



ARTICLES

Ksenya Kiebusinski

Slavic Resources Coordinator

Head, Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre, University of Toronto

Toronto, Canada

ksenya.kiebusinski@utoronto.ca

Rare Polonica at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto

Abstract: This article describes a collection of rare Polonica, numbering over five hundred books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and prints and engravings, donated to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library in 2001 by Karol Godlewski and his family. The donor's uncle, Count Emeryk Hutten Czapski (1897–1979), assembled the extraordinary collection. The material includes works written, edited, or translated by Polish authors. The publication dates range from 1505 to the mid-1970s, with two hundred titles predating 1801. The subject matter ranges from texts written by Terence and Plutarch to biographies of Polish kings, details of famous battles, and poetry. There are also etchings of Polish personages, palaces, landscapes, or battle scenes, many of artistic importance.

Keywords: Emeryk Hutten Czapski (1897–1979), Polonica, Rare books, Émigré collections in Canada

Słowa kluczowe: Emeryk Hutten Czapski (1897–1979), polonika, rzadkie książki, kolekcje emigrantów w Kanadzie

In September 1939, Emeryk Hutten Czapski, a 42-year-old former chief administrator (*starosta*) of the town of Stołpce (Стоўбцы), on the eastern border shared between the Second Polish Republic and the Soviet Union, and recent deputy to the Polish *Sejm* representing the Nowogródek Voivodeship, fled his estate in Synkowice (Сынковічы), near Słonim (Слонім). Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union had divided Poland between themselves in accordance with the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, a treaty of non-aggression signed between the foreign ministers of the two states on August 23, 1939, which included a secret protocol defining their respective spheres of influence within East-Central Europe. Czapski's ancestral estates thus fell under the authority of the Byelorussian SSR. Emeryk was the son of Karol Hutten Czapski (1860–1904), a former mayor of Mińsk, and the grandson of Emeryk Zachariasz Hutten Czapski (1828–1896), a past high-level imperial Russian civil servant, as well as a famous numismatist and book collector whose coins and medals and splendid library were donated to the city of Kraków¹. Emeryk shared not only his grandfather's name, but also his interests. He was an ardent biblio- and cartophile. However, on that September day, Czapski had no time to save or relocate his library and map collection in the face of the collapsing front lines of Polish defense and the incoming Soviet armed forces plundering estates and attacking landowners. Czapski was a target for repression; he descended from wealthy nobility (*szlachta*) and held intensely anti-communist views for which he had been targeted with assassination years earlier. He was forced to leave his ancestral home and its treasured library to live in exile.

Just before leaving, Czapski took down from one of his manor's walls a cherished keepsake to carry with him: a rare sixteenth-century Gerard de Jode map of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. This map, bearing the likeness of King Stefan Batory in the lower-left corner, was printed presumably in 1576². Czapski kept the rare map with him throughout his travels in Europe, and, later, in North Africa, and it formed the basis of a comprehensive collection of maps and engravings related to Poland, as well as a significant collection of early and rare Polish books and pamphlets. What follows is a history of the

1 Emeryk Zachariasz Hutten Czapski's library was housed on the family estate in Stankovo, within a separate building (*skarbnik*), a two-story square pavilion resembling a mini castle. At one time, it held nearly 20,000 volumes, including 329 editions printed during the Jagiellonian era and 270 books with autographs. Most of the Polonica was gifted to Kraków; the rest remained in the family until World War I. See: T.I. Roshchina, *Sud'ba knizhnykh sobranii roda Gutten-Chapskikh, Istoricheskii blog o Gutten-Chapskikh*, [online] <https://czapski.by/sudba-knizhnyh-sobranij-roda-gutten-chapskikh/> [accessed 14.05.2023].

2 On the question of dating de Jode's three maps of Poland, 1576, 1578, and 1593, see: J. Łuczynski, *Problem datacji map Polski Gerarda de Jode z drugiej połowy XVI wieku*, "Polski Przegląd Kartograficzny" 2006, vol. 38, no. 2, pp. 133–144.

latter, the Emeryk Hutten Czapski Collection of Rare Polonica, which is now housed at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library in Toronto³.

The Donee: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto

The contents of E. Hutten Czapski's map collection, numbering over 760 sheets, including the de Jode map (complete with a trace of a fold in the middle which could date from his escape from Poland)⁴, is more widely known thanks to a catalogue prepared by Wojciech Kret, in collaboration with the Institute of Geography of the Polish Academy of Sciences in 1978⁵. Kret described the many maps in the collection dating from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. After Czapski passed away in 1979, his nephew, Karol Godlewski (1921–2008), sold the cartographic collection to the Government of Poland for 150,000 USD. The maps were housed in the Princes Czartoryski Museum and Library, National Museum in Kraków⁶. But what was the fate of Czapski's book collection, and his personal archives documenting his contacts with antiquarian book dealers, and, more importantly, his activities on behalf of Poland and Poles?

His niece, Izabella Godlewska de Aranda (1931–2018), donated Czapski's papers to an institute in Poland. The books went to her older brother, K. Godlewski. Karol and Izabella were the children of Emeryk's younger sister, Fabianna Hutten-Czapska (1895–1974), and Józef Godlewski (1890–1968). K. Godlewski immigrated to Canada in 1952. In retirement from his work with Massey-Ferguson (a Canadian-British agricultural machinery manufacturer based in Toronto), Karol, and his wife Marie-Christine (1925–2017), lived in their home, which they named Godlewo after the Polish settlement from which came the Godlewski family. Their house was located south of Barry's Bay, a small community in Ontario, to the west of Ottawa. The nearby communities of Kaszuby, Wilno, and Siberia, reference this area's original settlers who came around 1858 from Poland, many of them from the region of Kashubia. K. Godlewski designed "Godlewo" to accommodate his uncle's vast library.

3 The complete holdings of the E. Hutten Czapski collection can be viewed by searching by call number for the shelf-listing code "hutt" at <https://uoft.me/a1c>. The results can then be sorted chronologically by date of publication or alphabetically by author or title.

4 E. Balzamo, *Le 'heureux hasard': à propos de la redécouverte de la Carta marina*, "Journal of Northern Studies" 2008, vol. 1, p. 76.

5 W. Kret, *Katalog dawnych map Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w kolekcji Emeryka Hutten Czapskiego i w innych zbiorach*, Wrocław 1978.

6 A. Broż, *Emeryk Hutten Czapski, Jr (wspomnienia sekretarza)*, "Prace Komisji Historii Nauki PAU" 2014, vol. 13, p. 126.

Richard Langdon (1942–2011), Director of the Fisher Library, visited the Godlewskis upon their invitation in spring 2001 to view the collection of books and prints relating to Poles and European culture. Langdon described the E. Hutten Czapski collection being “unlike any other” he had ever encountered. He saw “sixteenth- and seventeenth-century editions of Renaissance texts, in Italian and Latin, but edited by Polish scholars whose Latinized names made them barely recognizable” as well as “many engraved portraits of Polish notables and scenes of grand parades”. This visit to Barry’s Bay was followed by a reciprocal trip by Karol and Marie-Christine Godlewski to Toronto in September 2001, at which time the donors reached an agreement to gift the Hutten Czapski collection to the University of Toronto Libraries⁷.

The collection of rare Polonica was packed by R. Langdon and his wife, Marie Korey (librarian of the Robertson Davies Library at Massey College). Twenty cartons of material arrived in Toronto in October 2001, where Luba Frastacky, the Fisher Library’s Rare-Book Librarian and Gifts Coordinator – and daughter of Rudolf Fraštacký (1912–1988), a Slovak economist, financier, entrepreneur, and domestic and in-exile politician, as well as activist in the Czechoslovak resistance during World War II – unpacked and inventoried the Czapski gift material. She then spent the next five to six years cataloguing the publications and describing the manuscripts and prints, about 700 items, appraised at over 800,000 CAD.

The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library is a well-suited repository for the Hutten Czapski collection. This library holds rare books, manuscripts, maps, architectural plans, and graphic art. It opened its doors in 1973, housing material previously kept in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, organized in 1955, at the former main library. The repository is named in honor of Thomas Fisher (1792–1874), an immigrant from Yorkshire to Upper Canada who operated a grist mill on the Humber River and who played an active role in the public life of the community. In 1973, his descendants – great-grandsons Sidney T. and Charles Fisher – donated to the University of Toronto Libraries their collections of Shakespeare, English antiquities and topography, twentieth-century English authors, and seventeenth-century etchings and plates by the Bohemian artist, Wenceslaus Hollar. At the time, their gift constituted the greatest single donation to the library.

In the past fifty years, the Fisher Rare Book Library has grown from 40,000 volumes to approximately 800,000 volumes and 4,500 linear metres of archival manuscript holdings, with material dating from a 1789 B.C. Babylonian cuneiform tablet from Ur to printed works of contemporary Canadian writers and small-press publishers. The rare book and manuscript holdings cover a wide

7 R. Langdon, *In Memoriam. Karol Godlewski*, “The Halcyon” 2008, vol. 4, pp. 9–10.

range of subject areas. The greatest strengths are in the fields of Canadiana, British and European literature, the history of science and medicine, philosophy, book history, Hebraica and Judaica, and theology. There are specialized collections on Galileo, Rousseau, Charles Darwin, Lewis Carroll, Greek papyri, Italian libretti, French revolutionary pamphlets, Canadian socialist movements, and the Spanish Civil War⁸. The library also holds large and important Slavic collections, including material on the political development of Czechoslovakia from the 1930s to the 1968 Prague Spring; documents and publications by members of “Solidarność” and other workers’ movements in Poland; Russian samizdat and independent press; and books and periodicals published by Belarusian and Ukrainian refugees living in displaced persons’ camps in Austria and West Germany after the Second World War.

The Collector: Emeryk Hutten Czapski

When E. Hutten Czapski fled his familial estate in Belarus in 1939, he left behind a promising political career associated with agriculture, forestry, and finance. Raised a patriot to his people and country, Czapski completed studies at the Benedictine boarding school of Ettal, in Bavaria, Germany, and continued his education at the Law Institute of St. Petersburg, Russia. With the outbreak of the Russian Revolution, he returned home and held several positions of increasing responsibility during the interwar period, serving as secretary of the Association of Poles from the Belarusian *Kresy* (1918–1919); chief administrator (*starosta*) of the town of Stolpce (1921–1923); and chair of the Association of Landowners of Słonim (1925–1931). Czapski was elected to the *Sejm*, representing Nowogródek Voivodeship from 1930 to 1935 and from 1935 to 1938. While a deputy, Hutten Czapski chaired the Joint Parliamentary Forestry Commission and worked to pass a law on the Indivisibility of Farms Act.

In 1939, with the incorporation of Nowogródek Voivodeship into the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, and in an atmosphere of terror, Czapski packed a few belongings into a car and drove out of his homeland and went on to lead a life of exile. However, he never forgot his identity, reminding people who addressed him in Russian to write in Belarusian, “Because it is the language of our homeland”, and for decades making use of a cherished typewriter with Belarusian keys, which he took with him when fleeing⁹. After passing through Lithuania and Sweden, Czapski eventually arrived in Angers, France, where he joined the Polish government-in-exile. He worked to provide legal and consular support for wartime refugees. He went to North Africa in 1941 and

8 *The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library: A Brief Guide to the Collections*, Toronto 1982.

9 A. Broż, op. cit., p. 117.

remained there until late 1943, leading several military-diplomatic missions and supervising the regrouping of the Polish military in the region. In 1944, Czapski arrived in England, where he headed the Administrative Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and then advised the Polish Military Mission at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force at the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In this assignment, he traveled with the allied forces to central Europe, before eventually arriving in Italy, where he remained until his death in 1979¹⁰.

Czapski's Roman period allowed him to resume his interests in the history of Poland. He began collecting maps, engravings, historical documents, and books related to Polish lands. Although he acquired different formats of material, he considered the cartographic portion of his collection most valuable, and the rest was merely "a hodgepodge" (*zbieranina*). He greatly undervalued his library, since as many as 40 titles within it are not recorded in Estreichers' *Bibliografia Polska*. From his home in Rome, Czapski easily traveled to cities throughout France, the Netherlands, Great Britain, and the Federal Republic of Germany. He had a network of friends, antiquarian dealers, and favorite restaurants and hotels. Inevitably, while visiting some city, he would visit its antique and rare-book shops, asking the dealers questions about their stock of Polonica. Should they have something to sell, the astute customer would negotiate the price to a more reasonable sum, and then, once the transaction was complete, go to celebrate the purchase over a fine dinner. Czapski was assisted in his collecting by his long-time secretary, Adam Broż, who for over a decade browsed and marked up catalogs of antiquarian and auction houses with Polish entries for his employer¹¹.

Czapski amassed a sizeable collection of Polonica at his modest quarters in Rome. He balanced his acquisition trips with the charitable and humanitarian activities he carried out on behalf of Polish culture and scholarship as President (and, briefly, Grand Chancellor) of the Polish Knights of Malta. Czapski's several-room apartment on the top floor of 57, Viale dei Quattro Venti, had one room dedicated to maps, while the walls of other rooms were filled either with paintings and engravings or with shelves full of books, often in fine bindings. Scattered about were priceless memorabilia, such as old porcelain and silverware, including the remains of a set belonging to King Stanisław Leszczyński. Visitors had to move carefully from room to room among the shelves, crates,

10 For further biographical details, see: M. Smogorzewska, *Posłowie i senatorowie Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej 1919–1939: słownik biograficzny*. Vol. 2, Warszawa 2000, pp. 250–52; *Emeryk Hutten Czapski, 1897–1979: szkic biograficzny i wspomnienia współczesnych*, [E. Borowski et al.], Londyn 1986; and L. Czubik, *A Biography of Count Emeryk Hutten Czapski*, "The Halcyon" 2003, vol. 31, pp. 8–9.

11 A. Broż, op. cit., pp. 120–21.

and stacks of papers, looking for a spot to sit, with the furniture covered with the collector's items in apparent disarray¹².

Between 1962 and 1970, Czapski divested himself of some material and donated a portion of his collection of engravings and old prints to the National Museum in Kraków. They received 155 engravings, among them, views of Kraków, Wiśnicz, Przemyśl, and portraits of Copernicus and other Polish personages of note, by fifteenth- to seventeenth-century artists such as Albrecht Dürer, Agostino Carracci, Robert Nanteuil, Samuel Baron von Pufendorf, Gérard Edelinck, Georg Braun and Frans Hogenberg, Daniel Niklaus Chodowiecki, Jean-Pierre Norblin, and others. Czapski also gifted a copy of Ambrosius Calepinus' lexicon-folio *Dictionarium* (Lyon 1586), with vernacular Polish added to this edition posthumously by later scholars and editors. This gift was accompanied by a letter from the donor advising that "It would be interesting to explain who among the Poles helped the publisher of this great dictionary"¹³.

The Collection

Overview

The original gift by the Godlewski family of the E. Hutten Czapski collection of books and engravings to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library comprised 697 items (436 books and manuscripts; 261 engravings), ranging in date from 1501 to the mid 1970s.¹⁴ The material was either printed in Poland within its historic borders; or, printed elsewhere in Europe but relating to that area by virtue of Polish authorship or printing, subject matter, or publication in the Polish language. Two hundred of the books were published prior to 1801: 46 titles in the sixteenth century; 82 in the seventeenth century; and 72 in the eighteenth century. There are no *incunabula*. The language of these early books are as follows: 72 are in Latin, 43 in Italian, 34 in French, 24 in Polish, 17 in German, and the rest are in English, Greek, Russian, and Swedish. Place of publication was equally diverse: 22 titles in Venice, 21 in Rome, 16 in Paris, 15 in Warsaw, 14 in Kraków, 8 in Amsterdam, 6 in Cologne, and the rest elsewhere. The

12 S.A. Morawski, *Działalność rzymska Emeryka Czapskiego*, [in:] *Emeryk Hutten Czapski, 1897–1979...*, p. 52; M. Kocójowa, *Pamięci zasłużonego kolekcjonera*, "Życie literackie" 1979, no. 9, p. 12.

13 M. Kocójowa, *Związki Emeryka Hutten Czapskiego z Muzeum Narodowym w Krakowie*, [in:] *Emeryk Hutten Czapski, 1897–1979...*, pp. 41–44.

14 The Godlewski family made several subsequent donations, mostly nineteenth-century Polish books and pamphlets, in 2003, 2007, and 2009. The 2007 gift includes a significant collection of seventeenth-century books published by the Elzevir family of Dutch publishers and printers, along with ones printed by Jan Jansson, Willem Janszoon Blaeu, and Ioannis Maire.

nineteenth-century titles (over 200) are predominately in Polish or French and published in Warsaw or Paris. Featured prominently are literary titles from the series Polish People's Library (Biblioteka Ludowa Polska) published by the Luxembourg Bookstore in Paris.

Forty of the early printed titles are not recorded in Karol Estreicher's *Bibliografia polska*. According to comparative searches done in WorldCat, with results limited to Canadian and American members, 79 titles in the collection are not held by any other libraries in North America; 25 titles are held by one other library in Canada or the United States; and the remaining 96 titles are held by two or more North American libraries. Of the titles described in Janina Hoskins' 1973 bibliography of fifteenth – to seventeenth-century Polish imprints in American libraries¹⁵, only 38 titles from the E. Hutten Czapski collection are listed there. Only eight titles overlap with those documented in the holdings of the New York Public Library by Robert H. Davis in 2001¹⁶.

The books that seemed to capture Czapski's greatest interest were ones on the reigns of Sigismund I (1506–1548), Henry (1573–1575), Sigismund III (1587–1632), Władysław IV (1632–1648), John III Sobieski (1674–1696), Augustus II (1697–1706), and Stanislaus I (1704–1709 and 1733–1736); and the military history of the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648), Battle of Khotyn (1621), the Second Northern War (1655–1660), the Battle of Vienna (1683), the Siege of Danzig (1734), and Seven Years' War (1756–1763). There are many titles covering the history and politics and government of eighteenth-century Poland, as well as ones on the fate of Poland during the nineteenth century following three partitions of the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth. Polish Romantics are well represented, too, with works, largely published in Paris, by Adam Mickiewicz, Juliusz Słowacki, Henryk Rzewuski, Michał Czajkowski, and poets of the Ukrainian School of Polish Romanticism, Antoni Malczewski, Seweryn Goszczyński, Aleksander Groza, and Bohdan Zaleski.

The graphic material comprises portraits of Polish kings, queens, and generals, leaders of the Cossack Hetmanate, and important cultural figures, such as the historians Joachim Lelewel and Leonard Chodźko and the composer Frédéric Chopin. There are engravings of cityscapes and landscapes, peoples of Poland, and scenes of famous battles. The more valuable items include portraits by French, German, Dutch, and English engravers of the following notables: Henri III by Thomas de Leu; Sigismund III by Peter Isselburg; Władysław IV by Renold Elstracke; John III Sobieski by Nicolas de Larmessin; Nikolai

15 J.W. Hoskins, *Early and Rare Polonica of the 15th-17th Centuries in American Libraries*, Boston 1973.

16 *Rare Polonica in The New York Public Library : Books of the 15th-18th Centuries*, ed. M. Czapnik, based on materials compiled by R.H. Davis, Jr., New York 2001.

Christopher Radziwiłł by Lucas Kilian; Augustus III by Johann Elias Ridinger; Adam Kazanowski by Willem Hondius; and Johann Melchior Dinglinger by J.G. Wolfgang (after Antoine Pesne).

Highlights

Czapski acquired exceptional examples of Polish historical works. His collection includes books by sixteenth – and seventeenth-century historians, such as Maciej of Miechów, Justus Ludwik Decjusz, Marcin Bielski, Marcin Kromer, Aleksander Gwagnin, Abraham Bzowski, Stanisław Łubieński, and Szymon Starowolski. Literary works of the Renaissance and Baroque periods include Andrzej Krzycki's anti-Lutheran satire *Encomia Luteri* (Cologne 1524), and Maciej Kazimierz Sarbiewski's collections of poetry *Lyricorum libri III* (Vilnius 1628) and *Lyricorum libri IV* (Antwerp 1634). The Enlightenment period is well represented by the poetry, fables, and novels of Ignacy Krasicki: *Monachomachia* (Warsaw 1778), *Antymonachomachia* (Warsaw 1778?), *Bajki i przypowieści* (Warsaw 1779), *Satyry* (Warsaw 1779), and *Historia* (Warsaw 1779). The Czapski collection also includes a Polish translation of a selection of fables by Jean de La Fontaine, translated from the French by Wojciech Jakubowski (Warsaw 1774).

Books that are unique to the North American continent include panegyrics, prayers, speeches, and other pamphlets, for example, a collection of documents about nobility from Ostróg (Ostroh) (Warsaw 1754?), and the text of the pact concluded between Matthias, the Holy Roman Emperor, and King Sigismund III (Ölsen 1616). Among the few dozen items not described in the Estreicher Polish bibliography are the following pamphlets: a copy of a letter written in Warsaw and addressed to Venice, commissioned by the bookseller Lodovico Dozza, describing the assassination attempt against the life of Sigismund III in 1620, and the subsequent trial and execution of the assassin (Bologna 1621); a report from Duke von Friedland, the supreme commander of the Imperial Army of the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II during the Thirty Years' War, on victory achieved against King Gustavus Adolphus in Prussia (Milan 1629); and a poem by Giuseppe Guazzugli on the defeat of the Ottoman army in Vienna by the combined military forces of the Holy Roman Empire and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (Pesaro 1683).

Among the prints there is a broadsheet dated 10 February 1559 announcing the Peace of Cateau-Cambrésis, which marked the end of the long struggle between France and Spain for the control of Italy. Another image of note is a preparatory drawing by Antoni Zaleski for a lithograph by Adolphe Bayot illustrating Jan Chryzostom Pasek's *Memoirs (Pamiętniki)*. The drawing includes marginalia in pen and ink, in French, which suggest that they were instructions to the lithographer Bayot. The Czapski collection has both the drawing and the

lithograph from the Album de Wilna series. There is also a graphic-art portfolio, published in 1899, titled *Quatorze Eaux-Fortes*, by the Polish impressionist painter, Józef Pankiewicz. The portfolio consists of landscape motifs from Paris, Chartres, Rouen, Rome, and Venice.

Finally, it is worth mentioning in brief the eight manuscript donated from the Czapski collection to the University of Toronto. The oldest dates from 1577 and is based on a work published in Rome by the heirs of Antonio Blado, and is preceded by a request from Stefan Batory, King of Poland, to the faculty of the Kraków (Jagiellonian) University to create a conversion table for the calendar (*Hemerologia*). In another manuscript, dated 1750, Augustus III appoints Ranuccio Cherofini and his wife, Franceska Gherardi, together with their legitimate heirs, as count and countess of Lithuania, conferring on them a revised coat of arms topped with the white eagle of Poland. The Czapski collection also includes *Dialogues sur le partage de la Pologne*, which is a French adaptation by Joseph-Mathias Gérard de Rayneval of Theophilus Lindsey's *The Partition of Poland*. This manuscript is written in a single hand in French, in brown ink, and could have served as the basis for the published translation issued in London circa 1775, or it could be a later inscription. The most recently dated manuscript item dates to 1880. It is in fact a portfolio entitled *Album Pokucia*, by Juliusz Dutkiewicz, a nineteenth-century Galician photographer, who assembled a collection of his work – scenes of mountains, towns, castles, ruins, villages, as well as portraits of local peoples of Pokuttia and parts of Bukovina – that he had displayed at the ethnographic exposition organized by the Tatra Society in Kołomyia.

As for the manuscripts described in 1979 by Maria Kocójowa, a professor and international expert in the field of library and information science – the handwritten letter signed by Cardinal Stanisław Hozjusz, the autographs of Władysław IV, the invoice issued to Henry Valois during his short stay in Kraków, and the letter from Queen Victoria – these are not found in the Czapski collection and may have been given to the National Museum¹⁷.

Provenance

Most, if not all, of the books in the Emeryk Hutten Czapski Collection of Rare Polonica carry the bookplates of E. Hutten Czapski and K. Godlewski, bearing the Leliwa coat of arms (with a crescent moon, horns pointed upwards, above which is a six-pointed star), with the initials “EC” [Emeryk Czapski], and the “Ex Libris Godlewo”. However, a preliminary and cursory survey of the books also reveals further provenance history that merits greater study.

17 M. Kocójowa, *Pamięci...*, p. 12.

There are at least four items that once belonged to the Zahiniec Library (*Biblioteka Zahiniecka*): the first illustrated work in Poland, Jan Łaski's *Statutes*, printed by Johann Haller (Kraków 1506); the second edition of Maciej of Miechów's history and geography of Poland (Kraków 1521); a Catholic liturgy (Kraków 1545); and a book on Orthodox monastic asceticism (Ostroh 1594). Hieronymus Vietor, an important and prolific printer in Poland, published Maciej of Miechów's *Chronica Polonorum* and the missal. The Zahiniec volumes formerly belonged to the Urbanowski and Starzyński families. They were of Polish nobility from the Podolia region (Поділля, in Ukraine). The origins of this library date to the late eighteenth century when it passed from the hands of Wincenty Potocki to the brothers Szczęśny and Bolesław Potocki. Subsequently, the library and the numismatic collections of W. Potocki were bought by Krzysztof Urbanowski, who, on his death in 1830, passed them on to his brother Antoni. When A. Urbanowski died in 1842, the collections became the property of his grandnephew, Edward Starzyński from Zahińce, and then Edward's son Bolesław. It was B. Starzyński who named the library after the village of Zahińce (Заринці, located south of the city Khmelnytskyi). He added a book plate to the volumes bearing the Doliwa family coat of arms encircled by a band with the words *Biblioteka Zahiniecka*. In 1917, Zahińce was destroyed. The book collection, estimated to number between 16–20,000 volumes, was either dispersed or confiscated and incorporated into the National Library of Ukraine¹⁸.

Other items of notable provenance are three books from the collection housed at Nordkirchen castle (*Schloss Nordkirchen*), near Münster in North Rhine Westphalia. These include a Latin translation of Prince Mikołaj Radziwiłł's accounts of his pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Antwerp 1614); Jakub Sobieski's commentaries on the Battle of Chocim (Khotyn) of 1621 (Gdańsk 1646); and Andrzej Maksymilian Fredro's work on the history of the Polish nation under Henry Valois (Gdańsk 1652). The books may have been part of the original library owned by Count Ferdinand de Plettenberg. The volumes include bookplates that combine the Plettenberg and Esterhazy-Galantha coats of arms. This superb library was eventually passed down to Engelbert-Karl, the 10th duke of Arenberg, who began selling off the ducal library in 1951 through anonymous sales in Brussels by the antiquarian Paul van der Perre.

Czapski's collection of early Polonica was supplemented from the dispersal of several other magnificent libraries. His copy of Marcin Bielski's *Kronika polska* (Kraków 1597) once belonged to the Łańcut Library (*Biblioteka Łańcucka*)

18 Oksana Rabczun describes the fate of this library in her article: *Rodowa biblioteka Urbanowskich i Starzyńskich*, "Z Badań nad Książką i Księgozbiorami Historycznymi" 2009, vol. 3, pp. 197–209.

housed at the former residence of the Lubomirski and Potocki families. The collection was largely organized by Stanisław Lubomirski and augmented by his wife Izabela (née Czartoryska), which was then donated to her son-in-law, Stanisław Potocki, before being inherited by Alfred Wojciech Potocki and then Alfred Józef Potocki¹⁹. The bookplate *Biblioteka Łańcucka*, with the Pilawa coat of arms dates to Alfred Józef's period. Czapski's copy of *Kronika polska* includes the following inscription addressed to him by Alfred Józef's grandson, Jerzy Potocki, dated November 1960 in Geneva: "Kochanemu Emerykowi Czapskiemu! Prezesowi naszego związku z wyrazami czci i hołdu w dowód starej przyjaźni". J. Potocki was a Polish nobleman, captain of the cavalry and diplomat, and son of Roman Potocki and Elżbieta Matylda Radziwiłł.

There are books with other provenance. A selection of books, mentioned in parentheses, came from the following libraries: Jean-Louis Routier du Parc of Normandy (a translation of *Description de la Livonie* by Baron Karl Johann von Blomberg, Utrecht 1706); the Starhemberg Family Library at Eferding Castle in Upper Austria (*Journal historique de la campagne de Dantzick en 1734* by Anne-Gabriel Meusnier de Querlon, Amsterdam 1761); Józef Weyssenhoff, a Polish novelist, poet, literary critic, and publisher (*Dom nadwierzanej Rzeczypospolitej* by Franciszek Stanisław Kostka Hutten-Czapski, 1783); Sir Francis Freeling, Secretary of the British General Post Office (a translation of *The Odes of Casimire* by M.K. Sarbiewski, London, 1646); the Castle in Espas, probably from the time of Count Henri Bégouën (*Description d'Ukraine* by Guillaume Le Vasseur de Beauplan, Rouen 1660); and Marco Antonio Borghese, prince of Sulmona and a politician and dignitary of the city of Rome (*Relazione del Trattamento fatto nella S. Casa e Città di Loreto alla Maestà di Maria Casimira, Regina di Polonia, di passaggio alla volta di Roma*, Rome 1699). Hugh S. Gibson, an American diplomat who served as first American minister plenipotentiary to Poland in the chaotic postwar years from 1919 to 1924, gifted Czapski a copy of Adam Freitag's book on fortifications, *Architectura militaris nova et aucta* (Leiden 1635), in 1921, with a personal dedication.

E. Hutten Czapski also had the odd surprise to (re)acquire a book from his grandfather's library. In 1956, the volume *Oratio ecclesiasticae* by Stanisław Sokołowski (Kraków 1632) came into his possession. The inside cover of the book bears the ex libris "Comitis Emerici Hutteni Czapski", with the Leliwa-family coat of arms, as well as a label from Cezary Wilanowski's Antiquarian Bookstore in Warsaw. Presumably, E. Hutten Czapski the elder purchased the volume from Wilanowski prior to the bookseller's death in 1893.

19 Bielski's book does not appear in the castle library's inventory compiled in 1757 (Catalogus bibliothecae Lancutensis, Stanislai principis Lubomirski, 1757) or in the one from 1832 (Catalogue de la bibliothèque à Lancut de Son Excellence Monsieur le comte Alfrede [sic] Potocki, 1832).

The book was not part of the collection Czapski's grandfather donated to the city of Kraków in 1894 and which formed the basis of the National Museum there. Below his grandfather's ex libris, Emeryk Hutten Czapski the younger recorded the following note: "This book belonged to my grandfather Emeryk Czapski, died in 1896, founder of the museum in Kraków. I acquired this work in 1956 at J. Rosenthal in Munich. How did it end up there?" He bought back a book that once belonged in the family library in Stankovo from the former firm of Jacques Rosenthal run by Hans Koch.

Conclusion

The Emeryk Hutten Czapski Collection of Rare Polonica at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library weaves the stories together of this eminent old Polish aristocratic family, the post-World War II fates of royal and noble European family libraries, and the life a biblio – and cartophile.

Just as Czapski assembled a formidable Polonica collection from great libraries dispersed due to wars and declining personal prestige and wealth, so, too, did his family's library suffer a similar fate. While most of his grandfather's numismatic, painting, graphic, and book collections ended up at the National Museum in Kraków, less known is the fate of what remained at the family estate in Stankovo, which the family owned until 1917. Following the death of Emeryk Zachariasz Hutten Czapski in 1896, his son, Karol, replenished the library with new purchases of rare publications from Polish, western European, and Russian antiquarian book dealers. When Karol Hutten Czapski passed away in 1904, the responsibility for the library and family memorabilia fell to his son, E. Hutten Czapski. Revolutionary events necessitated the evacuation of the remaining most valuable part of the library to Moscow, where the books were taken for safekeeping. Czapski relocated to Synkovichi and took some of the library with him. What was left in Stankovo was looted, with area residents taking books by the arm and cart full. After the Treaty of Riga was signed in 1921, Stankovo fell within the borders of Soviet Belarus. Soviet authorities refused to return the Czapski collection to the family. Today, the evacuated material is distributed between the State Public Historical Library in Moscow and the State Russian Museum in St. Petersburg. Some of the looted material may have ended up in National Library of Belarus²⁰. The fate of the rest is unknown, although one can still occasionally find at auction books bearing the book plate "Comitis Emerici Hutteni Czapski".

20 T.I. Roshchina, *Sud'ba knizhnykh sobranii roda Gutten-Chapskikh*, [in:] *Kniga-istochnik kul'tury. Problemy i metody issledovaniia: materialy Mezhdunar. nauch. konf., Minsk, 25–27 noia-bria 2008 g.*, Minsk 2008, pp. 274–278; idem, *Sud'ba knizhnykh sobranii roda Gutten-Chapskikh. Istoricheskii blog o Gutten-Chapskikh*, [online] <https://czapski.by/sudba-knizhnyh-sobranij-roda-gutten-chapskikh/> [accessed 19.11.2023].

Fortunately, the imagination and taste demonstrated by E. Hutten Czapski, beginning in the 1920s, and continued and cared for by his nephew, K. Godlewski, culminated in a collection of great breadth and depth that survived into the twenty-first century. It documents the cultural and historical achievements of Poles not only in relation to their own country, but also in connection with Europe in general. There is a wealth of information reflecting this multinational and multilingual civilization spanning over four centuries. This collection is the finest of its kind in Canada, is of international significance, and it is a privilege for the University of Toronto to make it available to scholars and researchers.

Illustrations

1. Modern cover, with Emeryk Czapski's coat of arms: *Vera relatione della solenne entrata dell'illustriss. & eccellentiss. sig. Giorgio Ossolinschi* (Rome 1634).
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hutt 00051.



Photography: Paul Armstrong.

2. Title page. Andrzej Maksymilian Fredro, *Gestorum populi Poloni sub Henrico Valesio* (Gdańsk 1652), formerly owned by *Schloss Nordkirchen* library. Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hutt 00072.



Photography: Paul Armstrong.

3. The allegorical motif, Felicity, accompanied by cherubs, rides Pegasus, and brandishes a globe surmounted by a cross as weapons of *Sigismund III, the sovereign of Poland and Sweden.*, *Gabriel Kilian Bobrek, Sigismundi III Poloniae et Sveciae regis virtutes ad modulos decantatae inter philosophicam* (Douai 1628).

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hutt 00038.



Photography: Paul Armstrong.

4. Portrait of Maria Kazimiera, Queen, consort of Jan III Sobieski, King of Poland, 1641–1716. Antonio Bassani, *Viaggio a Roma della [...] Maria Casimira* (Rome 1700).

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hutt 00118.



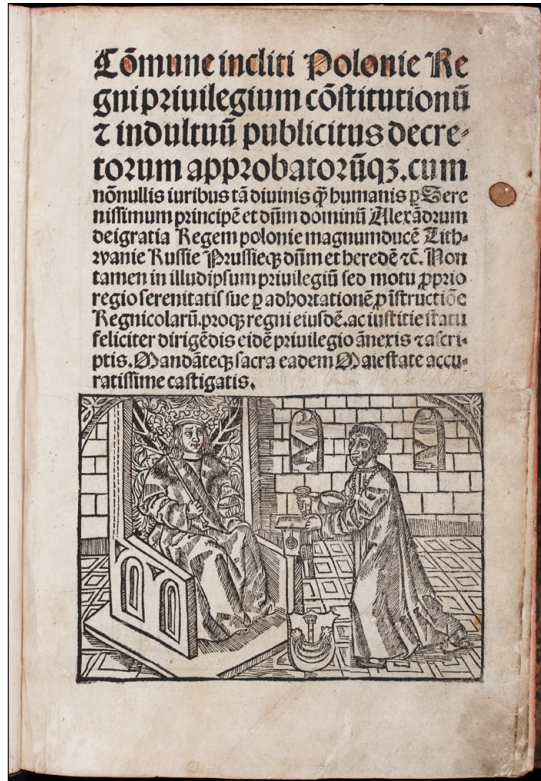
Photography: Paul Armstrong.

5. Portrait of Władysław II Jagiełło. Marcin Bielski, *Kronika polska* (Kraków, 1597), with marginalia in brown ink by an unknown hand. Formerly owned by *Biblioteka Łańcucka* and gifted to Czapski by Jerzy Potocki. Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hutt 00037.



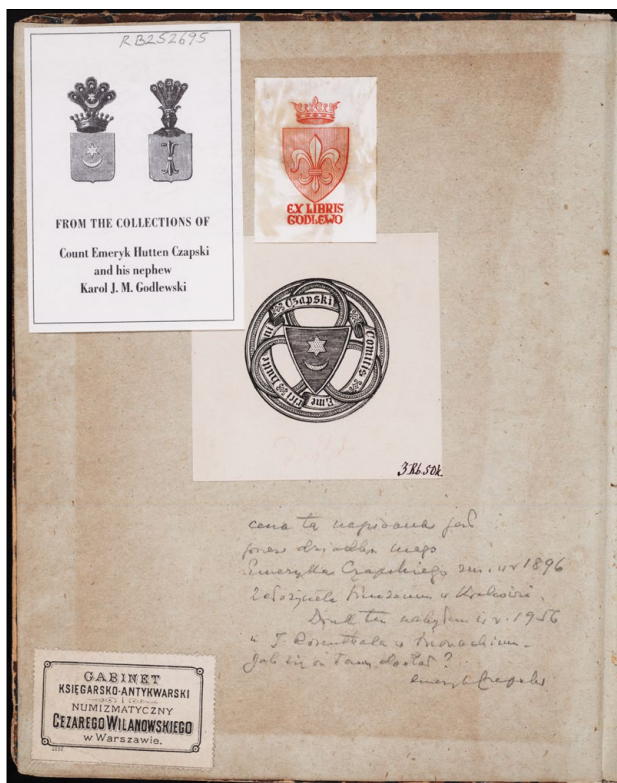
Photography: Paul Armstrong.

6. Title page. Jan Łaski, *Statutes* (Kraków, 1506), formerly owned by Biblioteka Zahiniecka. Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hutt f 00004.



Photography: Paul Armstrong.

7. Ex Libris of Emeryk Zachariasz Hutten Czapski, Karol Godlewski (Godlewo), and the gift plate issued by the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, along with Cezary Wilanowski's bookstore label, and a note in Emeryk Hutten Czapski's hand about the familial provenance of Stanisław Sokolowski, *Oratio ecclesiasticae* (Kraków 1632).
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, hut 00063.



Photography: Paul Armstrong.

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