

Jakub Sobieski, ROKOWANIA DYPLOMATYCZNE POLSKO-SZWEDZKIE W PRABUTACH I ALTMARKU W LATACH 1628–1629 [POLISH-SWEDISH DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS IN PRABUTY AND ALTMARK IN THE YEARS 1628–1629], ed. by Justyna Gałuszka (Kraków: Towarzystwo Wydawnicze ‘Historia Iagellonica’, 2021), pp. 233; ISBN: 978-83-66304-77-2

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Justyna Gałuszka has undertaken the difficult and thankless – because often underestimated – job of editing sources. In particular, sources written in old Polish require adequate preparation and skills in dealing with problematic manuscript texts. The editor, as I would like to emphasise at this point, has fulfilled her task satisfactorily.

The edition includes an introduction and a critical edition of two manuscript sources from the Polish-Swedish War of 1626–29. It should be added that the War of the Vistula Estuary has not received enough attention regarding editing source materials. Therefore, I welcome the reviewed publication with undisguised satisfaction, and hope readers will appreciate it.

In her ‘Introduction’ – following the editorial canon – Justyna Gałuszka presents a biographical sketch of Jakub Sobieski, highlighting the most important events in the biography of the later castellan of Cracow and the principles of editing the source texts. The edition of the texts was prepared according to the publishing guidelines for sources prepared by Kazimierz Lepszy and the subsequent publishing rules.¹ Of course, as in the case of any source edition, one can discuss the adopted publishing principles, but – as I would like to emphasise – Gałuszka embraced a certain consensus (to which the editor is entitled) between linguistic purism and the readability of the text, and this procedure should be considered successful. An example I consider correct is the procedure of leaving the notation of first names, surnames, and geographical names in the original version, as it can illustrate the occurrence of various forms in the old Polish spoken language, showing its ambiguous character.

The first edited document is *Traktatów i komisii pruskiej relatia* (Reports of Treatises and the Prussian Commission). It is worth emphasising that this is a vital source for studying the background of the negotiations at Prabuty in 1628. The source – as shown by the number of illegible lections – is not easy

¹ Kazimierz Lepszy, *Instrukcja wydawnicza dla źródeł historycznych od XVI do połowy XIX wieku* (Wrocław: Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolińskich, 1953).

to read; this is probably the reason why it has not been published yet. The second source – entitled *1629 Dyariusz traktatu czyli zawieszenie broni (1629 Treaty Diary or Armistice)* – is a diary of truce negotiations in 1629, which is naturally linked to the first manuscript and completes the whole picture. This choice is fully justified and enables readers to learn about some of the meanderings of diplomatic activity in the first half of the seventeenth century, showing how important – if only in the context of the ongoing Thirty Years' War – the Polish-Swedish peace negotiations were.

The edition has been meticulously prepared, with care in filling in missing letters or developing abbreviations. An undoubted advantage of the edition is the translation of all Latin words and phrases into Polish. Regarding the accompanying scientific apparatus, in the footnotes, Justyna Gałuszka rightly limited herself to concise information, especially in the case of figures well-known in historiography. It would have been pointless to elaborate on their biographies. The book is supplemented by a bibliography, which lists the manuscripts, printed and literary sources quoted by the editor, and personal and geographical indices.

In conclusion, Polish historiography is enriched by a source publication that brings readers closer to the period of Polish-Swedish military struggles in the first half of the seventeenth century. This time, the sources prepared for publication deal not with military struggle but with modern diplomacy. The value of both accounts is to show the behind-the-scenes negotiations that led to the Polish-Swedish truce.