

FREE POLAND

A SEMI-MONTHLY

The Truth About Poland and Her People

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The Father of American Artillery

KOŚCIUSZKO'S MONUMENT AT WEST POINT

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Poland's Hope

Poland a Nation!

Is the dream of Kościuszko and of every Pole for the past 100 years about to be realized?

Out of the tumult of the European war there has come the first faint cry of what may prove to be the birth or rebirth of a new Nation—Poland. It is the first glimpse of anything that looks like a silver lining to this horrible war cloud that hangs over Europe—the first inkling of one of the changes that may take place in the map of Europe if the Allies are successful.

Although the voice that has made the promise is that of the Russian Czar, it is almost certain that the sponsors for the promise are England and France. And it might be well if these two Nations were also to assure the Poles who are scattered over the wide world that Polish nationality is one of the prices to be exacted for this great conflict.

Granting that it is a serious promise, the first thing that can be said of it is that it is wise statesmanship, for the troubles of Europe will never be settled rightly until Poland has been restored to her place among the Nations. Even Beaconsfield perceived that, and other deep students of European affairs have been of the same opinion.

In the division of Poland in 1795 it was ruthlessly cut into three pieces. One piece went to Russia, one to Austria and one to Prussia. But at no time since then has there been a Pole born under any of those flags who regarded himself as other than a Pole, to whom the Polish language was a sacred inheritance and the history and traditions of Poland an inspiration. In point of fact, the educated Poles have looked on their conquerors with a sort of intellectual contempt.

For it was Poland that first gave to Prussia, when Prussia was a province of Poland, some of the graces of Christianity and civilization that lifted the Prussians out of barbarism; and she exerted a similar influence on Russia and Austria. One of the strongest notes in the Polish character has always been the spiritual note—the ideal purpose...

Poland saved Europe from the Turk and from the blight of Mahometanism. For centuries before the last great battle with the Turks under the walls of Vienna, when Sobieski signally defeated them in 1683, this same Poland had rolled back invasion after invasion of Tartar and Turk and Russian. Her record of heroism is greater than that of any of the European Nations of the Middle

Ages, for if she had gone down what we know as modern civilization and progress could not have come about in the time that it has.

Poland did more than that: she saved to Europe the idea of federal government through representatives in a parliament or "diet" that elected the ruler of the kingdom. She was the first great commonwealth of modern times. Through her the republican idea was preserved even more practically than that in the Italian States. But, like the Italian States, there was always more or less of that petty jealousy which was eventually the cause of the downfall of Italy, causing both to become the easy prey of powerful autocracies.

In the 17th century Poland, was a great Nation extending from the Baltic Sea on the north to the Black Sea on the south; from the Vistula, and even farther west, to the Province of Novgorod in Russia; and from the Dniester to the Dnieper in the south. She was loosely joined and she strove to uphold ideals in government that were as little relished or understood as were the ideals of Greece when she was isolated in a world of automatic barbarism.

She was a Roman Catholic Nation, strongly imbued with the finest ideals in the church in her time. It was this Christian unity of purpose that enabled her to beat back the barbaric invasions.

And so it is that Poland may become again a great "buffer" State of Eastern Europe—the State that shall preserve the equilibrium of the Nations and lead them to a clearer understanding of one another.

Not since the days when Napoleon made Poland—or a small part of it—the Grand Duchy of Warsaw has Poland enjoyed anything like autonomy or rights other than those of a conquered people. They have been oppressed by Russians, Prussians and Austrians.

Both Russia and Prussia have sought to deprive them of their language and their lands. Austria has been a little wiser, and the Poles of Galicia, with the ancient capital of Poland—Cracow—as their capital, have been a little more content than those under Prussian and Russian dominion.

Prof Lutoslawski of Cracow University, while delivering a course of lectures of Poland before the Lowell Institute some 10 years ago, predicted—and the prediction was smiled at then—that Poland would be again a Nation inside of 20 years. He may have been a prophet.—Uncle Dudley in the Boston Daily Globe.



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An Account of the Partition of Poland

By *SIR JAMES MacKINTOSH*

(Originally Published in the *Edinburgh Review*, Vol. XXXVII.)

(Concluded from *FREE POLAND*, No. 17)

Such was the unhappy state of Poland during the remainder of the year 1792, a period which will be always memorable for the invasion of France by a German army—their ignominious retreat—the eruption of the French forces into Germany and Flanders—the dreadful scenes which passed in the interior of France,—and the apprehension professed by all Governments of the progress of the opinions to which these events were ascribed. The Empress of Russia, among the rest, professed the utmost abhorrence of the French Revolution; made war against it by the most vehement manifestoes; stimulated every other power to resist it; but never contributed a battalion. Whether like others who wage war on the property of their neighbors, she excited or embroiled the affray, in order that she might pursue her depredations more safely, is a question which we have yet no materials to answer. Certain it is that these events enabled her, without disturbance, to execute her designs against Poland. Frederick William plunged headlong into the coalition against the advice of his wisest counsellors. Some circumstances of that extraordinary campaign are mentioned by M. Ferrand as in some degree influencing the Partition of Poland, of which, on that account, it may be not altogether pertinent to give a short statement in this place. At the moment of the Duke of Brunswick's entry into France, in July 1792, if we may believe M. Ferrand, the ministers of the principal European powers met at Luxemburg, provided with various projects for new arrangements of territory, in the event which they thought inevitable, of the success of the invasion. The Austrian ministers betrayed the intention of their Court, to renew their attempt to compel the Elector of Bavaria to exchange his dominions for the Low Countries, which, by the dissolution of their treaties with France, they deemed themselves entitled again to propose. The King of Prussia, on this alarming disclosure showed symptoms of an inclination to abandon an enterprise, which many other circumstances combined to prove was impracticable, at least with the number of troops with which he had presumptuously undertaken it. These dangerous projects of the Court of Vienna made him also feel the necessity of a closer connection with Russia; and in an interview with the Austrian and Russian ministers at Verdun, he gave them to understand that Prussia could not continue the war without being assured of an indemnity. Russia eagerly adopted a suggestion which engaged Prussia more completely in her Polish schemes. Austria willingly listened to a proposal which would furnish a precedent and a justification for similar enlargements of her own dominions, and the Imperial Courts declared that they would acquiesce in the occupa-

tion of another portion of Poland by the Prussian armies.

These statements are contained in the work of a zealous Royalist, who had evidently more than ordinary means of information. Such, according to his accounts, were the designs of the Coalesced Powers,—such were at least the projects of which they suspected each other,—and such were the plans finally adopted to prevent the Coalition from breaking to pieces, at the moment when they represented themselves to the world as the generous deliverers of France, and the disinterested champions of social order. That such designs should be ascribed to these monarchs by the warmest partisans of monarchy,—that such rumors should even be prevalent among well-informed men, are facts of great importance in helping us to conjecture what might have been the consequence of the success of their arms against France.

Whether in consequence of the supposed agreement at Verdun or not, the fact at least is certain that Frederick William returned from his French disgraces to seek consolation in the plunder of Poland. Nothing is more characteristic of a monarch without ability, without knowledge; without resolution, whose life had been divided between gross libertinism and abject superstition, than that, after flying before the armies of a powerful nation, he should instantly proceed to attack an oppressed people, whom he thought defenceless and incapable of resistance. In January, 1793, he entered Poland; and, while Russia was charging the Poles with the extreme of Royalism, he chose the very opposite pretext—that they propagated anarchical principles, and had established Jacobin Clubs. To prevent the dangers which threatened his own dominion, he, with the acquiescence of the two Imperial Courts, had ordered General Mollendorff to occupy Great Poland. Even the criminal confederates of Targowica were indignant at these falsehoods, and remonstrated, at Berlin and Petersburg, against the entry of the Prussian troops. But the complaints of such apostates against the natural results of their own crimes, were heard with contempt. The Empress of Russia in a declaration of the 9th April, informed the world that the only means of containing the Jacobinism of Poland, was “by confining it within more narrow limits, and by giving it proportion which better suited an intermediate power.” She announced in this declaration that she acted in concert with Prussia and with the consent of Austria. The King of Prussia accordingly seized Great Poland (*Wielko-Polska*); and the Russian army occupied the republic. It was easy, therefore, for Catharine to determine the extent of her new robbery. In order, however, to give it some shadow of legality, the King was compelled to call a Diet, from which every man

was excluded who was not a partisan of Russia and an accomplice of the Confederates of Targowica. That unhappy assembly met at Grodno in June; and, in spite of its bad composition, showed many sparks of Polish spirit. Sievlers, the Russian ambassador, a man apparently worthy of his mission, in order to subdue the Diet, had recourse to a long series of threats, insults, brutal violence, military imprisonment, arbitrary exile and to every other species of outrage and intimidation which, for nearly thirty years, had constituted the whole system of Russia towards the Polish legislature. In one note he tells them that unless they proceed more rapidly, "he shall be under the painful necessity of removing all incendiaries, disturbers of the public peace and partisans of the 3rd of May, from the Diet. In another, of the 16th of July, he apprizes the Diet that he must consider any longer delay as a declaration of hostility; in which case, the lands, possessions, and dwellings of the malcontent members, must be subject to military execution. If the King adheres to the Opposition, the military execution must extend to his demesnes. The pay of the Russian troops will be stopped, and they will live at the expense of the unhappy peasants." Grodno was surrounded by Russian troops; loaded cannon were pointed at the palace of the King and the hall of the Diet; four nuncios were carried away prisoners by violence in the night; and all the members were threatened with Siberia. In these circumstances, the captive Diet were compelled, in July and September, to sign two treaties with Russia and Prussia, stipulating such cessions as the ponderers were pleased to dictate, and containing a repetition of the same insulting mockery which had closed every former act of rapine—a guarantee of the remaining possessions of the Republic. They had the consolation to be allowed to perform one act of justice—that of depriving the leaders of the confederation of Targowica, Felix Potocki, Rzewuski, and Branicki, of the great offices which they dishonored. It will one day be discovered, from the intrigues and correspondence of the coalesced powers, whether it be actually true that Alsace and Lorraine were to have been the compensation to Austria for her forbearing to claim her share of the spoils of Poland at the period of the second Partition. It is well known that the allied army refused to receive the surrender of Strassburgh in the name of Louis XVII; and that Valenciennes and Conde were taken in the name of Austria.

In the beginning of 1794, a young officer named Madalinski, who had kept together, at the disbanding of the army, eighty gentlemen, gradually increased his adherents till they amounted to a little army of about four thousand men, who began to harass the Russian posts. The people of Cracow expelled the Russian garrison; and, on the night of the 28th of March, the heroic Kosciuszko, at the head of a small body of adherents, entered that city, and undertook its government and defense. Endowed with civil as well as military talents, he established order among the insurgents, and caused the legitimate constitution to be solemnly proclaimed in the Cathedral Church, where it was once more hailed with genuine enthusiasm. He proclaimed a national confederation and sent copies of his manifesto to Petersburg, Berlin, and Vienna; treating the two first courts with deserved severity, but speaking amicably of the third, whose territory he enjoined his army to respect.

The Austrian resident at Warsaw publicly disclaimed these marks of friendship, imputing to Kosciuszko and his friends "the monstrous principles of the French Convention"—a language which plainly showed that the Court

of Vienna, which had only consented to the last partition, was willing to share in the next. The army of Kosciuszko was daily reinforced, and on the 17th of April rose on the Russian garrison of Warsaw, and compelled Igelstroem the commander, after an obstinate resistance of thirty-six hours, to evacuate the city with a loss of 2000 men wounded. The citizens of the capital, the whole body of a proud nobility, and all the friends of their country throughout Poland, submitted to the temporary dictatorship of Kosciuszko, a private gentleman only recently known to the public, and without any influence but the reputation of his virtue. Order and tranquillity generally prevailed; some of the Burghers, perhaps excited by the agents of Russia, complained to Kosciuszko of the inadequacy of their privileges. But this excellent chief, instead of court-ing popularity, repressed an attempt which might lead to dangerous divisions. Soon after, more criminal excesses for the first time dishonored the Polish Revolution, but served to shed a brighter luster on the humanity and intrepidity of Kosciuszko. The papers of the Russian embassy laid open proofs of the venality of many of the Poles who had betrayed their country. The populace of Warsaw, impatient of the slow forms of law, apprehensive of the lenient spirit which prevailed among the revolutionary leaders, and instigated by the incendiaries, who are always ready to flatter the passions of a multitude, put to death eight of these persons, and, by their clamors, extorted from the tribunal a precipitate trial and execution of a somewhat smaller number. Kosciuszko did not content himself with reprobating these atrocities. Though surrounded by danger, attacked by the most formidable enemies, betrayed by his government, and abandoned by all Europe, having no doubt of the moral guilt of these prisoners, no resource but the irregular energy of the people, he flew from his camp to the capital, brought the ring-leaders of the massacre to justice, and caused them to be immediately executed. We learn, from very respectable authority, that during all the perils of his short administration, he persuaded the nobility to take measures for a more rapid enfranchisement of the peasantry than the cautious policy of the Diet had hazarded.

Kosciuszko, harassed by the advance of an Austrian, Prussian and Russian army, concentrated the greater part of his army around Warsaw. Frederick William advanced against the capital at the head of 40,000 disciplined troops. Kosciuszko, with 12,000 irregulars, made an obstinate resistance for several hours on the 8th of June, and retired to his intrenched camp before Warsaw. The Russians took possession of Cracow, and summoned the capital to surrender under pain of all the horrors suffered by towns which are taken by assault. After two months employed in vain attempts to reduce the city, the King of Prussia was compelled by an insurrection in his lately acquired Polish province, to retire with precipitation and disgrace. But in the meantime, the Russians advanced in spite of the gallant resistance of General Count Sierakowski, one of the most faithful friends of his country. On the 4th of October, Kosciuszko, with only 18,000 men, thought it necessary to hazard a battle at Mącejowice, to prevent the junction of the Russian divisions of Suwarow and Fersen. Success was long and valiantly contested. According to some narrations the enthusiasm of the Poles would have prevailed if the treachery or incapacity of Count Poninski had not favored the Russians. That officer neither defended the river where he had been ordered to make a stand, nor brought up his division to support his general. Kosciuszko, after the most admirable exertions of judgment and courage fell, covered with wounds. The

Courtesy Polish-American Publ. Co.



KOŚCIUSZKO.

Polish army fled. The Russians and Cossacks were melted at the sight of their gallant enemy who lay insensible on the field. When he opened his eyes and learnt the full extent of the disaster, he vainly implored the enemy to put an end to his sufferings. The Russian officers, moved with admiration and compassion, treated his wounds with tenderness and sent him with due respect a prisoner of war to Petersburg. Catharine threw him into a dungeon, from which he was released by Paul on his succession, perhaps partly from hatred to his mother, and partly from one of those paroxysms of transient generosity of which that brutal lunatic was not incapable.

From that moment the farther defense of Poland became hopeless. Suwarow advanced to the capital and stimulated his army to the assault of the great suburb of Praga by the barbarous promise of a license to pillage for 48 hours. A dreadful contest ensued on the 4th of November, 1794, in which the inhabitants performed prodigies of useless valor making a stand in every street and at almost every house. All the horrors of war, which the most civilized practise on such occasions, were here seen with tenfold violence. No age or sex, or condition was spared. The murder of children formed a sort of barbarous sport for the assailants. The most unspeakable outrages were offered to the living and the dead. The mere infliction of death was an act of mercy. The streets streamed with blood. Eighteen thousand human carcasses were carried away from them after the massacre had ceased. Many were burnt to death in the flames which consumed the town. Multitudes were driven by the bayonet into the Vistula. A great body of fugitives perished by the fall of the great bridge over which they fled. These tremendous scenes closed the resistance of Poland, and completed the triumph of her oppressors. The Russian army entered Warsaw on the 9th of November 1794. Stanislaw was suffered to amuse himself with the formalities of royalty for some months longer. In obedience to the order of Catharine, he abdicated on the 25th of November 1795—a day which being the anniversary of his coronation seemed to be chosen to complete his humiliation. Quarrels about the division of the booty retarded the complete execution of the formal and final partition till the beginning of the year 1796.

Thus fell the Polish people after a wise and virtuous attempt to establish liberty and a heroic struggle to defend it—by the flagitious wickedness of Russia—by the foul treachery of Prussia—by the unprincipled accession of Austria—and by the short sightedness, as well as mean-spirited, acquiescence of all the nations of Europe. Till the first partition, the sacredness of ancient possessions, the right of every people to its own soil, were universally regarded as the guardian principles of European independence. They gained strength from that progress of civilization, which they protected and secured; and the violation of them to a great degree seemed to be effectually precluded by the jealousies of great states and by the wise combinations of the smaller communities. Confederacies were formed, long wars were carried on to prevent the dangerous aggrandizement states by legitimate conquest. To prevent a nation from acquiring the power of doing wrong to others, was the great object of negotiation and war. These principles were just and wise; as the preservation of the balance of power was, in truth, the only effectual security of all independent nations against oppression. But in the case of Poland, a nation was robbed of its ancient territory without the pretence of any wrong which could justify war, without even those forms of war, which could bestow on the acquisition the name of con-

quest. It was not an attack on the balance of power—the great outwork of national independence; it was the destruction of national independence itself. It is a cruel and bitter aggravation of this calamity that the crime was perpetrated under the pretence of the wise and just principle of maintaining the equilibrium—as if that principle had any value but its tendency to prevent such crimes—as if an equal division of the booty bore only resemblance to a joint exertion to prevent the robbery. But in truth, the equality of the Partition did not hinder it from being the very worst and most dangerous disturbance of the balance of power. It left the balance between three powerful states as it was before. But it destroyed the balance between the strong and the weak. It strengthened the strong; and it taught them how to render their strength irresistible by combination. In the case of private highwaymen and pirates, a fair division of the booty tends, no doubt, to the harmony of the gang and the safety of its members but renders them more formidable to the honest and peaceable part of mankind.

The Second and Third Partitions had all the evils of the first, and some which were peculiar to themselves. The first example of triumphant injustice produced the most lasting mischief; but there are some circumstances of a moral nature belonging to the events of 1793 and 1794 which are still more calculated to excite the general indignation of mankind. The worst consequence of the first partition was not the loss of territory. Still more destructive was the pretended guarantee of the new constitution, by which Catharine bound the Polish nation not to reform, without her consent, those institutions which had exposed them to anarchy, invasion and partition. They were bound by this compact to make no attempt to attain quiet at home or respectability abroad, even within the limits to which their oppressors had reduced them. This stipulation was as morally binding, as one which should forbid a nation, which had suffered often by famine and pestilence, to provide against the return of those evils, by tilling their fields, building lazarettos, or draining their fens. The breach of this compact, miscalled a treaty, which it was criminal to impose, and would have been equally criminal to perform, was the only wrong complained of by Catharine. She made war upon the people of Poland, merely because they attempted to better their condition, by means as innocent as ever employed to obtain an honest end.

For about eleven years the name of Poland was erased from the map of Europe. By the treaty of Tilsit, in 1807, the Prussian part of that unfortunate country was restored to as much independence as could then be enjoyed, under the name of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw; and this revived state received a considerable enlargement by the treaty of Schoenbrunn in 1809, at the expense of Austria. When Napoleon opened the decisive campaign of 1812, in what he called in his proclamations “the Second Polish War”, he published a declaration, addressed to the Poles, in which he announced that Poland would be greater than she had been under Stanislaw, and that the Archduke, who then governed Wuerzburg, was to be their sovereign. On the 12th of July in that year, Wybicki, at the head of a deputation of the Diet, told him at Vilna, with truth, “The interest of your empire requires the reestablishment of Poland; the honor of France is interested in it.” He told the deputation in return, “that he had done all that duty to his subjects allowed to restore their country; that he would second their exertions; and that he authorized them to take up arms everywhere but in the Austrian provinces, of which he had guaranteed the integrity, and which

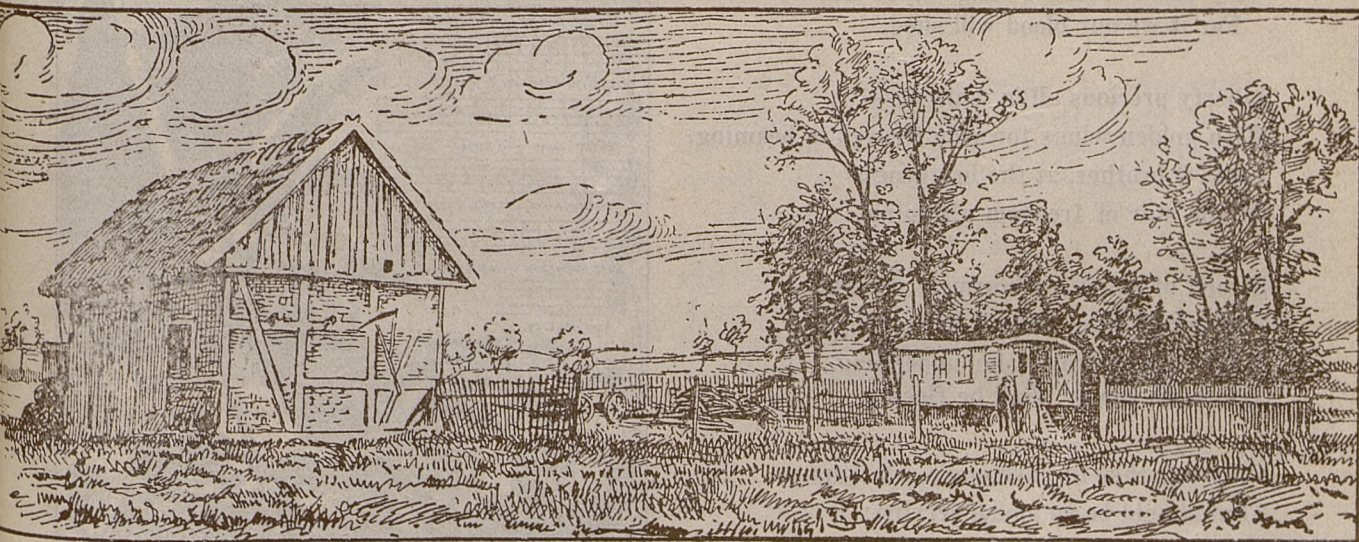
he should not suffer to be disturbed." An answer too cold and guarded to inspire enthusiasm, and in which it is remarkable that he promises less than he had acquired the power of performing; for, by the secret articles of his treaty with Austria, concluded in March, 1812, provision was made for an exchange of the Illyrian provinces (which he had retained at his own disposal) for such a part of Austrian Poland as would be equivalent to them. What his real designs respecting Poland were it is not easy to conjecture. That he was desirous of reestablishing that country, and that he looked forward to such an event as the result of his success, cannot be doubted. But he had probably grown too much of a politician and an emperor to trust or to love that national feeling and popular enthusiasm to which he had owed the splendid victories of his youth. He was willing to owe everything to his policy and his army. Had he solemnly pledged himself to the restoration of Poland; had he obtained the exchange of Galicia for Dalmatia, instead of secretly providing for it; had he considered Polish independence not merely as the consequence of victory, but as one of the most powerful means of securing it;—had he, in short, retained some part of his early faith in the attachment of nations, instead of relying exclusively on the mechanism of armies; perhaps the success of that memorable campaign might have been more equally balanced. Seventy thousand Poles then fought under his banners. Numerous bodies had served under him for sixteen years, and adhered to him even to his final defeat. Forty thousand are supposed to have fallen in the French armies from the destruction of Poland to the battle of Waterloo. There are few instances of the affection of men for their country more touching than that of these gallant Poles, who, in voluntary exile, amidst every privation, without the hope of fame, when all the world had become their enemies, daily sacrificed themselves in the battles of a foreign nation, in the faint hope of that nation's one day delivering Poland from bondage. Kosciuszko had originally encouraged his countrymen to devote themselves for this chance of restoring their country. But when he was offered a command in 1807, this perfect hero refused to quit his humble

retreat, unless Napoleon would pledge himself for the restoration of Poland. When Alexander entered France in 1814, as the arrived patron of liberal opinions and institutions, Kosciuszko addressed a letter to him, in which he makes three requests,—that the Emperor would grant an universal amnesty, a free constitution, resembling, as nearly as possible, that of England, with means of general education, and after the expiration of ten years, an emancipation of the peasants. It is but justice to Alexander to add, that when Kosciuszko died, in 1817, after a public and private life worthy of the scholar of Washington, the Emperor, on whom the Congress of Vienna had bestowed the greater part of the duchy of Warsaw, with the title of King of Poland, allowed his Polish subjects to pay due honors to the last of their heroes; and that Prince Jablonowski was sent to attend his remains from Switzerland to Cracow, where they were interred in the only spot of the Polish territory which was then not dishonored by a foreign master.

Bibl. Jag.

The Partition of Poland was the model of all those acts of rapine which have been committed by monarchs or republicans during the wars excited by the French Revolution. No single cause has contributed so much to alienate mankind from ancient institutions and loosen their respect for established Governments. When monarchs show so signal a disregard to immemorial possession and legal right, it is in vain for them to hope that subjects will not copy the precedent. The law of nations is a code without tribunals, without ministers, and without arms, which rests only on a general opinion of its usefulness, and on the influence of that opinion in the councils of States, and most of all, perhaps on a habitual reverence, produced by the constant appeal to its rules even by those who did not observe them, and strengthened by the elaborate artifice to which the proudest tyrants deigned to submit, in their attempts to elude an authority which they did not dare to dispute. One signal triumph over such an authority was sufficient to destroy its power. Philip II and Louis XIV had often violated the law of nations; but the spoilers of Poland overthrew it.

(THE END)



Courtesy Polish-American Publ. Co.

A bit of Prussian "Kultur"—Drzymala's Wagon (Wóz Drzymaly). Expropriated from his own soil, Drzymala was compelled to live in a House built on Wheels, as he was not allowed to erect a permanent Dwelling.

Free Poland

Perhaps the most interesting phase of the European war, after the vague theories of Teutonism against Slavism have lost themselves through the alleys of debate and discussion in a Cretian Labyrinth, is that of the reconstruction of the map of Europe upon the basis of nationality. We can not perhaps, regardless of what be our nationality, utter that phrase without immediately thinking of the Polish nation and the ancient kingdom of Poland.

After all it ranks as the sixth among the nations of Europe in point of population, in spite of a period of 125 years of oppression, repression, expropriation, and attempted denationalization. Were we to restore its boundaries as they were at the time of the first partition in 1772, Poland would rank in area second only to Russia; in fact, restore even the boundaries as they existed at the time of the second partition in 1793, and the status is still the same. In spite of all oppression and attempted denationalization, the Poles survive the battle of resistance, and today demand in the name of Justice the freedom of their race, and country through approximately thirty million voices.

The press is the greatest means of appealing to the Justice of the world at large, and of America in particular, since the influence of America in favor of Polonism is

especially desired and the Poles hope it may even be actively exerted at the coming congress, to be convened we do not as yet know where. FREE POLAND, a semi-monthly magazine, has become the mouthpiece of the three million or more Poles in the United States, and will attempt to tell the truth about Poland and her people. It is neutral ground, as ready to lend an ear and space, to the pro-German attempting a vain defense of Prussian anti-Polish policies, as to the spirited Pole suffering torture under the shame of conquest, and humiliation under tyrannical oppression. The magazine, supported by voluntary contributions of Poles and Polish sympathizers, was founded purely for the purpose of educating America as to the true rights of Poland, her rank as a nation, her contributions to civilization and culture, and the defense which for approximately seven centuries she gave to Christianity and Christian civilization, against the Crescent and the Tartar hordes. Its object and the method with which it pursues that object are worthy of the highest respect. Let us hope that the press throughout the country will express its sympathy for the cause it represents and laud every honorable means it may pursue, to aid in the restoration of the ancient Kingdom of Poland.—The Western Journal of Education, San Francisco, Cal., April, 1915.

“Look, Kościuszko, From The Heaven”

Look, Kosciuszko, from the Heaven,
As in tyrants' blood we'll wallow;
Now thy sword is needed even,
Should our Fatherland's freedom follow.
By this freedom's song we're led,
For it we our blood will shed.

Liberty precious all in whiteness
With golden wings towards Heaven is beaming.
Look, O brother, at the brightness
Of the star of freedom gleaming.

Strong of spirit, with arms defending
Fatherland dear we will be freeing;
With Kosciuszko's valor unbending,
Traitors—enemy shall be fleeing.

Only together in harmony's relation,—
That should be as model serving;
The dictator is with the nation,
And the nation is not swerving.

Music to “Patrz Kościuszko”

Tempo: Polacca. **POLOWEZ.**

Patrz Kościuszko na nas znieba Jak wtrwi
wro-gów bedziem bro-dzić Twego mie-cza
nam potrzeba by Ojczy-znę o-wno-bp-dzić
Wolność dro-ga wbia-łej szacie zło-ty
skrzydłem w-gó-repleci Najj-czole
patrzaj bracie Jak swobo-dy
gwiaz-da świeci O to jest wolności
sławem, spiew, spiew my zaciąg przelejem
hrrrr, hrrrr, krrrr, krrrr

The illustration depicts a soldier in a dark uniform, holding a large Polish tricolor flag (white top, red middle, green bottom) aloft. He is surrounded by other soldiers in a battle scene, with smoke and the sound of gunfire in the background. The scene is rendered in a detailed, etched style.

Poles Ready to Die for U. S.

Former City Attorney N. L. Piotrowski spoke before the Chicago Press Club at its luncheon April 28, on Poland. He prefaced his speech with the following remarks:

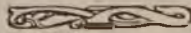
"Since the beginning of the war what is going on in Europe the loyalty to this country of certain American citizens of foreign birth and extraction has been seriously questioned and severely criticised, and I admit that there may be good reason for such criticism. Therefore, before proceeding with my speech I desire to make an explanation of my attitude. I am also of foreign birth, and tho my sympathies are with Poland, that most unfortunate of nations, my loyalty and my devotion to my adopted country and its government is second to none. I do not desire to be boastful, but I feel that I owe it to myself and to the people of this country to let it be known that I stand ready if this country should require it, to sacrifice in her defense not only everything I possess, but even my life, and I can truthfully say the same thing of 99 per cent of the four million Poles who have adopted the United States as their home.

"I am in full accord with what Stephen Decatur said: 'Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong.' The Germans, French, the English and the Russians who are fighting in the trenches and on the seas,

they do not ask the reason 'Why?' It's for them to fight and die! There may come a crisis in this nation when it will be also our duty 'to fight and die' without asking the reason why. May such crisis never come, but if it should come, let there be none among the citizenship of our country, no matter to what king or emperor they formerly owed their allegiance, or who their ancestors may have been, who will hesitate to respond to the country's call.

"There is absolutely no violation of neutrality to sympathize with Poland, because Poland is not at war with any nation, altho upon her territory the most bloody and savage conflict has been going on for the last eight months. She is the greatest sufferer and the innocent victim of the greed of the three neighboring nations, whose pride and lust turned them into demons and made hell on earth."

The speaker then briefly recounted the history of Poland. He pointed out that about 250 years ago, when Russia was but a loosely organized country of semi-barbarous peoples; when Prussia was a petty principality and a vassal to the King of Poland, and Austria was but a small archduchy on the banks of the Danube, the East Mark of the Habsburg, Poland was the largest nation in Europe and occupied the foremost rank among the nations of the world, having for centuries been the bulwark of Christianity against the Turks from the East and the Tartars from South.



The Liberum Veto and the Pacta Conventa

The Polish Diets in the eighteenth century were regularly assembled, conformably to the laws; but every one of these assemblies, towards the end of the century when Poland was in her decline, was dissolved without adopting a single measure of legislation or government. This suspension of public authority arose from the fact that each deputy could stop any public measure by declaring his dissent from it by the words *Nie pozwalam*, known throughout Europe as the *Liberum Veto*.

Have we a form of this policy in this country?

Judson C. Welliver, in his article "Poland's Story," in the May number of the *CENTURY MAGAZINE*, makes an interesting point in this respect.

"The *Liberum Veto*", he says, "was the privilege of a single member of the diet to nullify any piece of legislation, or a whole session's legislative work, by simply rising in his place, and solemnly proclaiming, 'I forbid!' When first asserted it was bitterly opposed, but the principle was at length accepted. If it seems utterly inexplicable that a legislature would thus surrender all its power, a medieval Pole might with reason retort that in the American Senate unlimited debate is even now permitted; that, according to high parliamentary authority, the great bulk of legislation is done virtually by unanimous

consent; and, most suggestive of all, that a single member, by a point of order, may strike from a supply bill any proposed limitation on the use of the funds."

* * *

Poland called itself a republic. It was a republic—of noblemen and aristocracy, it is true—at a time when the rest of Europe, with the exception of England, was groaning under an autocratic form of government.

"The *Pacta Conventa*" writes J. C. Welliver in his article, "or contract between nobles and king, deprived the king of almost all real power, save when, in war, he headed the army. The nobles took no chances of turning up a king who might make common cause with the peasants, as had often happened in western Europe, and clip the wings of the privileged class.

"The *Pacta Conventa* at its full development must strike a twentieth-century reader as rather a charter of liberties than an apple of discord. The king was elective; only the parliament could make war, impose taxes, or commission ambassadors; parliament must be convened at least biennially; the king's cabinet was to be elected by the diet once a year. The sovereign might not even wed except to the candidate named by the diet!"

FREE POLAND

A SEMI-MONTHLY

The Truth About Poland and Her People

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To Editors and Publishers

The Polish Question is a timely one, throughout the world. The contents of this publication will furnish, we hope, adequate material for use at opportune moments.

Culled from the American Press

Poland continues being devastated. Robert Crozier Long, author and special correspondent, has written for THE ASSOCIATED PRESS upon his return to Stockholm, after an extended tour of the war-devastated districts of Poland, the following account which we read in the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, of May 10:

"'Finis Poloniae', Kosciusko's epitaph on his country, has been realized.

"A tour of central and southern Poland and the Polish parts of Galicia convinces me of that. I visited all the chief towns and many of the villages, or ruins of villages, in 10,000 square miles of country lying between the Austro-German line and the Vistula in a semicircle from the Bzura to the Nida. I visited also the basin of the Dunajec and Wisloka, the theater of the sanguinary May day battle.

"The country is a desert, the home of nomads. I got my first glimpse of it on the Bzura, west of Warsaw, where, during a four months' artillery duel, every habitation has disappeared.

"I reached this battle front first after dusk and from an observation tower saw against the red background formed by a blazing forest the remnants of a dozen villages. These remnants were gaunt, erect pillars. This is typical of burned out Poland.

"Everywhere, except east of the road from Warsaw to Sandomir, blackened brick chimneys represent Polish homes. East of the road the damage is small and the main towns on the road to Radom, Sandomir and Ostrowiec each had only a score of ruined houses. Isolated factories all have been destroyed, mostly by airmen's bombs, on the suspicion that they were staff headquarters.

"On the road from Radom to the west the destruction increases progressively and on the Bzura, Rawka and Nida rivers, where the Russian lines face those of the enemy, hardly a stick remains. The man who accompanied me on part of my trip says in the rest of Warsaw and Kielce, formerly two of Poland's richest provinces, only a third of the houses are unburned.

"I found that on twenty miles of the Nida river between the town of Pinczow and its confluence with the Vistula eighteen out of thirty villages either were burned or blown up in order that the Austrian mortars might search out the Russian trenches. Peasants were given ten minutes to clear out.

"The governor of Radom assured me that in his province 500 villages had been burned. In the country held by Russia's foes conditions are worse, for here the fighting was more prolonged. The worst devastation is in the theater of the November fight for the possession of Lodz. Refugees assure me that in a circle extending thirty miles around Lodz only five villages were spared.

"Poland's population is suffering as no Europeans have suffered since the thirty years' war. Every second man is a refugee. Warsaw has 60,000 refugees, a third of them Jews. In Radom I found 15,000 refugees; in Kielce 20,000.

"Such is Poland's present. The future will be even worse. The country, ravaged and irreclaimable, begins to resemble the primeval Sarmatian waste. Roads, forests and even fields have vanished. Many roads are still as von Hindenburg left them in his November retreat. Some still bear the German's ironical placard 'No bathing here.'

"Winter grain was not sown and there is no seed grain for spring. Arable land is a sandy desert, for trench diggers dug beneath the fertile surfaces and scattered the subsoil or sand.

"The worst, because it is irremediable, is the forest destruction. Some woods have been hewn wholesale to make causeways through morasses some to pave roads, some to make a clear field for artillery, some shelled to hits because they afforded shelter for troops, some drenched with petroleum and burned. This forest devastation means to Poland generations of beggary.

"Conditions in Polish Galicia on the Dunajec and Wisloka rivers are somewhat better. I passed many unruined villages and found Tarnow town, although shelled daily by seventeen inch guns, living normally. Gen Radko Dimitrieff, who commands the third Russian army here, assures me this condition is general over all this territory. But since the May day battle the war is again passing over this spared country and 'Finis Galiciae' will soon also be a fact."

* *

Nothing can break the national spirit of the Polish people. The Poles even amid misfortune find a new hope that out of the great European struggle a restoration of their nation will come.

"While proud memories and fresh aspirations" writes the BUFFALO N. Y., COURIER, May 2, "are in the hearts of the Polish patriots, they are acutely conscious of the needs of the present, the dire necessities of the millions of sufferers in Poland now. Relief efforts in the United

States have been made, the Poles of this city have been active and will do more. They open a bazar to-day which is to continue a week, and tomorrow will be observed as Polish "flag day". The cause, as did that of the Belgians, appeals eloquently to American sympathy and benevolence."

* *

America has sent to Belgium over \$7,000,000. But the misery in Poland is worse morally and materially. Poland is not to be forgotten.

"I hope", writes Arthur T. Aldis in the CHICAGO EVENING POST, May 3, "that the dramatic appeal of Poland and Serbia may develop multitudinous hitherto undiscovered springs of generosity in this country. When these springs are once set to flowing (and the habit of giving is formed) they are not easily checked even in times of less need."

* *

The need in Poland is almost immeasurable and appeals eloquently to the generous American heart.

"The most appalling feature of the Polish desolation," says the BUFFALO COURIER, April 8, "is its extent. Millions are affected. The men fit for war are compelled to serve in the armies of the nations which divided their kingdom, and the backward and forward movements of the tide of battle obliterate means for the noncombatants to exist. Representatives in Poland of a large New York manufacturing establishment have sent home harrowing accounts of prevailing conditions. They say that thousands of formerly flourishing towns and villages have been destroyed, and millions of Poles are in extreme destitution. Great throngs are wandering in the forests, dying from starvation or exposure.

"Seldom, if ever, has a sadder, more desperate crisis been known in Europe's history. America seems the only country capable of furnishing substantial assistance. Have our people clearly appreciate the terrible seriousness of the emergency, and surely they will be as energetic for aiding Poland as they have been for Belgium's relief."

* *

The Rockefeller Commission in its report shows that thousands and thousands of people absolutely depend on charity.

"A detailed report", says the BOSTON TRANSCRIPT, May 7, "of the desperate situation prevailing to-day in the mining district of western Poland, now in possession of the Germans, has been received by the Rockefeller Commission, which was organized to assist the suffering population of this region.

"A comparison of food prices before the war with those which prevailed in January of this year show the following contrasts: Rye flour increased from \$40 do \$90 the ton, wheat flour from \$60 to \$102, buckwheat from \$60 do \$250. Before the war a ton of straw cost \$210; in January it brought \$612, and the price of oats has increased five hundred per cent.

"Out of a population of 135,000 in the district of Sosnovitz, 16,650 persons are now dependent upon charity. In Bendin there are 500 charity subjects out of a population of 50,000, and in Dombrow 5000 out of a population of 60,000. These figures do not include the unemployed who are receiving assistance from their former employers. The unemployed so situated number about 45,000 or counting their families, about 100,000 persons.

"Continuing, this report says, that during the last five months the population of this region suffered serious epidemics of typhus, scarlet fever, dysentery and cholera.

Of cholera there have been thirty-five authenticated cases, and the death rate among non-combatants has increased from 10 per cent to 12 per cent.

"Two chief causes of the misery in this region have been the cutting off of imports upon which this part of Poland always has depended, and the closing of the coal mines, which in normal times give employment to 50,000 men."

* *

GUTHRIE, OKLA., LEADER is also making an eloquent plea for Poland.

"Of all the ills", writes the LEADER in its issue of May 5, "that have befallen the 'Fair land of Poland, oppressed by the foe', none has been so terrible as that which now afflicts it. A long suffering people which has kept alive the spirit of nationality despite persecution and suppression and the dismemberment and parceling out of its country among rival powers is now being ravaged and laid waste by these warring rivals. Millions of Poles have been rendered homeless, pillaged and robbed by the fighting hosts, their lands desolated, their means of livelihood wrecked, their men drafted into the ranks, their aged, their women and their children left destitute and helpless.

"Generous America, which has so nobly succored the other war stricken, owes a special consideration for the land of Kosciuszko and Pulaski, for the people who produced a Sienkiewicz and a Paderewski, not forgetting the large number of our fellow-citizens of Polish birth or descent whose love for this land of freedom is heightened by the knowledge of the oppression in their own."

* *

The PITTSBURGH, GAZETTE, May 1, calls on its citizens to be generous towards the unfortunates of Poland.

"The stricken people of Poland", it says, "make a special appeal to the generosity of Pittsburghers to-day. There is no question that an adequate conception of the degree of misery to which that immemorably unhappy land has now been reduced by reason of the European war would inspire the average individual to dig down deep in his pocket for a liberal contribution. Unfortunately it is only of late the terrible situation in that region is beginning to be realized. Millions of our fellow beings are in the grip of famine or disease, and through no fault of their own. The demands upon American resources have been numerous and insistent. It seems as if some new object for our practical sympathy were arising every day with its piteous request. In many instances, no doubt, the means for philanthropic response have been strained to the utmost. Few can hope to emulate the deeds of those individuals who have made the name of American synonymous with lavish giving, but it should be possible for all to make some addition, however trifling, to the fund that is being raised throughout the country for the benefit of the afflicted Poles."

* *

The NEW YORK SUN, May 3, quotes Justice Frederick C. Crane, who spoke in Prospect Hall, Brooklyn, as follows:

"The bravery that withstands hunger, drunkenness, misery, all the unhappiness that follows in the wake of such a cataclysm as is now hovering over Poland, is just as great as the bravery of those who rode in the charge of the light brigade", he said. "Let us help them, let us pay the debt we owe to Poland, that land which taught the world so much of freedom and patriotism'".

"Mme. Marcella Sembrich occupied a box at the meet-

ing, arranged by the United Polish Societies of Brooklyn to commemorate "Polish Constitution Day". Mme. Sembrich, who is head of the Polish American Relief Committee, received the following telegram yesterday from Henryk Sienkiewicz, president of the International Polish Relief Committee at Lausanne:

"The general committee in recognition of your great patriotism, your national zeal and the sacrifices you have made for your philanthropic work, has nominated you unanimously and most gratefully as honorary member of our committee. Pray accept our fervent and most respectful homage."

"Money to be sent to relieve suffering in Poland was raised at the meeting by the sale of buttons and rings."

The BOSTON TRANSCRIPT, May 7, quotes Paderewski as saying:

"A few Polish relief committees have been organized in this country, but however noble are the hearts of the organizers, however great the generosity of their supporters, the means so far collected will relieve but a very limited number of sufferers. There are millions of families helpless, hungry, sick, succumbing.

"In the face of such disaster individual efforts must remain inefficient. Only a great wave of mankind's pity can surmount so immense a wave of human misery. Only a great, enlightened generous nation can help effectually our perishing multitudes.

"Nobody knows better than I do the kindness and gen-



Swearing the Union of Poland and Lithuania, 1569, the first Voluntary Confederation of independent Powers in Europe

erosity of the American people. They have always responded with the enthusiasm of youth to everything that is true, sincere.

"Is there anything more true than human pain? Is there anything more sincere than the cry for help from those who suffer?"

"In the name of Christian charity, in the name of common humanity, I, therefore, appeal to the great American people."

* *

The CHICAGO TRIBUNE, May 2, reminds its readers that the cry of the Poles for help is more terrible, more despairing, more heart-breaking than any other.

"Remote from the ken of the civilized world", it continues, "they are suffering even more than the unhappy Belgians. No wonder that Paderewski seems semi-distraught as he comes to America to proclaim the woes of his countrymen. Alas for the limitations of temperament and genius combined! With that gift in his fingers and brain that could earn thousands and thousands for his suffering compatriots, his profound anguish has robbed him of the power of using it.

"Imagine the tremendous crowds that would throng the concert halls of the country to hear Paderewski, playing for the Poles! Think of the money that would flow into his coffers, of the acute sympathy that would be aroused under the stimulus of his wonderful music and yet all he can do is to stammer forth in almost inarticulate speech the tragic story of the most afflicted land.

"One of the most poignant cries heard from that far away, isolated, stricken region is the letter Jean de Reszke received lately from his brother, Edouard de Reszke, the well-known basso of a decade ago. On his great estate he is living in the cellar of his once beautiful chateau without fuel, oil, coffee, or other seeming necessities. In storm and rain the cellar has afforded inadequate shelter and forever in the ears has been the thunder of the contending armies.

"With Edouard de Reszke have been Prince and Princess Lubomirski, members of one of the greatest Polish families. Princess Lubomirski is a serene highness and before the war her income from salt mines in Poland was \$400,000 a year.

"The once splendid estate of the Roman Potockis on the frontier of Austrian Poland, one of the show places of Austria, has been destroyed. Countess Potocki is one of the powerful family of Radziwills. She belongs to the Berlin branch and has many friends among the Americans who visit Vienna, Carlsbad, Marienbad, and the other famous watering places of that part of the world.

"If the great of the land are in such misery, what must be the condition of the poor and lowly? Before we stay our hands in giving of our abundance, let us show the Poles of Austrian, Russian, and German Poland that they are, too, our brothers."

* *

There has been formed a Polish Relief Commission in Minnesota, which publishes the following appeal:
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:—

The present war in Europe has thrust itself upon the attention of the American people, time and again, in a most horrifying manner. The distress which has accompanied the struggle finds no comparison in the previous history of the human race. We have been called upon to relieve the distress under which the population of Belgium has been suffering and the result, thank God, has been impressive in its exhibition of American sympathy and unstinted charity.

Events in the Eastern theater of the war have imposed upon the teeming population of Russian Poland, Austrian Poland and German Poland calamities which, in their heart-rending nature and vast extent, surpass all that has been, hitherto, experienced. The contending armies have swept to and fro over the entire district which, at the close of the eighteenth century, constituted the ancient kingdom of Poland. The necessary result has been wide-spread destruction, involving railroads, highways, bridges, cities, towns, villages and farms, the extinction of industry and the exile of the people from their abodes. Millions of men, women and children are now refugees; many of them without shelter and without food; and, unless relief be afforded, the loss of life will be appalling. The generous aid which has been given to Belgium has stayed the destructive work of war in that country, so far as non-combatants are concerned, and the same kind of relief is needed, in yet greater measure, by Poles, Jews and the people of other races who inhabit the district between the rivers known as the Oder and the Vistula. There is no help for them, no possibility of saving their lives unless the American people come to the rescue. The various nations of Europe are weighted down with all the cares and responsibilities and monetary demands which they can possibly sustain. They cannot save the people of Poland. We must do it.

These startling facts have led to the formation of a general commission which has undertaken the collection of money, food and clothing for the assistance of the people in the Polish territory. We ask every person who receives this circular to consider, with thoughtful care, the terrible conditions which afflict our brothers and sisters and their children in this far-off European country, and to help us with all the contributions, large and small, which come within the range of his financial ability. We respectfully ask that no delay occur in responding to this, our appeal, because in spite of the best and most vigorous efforts which can be made, thousands will perish before the supplies sent from America will arrive. The funds contributed to us will be transmitted to the American Red Cross for distribution. The treasurer of our organization is. Mr. Henry Von der Weyer, vice-president of the Merchants' National Bank of this city.

A. O. EBERHART,
JOHN W. WILLIS,
I. L. RYPINS,
KARL KOCH,
JOSEPH J. BLACHOWSKI,
MRS. THEO. KOCH,
MRS. JACOB WIRTH,
MRS. A. H. LINDEKE,

For the Commission.

St. Paul, Minnesota, March 29, 1915.

* *

The TOLEDO, O., NEWS, May 14, prints the following appeal:

"Knowing how often our fellow townsmen are called upon to assist and sustain with a liberal hand countless numbers of worthy objects and civic movements in our city, it is with some hesitation that we make this appeal.

"Yet the heart-rending cry of a nation of 25,000,000 people, the cry of our fellow men, our brothers in a country devastated by war, by fire, destroyed from one end to the other, impels us to beg in the name of humanity for bread, for sustenance, for the suffering people of Poland.

"Poland, under the heel of its oppressors, has been paying the past century for its patriotism, for its love of

freedom and independence with the blood of the flower of its manhood. This day again Poland is literally drowned in the blood of her sons!

"She had no part in starting the awful conflagration in Europe. It was not her will. She is not fighting for her perseverance. She is compelled by her oppressors to force father to kill son, brother to kill brother, to spill her own blood in a cause not her own.

"Poland, divided between Austria, Germany and Russia, has furnished more than a million soldiers to the great armies of Europe. They are killing one another against their will. Can you imagine a more tragic fate of a great nation!

"Poland, a country vastly greater than Belgium, is a charred and desolate waste. Her millions of children, deprived of bread, of home, separated and scattered to the four corners of the land, heart-broken and shattered beyond human imagination, reach but their hands to us!

"The Poles of his country are doing everything with their effort for the sufferers. Yet this is but a drop in the ocean.

"No one more than we honors and appreciates the noble spirit which moved the people of Toledo to come so generously to the aid of the poor Belgians.

"Yet the cause of Poland touches nearer home.

"There are 20,000 people in our city of Polish birth and descent. They are loyal citizens and give their whole-souled allegiance, love and devotion to their adopted country.

"These 20,000 people have helped to build up Toledo. Among home owners they are at the top. They have left their fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters in Poland. There is hardly a Polish home in Toledo that is not touched by this awful calamity.

"The Toledo Choral society has volunteered its services in presenting 'The Chimes of Normandy' at the Valentine theatre of June 3, 4 and 5, for the benefit of the war-stricken people in Poland.

"May we not, in the name of the great love which Christ bore alike to all humanity, appeal for your generous support of this cause?

"It will mean bread for the babies, the mothers and old men of Poland.

"Thanking you, we are,

Respectfully yours,

The Northwestern Ohio Section of the
Polish National Alliance of the United
States of America.

J. S. KARPANTY, President.

B. J. DALKOWSKI, Secretary.

Milwaukee joined Saturday, May 22, in a tag-day to help swell the fund that is being raised for the relief of Polish war sufferers.

"Milwaukee Poles" writes the MILWAUKEE JOURNAL, May 16, 1915, "contributed to the cause by means of a house-to-house canvass held in every Polish Catholic parish in the Milwaukee archdiocese during the winter when a considerable sum was realized, each parish having its own committee in charge of the collection and sending its collections direct to the Central Committee in Chicago.

"It was planned at that time to hold a tag-day, as well, but this had to be abandoned on account of the extreme cold. With the coming of spring the tag-day idea was revived, with the result that a city-wide affair was now made of it.

"All Polish organizations and all parts of the city were co-operating in the effort, the membership of the committee in charge of the arrangements making it a representative body. Judge Michael Blenski was the president of the general committee, and Auxiliary Bishop Edward Kozlowski was honorary president. Stanley Nowak was vice-president; Stanislaus Litko, recording secretary; Mrs. Wanda J. Kwasniewska, financial secretary; Mrs. A. Swietlik, vice-president; A. A. Gutkowski, vice-president; F. B. Kielbasa, vice-president; Frank J. Grutza, treasurer; Dr. A. J. Heller, vice-president.

"The tag was 3-4 inches wide and 3 inches long, the lower end being brought to a blunt pennant point. There was a string at the top to fasten it to the contributor's coat button. The top third of the tag was occupied by a small American flag printed in colors, then came the words in blue, "Polish Relief Fund", and under that, occupying the rest of the tag, was the Polish flag, being divided by a perpendicular line from the top to the apex at the bottom, half being red and half white.

"The committee has sent the following telegram to President Wilson:

"The delegates of the Polonia general committee, in meeting assembled, representing all Polish organizations and societies and 100,000 Polish-Americans in Milwaukee city and county, sons of unfortunate Poland, desire to reaffirm their never-wavering loyalty to their new fatherland, the United States, and express their confidence and trust in the wisdom of the foreign policy of President Wilson in the present trying moment. While we are for peace for this country—in case of war we shall enthusiastically follow in the footsteps of our great compatriots Kosciuszko and Pulaski in active defense of American liberty."

Suppliant Poland

MANY a land across the seas is to-day looking to the wheatfields of America for bread for the coming year, and to our prosperous citizens for relief from the pangs of hunger and homelessness, because there is no other land that can be appealed to to-day with like success. More than half the world is engaged in war, and the belligerent nations, however well-disposed, cannot be expected to do much for the unfortunate countries that have been ravaged by war, and whose lands have been made one great battlefield, since they have all that they can do to care for their own.

China with its hundreds of millions can scarcely be

appealed to. Japan and South America, with the best of intentions, can do but comparatively little. The rest of the world, aside from the United States, is in the throes of the most awful war of the centuries. Where can these nations look, then, but to us, for relief and succor?

That they have not looked in vain, that they have not appealed to the generous hearts of Americans without result, is shown by the millions of dollars and the millions of tons of provisions which have gone across the seas to suffering Belgium as a result of these appeals.

Belgium is comparatively near our shores. The "European tripper" from America is pretty certain to have

crossed her boundaries, if he did not linger in her ancient and beautiful cities. His sympathy would easily be aroused for the sufferers of Louvain and of Liege, and that fair land that has been desolated.

But poor Poland is nearly one thousand miles farther away from us geographically, and much more than a thousand miles farther from us in knowledge and sympathy with the actual state of affairs. A score of voices have been raised for Belgium where one has been raised for Poland, and yet the needs of Poland are quite as great as those of her sister nation which has been desolated.

The famous author, M. Sienkiewicz, has said of Poland: "I do not wish to make any comparison with the sufferings of Belgium; they have been too fearful for words: but our needs touch 15,000,000 ruined people in a country seven times the size of Belgium, devastated by repeated passages of armies during the six months from the early days of August."

And Poland has peculiar claims upon our sympathies which even Belgium cannot urge. Comparatively few Belgians have found a home in this new land, but millions of Poles have contributed their brawn and sinew, the strength of their arms and the vigor of their brains, to the building of our own national fabric.

As I have before written, "If the people of Polish ancestry, most of them in the first generation, who live in the United States, were massed in New England, they would occupy five states as populous as Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Five sovereign states like these, if not the largest, are to be reckoned with in the sisterhood of commonwealths; and a country that in a generation can populate five such states, and is likely in another generation to people as many more, is worth the sympathetic consideration of every American."

Moreover, the contribution of Poland to America should be measured, not by its quantity alone, but by its quality. Some of the noblest men in the history of America have been of Polish descent. John of Kolno was a Pole who discovered the coast of Labrador sixteen years, it is said, before Columbus made his memorable voyage. Soon after the Plymouth colony was settled by the Pilgrims, some distinguished Polish families came to the New Jersey coast. One of them was Chancellor of New Jersey; another, dean of Harvard College, and men of such names as Gouverneur Morris, the Bayards, the Jays, the Astors, can boast of the Polish blood that runs in their veins.

In our Revolutionary struggle, Polish sympathy was intense with us, and their greatest hero, Kosciusko, came over to fight our battles as a friend and aide of General Washington. Pulaski and Sadowski have also left their names upon the map of America for the good work that they have done.

•But not only have noble men of Poland fled across the sea to cast in their lot with America, but hundreds of thousands of humble, faithful, honest laborers have helped make our country what it is to-day. In the Western part of Massachusetts, it is said that the advent of the Poles, with their intensive system of agriculture and their wise methods of horticulture, has doubled the value of much of the land in that part of the state. They have not only made comfortable homes and fortunes for themselves, but they have shown the native-born Americans how to do the same.

On the broader fields of the West with its larger opportunities the Poles are still more largely found. Such cities as Detroit and Milwaukee reckon in their directories a very large percentage of Polish names. In fact, in Wisconsin and Michigan every eighth person is a Pole; in Pennsylvania, one in twelve; and in New York, one in fourteen. It has been truly said: "As a rule they make good citizens. They are willing to pay the price to succeed, and that price is to work hard and save."

To go a little farther back, we must remember that not only America but all the civilized world owes an unpaid and almost unpayable debt to Poland. At one time in the world's history, it looked as though the Turks would overrun all Europe. They had planted their battalions at the very gates of Vienna. The king and the nobles fled in wild dismay. It looked as though the Moslems would overrun the whole of Europe and plant their minarets and their harems all over the Western lands. This was in the seventeenth century, when our own country was receiving its early colonists. If that had been the fate of Europe, it is almost inevitable that it would have in some degree been the fate of America, and the whole current of civilization would probably have been changed.

Just at the critical moment, Sobieski, the great Polish general, in 1683, set out from Cracow, the ancient capital of Poland. His cavalry was especially conspicuous for its splendid equipment. He launched himself and his forces against the Turks, shouting in Latin, "Not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name give glory." Under his leadership were the veterans of Saxony, and the united armies were victorious all along the line. The Turks fled in wild dismay. Many thousands were killed, and a mere remnant of the army managed to cross the Danube again and reach Belgrade. This was one of the critical and decisive moments of the world's history and a great Pole stemmed the tide of onrushing Mohammedanism, deserving the undying gratitude of the world.

Such is the great country which of late years has been divided between Russia, Austria and Prussia, and which deserves the sympathy of all Americans. Of the 127,000 square kilometers which comprise it, more than 100,000 have been devastated by the armed forces that have tramped back and forth across her devoted soil. More than a million horses and two million head of cattle have been seized by the invaders, of one side or the other, and in four-fifths of the country, we are told on good authority, "not one grain of corn, not a scrap of meat, nor a drop of milk, remained for the civil population. The material losses are estimated at \$500,000,000, and no fewer than 400,000 workmen have lost their means of livelihood." This is in ancient Poland alone.

The condition of Galicia, or Austrian Poland, is almost as heart-breaking. Here the same levies were made upon the poor people. "Over a million inhabitants", we are told, "have sought refuge in other parts of Austria; they are in sheer destitution, wandering over the country with nothing but the clothes they are wearing."

Surely such a story of destitution will appeal to every generous heart in America, and will lead us to endeavor to secure the plaudit which the Master gave to the woman who broke the alabaster vase of ointment upon his head: "She hath done what she could." — Rev. Francis E. Clark, in the CHRISTIAN HERALD, April 21, 1915.

Courtesy "Chicago Daily Zgoda"



Kościuszko's Monument in Washington, erected May 11, 1910, and presented to the United States by the Polish National Alliance

Courtesy Polish-American Publ. Co.



The Father of American Cavalry. Pulaski's Monument in Washington, presented by the Government to the Nation

Poland and Austria

TO UNDERSTAND better the present war in Poland and to have an idea of the great tragedy now staged on the plains of the Vistula, an inferno which a Dante could only describe properly, it is necessary to go back to the year of 1905.

The granting of the constitution to Russia by Czar Nicolaus II, to the whole Russian Empire was followed by revolutionary outbreaks in various parts of Russia, but the most vicious and acute disorders took place in Poland. Strange to say the Russian authorities played a double role; while pretending to restore order, they were arresting the most worthy Polish citizens and patriots and allowing at least for a time freedom of action to the revolutionists, especially to the so called Polish Socialist Party. This political organization was organized for a double purpose: to play the part of a socialistic organization and that of a patriotic one. Among the socialists international socialism was preached, while among the Poles, especially those of the working classes or young school-boys, the most ardent Polish patriotism was lectured—its aim, the freedom of Poland, socialism being only a disguise.

That nefarious organization in that year was responsible for many murders, robberies, with which neither socialism nor the freedom of Poland had anything in common. The Russian officials who were angry that the government had granted a constitution, wanted to deprive Poland of its benefit and did not lose the opportunity to use them against the two great Polish political parties, namely the Conservative and the National Democratic. Especially the latter they regarded as extremely dangerous and well organized, so much so that at the first election they were able to carry nearly every contested seat.

Order was established, and in punishment for the disorder, the representation of 9 provinces of Poland was cut to 12 seats in the Russian Duma instead of 40.

Nobody was more pleased at the curtailment of Polish privileges than the German authorities in Berlin, which were greatly alarmed that the constitution would help to bridge the differences between Poland and Russia and to build on reasonable terms a "modus vivendi" agreeable to both interested parties. The Russian bureaucracy, on the other hand, did their best to render the Poles restless by continuous repression, Poland being ruled exclusively by Russian officials, from policeman up to governor-general.

All officials received a special increase in their pay for helping to Russianize that country.

In the near-by Austrian province, Galicia, since 1867 the Poles have enjoyed a limited autonomous government, their language being recognized as the official language of the local government, and of course, most of the government officials being Poles.

Germany and Austria for years planned a war on Russia and with that object in view the Austrian Government started a pro-Austrian propaganda among the Ruthenians in the adjoining provinces of Russia, Volhynia and Podolia. At the same time following the old Austrian maxim "divide et impera", Austria induced the Ruthenians living in the southern part of Galicia to quarrel with the Poles, by this method gaining a double benefit. The Ruthenians, their national aspirations being aroused, dreamed of a great independent Ruthenian kingdom, in-

cluding a large part of the southern Russian provinces and were willing to abide by the wish of Austria and to do what the government would wish.

The Poles again, not willing to have their representation in the Vienna parliament reduced for the benefit of the Ruthenians, were the most obedient servants of the Austrian government.

The Austrian government was so sure of the general sympathy among the intelligent Slavs of Russian Poland that the work of pro-Austrian propaganda in Russian Poland was left entirely to the Polish Socialist Party, which had headquarters in Cracow, Galicia. Members of that party in Austrian parliament, notwithstanding their claim to be socialists, were well seen by the Austrian cabinet ministers and had a great influence with the government.

The Balkan war gave a new impulse to war preparation not only through agents in Russia but also in Austrian Poland by organizing and drilling various volunteer forces. The oldest Polish organization of that kind was the society of Falcons (Sokol), formed in towns and cities from among the middle classes and government employess. There were the "Drużyny Strzeleckie" companies of sharp-shooters, mostly recruited from among the working classes and the "Bartoszowe Drużyny", Bartos's Volunteers (so named after a peasant hero from the times of Kosciuszko) recruited exclusively from among the peasantry, and then the "Strzelcy" (the Riflemen), formed mostly in Cracow and vicinity by the Polish Socialist Party and composed of socialists and young boys.

It was the intention of the Austrian government in case of war to send those volunteer forces into Russian Poland, and with the help of the provoking agents, to start a general revolution.

Fate seems to have been against Austria because a few days before the murder of the Austrian Archduke in Serajevo, at a Polish Falcon convention, held in the town of Biala on the border of the Austrian Silesia, the Falcons had been assaulted in the neighboring town of Bielitz by the local Germans, and the Austrian gendarmes and police not only did not go to their rescue, but supported the Germans. In the turmoil which followed the assault, many Poles were wounded by Germans, among them one Polish deputy to the Austrian parliament. As a result of this incident, there were anti-German demonstration in 23 towns and cities of Galicia, and some soldiers were called to reestablish order. Just then the war began. The various volunteer organizations with paper strength of more than 100,000, could not be called as the executive officers refused to call them. The socialistic organization of "Strzelcy" was the first to take the field with about 3,000 volunteers, and they were sent as prearranged into Russian Poland.

Beside this, another regiment with a total strength of 4,200 was formed from one Falcons' nest and others in Cracow and later with the help of the county police, a third one numbering some 4,000 men. In Nowy Sącz, some 8,000 young men gathered but refused to swear allegiance to the Emperor of Austria and disbanded. Their refusal to join the Austrian army Arthur Hausner attributed, (he is now on behalf of the Austrian government on a political mission in United States) to the action of Count Skarbek who with some other highly esteemed persons was arrested and imprisoned by the Austrian authorities.

In that way the Austrian can not claim that the war is a national Polish war against Russia. The planned invasion of Russian Poland by Polish volunteers remains a dream unfulfilled.

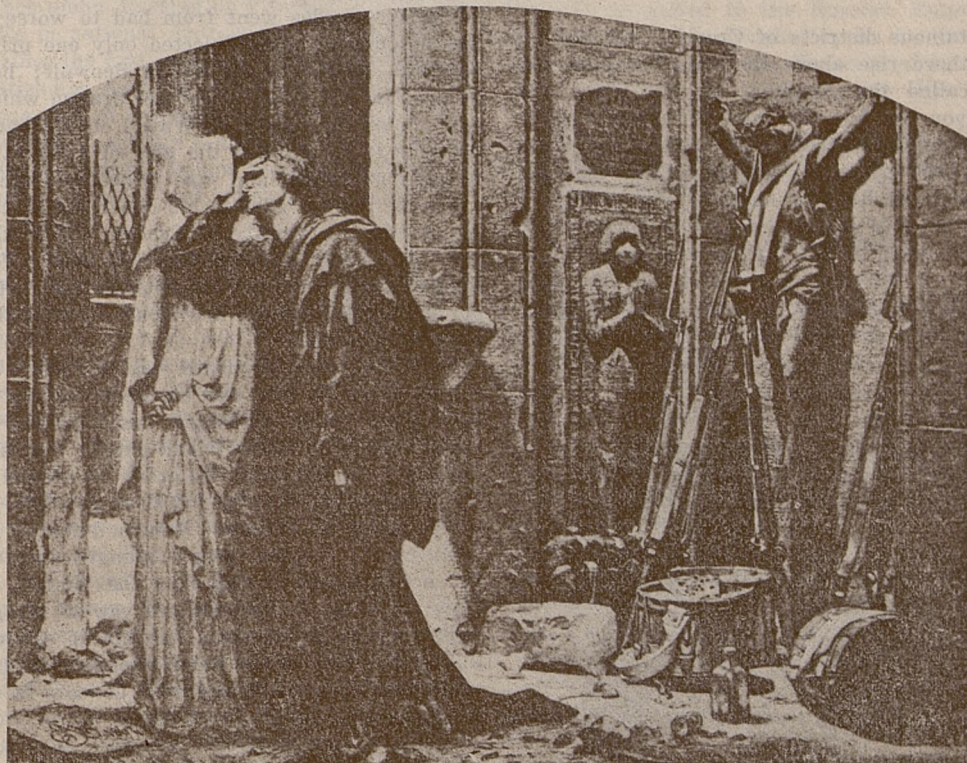
The expected revolution in Poland, of which at the beginning not only the Russians of the war were afraid, but even many of the best informed Polish political leaders, has not materialized. There have been some little disturbances in Warsaw even quite recently, as many hundreds of people have been arrested and the monument in

honor of those who had been true to the Czar in 1831, was damaged by the explosion of a bomb.

The sending of that small party of armed Polish socialists was responsible for the many miseries of the Polish and Jewish people in Poland, but for Austria it has brought no practical results.

The Austrian statesmen have misjudged the Poles of to-day and thought that by appealing to their idealistic sentiments, they would win their sympathy.

ALEXANDER A. JASIENSKI.



Sacrilege—One of the Consequences of War.—From Grottger's WAR (1866)

Let Poland Live

Wake! and greet the morn with glee!
Heaven sees your misery.
Weep no more! 'Tis thus decreed,
Poland must and shall be free.

Hearts of sorrow, cease to mourn!
Wretched though your state forlorn,
God is smiling through His tears—
Happier days for you shall come.

Lord! the cry went up to Heaven—
Yea, the cry, and yea, the prayer;
Not the crying of the coward,
Not the voicing of despair,—
But the soul-burst of a nation,
Bravest, noblest of them all.
Yet, Fate on her smiled unkindly—
Why? and why left her in thrall?

Lord! our soul desires comfort,
Helpless, we like Rachel weep.
Sons of Poland groan with anguish,
Watch and ward Thou dost not keep.
Where our fathers walked right proudly,
Free to come and free to go,
Sits the captor in his glory,
Gloating o'er our grief and woe.

Lord, although our sins were many,
Though our pride was very great,
Do Thou with us deal right gently,
Pity Thou our wretched state.
Smile as Thou once smiledst upon us,
Be with us and Oh, forgive!
Free us, and our hearts make happy—
Gracious Lord, let Poland live!

F. F. KNAUFFT.

New York, April 25, 1915.

Notable Women of Poland

I.

Wanda.

As is known, the history of Poland previous to the middle of the ninth century is too legendary to have much value from the historical view-point. There are, however, many interesting accounts which throw an insight into Polish character.

In the mountainous districts of Croatia, now belonging to Austria, there rise above the river Krapina two elevations, one called the Krapina and the other the Psary, on which you can find the ruins of former castles. There is a tradition that in these castles there lived centuries ago three brothers, three pagan Slavic princes, named Lech, Czech and Rus, the sons of Pan, prince of Pannonia. Their sister Wylinda, out of love for a hostile chief, conducted his army to the settlement of these Slavs, who taken unawares, suffered a painful defeat. Her wrathful brothers condemned her to death, and they themselves left their castles for other lands—never to return.

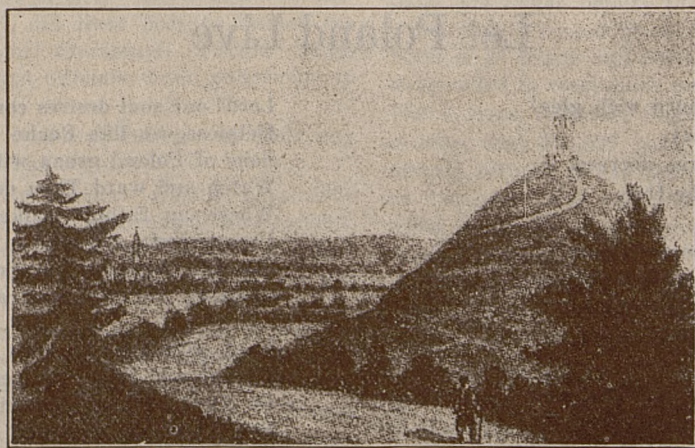
This occurred about the year 550 of our Lord, when the brothers having crossed the Danube, separated and departed in different directions. Lech arrived with his followers at the banks of the Warta and the lake of Goplo, where was settled another Slavic tribe called the Polani. There he noticed on the trees several nests from which were flying a pair of white eagles. He decided to settle there and called the place Gniezno (Nest), which is the present city of Gnesen; he became ruler of the people who now were called **Polaki**, derived from the words **Po Lechu**, meaning "from Lech", descended from Lech. The people accepted as its coat of arms, or symbol, a white eagle with lifted wings on a field of claret.

The legend has it that after many years the brothers

of Lech, namely Czech, from whom the Czechs (Bohemians) received their name, and Rus, the founder of the Ruthenian tribe, had again met at a spot not far away from Gnesen. In commemoration of the meeting and the recognition (recognition is **poznanie** in Polish), they founded the town called Poznań, the present city of Posen.

Lech was succeeded, they say, by Wizymir, and the latter by twelve **vaivodes** (palatines). The government of these **vaivodes** went from bad to worse, and the people discouraged finally elected only one prince, the brave **Krakus**. **Krakus** is the Polish **Beowulf**; he was popular because he had killed a monster dragon which lived in the cave under the mount of **Wawel** on the bank of the **Vistula**; he later founded the city of **Cracow**. **Krakus** was furthermore a just and wise prince, and the people out of gratitude built a cairn in his honor, which to this day can be seen in the vicinity of **Cracow**. Near this cairn each year on **Easter Tuesday** there is held a festivity called **Rekawka** (Sleeve), to commemorate the fact that the people had carried the soil and stones in their sleeves in order to build the cairn.

Krakus upon his death was succeeded by his youngest son **Lech II**, who was succeeded by his sister **Wanda**. A German prince **Ruediger** was a suitor for her hand, but **Wanda**, the stanch Polish patriot that she was, would not marry a German. In order to compel her to agree to his proposal, **Ruediger** with a powerful army arrived at the gates of **Cracow**. **Wanda** defeated his army, but unwilling to see her people plunged into war again on her account, she leaped into the **Vistula** and drowned. They say that she had made a vow to the gods, that she would consecrate to them her life if she would conquer **Ruediger**. Also in her honor the Poles had built a cairn, which can be seen to-day near **Cracow** in the village of **Mogile**.



"Mogila Wandy"—Wanda's Cairn

The Nationality of Poland



WHENEVER there comes up the question of the demand of autonomy made by Poles, or of the protest of the Poles of the Prussian Poland against the non-delivery of mail addressed to them with the Polish word for "Mister" and the Polish name of Polish cities, or of some other national matter,—the assertion is made by persons either ignorant of history or working in the interest of the despoilers of the Republic of Poland, that Poland is "technically" not a nation and has not under Russian or Prussian control the "technical" rights in national matters that Hungary has. As Poland ever since the first great blow was dealt against the faith of treaties has risen up before assembled Europe whenever any question of international law is being discussed, it will be well to explain a historical fact of which some of these persons denying Poland the rights of nationality are apparently ignorant and which the others would fain consign to oblivion.

In November, 1814, the Committee of the Eight Powers, — Austria, England, France, Prussia, Russia, Spain, Portugal and Sweden, — met at Vienna for the purpose of restoring Europe as much as possible to the condition in which it was before the wars of Napoleon. The questions before the Congress of Vienna were numerous and important, and were treated in the following order: Poland, Saxony, Belgium and Holland, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. The result of the Congress was the drawing up of a treaty which was to be henceforth the written law of Europe. Of all human laws, those which regulate the international relation of States, are unquestionably the most important and sacred; upon them hangs the fate of millions of human beings, the security of weak States, and the peace and prosperity of a large part of the civilized world. The legal and historical basis of the relation of the Poles to the Russian, Prussian and Austrian States, are the provisions of the Congress of Vienna contained in the Act closing that Congress (*Acte finale*, of June 9, 1815), which was to constitute the guarantee of the treaties concluded on May 3, 1815, between Russian and Prussia, and between Russia and Austria.

The recommendation of Lord Castlereagh, in his circular of January 12, 1815, to the plenipotentiaries, that "the illustrious monarchs to whom the destinies of the Polish nation are confided, may be induced, before they depart from Vienna, to take an engagement with each other to treat as Poles, under whatever form of political institution they may think fit to govern them, the portions of that nation that may be placed under their respective sovereignties", was adopted by the three Powers. Russia declared her intention of "reuniting a portion of the Polish nation to her empire by constitutional bonds"; Austria "shared the liberal views of the Emperor Alexander in favor of the national institutions which his imperial majesty had determined to give the Poles", and Prussia informed Lord Castlereagh "that the principles developed in his note on the manner of administering the Polish provinces placed under the dominion of the different Powers are entirely in conformity with the sentiments of his majesty."

The provisions for the future condition of Poland are contained in the first fourteen articles of the Treaty of Vienna. The first and most important of these articles relates in its first section to the Kingdom of Poland (erected by the Congress of Vienna out of the Grand Duchy

of Warsaw, which had been created by Napoleon out of a part of Prussian Poland) and in its second section to the Poles of the rest of the Polish State of 1772, who were divided by the Congress of Vienna between Russia, Prussia and Austria. This article read as follows:

Art. I. The Duchy of Warsaw, with the exception of the provinces and districts that are otherwise disposed of by the following articles (the parts of the Duchy receded to Prussia and to Austria, and the Republic of Cracow), is united to the Russian Empire, to which it shall be irrevocably attached by its constitution, to be possessed by his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, his heirs and successors, in perpetuity. His Imperial Majes-



Cyrrillus and Methodius, of Thessalonica, who first taught the Gospel amongst the Slavs, in 863

ty reserves to himself the right to give to this State, enjoying a distinct administration, such an interior (territorial) extension as he shall regard as fit. He shall assume with his other titles, the title of King of Poland, agreeably to the form used and sanctioned for the titles attached to his other possessions.

"The Poles that are subjects respectively of Russia, Austria and Prussia, shall obtain a representation and national institutions regulated by the mode of political existence that each of the governments to which they will belong, will regard as useful and proper to grant them."

Article II. gives the Duchy of Posen to Prussia, and defines, on the side of Prussia as on that of Russia, the limits within which the Polish inhabitants are to have "a representation and national institutions." Articles III., IV. and V. define the territory of Austrian Poland. Articles VI. to X. relate to the city and territory of Cracow, which was made a free city. Articles XI., XII. and XIII. relate to political trials.

Article XIV. is important, as giving an additional proof of the intention of the treaty to guarantee the **nationality** of the whole of Poland. That article quotes and confirms the articles in treaties between Russia and Prussia, establishing the right of the Poles to avail themselves of the means of communication and of the free exchange of the products of agriculture and of industry on the whole extent of the old Republic of Poland. Finally, as if to remove all possible doubt as to the principles by which the Congress was actuated in its settlement of Poland, Article III. of the treaty between Russia and Prussia, which by Article CXVIII. of the Treaty of Vienna is to be considered "part of the general enactments of the Congress, and is to have the same weight and value as if it had been inserted word for word in the general treaty", says:

"The Poles, subjects respectively of the high contracting parties, shall obtain institutions that shall insure the preservation of their nationality, in such form as each of the governments to which they belong, may think it useful and proper to grant them."

After examining carefully the different phases of the negotiations of the Congress of Vienna and the treaty provisions in which those negotiations resulted, it is impossible for any unprejudiced mind to entertain the shadow of a doubt that it was the evident intention of the Treaty to preserve — by giving a **constitution to the Kingdom of Poland and national institutions to the rest of the old Republic of Poland — the nationality of the Poles, — as some compensation to Western Europe for the loss of the Poles' independence.**

It was at the Congress of Vienna that the diplomacy of Europe for the first time took cognizance of a **nationality**, — and that was the nationality of Poland. The principle that government are made for nations, not nations for governments, — that great principle which the French Revolution had stamped in letters of blood on the page of history, — was recognized, though partially and unwillingly, by the reactionist framers of the Treaty of Vienna; and in that treaty for the first time appeared the word "nationality", a word that has since then conveyed ideas of such dreadful import to the despotism of Europe.

It would seem that in 1815, the great Powers were struck with sudden remorse in respect to Poland and her wrongs. At the very moment that they were solemnly delivering over her provinces to Austria, Prussia and Russia, they multiplied protective guarantees and actually strove to maintain a **national bond** between the divers parts of the divided nation. The Treaty of Vienna recognized in fullest measure both the **Kingdom of Poland** and the **Polish provinces** delivered to Russia, Prussia and Austria, and made different provisions in regard to these parts of the former Republic of Poland respectively.

In the Austrian portion, Cracow was to be a free city, its independence and neutrality being guaranteed in perpetuity. A part of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw was thenceforth to be styled the "Kingdom of Poland under the Russian crown", — so that the national name still lives **diplomatically**, ready, whenever the time comes for reconstituting the whole of the Polish State. The Prus-

sian part took the name of the "Grand Duchy of Posen", so as to keep it distinct from the rest of Prussia's dominions, — nay, the frontier line is traced on the Prussian side just as clearly as on the Russian side. Further, the Congressional Kingdom of Poland, (which Emperor Alexander I. would fain have made coextensive with all Russia's Polish provinces), was to have a distinct existence, national institutions, and a representative government, the whole guaranteed by all the Powers participating in the Congress of Vienna. The "preservation of their nationality" was especially secured also to the Poles under Austria and Prussia; and, as if to make amends for their separation, all the Polish provinces were united in a sort of customs-union, establishing free traffic transit and navigation through every part of old Poland, — the privileges of this commercial treaty extending to the frontiers that existed before the first partition. In fact, the conquerors are spoken of in these arrangements as strangers. The words of the Emperor-King Alexander I. when promulgating the Polish Constitution of 1815, are the best comment on all this:

"Your restoration is assured by solemn treaties, which give Poland henceforth an honorable place among the European nations. Your language will be used in all public records; all State appointments will be filled by Poles only; you have unshackled commerce and free intercommunication with those portions of old Poland that are under other Powers; you have your national army, your national institutions; and all this you will transmit as a heritage to your prosperity; for it is all guaranteed to you by solemn treaty; I have compelled the States of Europe to ratify the acknowledgement of your existence."

Little as the Treaty of Vienna did for Poland, it guaranteed three things: to the Kingdom of Poland, a constitution and independent government under a viceroy; to the Polish provinces, whether Russian, Prussian or Austrian, national institutions; to the whole Polish country within the limits of 1772, entire freedom of commercial intercourse.

The main point to be kept before our eyes is, that when the Congress of Vienna confirmed the Polish possessions to the three robber-states, it did so solely on condition that the terms it secured for the Poles were adhered to.

Like all human laws, the Treaty of Vienna has in the course of years undergone many alterations; arrangements that became obsolete have been remodelled; and others that had been rendered inexpedient by unexpected circumstances, were by universal consent recognized as null and void. But the original framework of the Treaty still remains; and where it has not been modified by the agreement of all the Powers, the provisions of the Treaty of Vienna are as binding on them, and are as much the law of Europe now, as they were in 1815.

Though the Act of 1815, which gives the Polish claims a legal basis, is old, it is imprescriptible. The Treaty of Pressburg, the Pragmatic Sanction, and such like acts, on which the Hungarians and Bohemians base their rights to political self-activity in the Habsburg monarchy, are of older date than the enactments of the Congress of Vienna, and yet those nations do not, by any means, slight that obsolete but imprescriptible legal basis of their national claims. Finland appeals to her Constitution of 1809, which was for a longer time suspended and was later altered.

The articles of the Treaty of Vienna quoted above, show clearly that the sole right enjoyed by the partitioning Powers over their Polish possessions is derived from

the Treaty of Vienna. This right two at least of the Powers in question have fortified by their persistent non-fulfillment of the conditions attached to it. The conduct of Russia and Prussia with regard to the Polish articles of the Treaty of Vienna presented the grossest and most indefensible instance of an offense against the society of nations. Unless treaties are to be mere declarations of an intention to confer certain benefits during pleasure, Europe should put a stop to this violation of the greatest

absolve Russia, Prussia, or Austria from their formal engagements to Europe at the Congress of Vienna, the competency of which Congress was recognized by Russia, Prussia and Austria.

For further information on this subject, I should refer interested readers to the WESTMINSTER REVIEW and the LONDON QUARTERLY (of 1863), both quoted from in the ECLECTIC MAGAZINE, (of January, 1864) and the article quoted in the AMERICAN REVIEW OF RE-



**Poland desires not to rule the World or dominate the Seas—
She simply asks for Justice and Freedom—a Place in the Sun**

of European treaties. The position of the Poles to Russia, Prussia, and Austria, is not the relation of a grant, which is made between two parties and which may be broken off by one party. The relation of these parts of the old Republic of Poland to Russia, Prussia, and Austria, has the sanction of international law, and not of a Russian, Prussian, or Austrian State law. The Poles may not recognize that relation, because their assent to it was not asked; but no breach of that relation by the Poles can

VIEWS, (of January, 1906), from the Cracow PRZEGLĄD WSZECHPOLSKI (the Pan-Polish Review), — from all of which I have drawn liberally.

New York, April 7, 1910.

WACLAW PERKOWSKI.

(From the MEMOIR OF THE UNVEILING of Kosciuszko's Monument in Washington, D. C., May, 1910. Edited by Romuald Piłkowski.)

Varsovienne

Translated By KAROL SIENKIEWICZ
From CASIMIR DELAVIGNE

Karol Sienkiewicz was born in the Ukraine. Having finished his studies at Krzemieniec, he travelled with the Zamoyskis all over Europe, but spent most of his time in England and Scotland. Upon his return to Poland, he was given charge of the extensive library of Prince Adam Czartoryski at Pulawy. In 1830 he settled in Paris, where he established, with the help of Niemcewicz, a Polish historical library of 30,000 volumes. He translated Walter Scott's LADY OF THE LAKE, wrote an edition to Bentkowski's POLISH LITERATURE, AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRESENT STATE OF GREECE, in 1830, THE CHRONICLES OF THE POLISH EMIGRATION, 1835-38, in eight volumes, TREASURES OF POLISH HISTORY, in four volumes, 1839-42, a work in French, DOCUMENTS HISTORIQUES RELATIF A LA RUSSIE ET LA POLOGNE, in three volumes, in 1854, and also a Polish history text-book for the Polish high school at Batignolle. He died in Paris, in 1860.

Music of "Varsovienne"

Tempo marchiale.

Kurpiński.

1. O - to dziś dzień krwi i chwa - ły, o - by
2. Na koń wo - ła ko - zak mści - wy, kar - cię

1. dniem wskrze - sze - - nia był. W tę - cze
2. bun - ty pol - skich rot; Bez Bał -

1. Franków o - rzeł bia - ły, pa - trząc lot swój wnie - bo
2. ka - nów są ich ni - wy, wszystko zgniecie je - den

1. wzbił. Słońcem Lip - ca pod - nie - ca - ny wo - ła
2. lot! Stój! za Bał - kan pierś - ta sta nie, car wasz

1. na nas z górnych stron: po - wstań Pol - sko skrusz kaj -
2. ma - rzy pion - ny łup, z wro - gów na - szych nie zo -

1. da - ny, dziś twój try - umf al - - bo
2. sta - nie na tej zie - mi cby - ba

Tutti.

1. zgon. } Hej kto Po - lak na ba - gne - ty, żyj swo -
2. trup. }

1-2 bo - do Pol - sko żyj! Ta - kiem ha - słem cnej pod -

1-2. nie - ty tra - bo na - sza wro - gom

1-2. grzmij, tra - bo na - sza wro - gom grzmij!

Varsovienne

I.

Poles, awake! 'tis your day of glory;
 Arise, Oh, arise in your might!
 You will live in deathless story
 Should you fall in your country's fight.
 Where the rainbow in heaven is beaming
 As he basks in July's brilliant ray,
 Your white eagle's eye is gleaming
 As he calls to the glorious fray.

On, true Poles! See, the foe is before us!
 Sound the charge and the day is won!
 With our sacred banner spread o'er us,
 On for freedom and Poland, on!

II.

The fierce Cossack has mounted his legions,
 Our young freedom to crush in its birth;
 But soon o'er his mountain regions
 We'll trample his hopes in the earth.
 Barbarians! Your visions of booty,
 Though ye triumph, will soon be fled;
 For the Poles know a soldier's duty,
 And will leave you nought but the dead.
 On, true Poles! etc....

III.

Kosciuszko, arise! and aid us
 To root from the soil our foe,
 Who has promised, deceived, betrayed us,
 Steeping Praga in carnage and woe.
 Let the blood of the murderer flowing
 Enrich each grassy tomb,
 Where our flowerets of victory growing,
 Shall more gayly, more gorgeously bloom.
 On, true Poles! etc....

IV.

Parent land, thy children returning
 This day would deserve thy smile,
 Thy altars with wreaths adorning
 From the Kremlin, the Tiber, the Nile.
 Years have passed since each exiled brother
 His native land has pressed;
 Should he fall there now, oh, mother!
 On thy bosom he will sweetly rest.
 On, true Poles! etc....

V.

Gallant Poles, to the battle rally,
 To humble the tyrant czar!
 And in each heroic sally
 Bear the ring in the front of the war;
 Let that gift of our Poland's daughters
 Be the charm to freeze the foe,
 While gemmed in an hundred slaughters,
 Our symbol of victory will glow.
 On, true Poles! etc....

VI.

O ye French! what bloody arena
 Did the Poles shun in fighting for you?
 Was it Wagram, Marengo, or Jena,
 Dresden, Leipzig, or Waterloo?
 When the world had betrayed to enslave you,
 Did the Pole yield to the coward's fears?
 O brethren! our life-blood we gave you;
 In return you give us but tears.
 On, true Poles! See, the foe is before us!
 Sound the charge and the day is won!
 With our sacred banner spread o'er us,
 On for freedom and Poland, on!



Not of Mr. Herman Bernstein's Persuasion

On learning that Mr. B. Feigenbaum attended the Jewish meeting at Cooper Square, New York City — April 29th, at which the leading speaker was Arthur Hausner—Austrian government agent in this country and member of the Austrian Reichstag and leader of a fraction of the Polish Socialists, which formed legions to help Austria and Germany in their war, — Mr. Jasienski, editor of GWIAZDA WSCHODU, wrote to him and received the following reply:

Mr. Alexander M. Jasienski,
 984 Milwaukee Ave.,
 Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir—

In reply to your request will say that in the account of the Hausner Cooper Union meeting in my paper my speech was not reported. Neither was it reported correctly in any paper, in any language.

What I said, in substance, was this:

"Notwithstanding the persistent urging of my friends and comrades to appear as speaker at this meeting, I absolutely refused until last night. For I did not want my appearance to be construed as my identification with any of the present movements in Poland which strive to gain the Polish independence that we all wish for, by taking sides in the present war. At this distance I do not consider myself capable of judgment. As for my sentiment,

I am inclined to sympathize with that party of the Polish Socialist movement to which Felix Kohn belongs, and which takes a neutral stand in this war, remaining in decided opposition to all the governments concerned. As a Socialist, I am always against national wars and expect always more bad than good from them, no matter what side comes out victorious.

"But finally it occurred to me that my silence may be more falsely interpreted than my speaking. My persistent refusal to appear here may be made to signify that it was being influenced by the recent scandalous agitation of certain Jewish journalists against the Polish nation as a whole and its aspirations for national freedom. We all condemn this agitation! etc. etc.

Yours truly, B. FEIGENBAUM.

* * *

We take great pleasure in publishing this letter, as it comes from a socialist, who is honest and sincere. The position taken by the editor of the FORWARD is the correct one and the same as that of the Polish socialists, the "Social Democratic Party of Poland and Lithuania." Mr. Hausner represents only a small fraction of Polish socialists—a fraction which was usually on the German payroll.

Mr. Feigenbaum's stand towards Polish national aspirations deserves our particular praise and admiration.

Countrymen, I Beg Assistance

By SYROKOMLA

Ludwik Kondratowicz, who wrote under the pen-name of Syrokomla, was born in 1822, at Smolkow near Minsk. He received his elementary education at Nieswicz and Nowogrodek—higher schooling he had none. Having travelled over Poland, he took up his residence at Wilno and later at Warsaw. His poetical works are: CHIT-CHATS and FUGITIVE RHYMES, Wilno, 1853; BOKA REGENERATED, St. Petersburg, 1854; JOHN DEMBOROG, Warsaw, 1854; COTTAGE IN THE WOODS, and MARGIER, Wilno, 1855; DEATH OF ACERNUS, 1856; JOHNNIE CMENTARNIK, 1856; THE OLD GATE, EASTER THURSDAY, DAYS OF PENITENCE AND RESURRECTION, 1855; WANDERINGS IN MY DISTRICTS, ULAS, a war pastoral, 1858; SOPHIA, THE PRINCESS OF SLUCK, 1858; POETRY OF THE LAST HOUR, Warsaw, 1862; also his prose work, THE HISTORY OF POLISH LITERATURE, his beautiful translation of Beranger, and of the Polish Latin poets, such as Kochanowski, Sarbiewski, Janicki, and others.

He is one of the most popular lyric poets of Poland. His poetry is marked with simplicity of verse, purity of feeling, and a deep love of his Fatherland, of nature, of God, of man, of beauty in general. He died on the 15th of September, 1862.

Countrymen, I Beg Assistance

I

Countrymen, I beg assistance,
Trouble sorely has bereft me;
I must beg for my subsistence,
Since for toil but one hand's left me.

II.

Countrymen, in this land royal,
A poor wandering fellow-mortal,
A bold soldier, true and loyal,
Begs for aid without your portal.

III.

Both my aged parents leaving,
Leaving home and wife so cherished;
Leaving my poor children grieving,
Fought I where I might have perished.

IV.

On the battle-fields most gory
Fought I 'neath my country's banner;
Blood I've shed on fields of glory,
Now to beg beside your manor.

V.

Of my wealth a thief bereft me,
Storm and fire my home molested;
Brother, mother, wife have left me,
In the grave they long have rested.

VI.

'Neath a cruel fate's oppression,
Scorn and need with grim persistence

Leave me nothing in possession,
Save one hand to beg assistance.

VII.

Joy and hope no longer burning—
I but wander, wander ever,
For my native heath I'm yearning,
But I shall behold it—never.

VIII.

Some old friend my memory keeping,
Mayhaps thinks of me with longing;
Some perchance may fall to weeping,
Their sad thoughts toward me thronging.

IX.

Where steel clashed and balls were ringing
When I fought the foe, if only
Some swift ball from mercy winging
Had but stilled this heart so lonely.

X.

Sword in hand death would have found me
Fighting 'mid the leaden shower;
But to-day grief closes round me,
Which no weapon can o'erpower.

Music to "Pomoc dajcie mi, Rodacy"

The musical score is written in G major and 2/4 time. It features a melody with lyrics in Polish. The background illustration shows a man in a long coat and hat standing in a landscape with a building and a path. The title 'POMOC' is written in large letters above the music.

Modly
Pomoc dajcie mi, Rodacy
Bo o-krańny los miałe-że-ka
Ze-brać muszę bo do pra-cy
Je-dna zo-sta-ła mi ręk-a
Zio mek nędzarz bo-gacz wblizny
Głos bła-galiny do was wznosi
Musiał walczyć dla oj-czyzny
A dziś o jał-mużnę prosi

From San Antonio Texas

The anniversary of the passing of the Polish constitution was celebrated by Poles and Polish-Americans in St. Albert's Hall, on Wyoming Street, last night. Headed by a band, about three hundred persons in decorated automobiles and other vehicles paraded from the hall to St. Michael's Polish Catholic Church on South Street, where services were conducted by the Rev. Father Thomas Moczygemba.

The feature of the celebration was the exhibition of an original letter written by T. Kosciuszko, of Revolutionary War fame, to General White, a friend of the grandfather of Mrs. Stephen Kearny of this city, and read and shown to the assembled crowd by August A. Zizik. The letter by Mrs. Kearny presenting the souvenir epistle, throws light on General Kosciuszko, and is as follows:

"Our family has many souvenirs of General Kosciuszko, which we treasure with the greatest reverence. Names of Washington and Kosciuszko were always linked together in the traditions of our family as patriots of the noblest strain. General Kosciuszko and my great grandfather, General Anthony White, were firm friends meeting first at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. Their friendship was continued throughout that period, and again, after the partition of Poland and his release from a Russian prison, General Kosciuszko came to the United States, where for three months he visited his former comrade at arms. While in the home of General White, Kosciuszko, who had never fully recovered from his wounds, spent most of his time lying on a lounge playing with my grandmother's then little girl, and making sketches which he threw in the wastebasket as soon as finished. My grandmother rescued several of these, which we still have. General Kosciuszko exchanged with General White their badges of the Order of Cincinnati. This was a patriotic organization formed by the officers after the revolutionary War. The badge, a silver eagle on a blue and white ribbon, was worn by General Kosciuszko in his great struggle for liberty in his native land, and the ribbon is stained with his blood. After his visit to General White, General Kosciuszko went to Philadelphia, from where he wrote many letters showing his appreciation for the hospitality extended to him, and sending my great grandmother a lock of his hair and a ring which the then Duchess of Devonshire had given him.

"These souvenirs are distributed among the different members of my family, and I have treasured this lock of hair as the most valued of all, as it is a living part of one whose name was not born to die."

The letter written by General Kosciuszko is as follows:
"Philadelphia, 13th December.

"Madame—Could I express half so well in ideas and in so masterly manner as yours, I would write the inward sentiments of my heart so clear and convincing, that would not remain any doubt of my sincerity in the others breast if ever should be called in question through gratitude and reciprocity of affection, as I am not able to do by style I approach near the nature to truth which can point blame to the feelings. You was pleased to write me that you was happy in my company and in doing everything for me, but this shows only the good heart of yours and you do not grant the pardon for the trouble I gave you. When shall I have at least the analogy that you have found in me to the present I send you before is of equivocal conception, and may turn both ways. But not mistaking of my likeness, I send you this my uncertain fortune always up and down meeting in his way with difficulties and inconstancy.

"But however calm and giving welcome to every one, without hurting anybody always ready to give a bouquet or his bundle of flowers, accompanied with good wishes to all friends and enemies.

"Here follows a prescription for one Elisa:

"My best respects to Miss Elis. I do not use but the name of person but it is the object of pity and will be sympathized by so feeling heart. Send me a pardon, madame, in a form lawyer's parchment and signed by you.

"Yours. How I would write your humble and obedient servant friend. Let me see what more affectionate, with due respect, esteem. It is too cold, and a warm kiss.

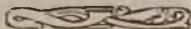
"T. KOSCIUSKO."

Judge Nelson Lytle spoke in English and reviewed the history of Poland, its disintegration. He lauded the heroes of Poland, particularly those who have played so prominent a part in the American wars.

Zigmund Stefanowicz made a talk in Polish, urging the members of the race to unite in the formation of a State federation that would be concerned with the uplift of the Polish race. As there are 15,000 Poles in Texas, the movement was launched to get as many as possibly identified with the federation that immigrants may be assisted, impoverished members of the race given temporary assistance, and similar charitable purposes.

A musical program, comprising duets, folk songs, and folk dances, was presented.

At the conclusion of the program, a liberal collection was taken up for the benefit of the unfortunates in Poland. The money will be sent to the Polish Relief Society in Chicago, which raises \$2,000,000 annually for the purpose. More than 600 persons attended.



An Appeal for Poland

An appeal for aid for stricken and oppressed Poland has reached America through F. A. Vanderlip, of the National City Bank, New York, who has consented to act as honorary treasurer for the American Polish national relief committee, to whom contributions may be made.

The appeal, written by I. J. Paderewski, is in part as follows:

"The present European war is on the eastern front raging exclusively over Polish soil. It is sweeping away every sign of civilization, destroying dwellings, devastating fields, gardens and forests, starving and exterminating human beings and animals alike. An area equal in size to the states of New York and Pennsylvania has been laid waste. Two hundred towns, fourteen hundred churches, seven thousand five hundred villages have been completely ruined. The losses in property destroyed, and in agricultural, industrial and commercial production brought to an absolute standstill, amount to \$2,500,000,000.

"A total of eighteen million inhabitants, including nearly two million Jews, are continuously enduring the horrors of this gigantic struggle. Only very few could flee to the places which are still holding their own against the aggressors; the great majority, almost eleven millions of helpless women and children, homeless peasant, unemployed workmen, the very essence and strength of a

nation, have been driven out into the open. Thousands and thousands are hiding among ruins, in woods or in hollows, feeding on roots and on the bark of trees.

"In the face of such disaster individual efforts must remain inefficient. Only a great wave of mankind's pity can surmount so immense a wave of human misery.

"Only a great, enlightened, generous nation can help effectually our perishing multitudes.

"Nobody knows better than I do the kindness and generosity of the American people. Ardent and prompt, warm-hearted, free-handed, they always respond with the enthusiasm of youth to everything that is true, sincere.

"Is there anything more true than human pain?

"Is there any more sincere than the cry for help from those who suffer?

"In the name of Christian charity, in the name of common humanity I, therefore, appeal to the great American people. They have already given much to other stricken nations; they may be tired of giving; yet I am certain that there is no soul in this noble country who will condemn me for asking, even before our thirst for liberty is relieved:

"Some bread for the Polish women and children!

"Some seed for the Polish farmers!"



Conscription—He will fight in the Interest of his Oppressors. From Grotzger's WAR (1866)

An Artist in Poland

(Sketches in Poland. Written and Painted by
Frances Delanoy Little. New York: Frederick A Stokes Co.)

The pictures in this volume have an enhanced interest because they represent what is now a vast battlefield.

The writer visits Cracow, Lwow, Warsaw, Danzig, the country districts of Galicia and Posen, and many places of which, until a few months ago, the general public never heard.

The volume was finished this year, but the writer has changed nothing. "I have neither exaggerated the bitterness of feeling that I found to exist among Poles against the German government," writes Miss Little, "nor tried to extenuate what I heard against the Russians," a statement obviously true and showing commendable re-

pression in an English writer. She finds the people to be sad rather than bitter, and she feels that if they were once freed from their oppressors, they would not be slow to forgive them. "It is part", says she, "of the strange spirituality and sweetness of their nature."

She describes many cruelties and declares that, far from improving, conditions grow worse from year to year. Perhaps the Poles may be the one people in the world to profit by the war. Following the author's sketches there is a brief history of an unfortunate country that no longer has scarcely even a place on the map.



Wit Stwosz, the blind Sculptor of Poland, with his Granddaughter.—The famous Polish sculptor, between 1438 and 1447 in Cracow, died in Nuereberg, 1533. His Masterpieces: the Large Altar in St. Mary's Cracow, and the Sarcophagus of Kazimierz Jagiellończyk in the Cracow Cathedral.

Poland's Former Fleet

DURING the time of Charles the Great, in Eastern Europe the Slavic people living on the edge of the sea were: On the South the Serbians and the Croats; in the North, on the shores of the Baltic, the Pomeranians, of Lechitic origin, later the Kasubes, the Velets or Luticks and the Obotrites (Wends).

The Pomeranians, with Prince Vidimir, are said to have attacked the Danish navy of the Baltic. In fact, the navy of the Obotrites and Luticks was fighting that of Denmark, Saxony and Germany. The Pomeranians very often destroyed the city of Lubeck inhabited by a German population.

When Poland began to crystallize into a state, the Poles more and more directed their attention to Pomerania, a province bordering on the Baltic.

It is certain that the first war with the Pomeranians occurred in the year 1001. Wladyslaw Herman, victorious many times, could not hold their territories permanently. His son, Boleslaw III. married Zbislava, the daughter of the Prince of Kiev. This insured safety from the side of the Ruthenians and Boleslaw could then send all his forces against the Pomeranians. He defeated them at the battle of Naklo, in 1109, and placed his cousin Swiatopelk in charge.

Boleslaw had great difficulty in converting the Pomeranians. He later with his army crossed to the other side of the Odra, conquered the Luticks, and finally, by means of his small fleet captured the Island of Rugia, and even proceeded farther, much to the dismay of the other Slavic tribes.

During this war peace was concluded with Nicolaus, king of Denmark. A marriage was arranged between Magnus, the son of Boleslaw, and the daughter of Nicolaus.

Some historians relate that the victories of Boleslaw had glorified him so much in the eyes of the Danes that they offered him their crown, which he refused. In spite of his victory and possession of Pomerania, the Poles had not established a strong fleet, contenting themselves with the privilege of free commerce. But the Pomeranians who had lost so much in the war with Poland, continually tried to shake off the Polish rule.

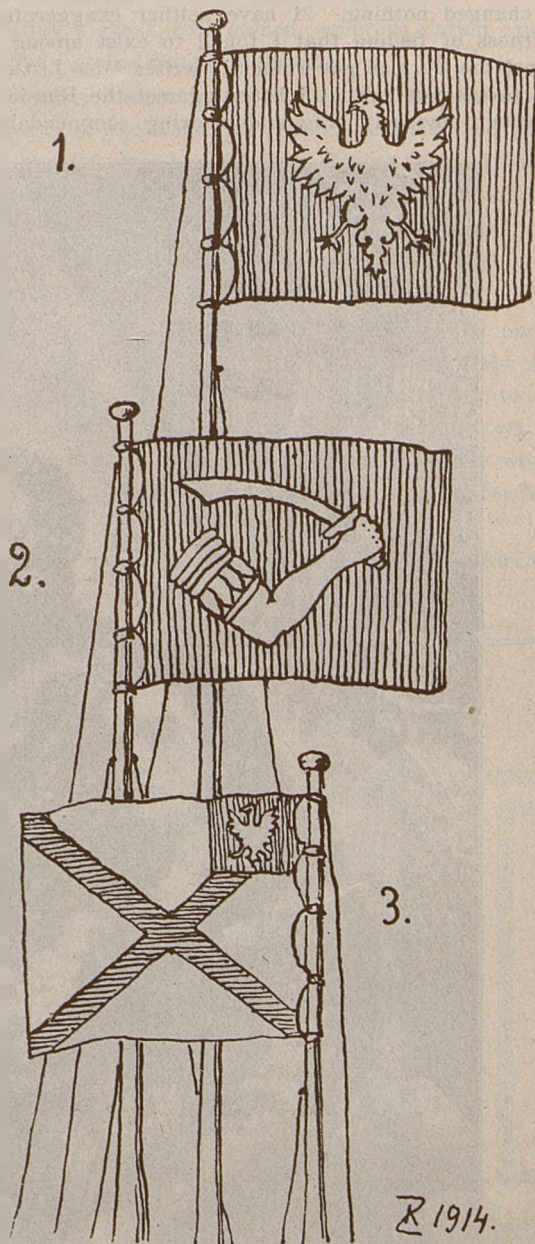
That forced King Leszek the White to send his troops there. He chose the Prince Swiatopelk as governor of Pomerania. Swiatopelk, ungrateful to the king, wanted to become an independent prince, and actually took part in the murder of Leszek.

The historian Dlugosz writes that Swiatopelk was celebrated for his forces on sea and land. He also related that Varcislav, prince of the Kasubes, fought with Swiatopelk and in the year 1259 sailed with his war-ships within sight of the town of Slupa.

In the year 1309, during the reign of Wladyslaw Lokietek the Knights of the Cross (Krzyżacy) conquered the Pomeranians; the town of Danzig was under their power, and so Poland was cut off from the sea for one and half century.

In 1410 the King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania, Wladyslaw Jagiello, defeated the Knights of the Cross at Grunwald, but in spite of their victory the Poles could not gain access to the sea. About 50 years later the war between the Knights of the Cross and Poland started anew. The Poles were victorious at Puck, on the 17th of September, 1462. In this war the Poles fought not only on land but also by sea. They had not their own fleet,

but that of the inhabitants of Danzig. In the year 1463, one mile away from Elblong there was fought a battle between the Poles and the Knights of the Cross. One thousand Knights and 600 soldiers were killed, and their ships were taken by the Poles and brought to Danzig. The Knights of the Cross requested the aid of the province of Inland, of the Knights of Livonia, but the Poles with



FLAGS OF THE POLISH FLEET

- 1—Flag of the National Fleet up to 18th Century
- 2—Flag of the Royal Fleet up to 18th Century
- 3—Flag of Polish Fleet from 18th Century on

the help of the inhabitants of Elblong completely destroyed their fleet.

The historian Czacki relates later King Casimir Jagielonczyk rewarded Danzig with the title of "Polish Admiral". In the XVI century this title belonged to the "Hetmans" commanding the navy.

In 1460 peace was concluded in the city of Torn, between Poland and the Knights of the Cross on these conditions: One part of the Kingdom of Prussia belonged to Poland, the western part to the Knights of the Cross, with their dependence on Poland. The Grand Master of the Knights was forced to pay homage to the Polish King, and assist with all his Knights in the Sovereign Council of the Polish Government. The clergy were under the protection of the Polish state.

This time Poland again secured the sea and made use of the Danzig fleet.

During the reign of Zygmunt the Old, the chief of the Knights, Albrecht of Brandenburg, refused to pay homage to the Polish king. Then the Polish fleet, numbering 5 ships, sailed for the port of Memel (Klajpeda), destroyed it, and defeated the German fleet, which had arrived to the aid of Albrecht. The Knights were obliged to make peace 10th of April, 1525, and Albrecht was compelled to take an oath of loyalty to the king of Poland.

One of the Grand Masters of Livonia, Frinsterberg, had quarreled with the Bishop of Riga, a cousin of the Polish King, and adopted Lutheranism. He took possession of the bishop's territory, whereupon King Zygmunt August declared war. As the warships of Danzig were not strong enough Zygmunt decided to create his own fleet. First, three ships were built flying the Polish flag, later nine more and then three; besides, the Prince of Koenigsberg, a suzerain of Poland, gave money for the building of three warships. Although the Polish fleet counted only 18 ships, it seems the number was adequate for the purposes of Poland. The largest of them had as many as 30 cannon.

The king nominated Thomas Serpinek as admiral of the fleet, and John Kostka, the "castellan" and revenue collector for Prussia, as "secretary of the navy." The sailors were recruited not only from the Polish people but also from the Kasubes, who being a maritime people, were expert seamen. Soon after the organization of the fleet the queen of England, the king of Denmark, the German princes and the inhabitants of Lubeck, entered a complaint with King Sigismund that the Polish fleet was holding up their ships.

On these ships arms and ammunition, destined for the Livonian Knights and for Czar Ivan IV. were confiscated. The king of Poland gave this reply to all complaints: "I have a right to interfere with the power of

my enemies to fortify themselves." As the inhabitants of Danzig also were displeased with the conduct of the Polish fleet, Admiral Serpinek seized their ships and converted them into battle-ships, but the king ordered the admiral to return the capture.

Once the merchants of Danzig arrested eleven drunken sailors, who had ventured to visit the town, and ordered them to be executed. On June 25, 1571, the inhabitants of Danzig in expiation of their deed apologized to the king and he pardoned them.

Recognizing finally the power of the Polish fleet the Hanseatic League (Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck, and others) chose Zygmunt August as their protector. Upon the completion of his war with the Livonians, Zygmunt August dismissed his sailors.

When Zygmunt August died the Frenchman Harry de Valois was elected king of Poland. He had promised before the election to build a fleet and join the seaport of Narva to Poland. The king reigned only five months and his promise was never fulfilled. His successor, Stefan Batory, fought on land and could not think of rebuilding the fleet in the full sense of the word. However, it is a matter of history that in 1577 he proclaimed at the time of the rebellion in Danzig the following: "To all my subjects:— "The navy is necessary to facilitate our war with Danzig, and therefore, we have charged Peter Kluczewski, holder of the crownland of Malagość, to form the said forces. We order our minister and secretary of the navy and the aldermen of the city of Elblong to stop our sailors from comporting themselves as pirates. I forbid the arresting of any other ships than those of Danzig. We command the sailors to guard the ships and respect all property of his Majesty the King of Sweden and his subjects, of the Hanseatic League, of the King of Denmark and his subjects, and to refrain from injuring either their ships or their sailors. Our ships must direct their activity only against the fleet of Danzig. All the belongings of this belligerent I present to our sailors and their captains. The captains and sailors shall be paid through Kluczewski. The owners of these ships shall be exempt from paying the toll.

"Written in the camp of Danzig on the 28th of July, 1577.
Stefan Batory."

(To be continued)

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Sensational Sales Success!

What others are doing YOU can do. Read these records: N. T. Smith, Ohio, \$90 weekly profit. Meyers, Wis., \$250 first month. Beasley, Nebr., \$35 profit first 4 hours. Newton, Calif., \$60 in 3 days. Mathias, Fla., \$120 in 2 days. Corrigan, N. Y., \$114 in 60 hours. C. H. Tremour, Ind., \$35 profit first 6 hours. W. F. Hincard, New Mexico, \$35 in 2 days. Average men, average sales, average towns. Undeniable Proof of the Big Money to be made by the hustlers everywhere. The Robinson Tub is badly wanted and eagerly bought.



This man, Rev. Otto Schulze, of Missouri, says: "Sales increasing. Made 7 sales in 8 calls. Sent 4th order yesterday for 50 Tubs." SALES \$1600 TO DATE. Minister of the Gospel, without previous experience, makes this record.

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No home barred—for the rich and the poor; for all homes without modern bathing facilities—Here is an absolutely new invention. Nothing else like it. Has taken the entire country by storm. Solves the bathing problem. Gives every home a modern, up-to-date bathroom in any part of the house. No plumbing, no waterworks needed. Take full length baths in any room; up stairs, down stairs, bed-room, sick-room, parlor, kitchen, any room in the house. The Robinson tub folds in small roll, handy as an umbrella. Rivals expensive bathroom. Constructed of the wonderful "Steeline" material. I tell you, it's GREAT! Remember it is needed in every home. Means modern bathing facilities for all the people. A godsend to humanity.

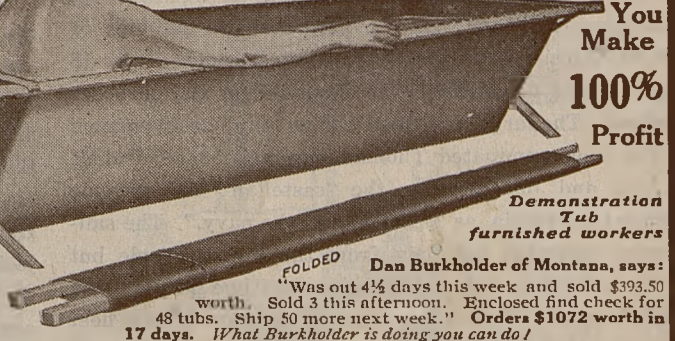
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(Manufactured
by old established
concern in business
22 years).



This is the Robinson Folding Bath Tub that is bringing cleanliness, health and happiness to thousands of homes—and thousands of dollars in profits to the lucky men who control exclusive territory. Write for your county TODAY.

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**SEE how it folds in
a roll. Takes up less
space than an ironing
board.**



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Dan Burkholder of Montana, says:
"Was out 4½ days this week and sold \$393.50 worth. Sold 3 this afternoon. Enclosed find check for 48 tubs. Ship 50 more next week." Orders \$1072 worth in 17 days. What Burkholder is doing you can do!

Tear Off This Coupon and Mail Now

Yes, sign this coupon right now. Don't send me a single penny. Don't send me any return postage. If you want this money-making job, just sign and mail the coupon. That is all I ask. By sending the coupon you give me the chance to prove every word I have said. Let me prove every statement. Let me tell you the whole enthralling, ambition-awakening story of a tremendous world-wide success. Will you do this? Of course you will. Sign and mail the coupon NOW!

This is Chancy—A Hustler. Sold \$4,000 worth of our goods in 5 weeks. No, he's not a genius, not a wizard-worker, not a "miracle man." Just an everyday American like you and me—but a hustler from his head to his toes. He started just as you will start. What he has done you can do.

Join Robinson's Army of Money-Making Agents—Get Exclusive Sales Rights on the Famous Folding Bath Tub

Yes, join the many agents who are making bigger money than they ever did before. You don't need to quit your regular job right now. Try the business out evenings, Saturday afternoons, whenever you have a little spare time. See that all I tell you is so. Then quit your job. Say good-bye to the time-clock; say good-bye to grinding work and meagre pay. I know after one week of spare time effort, you will be eager to devote all your time to my splendid proposition. You will be enthused, positively amazed at your wonderful success.

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