th centuries, Christian Juncker,<sup>38</sup> and a collection of letters to the Counts of Hennersberg and von Solms, which he probably gathered himself as he studied their history,<sup>39</sup> as well as 118 of his own letters.<sup>40</sup>
- The last will of Andrzej Chryzostom Załuski, Bishop of Warmia, of 1711.<sup>41</sup> Letters of the city of Elbląg to King August III and Andrzej Stanisław Załuski, Grand Marshal of the Crown of Poland from 1740–1744.<sup>42</sup> Collection of various German records of the 17th and 18th centuries gathered by Józef Andrzej Załuski.<sup>43</sup> Original letter of Louis XV to Józef Andrzej Załuski of 26 September 1763,<sup>44</sup> and a few letters probably also addressed to the Bishop of Kiev.<sup>45</sup> Letters of the English pretender James III, mostly to A. S. Załuski, of 1743.<sup>46</sup> Many other sources for the history of the Załuski family of the 17th and 18th

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33 Coll. Autogr. 167 (burnt).

34 Coll. Autogr. 170, 302 (BN 3280); *The Catalogue*, pp. 435–436; J. Korzeniowski, op. cit., pp. 368–369.

35 Coll. Autogr. 176 (burnt).

36 Coll. Autogr. 179 (BN 4879); item description in: *Nad złoto droższe, Skarby Biblioteki Narodowej* [More Precious than Gold. Treasures of the National Library], Halina Tchórzewska-Kabata (ed.), Warszawa, 2000, pp. 142–143.

37 Coll. Autogr. 187–190, 192, 194, 195, 257, 258, 283, 290, 293, 294, 320, 330 (burnt); Coll. Autogr. 281, 282, 287, 291, 292, 305, 312, 315, 323 (BN 3191, 3271, 4881, 4882, 4884–4888).

38 Coll. Autogr. 213 1–4 23 959.

39 Coll. Autogr. 214 (burnt).

40 Coll. Autogr. 269 (burnt); Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 35–36v. (detailed description of contents).

41 Coll. Autogr. 186 (BN 3201).

42 Coll. Autogr. 171 (AGAD 203).

43 Coll. Autogr. 165 (burnt); Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 13v.–14 (very detailed description of the item's contents).

44 Coll. Autogr. 33 (NLR, f. 971/1).

45 Coll. Autogr. 139 (NLR, f. 971/1).

46 Coll. Autogr. 180 (*The Catalogue*, p. 288, provides information that this item was incorporated into BN 3213, however, this seems to be mistaken, and the item should be considered as lost).

centuries, including materials regarding their personal interests and research activity,<sup>47</sup> along with documents related to people from their milieu such as Michał Rihovei and Jan Daniel Janocki.<sup>48</sup> The abundant collection of correspondence of Józef Andrzej Załuski, consisting of 8,500 letters in total dating back to 1725–1773 in 43 volumes, deserves particular attention. It is a superb source for research on the biography of the Bishop of Kiev as well as the complex history of the library he founded and co-managed with his brother.<sup>49</sup>

- Records of school visitations in Saxony of the early 17th century.<sup>50</sup> Property records of the family of Stanisław Drewno, lay judge of the Warsaw municipal court (the manuscript inherited from the Drewno family by Stefan Kazimierz Hankiewicz, scribe of the Crown Chancery Public Register, passed to the Załuskis in 1701).<sup>51</sup>

#### FROM THE NIASVIZH COLLECTIONS

- Records supposedly held in Zhovkva before 1740, from where they were transported to Niasvizh. The collection of original letters to King John III Sobieski from various other monarchs, as well as letters of that king to his sons.<sup>52</sup>
- Collection of letters of the Archbishops of Lviv, Bishops of Cracow, Kujawy, Vilnius and others up to the end of the 16th and the early 17th century,<sup>53</sup> as well as correspondence of Prince Władysław before he was elected as king.<sup>54</sup>
- Naturally, we can find here a large group of documents related to the Radziwiłł family. This is most of all the enormous collection of original correspondence “of prime importance” of Mikołaj “The Red” Radziwiłł and “The Orphan,” both Krzysztof (father and son), as well as Janusz and Bogusław. The above are accompanied by letters of Waclaw Leszczyński to the Radziwiłłs

47 Coll. Autogr. 196, 304 (BN 3212, 3214, 3215); Coll. Autogr. 271, 280, 286 (burnt).

48 Coll. Autogr. 313, 314 (BN 3274, 3275).

49 Coll. Autogr. 270/1–43 (BN 3215–3270, 3281). Compare with: B. St. Kupść, “Korespondencja Załuskich jako źródło historyczne do dziejów kultury polskiej Wieku Oświecenia” [“Correspondence of the Załuski Family as a Historical Source for the History of the Polish Culture of the Enlightenment”], *Roczniki Biblioteczne*, vol.5,1961, pp. 231–251. A fragment of this correspondence has been published: *Korespondencja Józefa Andrzeja Załuskiego, 1724–1736* [Correspondence of Józef Andrzej Załuski 1724–1736], B. St. Kupść and K. Muszyńska (eds.), Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków, 1967.

50 Coll. Autogr. 160; Old Autograph Catalogue, f. 12; *The Catalogue* (pp. 279–283) claims that the manuscripts from this item have been incorporated into BN 3211, however, its contents make this difficult to believe, therefore, the former should be considered burnt.

51 Coll. Autogr. 303 (BN 3298), *The Catalogue*, p. 455.

52 Coll. Autogr. 215, 217 (burnt).

53 Coll. Autogr. 218 (burnt).

54 Coll. Autogr. 220 (burnt).



and many other sources for the history of the family and the entire Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.<sup>55</sup>

- *Acta publica gestorum in Livonia*, a collection of documents of the 1660s and 1670s relating to compensations for the citizens of Livonia for their lost property. Proposals for tackling this issue suggested by the Voivode of Vilnius Michał Kazimierz Pac form its major part.<sup>56</sup>

#### FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE CROWN OF POLAND

- Letters to Kings Sigimund III, Władysław IV and John Casimir of 1615–1657 on public matters, erroneously marked at the IPL with the title *Actes Authentiques de la ville de Vilna*,<sup>57</sup> and other materials, such as the so-called “Cossack Acts” from the Archives of the Crown of Poland in Warsaw.<sup>58</sup>
- Codex containing papal bulls in chronological order beginning from 1213 (Pope Innocent III) up to 1653 (Pope Innocent X). Many of these documents bore traces of the 1730 stocktaking of the Archives of the Crown of Poland in Cracow (*Revisum 1730*); most of these came from the Curlandiae, Livoniae and Pontificales divisions. Includes many other records from the same divisions.<sup>59</sup>
- The large collection of documents related to the history of Livonia and Courland, including the correspondence of Chancellor Jan Szembek of 1713–1714,<sup>60</sup> which deserves special attention. The collection of records connected

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- 55 Coll. Autogr. 219, 232–233, 235–241, 243–251 (burnt); Coll. Autogr. 252, 275, 306 (BN 3276–3278); Compare with: J. Korzeniowski, op. cit., p. 363–364; Coll. Autogr. 277 (The Catalogue, pp. 441–446, located this item under shelf marks BN 3287 and 3288, which, however, seems to be mistaken, and this codex should be considered burnt).
- 56 Coll. Autogr. 329 (NLR f. 971), apart from the catalogues available at the reading room of the National Library of Russia. A note in the Old Catalogue [ff. 51v. 186–186v.] reads: “Tiré de la Bibliothèque de Radzivil XII.39”. The item reached St. Petersburg together with the Załuski Library, which is evidenced by Caisse XII/50.
- 57 Coll. Autogr. 128/2 (AGAD).
- 58 Coll. Autogr. 135 (BN rps. 3091); *The Catalogue*, pp. 158–162; P. Bańkowski, *Rękopisy rewindykowane przez Polskę z Z.S.R.R. na podstawie traktatu ryskiego i ich dotychczasowe opracowania* [Manuscripts Reclaimed by Poland from the USSR pursuant to the Treaty of Riga and the Related Studies to Date], Cracow, 1937, p. 17; J. Korzeniowski, op. cit., pp. 367–368; J. Jankowska, “Dzieje zbioru pod nazwą, Archiwum Królestwa Polskiego” [“History of the Collection Called, Archives of the Kingdom of Poland”], *Archeion* 44, Warsaw, 1966, p. 116; Z. Wójcik, “Archiwum Koronne Warszawskie” [“Warsaw Archives of the Crown of Poland”] in: *Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych w Warszawie. Przewodnik po Zespółach* [Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw. Guidebook on the Collections], J. Karwasińska (ed.), Warsaw, 1975, p. 46.
- 59 Coll. Autogr. 203, 207 (burnt). Fragments of items without signs of Polish provenance remained at the National Library of Russia and can be found under f. 992. See also I. Sułkowska-Kurasiowa, op. cit., p. 30. Detailed descriptions of the items in: BN rps akc. 6617, ff. 11–14, 20–23; Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 22v.–23, 73–75, 85–90.
- 60 Coll. Autogr. 298 (burnt). Detailed descriptions: BN rps akc. 6617, ff. 32–32v., Old Autograph Catalogue, f. 42v., 104–132.

with the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (Litvaniae division) of the 14th and 15th centuries,<sup>61</sup> the documents from the Regni Poloniae and Reginarum<sup>62</sup> as well as Ducatus Osviecimiensis et Zatoriensis<sup>63</sup> divisions are of the same provenance (as indicated by traces of the 1730 stocktaking). Also, records relating to the Military Confederation of the Crown of Poland 1660–1662 and other sources for the history of the reigns of John Casimir and August III.<sup>64</sup>

- Original diplomatic accreditation of Gostaw Vulfvenstirn, delegate of Frederick I of Sweden at August III's court of 3 March 1744.<sup>65</sup>

#### FROM PETER DUBROVSKY'S COLLECTION

- Medieval acts, relatively few, including isolated documents related to Louis IX,<sup>66</sup> papal bulls of Urban II, Boniface VIII, Callixtus II, Alexander III and Clement IV.<sup>67</sup>
- The late Middle Ages are also represented by an impressive collection of correspondence of Louis XI, Charles VIII and other eminent figures of this period in France. Many of the documents bear hand-written notes by the French historian Denis Godefroy (1615–1681).<sup>68</sup>
- French correspondence dating back to the period of religious wars in the second half of the 16th century, which has a prominent place among the group coming from the collection of Peter Dubrovsky. It contains letters to and from the last kings of the House of Valois: Henry II, Francis II, Charles IX and Henry III, along with large batches of records related to the activity of Catherine de' Medici, Mary Stuart, and the rulers of Navarre.<sup>69</sup>

61 Coll. Autogr. 204 (burnt); Detailed description of the item; BN rps akc. 6617. ff. 15–15v (burnt); Old Autograph Catalogue, f. 22v., 73–75.

62 Coll. Autogr. 205, 208 (burnt); Detailed description of the items; BN rps akc. 6617. ff. 16–18v., 24–24v.; Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 22v.–23, 76–80, 102–103v.

63 Coll. Autogr. 206 (burnt); Detailed description of the item; BN rps akc. 6617. ff. 19–19v; Old Autograph Catalogue, f. 22v. 81–83.; On records with no shelf mark of the Archives of the Crown of Poland, see also: J. Karwasińska, "Sto trzynastcie zaginionych dokumentów z Collectio Autographorum Biblioteki Narodowej" ["A Hundred and Thirteen Lost Documents from the Collectio Autographorum of the National Library"] in: *Straty Bibliotek i Archiwaliów Warszawskich w Zakresie Rękopiśmiennych Źródeł Historycznych* [Manuscript Historical Sources Lost by the Warsaw Libraries and Archives], vol. III, Warszawa, 1955, p. 116.

64 Coll. Autogr. 299 (burnt); Detailed description of the item; BN rps akc. 6617. ff. 33–33v (burnt); Old Autograph Catalogue, f. 42v., 133–144.

65 Coll. Autogr. 13 (NLR, f. 971/1).

66 Coll. Autogr. 34/1 (NLR, f. 971/1).

67 Coll. Autogr. 59 (NLR, f. 971/1).

68 Coll. Autogr. 4, 12, 16, 34/1, 43, 48, 51, 56, 58, 59, 71, 72 (NLR, f. 971/1); compare: *Каталог писем государственных и политических деятелей Франции XV века из собрания П. П. Дубровского*, составитель Т. Воронова, Санкт-Петербург 1993.

69 These acts are scattered among numbers 1–118 (NLR, f. 971/1).

The collections of letters of Cardinal Georges d'Armagnac from 1562–1585<sup>70</sup> and Marshal Armand Gontaut, Duke of Biron of 1560–1591<sup>71</sup> are also worth a mention. Documents of governors, regents, parliaments and town halls of the southern provinces to the French court of 1558–1599 constitute another abundant collection.<sup>72</sup>

- A material part of the collection is also the correspondence of the first Bourbons: Henry IV, Louis XIII, Louis XIV, Marie de' Medici and Anne of Austria, along with secretaries of state Nicolas de Neufville de Villeroy; Henri-Auguste de Loménie, Count of Brienne; Raymond Phelipeaux Herbaut; Pierre Brûlart, Marquis of Puisieux; Cardinals Armand Jean de Plessis, Duke of Richelieu and Jules Mazarini; Chancellor Pierre de Séguier; as well as the Houses of Guise and Condé.<sup>73</sup>
- The event log of the Peace Congress of Cologne in 1673 drawn up by the French diplomat Honoré P. Courtin, as well as other sources related to the congress.<sup>74</sup>
- Many acts referring to the relations between the French court and the rulers of the Empire (including emperors), England, Italy (including the Papacy), Spain, Portugal and Turkey. Apart from these, we often encounter sources related to the activity of notable politicians, diplomats and scholars of that period,<sup>75</sup> many of which were written by Alexandre Bournonville, Count of Henin.<sup>76</sup> Dubrovsky made notes related to the biographies of particular figures on many items.
- The item containing letters of the princes of Saxony to the kings of France, mostly from the 15th and 16th centuries, features quite a large collection of letters to the Field Hetman of Lithuania, Krzysztof Radziwiłł, mostly from Elisabeth Sophia and Julius von Sachsen from 1624–1629 (with personal notes by Dubrovsky).<sup>77</sup>
- A collection of correspondence of East Frisia's superintendent and theology professor at Helmstadt University, Michael Walther, with various persons (1624–1630).<sup>78</sup>

70 Coll. Autogr. 74 (NLR, f. 971/1).

71 Coll. Autogr. 78 (NLR, f. 971/1).

72 Coll. Autogr. 98/1–4 (NLR, f. 971/1); also compare to similar 17th-century records in Coll. Autogr. 108/1–2 and 114/1–6 (NLR, f. 971/1), compare to: *Сборник Документов* pp. 24–25.

73 These acts are scattered among numbers 1–118 (NLR, f. 971/1).

74 Coll. Autogr. 102/1–4 (NLR, f. 971/1).

75 These acts are scattered among numbers 1–118 (NLR, f. 971/1).

76 Coll. Autogr. 92/1–3 (NLR, f. 971/1).

77 Coll. Autogr. 8 (NLR f. 971/1).

78 Coll. Autogr. 156 (NLR f. 971/1).

- Sources related to the activity of Charles Philip of Neuburg and his wife Ludwika Karolina Radziwiłł from 1696–1699.<sup>79</sup>
- Letters and memorials of Eastern Patriarchs of Antiochia, Armenia, Damascus and others condemning Calvinism, authenticated by the French ambassador in Turkey Olier de Nointel, among others. Some of the sources are written in Greek, Arabic, Turkish, Armenian and Georgian.<sup>80</sup> Correspondence of Louis Joseph, duke of Vendôme, generalissimus of the French Army in Italy, with Louis d'Aubusson de la Feuillade, commander in Piedmont during the years of the War of the Spanish Succession (1704–1706),<sup>81</sup> as well as letters to the latter from the French Minister of War, Michel Chamillart, from 1703–1706.<sup>82</sup>
- Large collection of correspondence of the Russian heir to the throne, Grand Duke Peter Fyodorovich, with the Schleswig-Holstein court, merchants, and diplomats during 1735–1756. Also, a letter from Antoni Lubomirski of 27 December 1742 can be found here,<sup>83</sup> along with sources related to Schleswig-Holstein<sup>84</sup> as well as letters and memorials sent to the young court of Peter Fyodorovich and Catherine Alekseyevna by Burkhard Christofof Münnich.<sup>85</sup>
- Original letter from Peter I to the Hospodar of Wallachia and a hand-written note by Catherine II.<sup>86</sup>
- Medium-sized collection of letters to the Russian diplomat and poet Antiokh Dmitrievich Kantemir, from Gen. James Keith, Field Marshal Burkhard von Münnich, Landgrave of Hesse-Kassel (later King of Sweden) Frederick I, Gen. Pierre, Count of Lascy, the famous French diplomat Jacques, marquis of La Chétardie, and others.<sup>87</sup>
- Collections of correspondence of scholars, writers, poets, editors, artists, physicians and political activists. Greatly varied materials in terms of contents and chronology dating from the 16th to the 18th century. The letters fre-

79 Coll. Autogr. 10 (NLR, f. 971/1, no description in the catalogue).

80 Coll. Autogr. 335 (NLR f. 971, no description in catalogues 1 and 2, an abridged description can be found in an inventory unavailable to the public where a new number – 60 – has been assigned; in the Old Autograph Catalogue [ff. 52–52v.] a rather detailed description in 16 separate items is included, see also: *Сборник Документов*, p. 30.).

81 Coll. Autogr. 42 (NLR, f. 971/1).

82 Coll. Autogr. 83/1–3 (NLR, f. 971/1).

83 Coll. Autogr. 14/134 (NLR, f. 971/1).

84 Coll. Autogr. 326 (NLR f. 971, no description in catalogues 1 and 2, an abridged description can be found in an inventory unavailable to the public where a new number – 61 – has been assigned; a very short description in the Old Autograph Catalogue [f. 51], see also *Сборник Документов*, p. 42.).

85 Coll. Autogr. 105 (NLR f. 971/1).

86 Coll. Autogr. 60, 61 (the Old Catalogue [f. 5] contains an observation by Tamara Voronova of 25/12/1965 that it had been transferred to the Collection of the House of Romanov. Subsequently, these two numbers were recycled and assigned to other items, see: *Сборник Документов*, pp. 30, 42.).

87 Coll. Autogr. 136 (NLR f. 971/1).

quently bear biographic notes provided by Dubrovsky.<sup>88</sup> Letters of Martinus Wolff and Henrich von Einsidel dem Eltern from the second half of the 16th century, among others.<sup>89</sup>

- Records (copies and originals) regarding the Kamchatka rebellion commanded by Maurycy Beniowski.<sup>90</sup>
- A substantive collection of Voltaire's (François-Marie-Arouet de Voltaire) correspondence with various people from 1716–1778, including pieces of his writing and fiction.<sup>91</sup> Writings by Jean-Jacques Rousseau.<sup>92</sup>
- Records from the Bastille Archives, including royal orders of arrest and release (*lettres de cachet*), correspondence of ministers, the police as well as prison commanders and officers. Apart from that, it contains prisoners' letters, accounts, minutes of interrogations, correspondence of the prisoners, trial records and other documents from 1667–1789.<sup>93</sup>
- Materials related to the competition for the best ode praising Empress Catherine II, organised by Dubrovsky in Hamburg in 1797.<sup>94</sup>

#### FROM THE WARSAW AMATEUR SCHOLARS' SOCIETY

- Sources for the history of the Orthodox Church in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.<sup>95</sup> Reports by lieutenants Roenne and Drewitz on the actions aimed at fighting against the Bar Confederation, orders by Gen. I. Wejmarn of 1770,<sup>96</sup> and a collection of letters on the Polish affairs of the First Partition period.<sup>97</sup> Writings of Franciszek Ksawery Branicki of 1771.<sup>98</sup> "Acts and records relating to the demarcation lines of the Kingdom of Poland, the establishment of fortresses and other military affairs of 1774–1795".<sup>99</sup> Diplomatic correspondence of Jan Nepomucen

88 Coll. Autogr. 135, 139–142, 144–146, 148–149 (NLR f. 971/1). *Каталог писем и других материалов западноевропейских ученых и писателей XVI–XVIII вв. Из собрания П.П. Дубровского*, составители Е.В. Бернадская и Т. П. Воронова, Ленинград 1963.

89 Coll. Autogr. 135 (NLR f. 971), no description can be found in the catalogues available in the reading room, while the remaining part of this item has been reclaimed and is currently held at the National Library of Poland.

90 Coll. Autogr. 138 (NLR f. 971, no catalogue description).

91 Coll. Autogr. 288/1–2 (NLR f. 971/1).

92 Coll. Autogr. 289 (NLR f. 971/1).

93 Coll. Autogr. 120–123/1151 (NLR f. 971/1). Compare: *Документы из Бастильского архива. Аннотированный каталог*, составитель: А. Д. Люблинская, Ленинград, 1960.

94 Coll. Autogr. 147 (NLR f. 971/1, no catalogue description).

95 Coll. Autogr. 260 (burnt).

96 Coll. Autogr. 128/157 (AGAD).

97 Coll. Autogr. 253 (AGAD).

98 Coll. Autogr. 128 (AGAD).

99 Coll. Autogr. 328 (burnt).

Małachowski, Polish delegate to Dresden from 1789–1792.<sup>100</sup> A selection of sources related to the Third Partition of Poland, including 11 letters of King Stanisław August and original records of the Targowica Confederation.<sup>101</sup> “Papers on the organisation of Lithuania during the War of 1812” and regarding the Provisional Governing Commission.<sup>102</sup> The extensive collection of “Papers of Gen. Henryk Dąbrowski,” composed of 60 parts in total (42 cardboard boxes and 18 codices), deserves particular attention. It includes, among other things, an abundant collection of correspondence dating from 1790 and after.<sup>103</sup> Manuscripts gathered by Józef Lipiński from 1828.<sup>104</sup> A small fragment of Stanisław Staszic’s archives, including sources related to the funding of the monument to Nicolaus Copernicus in Warsaw.<sup>105</sup> Letters of Józef Maksymilian Ossoliński to Ambroży Grabowski from 1813–1826.<sup>106</sup>

#### FROM THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

- 1417 leaves of correspondence of King Stanisław August, sent while he was in Grodno in 1795, with Stanisław Badeni, Prince Józef Poniatowski, Augustyn Deboli, Pius Kiciński, Teofil Załuski, and many others.<sup>107</sup>
- Letters of Jan Chrystian Kamsetzer to Marcell Bacciarelli, correspondence of the latter with King Stanisław August and many other records from the family heritage related to him.<sup>108</sup>

#### FROM THE PUŁAWY COLLECTIONS

- Materials of Jan Zawadzki regarding diplomatic missions to foreign courts and many other public affairs (17th century).<sup>109</sup>
- Original letters of Princes Adam and Izabela Czartoryski.<sup>110</sup> Records related to the origins and establishment of the Congress Poland, including memorials

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- 100 Coll. Autogr. 268 (burnt). For a more extensive description of the item see the Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 35 et seq.
- 101 Coll. Autogr. 184, 264 (burnt). The contents of no. 184 have been described in the Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 18v.–19.
- 102 Coll. Autogr. 254 (burnt) Coll. Autogr. 279 (AGAD).
- 103 Coll. Autogr. 210 (partly burnt). Surviving volumes: 6–10 and 12 (AGAD); P. Bańkowski, “Straty Biblioteki Narodowej”, in: *Straty*, vol. III, pp. 37–58.
- 104 Coll. Autogr. 199 (burnt).
- 105 Coll. Autogr. 265, 266 (burnt).
- 106 Coll. Autogr. 297 (BN 3297) published in: *Listy J. M. Ossolińskiego do A. Grabowskiego (1813–1826)* [Letters of Józef Maksymilian Ossoliński to A. Grabowski (1813–1826)], B. Horodyski (ed.), Wrocław 1950.
- 107 Coll. Autogr. 212 (burnt); List of correspondents in the Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 23v.–28.
- 108 Coll. Autogr. 197, 198, 202, 308, 310 (BN 3289–3293). Coll. Autogr. 309 (burnt).
- 109 Coll. Autogr. 172 (burnt); detailed description in the Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 15–17.
- 110 Coll. Autogr. 255, 263 (burnt).

addressed to Alexander I<sup>111</sup> and Reports of the Extraordinary Commission for Towns and Cities from 1815–1822.<sup>112</sup>

- Parchment book with signatures of the visitors to the Sybil temple in Puławy, and letters to Karol Sienkiewicz, librarian of the Czartoryskis.<sup>113</sup>

#### **FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE SAPIEHA FAMILY IN DERCZYN**

- A large collection of correspondence of the Sapiehas, starting from letters of King Sigimund III to Lew Sapieha from 1625–1629.<sup>114</sup> Numerous letters related to the activity of Michał Antoni Sapieha, Vice-Chancellor of Lithuania (died in 1760)<sup>115</sup> and his nephew Aleksander Michał, Grand Hetman of Lithuania.<sup>116</sup>
- Collection of correspondence of the Chodkiewicz family from the years 1567–1620 composed of eight items. It included letters from magnates of Lithuania and the Crown of Poland, senators, dignitaries, local parliaments, towns and cities, and from the Radziwiłł family.<sup>117</sup>

#### **MANUSCRIPTS OF UNCERTAIN ORIGIN**

- Items held by the NLR relating to the history of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, predominately in Polish, whose origin cannot be unequivocally determined form a separate group. Whether they used to belong to Dubrovsky, or reached the Petersburg book depository in a different way requires further study. Some of them bear notes made by Dubrovsky.<sup>118</sup> We cannot exclude that this great bibliophile placed them there when he was already the Manuscript Depot manager, and the issue gets even more complex if we take into account the fact that many codices brought together manuscripts of diverse provenance.
- Letters and other records of the kings and queens of Poland: Sigimund August, Bona Sforza, Catherine and Anne, Stephen Báthory, Sigimund III Vasa, Władysław IV, John Casimir, Michał Korybut Wiśniowiecki and Eleonora, John Sobieski and Marie Casimire as well as both of the Saxon kings.<sup>119</sup>

111 Coll. Autogr. 256, 259, 261 (burnt).

112 Coll. Autogr. 262 (burnt).

113 Coll. Autogr. 278 (BN 2907), Coll. Autogr. 337 (burnt).

114 Coll. Autogr. 177 (AGAD); Coll. Autogr. 221, 230, 231 (burnt).

115 Coll. Autogr. 178, 273, (BN 3285, 3286); Coll. Autogr. 295 (burnt).

116 Coll. Autogr. 274 (BN 3287, 3288).

117 Coll. Autogr. 222–229 (burnt). Compare: P. Bańkowski, “Straty Biblioteki Narodowej w Zakresie Rękopiśmiennych Źródeł Historycznych” in: *Straty* pp. 22–23.

118 Coll. Autogr. 124 no. 39 (AGAD); Coll. Autogr. 125 no. 1; Coll. Autogr. 152, no. 6, 7.

119 Coll. Autogr. 62–67 (NLR f. 971/2).

- Letters of the Kettler dynasty of Courland from 1576–1654<sup>120</sup> and other records from Courland relating to a great extent to Karl, Duke of Courland ascending the throne in Mitau between 1758 and 1759.<sup>121</sup>
- Records on Livonia from 1579–1583 and on the 1600–1607 Polish-Swedish War, as well as sources related to the activity of Field Hetman Krzysztof Radziwiłł during the Smoleńsk War between 1632–1634.<sup>122</sup> Correspondence of Mikołaj “The Red” Radziwiłł and Krzysztof, Grand Hetman of the Radziwiłłs (end of the 16th century). Correspondence between Field Hetman Krzysztof Radziwiłł (first half of the 17th century) with Regiment Commander Mikołaj Korff and Lithuanian Vice-chancellor Jarosz Wołłowicz, as well as a large collection related to the activity of the latter and Janusz Radziwiłł (died in 1656).<sup>123</sup>
- Three collections, including most frequently excerpts from municipal books relating mostly to the territories of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. However, other types of manuscripts can also be found here (such as three Lithuanian acts of confederation of 1767) and many records related to the Radziwiłł family. Most of them bear chancery notes and archival marks. The collections cover a vast chronological scope from 1413 to 1767.<sup>124</sup> Those related to the history of Lithuania are slightly more limited in time and cover the period from 1661–1678.<sup>125</sup>
- Several collections including mostly records of local parliaments of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, numerous voivodeships and counties, as well as records of the local parliament of Volyn and some other records of the Crown of Poland. These are official excerpts. Covers a vast chronological scope from the 16th to the 18th century.<sup>126</sup>
- Records related to Polish-Russian relations from Ivan the Terrible to Catherine II form an interesting group. These are diverse documents, some of which are also connected with other countries, like the instructions of the papal delegate in Moscow, Giovanni Pietro Maffei, of 1752.<sup>127</sup>
- Sources regarding the Dissenters and the Greek Catholic Church in the Pol-

120 Coll. Autogr. 68 (NLR f. 971/2).

121 Coll. Autogr. 137 (NLR f. 971/2).

122 Coll. Autogr. 321/1–2 (NLR f. 971/2). In the Old Autograph Catalogue [f. 51], the item description is accompanied by the letter D, indicating that these items came from Dubrovsky’s collection. Nonetheless, on the old bindings, Dubrovsky recorded the number of autographs only, which leads to the assumption that he marked this item while working as the Manuscript Depot manager.

123 Coll. Autogr. 96, 115, 116, 119, 234, 242 (NLR f. 971/2); a hand-written inventory, unavailable at the reading room [f. 16], indicates that the number had been changed from 242 to 117, however, the original numbering of Coll. Autogr. was later restored.

124 Coll. Autogr. 124, 125, 150 (NLR f. 971/2).

125 Coll. Autogr. 311 (NLR f. 971/2).

126 Coll. Autogr. 126–127, 128/2, 129–133.

127 Coll. Autogr. 152 (NLR f. 971/2).



ish-Lithuanian Commonwealth from 1596–1767,<sup>128</sup> the mutual recognition of equal rights between the Crown of Poland and Lithuania,<sup>129</sup> the end of the Saxon period, the interregnum of 1763/64 and – most of all – the 1767 confederation.<sup>130</sup>

- Letters of Otto Magnus Stackelberg (8 pieces), Russian ambassador in Warsaw from 1777–1780, to various recipients.<sup>131</sup>
- “Instruction from the City of Vilnius to Tsar Aleksey Mikhailovich given on 24 April 1658 to Sirs Józef Piotrowicz, village mayor, Prokop Dorfiewicz, counsel, and Mikołaj Kostrowicki, writer,” donation to the Vilnius University Library from Józef Zdankiewicz, patrician of the city of Vilnius, dated to 13 September 1822.<sup>132</sup>

#### FROM THE JAN PIETER VAN SUCHTELEN COLLECTION

- Two officially authenticated genealogies of F. S. Fugger and F. J. Salm.<sup>133</sup> Collection of letters of Laurentii Theodorio Granovis to his brother Jakob, professor at the University of Leiden, from 1699–1712.<sup>134</sup> Reports of the Dutch diplomatic mission in Stockholm.<sup>135</sup> Swedish rescripts and royal letters related to the enlistment of soldiers in the Roteringen and Wasa provinces, decisions of the Swedish Secret Committee (Sekret utskottet) and other sources for the history of Sweden of the 17th and 18th century.<sup>136</sup> Collection of letters of the Weinrich brothers from the early 17th century.<sup>137</sup> Two volumes of correspondence of the Swedish secretary of state Jonas Cederhielm regarding Polish affairs, among other things, Stanisław Leszczyński being one of the correspondents.<sup>138</sup>
- Abundant collection of diverse autographs from many different countries, composed of over a hundred volumes. It contains manuscripts by monarchs and other eminent figures divided according to country, from the Middle Ages to the early 19th century. The material is so varied that it is hard to find

128 Coll. Autogr. 158 (NLR f. 971/2).

129 Coll. Autogr. 183 (NLR f. 971/2).

130 Coll. Autogr. 159 (NLR f. 971/2).

131 Coll. Autogr. 117 (NLR f. 971, not described in the catalogues available in the reading room). See: Old Autograph Catalogue, ff. 8 et seq.

132 Coll. Autogr. 169 (NLR f. 971) Notes in the Old Autograph Catalogue [f. 14v.] signed by Tamara Voronova provide information that it had been transferred to the collection of Polish official charters. Meanwhile, a note signed by N.A. Elagina of 7 May 2003 indicates that it has been returned to its previous location.

133 Coll. Autogr. 153, 154 (NLR f. 993/1).

134 Coll. Autogr. 155 (NLR f. 993/1).

135 Coll. Autogr. 173 (NLR f. 993/1).

136 Coll. Autogr. 174, 175, 191 (NLR f. 993/1).

137 Coll. Autogr. 193 (NLR f. 993/1).

138 Coll. Autogr. 296/318 (NLR, f. 993/1).

a common denominator for its elements (apart from Suchtelen's passion for collecting). Let us highlight the writings of notable activists of revolutionary France and the Napoleonic period as well as the correspondence of the Swedish chemist J.J. Berzeius on scientific matters.<sup>139</sup>

- Among Polish autographs, a collection of letters of the Polish monarchs (42 pieces) from Queen Bona Sforza to King Stanisław August and Princes Stanisław and Józef Poniatowski.<sup>140</sup> Furthermore, an extensive collection of writings (75 pieces) by Polish politicians and scholars such as John Baptist Albertrandi, Henryk Brühl, Joachim Litawor Chreptowicz, Bukaty, Tadeusz Czacki, Adam Jerzy Czartoryski, Augustyn Deboli, Jan Stanisław and Aleksander Józef Jabłonowscy, Tadeusz Kościuszko, Jacek Małachowski, Kazimierz Jan Sapieha and many others.<sup>141</sup> The Russian monarchs (70 items) have been completed from Aleksey Mikhailovich to Nicholas I.<sup>142</sup>
- The archives of the Kingdom of Westphalia with administrative and police records of the Napoleonic period.<sup>143</sup>

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After 1846, the Collectio Autographorum was supplemented with widely diverse materials. The highest number listed in the old catalogue is 388, although numbers up to 390 were assigned to new items by 1939.<sup>144</sup> As a case in point, 28 letters of Alexander von Humboldt to the Russian Minister of Finance, Georg Ludwíg Cancrin, were purchased by the IPL in 1870.<sup>145</sup> Items 361 to 371 are described in the characteristic handwriting of Ivan Afanasyevitch Bytchkov.

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- 139 Coll. Autogr. 316/1-105, 333/1-2 (NLR f. 993/2 – catalogue of French autographs, f. 993/4 – catalogue of Finnish autographs, f. 993/5 – catalogue of American autographs, f. 993/7 – catalogue of Swedish autographs, f. 993/8 – catalogue of autographs from the Kingdom of Westphalia); Old Autograph Catalogue [ff. 47v.-50v.]; Old Catalogue of the Suchtelen Autograph Collection, passim; Т. П. Воронова, *Документы Великой французской революции*; А. Д. Люблинская, *Архив И. Я. Берцелиуса в Ленинградской Публичной библиотеке им. М. Е. Салтыкова-Щедрина*, Вопросы истории естествознания и техники. Вып. 5, М. 1957, pp. 177-181.
- 140 Coll. Autogr. 316, 10, 2 (NLR f. 993), Old Catalogue of the Suchtelen Collection, ff. 54-55, in the first sequence of foliation.
- 141 Coll. Autogr. 316/74 (NLR f. 993), Old Catalogue of the Suchtelen Collection, ff. 126-129, in the second sequence of foliation.
- 142 Coll. Autogr. 316/11 (NLR f. 993), Old Catalogue of the Suchtelen Collection, ff. 62-65, in the first sequence of foliation.
- 143 Coll. Autogr. 317; Note in the Old Autograph Catalogue [k.51, 151-159]: "Collection de dossiers renfermant des papiers concernant l'administration du Royaume de Westphalie en général et particulièrement de la Police, depuis l'an 1805 jusqu'au commencement de 1814 saisis par les troupes russes en 1814 et parvenus à la Bibliothèque Impériale par l'acquisition de feu Mr. le Général comte de Suchtelen. (français et allemand)."
- 144 The inventory of archival fonds no. 991 indicates that in 1939 the library received 97 original letters (from the 15th-19th centuries) which were assigned no. 390 in the Coll. Autogr.
- 145 Coll. Autogr. 355 (NLR f. 991/1 no. 602). Compare: *Отчёт Императорской Публичной Библиотеки за 1870 год, Санктпетербург 1872*, p. 160. Published in: Im Ural und Altai. Briefwechsel zwischen Alexander von Humboldt und Graf Georg von Cancrin aus dem Jahre 1827-1832, Leipzig, 1869. *Переписка Александра Гумбольдта с учёными и государственными деятелями России*, Москва, 1962.

In 1872, Gustave Bertrand published abridged descriptions of the French autographs.<sup>146</sup> Meanwhile, in the early 20th century Józef Korzeniowski described a considerable part of the manuscripts from the *Collectio Autographorum* relevant to Polish history.<sup>147</sup>

The provisions of the Treaty of Riga signed between Poland, Soviet Russia and Soviet Ukraine marked the end of the *Collectio Autographorum* as a separate unit. Pursuant to this agreement, the cultural heritage taken away from the territory of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth since 1772 was to be returned to Poland.

Finally, 146 inventory items were restored to the Polish side, including 276 volumes and 160 loose documents.<sup>148</sup> It is worth noting that some of the volumes had been split into materials to be returned to Poland and others not subject to restitution.

The materials reinforced the manuscript collection of the National Library of Poland established in 1928 in Warsaw, and were later to share its fate. A substantial portion of them was burnt by the German Nazis in autumn 1944. A part of the 55 surviving volumes was transferred to the Central Archives of Historical Records in the 1950s.<sup>149</sup> Those that remained at the National Library received new shelf marks, and many were described in series II, vol. II of the National Library Manuscript Catalogue by Krystyna Muszyńska and Bogumił Stanisław Kupść. The extant items represent exceptionally valuable materials for Polish historical research up to the present.

In Leningrad, further numbers were added to the former *Collectio Autographorum* sequence in the 1930s, however, after World War II, an initiative of dividing the manuscript holdings into archival fonds was conducted at the Saltykov-Shchedrin Public Library. As a result, the items from the former *Collectio Autographorum* were located in various archival fonds. Most of them ended up in fond 971<sup>150</sup> (Autograph Collection of Peter P. Dubrovsky; the items are still made available to readers based on the old numbering of the Coll. Autogr.) and fond 993 (the Suchtelen Collection). Nevertheless, some of the items have been allocated to other fonds and finding them may sometimes require time-consuming research.<sup>151</sup> Most items were described in detail with great professionalism, mostly due to the

146 G. Bertrand, "Catalogue de la Collection des autographes au département des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque de Saint-Petersbourg. Relevé sommaire de ce qui intéresse l'histoire de France". *Revue des Sociétés Savantes des départements*, 1872, 5 série, vol. 4, 448–457. Another noteworthy source is: H. de La Ferrière, *Deux Années de mission à Saint-Petersbourg. Manuscrits, lettres et documents historiques sortis de France en 1789*, Paris, 1867.

147 J. Korzeniowski, op. cit., pp. 319–332, 359–377.

148 P. Bańkowski, *Rękopisy* [Manuscripts], p. 7.

149 List of the surviving items in *The Catalogue*, pp. 583–584.

150 It was divided into two parts: a French one (1) and a Polish one (2).

151 Archival fond 991 contains fragments of the following numbers of the Coll. Autogr.: 318, 345, 355, 357, 377, 378, 381, 384, 385 and 390, while 203, 206, 207, 208, 372, 373, 374, 375, 381 and 383 can be found in fond no. 992.

efforts of Tamara Pavlovna Voronova as well as other researches and librarians of the NLR.<sup>152</sup> In the USSR, the items from the *Collectio Autographorum* constituted an important source material for research on the history of France, and many texts from the collection were also published.<sup>153</sup>

#### SUMMARY

The article presents the history and content of the so-called *Collectio Autographorum* that was created from part of the manuscripts of the Imperial Public Library in the 1840s. They entered its constituent entities from different provenances, fragments of manuscripts from the collections of the Zaluski Library, a substantial part from the collection of Peter Dubrowski, and from other collections of the IPL gathered in the first period of its existence. In the 1920s, a large part of the *Collectio Autographorum* was returned to the re-established Polish State and furnished the National Library in Warsaw. Most of this portion was burnt in 1944.

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152 List of publications of T.P. Voronova in: *Западные рукописи и традиция их изучения*, Санкт-Петербург 2009, pp. 262–272.

153 List of the editions in: Т. П. Воронова, *Предисловие*, p.6.