Ennoblement privilege of Stanisław August, King of Poland, for Jan Baptysta Czempiński, physician from Warsaw, 1781, AGAD [The Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw], cat. no. 1/399/0/-/28

Jan Baptysta Czempiński

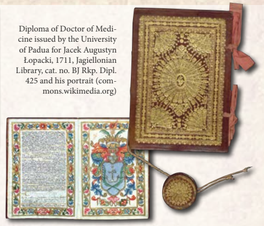
Page from *Work of Tobias (Maäseh Toviyyah)*,Venice 1707 (commons.wikimedia.org)

Portrait of Jewish physician Tobias Kohn (commons.wikimedia.org)

Tobiasz Kohn (Towja ha-Kohen)

Page from *Metrica of the Polish Nation* with a Cyrillic entry by Jan Ezechiel Kurcewicz, 1616, photo by P. Jamski

Jan Ezechiel Kurcewicz



Diploma of Doctor of Medicine issued by the University of Padua for Jacek Augustyn Łopacki, 1711, Jagiellonian Library, cat. no. BJ Rkp. Dipl. 425 and his portrait (commons.wikimedia.org)

Jacek Łopacki

Portrait of Johann Placotomo, physician from Gdańsk, 1574, Gdańsk Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences, cat. no. 5080 (commons.wikimedia.org)

Cartouche of Johann David Placotomo, Counselor of the German Nation at the University of Artists, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

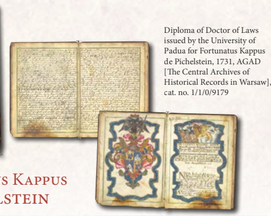
Johann Placotomo

Coat of arms of Johann David Placotomo, Counselor of the German Nation at the University of Artists, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

Page from *Consiliorum medicinalium* by doctor Laurentius Scholtz, published in Frankfurt am Main, 1598, Wrocław University Library, cat. no. 405246

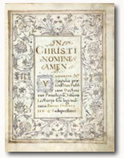
Laurentius Scholtz von Rosenau

Engraving *Horti Scholziani Chalcographica Delineatio*, with the view of the botanical garden of Breslau, 1588, University Library of Wrocław, ref. 011185.1



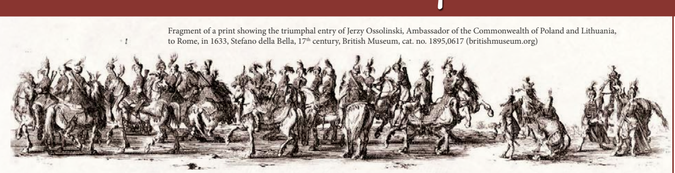
Diploma of Doctor of Laws issued by the University of Padua for Fortunatus Kappus de Pichelstein, 1731, AGAD [The Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw], cat. no. 1/1/0/9179

Fortunatus Kappus de Pichelstein



Jerzy Janecius

Diploma of Doctor of Philosophy and Medicine issued by the University of Padua for Jerzy Janecius, 1613, PAN [Polish Academy of Sciences], Kórnik Library, cat. no. B/62



Fragment of a print showing the triumphal entry of Jerzy Ossolinski, Ambassador of the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania, to Rome, in 1633, Stefano della Bella, 17th century, British Museum, cat. no. 1895,0617 (britishmuseum.org)

For the Ultramontanians who were visiting Padua from the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which were transformed into the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 16th century, moving away from their homeland was an experience that both formed their personalities and influenced the way they constructed their outlooks. Especially the city, developing dynamically after the reforms initiated by the authorities of the Republic of Venice, became a place of encounter with a new and attractive reality for the Polish scholars. They traveled hundreds, or even thousands of kilometers to experience an atmosphere of confrontation and dialogue in their *peregrinatione academica*. Finally, they were inspired both by the knowledge they obtained and the adventures they experienced, tasting life in its universal dimension.

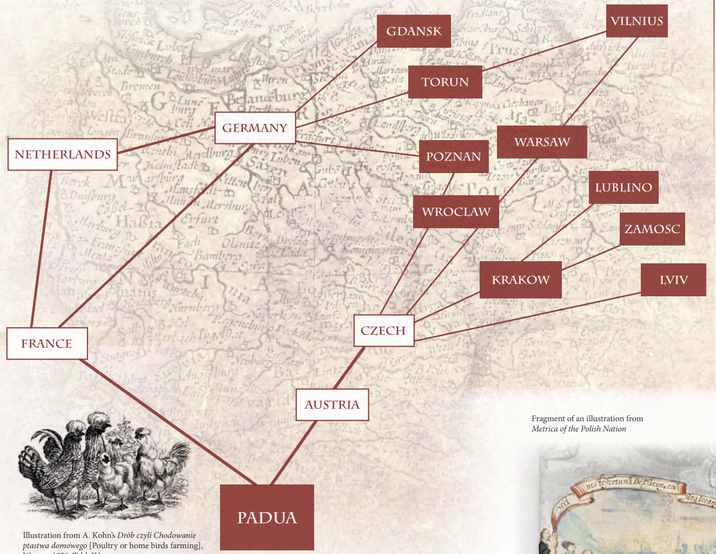


Illustration from A. Kohn's *Dróh czyli Chodowanie ptastwa domowego* [Poultry or home birds farming], Warsaw 1858, Tabl. IV

Fragment of an illustration from *Metrica of the Polish Nation*

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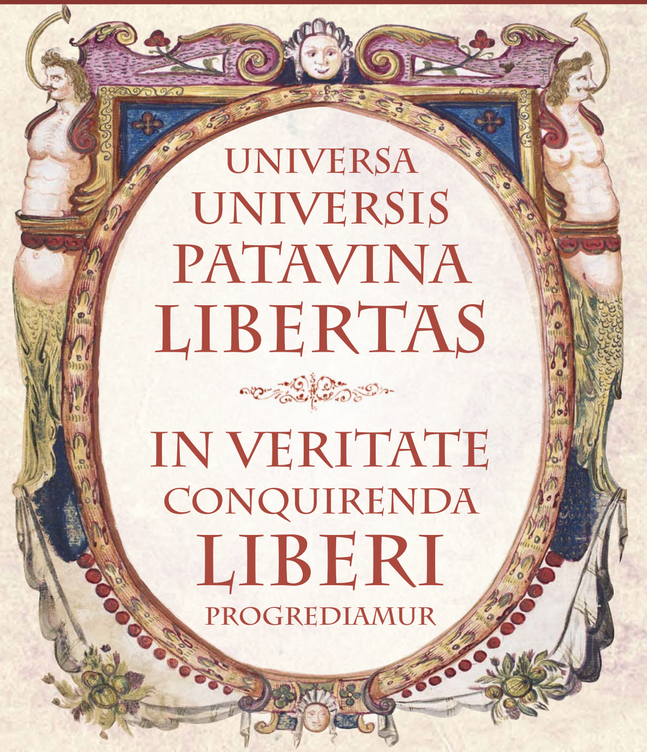
UNIVERSA UNIVERSIS PATAVINA LIBERTAS

Studenti lontani dalla Patria – vicini alle idee



The golden freedom, so dear to the students of noble birth who came to Padua from the former Republic of Poland, was one of the most obvious concepts, helping young people get oriented in the world of values spanning over two political and cultural realities, separated by a large geographical distance. A particularly favorable period of intercultural exchange between Poland and Italy occurred during the sixteenth-century university reforms, aimed at making the Paduan Athenaeum an institution promoting ideas of freedom. This moment was both the foundation of the self-representation of the Serenissima itself and an evocation of the values whose development was perceived in the Paduan academic world. The university, with its two separate but complementary bodies of jurists and artists, sought the freedom to pursue its studies within the framework of questions of human understanding as well as in the context of a general political situation characterized by the strong position of absolutist principalities in Europe and religious intolerance which left its mark on social life. In Padua, the Ultramontanes, who came from a multi-ethnic and heterogeneous religious country and who identified themselves as *Natio Polona*, found excellent conditions to realize their intellectual and cultural aspirations, which can be testified by the heritage of the past, still recognizable in a city proud of its academic tradition. Not only did the values that constitute the history of the Paduan Athenaeum become a model for later generations of scholars, but they have remained a source of inspiration for the present-day academia. This is clear in the motto of the young University of Opole, a splendid admonition, which our academic community tries to follow: *In veritate conquirenda liberi progrediamur* (In search of truth we proceed as free men). This motto is an eloquent testimony to the fact that the idea of freedom is an ever-present value for universities, proud of their role as defenders of noble ideals. In universities, sacred places of European culture, we make an effort to debunk all that enslaves human beings. Thus, we are able to pursue the path to the knowledge of truth, which has the power of absolute liberation.

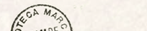
EN

Studenti lontani dalla Patria – vicini alle idee

UNIVERSA UNIVERSIS PATAVINA LIBERTAS

Coat of arms of the Polish Nation's Counselors: Zygmunt Stanisław Porębski, Stanisław Łopacki, Józef Antoni Częczkiewicz, *Metrica of the Polish Nation*, photo by P. Jamski, Wojciech Kazimierz Rezler, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

Porta del portello di Padova, post card, 1828, Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana Venezia, Italia, 16.d.52 (europeana.eu)



Coat of arms of the Polish Nation's Counselors: Benedykt Wilczek, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier, Mateusz Michał Rembowski, Tomasz Canaverius, *Metrica of the Polish Nation*, photo by P. Jamski, Aleksander Wojciech Będkowski, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

The representatives of the Polish nation arriving to Padua absorbed the atmosphere of the city, but at the same time they brought with them their own culture. Poles, Lithuanians, Ruthenians, Silesians, Pomeranians and Jews, noblemen, burghers and peasants, Catholics, Protestants and followers of Judaism – all of them, regardless of their ethnic or social background, after crossing the stone threshold of Porta Portello, blended into a rich mosaic of people crowding the squares, streets, and backstreets of Padua. Today, traces of their presence can be found in archival materials, book collections, and works of art preserved in Italy and Poland. They also include the coats of arms of the Counselors of the Polish Nation, which decorate the walls of the Palazzo del Bo and the pages of the Metrical Office, kept in the Historical Archives of the University of Padua. These representations testify that Polish people had a strong sense of identity. However, first and foremost, the historical relics illustrate the idea of *universitas*, uniting all European students, searching for common cultural roots in Italy.

M. Stachowicz, *Witelon conducting astronomical observations from the Krakus Mound*, graphic [1820-1821], Jagiellonian Library, cat. no. BJ Graf. I.R. 1104

Witello

Miniature showing Vitello from a page of *De Perspectiva*, 13th century (commons.wikimedia.org)

Jan Brożek

Portrait of Jan Brozek, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier

Page from Jan Brozek's *Solis & Lunae defectus res est*, Kraków 1616, Jagiellonian Library, cat. no. BJ St. Dr. 59345 IV

Pages from Józef Struś's *Ars sphygmica seu pulsuum doctrina*, Basel 1602, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVII.2.37

Józef Struś

Portrait of Nicolaus Copernicus, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier; additionally, pages of the manuscript of the treatise on monetary reform, State Archive in Gdańsk, cat. no. APG 300,R/D.3

Portrait of Piotr Mucharski, physician and professor of the Kraków Academy, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier

Piotr Mucharski

Pages from Walenty Fontanus's *Dialogus in obitum incomparabilis*, Kraków 1620, Jagiellonian Library, cat. no. BJ St. Dr. 17745 I

Walenty Fontanus

Pages from the work containing lectures by Giovanni Battista da Monte published by Valentinus of Lublin, Venice 1554, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVI.O.160

Walenty z Lublina

Pages from old print by Gabriel Ochocki titled *Questio de Phrenitide*, Kraków 1629, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVII.3.16455

Gabriel Ochocki

Tombstone of Bishop Andrzej Patrycy Nidecki in Cēsis/Kieś (commons.wikimedia.org)

Andrzej Patrycy Nidecki

Page from Andrzej Patrycy Nidecki's *Notae In duas M. Tulli Ciceronis orationes*, dedicated to Jan Zamojski, Kraków 1583, Biblioteka Jagiellońska, cat. no. Cim. 4479.4940

Sebastian Petrycy

Portrait of Sebastian Petrycy, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier

Pages from *Polityki Aristotelesowey, to iest rządy Rzeczypospolitey z dokładem Xiąg Ośmioro*, Kraków 1605, University of Łódź Library, cat. no. BU stare druki 1021483/1

Jan Januszowski

Ennoblement privilege of Sigismund III Vasa for Jan Januszowski, publisher and manager of Oficyna Lazarzowa in Kraków, 1588, National Museum in Warsaw, cat. no. rkps 1793

Page from *Statuta, prawa y constitucie koronne* [Statutes, Laws and Crown Constitutions], Oficyna Lazarzowa, Kraków 1600, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVI.F.601

Stanisław Niegoszewski

Manuscript page of Stanisław Niegoszewski's *Diariusz podróży do Włoch* [Diary of a Journey to Italy], ca. 1595, PAN [Polish Academy of Sciences], Kórnik Library, cat. no. BK529 and page from Stanisław Niegoszewski's *Ut esset perpetuum*, Venice (?) 1584, Ossoliński National Institute, cat. no. XVI.F.4234

Portrait of Angelus Silesius (Johann Scheffler) from St. Matthias church in Wrocław (commons.wikimedia.org)

Angelus Silesius

Pages from *Erweiss Dass der gröste Hauffe die rechte Kirche*, Neyss 1671, Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław, cat. no. PWT I-964

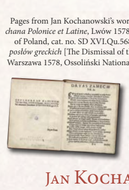
Łukasz Górnicki

Pages from Łukasz Górnicki's *Dworzanin polski* [A Polish Courtier], Warsaw 1566, Biblioteka Uniwersytecka w Warszawie, sygn. Sd.614.576

Pages from Klemens Janicki's *Tristium Liber I*, Kraków 1542, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVI.O.98

Klemens Janicki

Fresco of Klemens Janicki in Palazdo del Bo, Gian Giacomo Dal Forno, 1942, photo by G. Zygier

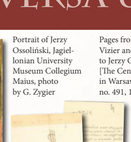


Pages from Jan Kochanowski's works: 1) *Dryas Zamchana Polonice et Latine*, Lwów 1578, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVI.Qu.568 adl.; 2) *Odprawa posłów greckich* [The Dismissal of the Greek Envoys], Warszawa 1578, Ossoliński National Institute, cat. no. XVI.Qu.1639

Jan Kochanowski

Tombstone of Erazm Kretkowski with epigram by Jan Kochanowski,1558, Padua, Basilica of St. Anthony

Portrait of Jerzy Ossoliński, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier



Pages from letters to Sefer Gazi Aga Khan Vizier and Islam Gerej III, Crimean Khan, to Jerzy Ossolinski, 1650, AGAD [The Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw], cat. no. I/310/32/63 folder 28 no. 491, I/3/0/32/62 folder 096 no. 428

Jerzy Ossoliński

Coat of arms of the Polish Nation's Counselor Jerzy Ossolinski, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

Jakub Sobieski

Portrait of Jakub Sobieski (commons.wikimedia.org)

The manuscript of a speech by Jakub Sobieski delivered at the funeral of Hetman Jan Karol Chodkiewicz, 1621, PAN [Polish Academy of Sciences], Kórnik Library, cat. no. BK00318

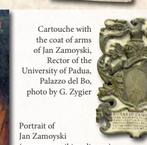
Page from Jakub Sobieski's *Commentariorum Chotinensis belli libri tres*, Gdańsk 1646, National Library of Poland, cat. no. mf. B3459

Krzysztof Zbaraski

Portrait of Krzysztof Zbaraski (commons.wikimedia.org)

Illustrations from Galileo's *Le operazioni del compasso geometrico et militare*, Padua 1649, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, cat. no. BSB-ID 875217

Page from *Metrica of the Polish Nation*, containing the entry of Jan Tęczyński, 1594, photo by P. Jamski



Pages from *Diariusz poselstwa Krzysztofa Zbarskiego do Turcji* [Diary of Krzysztof Zbarski's mission to Turkey], 1623, State Archive in Łódź, cat. no. 39/592/0/1.9/527

Jan Tęczyński

Portrait of Jan Magnus Tęczyński (commons.wikimedia.org)

Portrait of Jan Zamoyski (commons.wikimedia.org)

Cartouche with the coat of arms of Jan Zamoyski, Rector of the University of Padua, Palazdo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

Zamość Location Document with the signature and seal of Jan Zamoyski, Grand Crown Chancellor, 1580, National Archives in Kraków, cat. no. 29/657/I.297

Jan Zamoyski

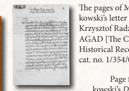
Portrait of Aleksander Sapieha (commons.wikimedia.org)

Coat of arms the Polish Nation's Counselor Aleksander Deodat Sapieha, Palazdo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

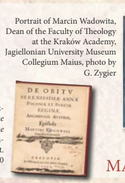
Aleksander Sapieha

Portrait of Marcin Szyszkowski, Bishop of Cracow (commons.wikimedia.org)

Marcin Szyszkowski



The pages of Marcin Szyszkowski's letter to hetman Krzysztof Radziwiłł, 1629, AGAD [The Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw], cat. no. 1/354/0/5/16052



Portrait of Marcin Wadowita, Dean of the Faculty of Theology at the Kraków Academy, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier

Page from Marcin Szyszkowski's *De obitu serenissimae Annae Poloniae et Sueciae reginae...*, Kraków 1598, National Library of Poland, cat. no. SD XVI.Qu.6060

Marcin Wadowita

Document with the signature and seal of Jan Thurzo, Bishop of Wrocław, 1510, State Archive in Opole, cat. no. 45/20/0/1/345

Tombstone of Jan Thurzo in the Wrocław Cathedral, public domain (commons.wikimedia.org)

Jan Thurzo

Portrait of Wojciech Męciński, Jesuit (commons.wikimedia.org)

Wojciech Męciński

Coat of arms the Polish Nation's Counselor Wojciech Męciński, Palazzo del Bo, photo by G. Zygier

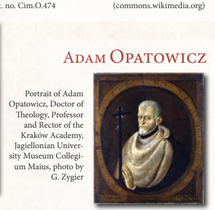
Portrait of Mikołaj Pac, bishop of Samogizia (commons.wikimedia.org)

Mikołaj Pac

Document issued by Cardinal Jerzy Radziwiłł, Bishop of Kraków, 1598, The Czartoryski Library, National Museum in Kraków, cat. no. 39366371

Page from *Exercitium Christianae pietatis*, Köln 1598, PAN [Polish Academy of Sciences], Kórnik Library, cat. no. Cim.O.474

Jerzy Radziwiłł



Portrait of Cardinal Jerzy Radziwiłł (commons.wikimedia.org)

Maciej from Miechów, Canon of Kraków, medical writer, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier

Maciej Miechowita

Page from *Tractatus de duabus Sarmatiis Asiana et Europeana* by Maciej from Miechów, Kraków 1517, Ossoliński National Institute, cat. no. XVI.Qu.1920

Stanisław Hozjusz

Portrait of Cardinal Stanisław Hozjusz, bishop of Warmia (commons.wikimedia.org)

Cardinal Stanisław Hozjusz's letter to King Zygmunt II August sent from Trento, 1562, PAN [Polish Academy of Sciences], Kórnik Library, cat. no. BK00252

Adam Opatowicz

Portrait of Adam Opatowicz, Doctor of Theology, Professor and Rector of the Kraków Academy, Jagiellonian University Museum Collegium Maius, photo by G. Zygier