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**POTOCKI Eustachy (1719-1768). Pilawa Coat-of-Arms, Crown Cup Bearer, General of the Lithuanian artillery, owner of Radzyń, Kurów and Serniki in the Lublin Voivodship, political activist.**



Eustachy Potocki descended from the hetman line of the Potocki family, which used a seal with the Silver Pilawa coat of arms. Eustachy's great-grandfather was Grand Crown Hetman Stanisław Rewera Potocki (d. 1667), and his grandfather was Feliks Kazimierz (d. 1702), also Grand Crown Hetman. Eustachy's father was Jerzy Potocki (d. 1747), starost of Grabowiec and Tłumacz, son of Feliks Kazimierz and Krystyna, née Lubomirska, daughter of Jerzy Sebastian, a rebel against the king. Eustachy's mother was Jerzy's second wife, Konstancja, née Podbereska, a daughter of Upica Marshal (d. 1730), widow of Marcin Zamoyski, Starost of Balimów. Potocki had several siblings who lived to adulthood – a brother, Marian, Castellan of Lubaczów, and sisters – Joanna, wife of Stanisław Wincenty Jabłonowski, Starost of Białocerkiew, Pelagia, wife of Józef Potocki from the primate's family, Castellan of Lviv, and Katarzyna Kossakowska, married to Stanisław Kossakowski.

Eustachy was born in Serniki near Lubartów in 1719 (his baptism took place on 21 September). In 1730, he began his studies at the Jesuit College in Lublin. His teacher was, among others, Reverend Professor Wojciech Bystrzonowski. Following the custom of young magnates, Eustachy made trips to Germany and France. On his return in 1740, he was a member of the Sejm from the Podolia Voivodship. His marriage to Marianna Kątska, a daughter of a Crown sword-bearer, was widely echoed in the Republic. The wedding ceremony took place in Lublin on 26 December 1741. The marriage was blessed by Rev. Kajetan Sołtyk. Marianna Kątska was a person who combined good birth, connections, property, with personal qualities. She was the granddaughter of Stanisław Antoni Szczuka (d. 1710), Lithuanian Vice-Chancellor. Marianne's mother was Wiktoria, née Szczuka, who, after her brothers died, became the sole heir to the property accumulated by her father. Marianna's father was Jan Stanisław (d. 1727), son of Marcin Kątski (d. 1710), General of the Crown Artillery, Voivode and Castellan of Cracow, participant in the Battle of Vienna. Being the sole heir to the Szczuka and Kątski estates, she brought a huge fortune as her dowry, making Potocki one of the wealthiest men in Poland.

From a young age, he was prepared to participate in public life. While still a child, he received from his father the title of starost of Dubienka in the Bełz Voivodship. Jerzy made another cession to his son in 1738, when Eustachy was abroad. At that time, the young Potocki was granted the post of starost of Tłumacz

in the Halych lands, Dębno in the Horodło Poviát, as well as small leases in the Podolia Voivodship: Chreptyjów, Dziurdzianka and Dankowce. The double privilege was issued by the King on 20 November 1738.

In keeping with family traditions, Potocki linked his public activities to his military career. In 1744, he became colonel in the Wielopolski's dragoon regiment. He was also a member of the Grodno Sejm from the Lublin Voivodeship. In 1746, he served as a member of the Sejm from the Halych lands. The period of Eustachy's political involvement coincided with a time filled with clashes between magnate factions. The Starost of Tłumacz belonged to the Hetman faction. Until 1751, its head was Grand Crown Hetman Józef Potocki (d. 1751), then later Antoni Potocki, Voivode of Bełz, and Jan Klemens Branicki, Field Hetman and later Grand Crown Hetman came to the fore. Against them, the republicans had the 'Familia', consolidated around the Czartoryski brothers and Stanisław Poniatowski. At a time of great inflammation in relations between the political camps, after the broken 'Boni Ordinis' Sejm in 1748, the family drew Potocki into the political struggle, entrusting him with seeking the Marshal's staff at the Piotrków Tribunal. 'Familia', who were accused of ruling the royal distribution of favours and the judiciary in Poland, did not want to agree to allow Potocki to serve as a marshal. Both sides arrived in Piotrków accompanied by military forces. There was a rupture of the Tribunal, which became a high-profile scandal and caused a public upheaval, in which Eustachy also participated.

On 6 June 1752, Eustachy was promoted to the rank of Major General of the Crown Army. In 1754, he sought further posts, asking for Branicki's patronage (for the Crown Sword-Bearer post) and the French ambassador Ch. F. Broglie's patronage (for the Court Marshal's post). In 1754, he was awarded the post of the Crown Cup-Bearer. During this period, he was already affiliated with the French faction and received a salary of 3,000 ducats from France.

In 1754, he was elected Marshal of the Crown Tribunal. He began his term as Marshal in the autumn in Piotrków, where he presided over the tribunal sessions until March 1755. In Lublin, the Tribunal, under Eustachy's marshalship, began its sessions in April 1755 and concluded them on 20 December 1755.

Potocki's property status, social standing and favour at court made him attractive in the eyes of France; in 1755 Broglie considered him fit to be the future king of Poland. When the Seven Years' War broke out in 1756, Eustachy was envisaged by republicans as marshal of the confederation at the King for the defence of the Polish-Lithuanian Republic.

In 1757, Potocki became treasurer of the French faction. Thanks to the friendship of the court party, he enjoyed the royal confidence, was appointed by Augustus III to assemble a company for the defence of Warsaw, and a few months later – on 20 October 1759 – bestowed with the rank of General of the Lithuanian artillery. When a dispute arose with Franciszek Salezy Potocki in 1761, among others over custody of the children of Stanisław Potocki, Voivode of Poznań, the court took Eustachy's side; the Kiev Voivode was supported by the Czartoryskis. In 1762, after the death of Empress Elizabeth Petrovna, Catherine II decided to remove Charles, son of Augustus III, who had settled there in 1758, from Courland and restore this duchy to Biron. At the time, the King wanted to use Eustachy to support the prince in Mitava. In the face of opposition from Fryderyk Michał Czartoryski, the Lithuanian Chancellor, these plans were not fulfilled. When Michał Radziwiłł died, Potocki ran

for the Lithuanian field hetman mace. He received a recommendation from, among others, the Halych local parliament. However, he is said to have relinquished his claim to the mace to Aleksander Sapieha by way of a settlement, gaining the post of Lviv starost in return.

Eustachy's last period of public activity was after August III's death (1763). 'Familia' supported by Russia already had a candidate for the future king. The Hetman faction was less well prepared. Potocki sided with the majority of republicans at Hetman Branicki's side. In January 1764, he protested to the Primate against the presence of Russian troops in Royal Prussia. He was a member of the Sejm from the Lublin Voivodship at the convocation. At the end of June, he sided with the Potockis' reconfederation in Halych, which was set up, among others, by his brother Marian. In 1764, he took part in the election of Stanislaus Augustus.

In the last years of his life, he gradually withdrew from public activity due to his health. In 1767, he ceded the post of Lviv starost to his cousin Antoni. In January 1768, he surrendered the armoured company in the Crown army and the post of Starost of Urzędów to his son Kajetan. He would spend more time in Radzyń, which his wife brought to him as a dowry. It was in Radzyń that, between 1750 and 1765, according to Jakub Fontana's plans and under his direction, work was carried out on the reconstruction and furnishing of the palace. Jan Chryzostom Redler, Jan Bogumił Plersch, Józef Lapen, Michal Dolinger and a gardener Jan Dawid Knackfus were also employed on this project. On Potocki's initiative, work began on the reconstruction of the Holy Trinity Church in Radzyń. The Holy Trinity Church was rebuilt and a church gate-bell tower was built, together with a fence. Eustachy Potocki also founded the St Mary Magdalene Church in the inherited Serniki (also according to Fontana's design), built in the years 1759-1766, and a church in Dubienka. The Potockis also supported the Szczuczyn Collegium, founded in 1700 by Stanisław Antoni Szczuka. They were also on friendly terms with the Warsaw Piarists. The Collegium Nobilium was entrusted by the Potocki family with the upbringing and education of their sons.

During his life, Eustachy amassed extensive wealth. He was the owner of the Biłgoraj landed estate in the Lublin Voivodship, and landed estates of Homostajpol, Borodzianka and Kozarowice in the Kiev Voivodship. In Podolia, he owned: Budzanów, Krywcz with the villages of Połajcze, Chmielów and Turna, in the Grodno region landed estates of Sidry, and in the Mazovia region, Szumowo and Wysokie Mazowieckie. In the Chełmno Voivodship, he held the landed estate of Sartawice. In the Lublin voivodship, apart from Radzyń, Serniki and the Kurów landed estates belonged to him. In 1757, he bought Brzostówka. In addition, Potocki leased royal lands with a total quarter of 25,690 zloty. In 1745, Potocki and his wife received *an ius communicativum* for the post of starost of Urzędów in the Lublin Voivodship. The following year – the right to the royal estate of Paparzyn in the Chełmno Voivodship. In 1749, he separated part of the jurydyka of Leszno in Warsaw and obtained a privilege allowing the creation of a separate jurydyka, which he called 'Tłumackie' – after Tłumacz in the Halych lands. The second of the jurydykas was founded by Eustachy in Powiśle. Established by a privilege of 5 November 1762, it was named Mariensztat after its owner. In the capital, the Potockis also owned two palaces, one inherited from their father on the corner of Miodowa and Długa Streets and the other, bought in 1758 from Brühl, located on Wierzbowa Street. He also owned

a palace and townhouse in Lublin, a manor house and bathhouse in Praga and a jurydyka in Grodno.

Marianna and Eustachy's marriage was a successful one. Marianna was known for her theatrical interests and translations of Molière's comedies. In 1754, she became a Dame of the Star Cross. Together with her husband, she supported the Piarist Order and the Colegium Nobilium run by them, where their sons received their education. The couple had eight children – a daughter, Cecylia Urszula, married to Hieronim Sanguszko, starost of Cherkassy (later Voivode of Volhynia), and sons: Kajetan, Ignacy, Jerzy Michał, Stanisław Kostka, Jan Nepomucen Eryk, and those who died in childhood – Seweryn Franciszek, Ubald Karol, and August Jerzy.

Eustachy died in Warsaw on 23 February 1768, a few days after his wife's death. He was buried in the Jesuit Church in Warsaw. The catafalque was designed by Jakub Fontana, the painting decorations were made by Jan Bogumił Pliersch and Jan Berezycki.

AGAD [The Central Archives of Historical Records], Archiwum Publiczne Potockich; Archiwum Roskie; Archiwum Radziwiłłów; Archiwum Narodowe w Krakowie, Archiwum Krzeszowickie Potockich; Archiwum Parafii w Sernikach, Księgi urodzonych w parafii sernickiej w latach 1719-1750; Regesta fabryki tak percepty iako y expensy kościoła Sernickiego; Biblioteka Ossolińskich; Biblioteka Polska w Paryżu; Potocki's portrait, 3rd quarter of 18th century, in the past in the parish church pw. Maria Magdalena in Serniki. Photo by Jerzy Langda, 1970, neg. IS PAN; **K. Gombin**, *Eustachy Potocki i jego działalność na polu sztuki*, a doctoral thesis under the supervision of J. Lileyko, IHS KUL; *PSB*, Vol. XXVII, pp. 804-807 (**B. Grosfeld**); *Słownik geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego*, W. 1888; *Encyklopedia Powszechna Orgelbranda*, W. 1865; *Encyklopedia Warszawy*, W. 1975; *Listy Katarzyny z Potockich Kossakowskiej*, P. 1883; **M. Matuszewicz**, *Pamiętniki*, W. 1876; *Rozmowa na Polach Elizejskich między Janem Zamoyskim [...] i Eustachym Potockim [...] zmarłym*, the deceased compiled by **K. Salkiewicz**, Inscription., ser. 2 1995, pp. 53-57; **J. Borkowski**, **S. Dunin**, *Panie polskie przy dworze rakuskim*, Lw. 1891, p. 58; **B. Grosfeld**, *Potocki Eustachy, Urzędnicy dawnej Rzeczypospolitej XII-XVIII*, Vol. 3, 10, 11, Kórnik 1987, 1992, 1994; **S. Dworzaczek**, **S. Kossakowski**, *Monografie historyczno-genealogiczne niektórych rodzin polskich*, W. 1872; **K. Niesiecki**, *Herbarz polski*, Lipsk 1841; **S. Loza**, *Historia Orderu Orła Białego*, W. 1985; **M. Matuszewicz**, **A. Bartzakowa**, *Jakub Fontana. Architekt Warszawski*, W. 1970; **J. Bartoszewicz**, *Znakomici mężowie polscy w XVIII w.*, v. 3, Petersburg 1856, pp. 83-95; *Kalendarz Warszawski J. Ungra na r 1853*, p. 30ff; **A. Broglie**, *Le secret du Roi*, Paris 1879; **S. Cieszkowski**, *Tajna korespondencja Ludwika XV*, W. 1929; **E. Chwalewik**, *Zbiory polskie*, W. 1927; **B. Gembarzewski**, *Rodowody pułków polskich*, W. 1925, p. 41; **K. Gombin**, Eustachy Potocki i Ludwik Markiewicz. Rola kolatora i proboszcza przy budowie kościoła pałacowego pw. Świętej Marii Magdaleny w Sernikach, [in] *Ziemiaństwo na Lubelszczyźnie. Materiały II sesji naukowej zorganizowanej w Muzeum Zamoyskich w Kozłówce 22-24 maja 2002*, ed. R. Maliszewska, Kozłówka 2003, pp. 249-262; **K. Gombin**, Gloryfikacja Potockich i Kątskich w rzeźbiarskiej dekoracji pałacu w Radzynie Podlaskim Przyczynek do badań nad treściami ideowymi rezydencji Eustachego Potockiego, [in] *Muzea – rezydencje w Polsce. Materiały sesji naukowej zorganizowanej w Muzeum Zamoyskich w Kozłówce 14-16 października 2004*, ed. K. Kornacki, Kozłówka 2004, pp. 505-515; **K. Gombin**, Prace przy przebudowie pałacu i kościoła pw. Świętej Trójcy w Radzynie Podlaskim w świetle korespondencji Eustachego Potockiego, [in] *Studia nad sztuką renesansu i baroku*, ed. J. Lileyko, L. 2004, pp. 273-285; **K. Gombin**, Krystian Gotfryd Deybel – adiutant i architekt Eustachego Potockiego, [in] *Studia nad sztuką*, pp. 385-391; **K. Gombin**, Inicjatywy artystyczne oraz polityka gospodarcza Eustachego Potockiego, [in] *Mecenat dawnych właścicieli Radzyna Podlaskiego a rozwój centrum kulturalnego na Podlasiu w połowie XVIII wieku. Materiały konferencyjne Radzyń Podlaski 7-9 czerwca 2019*, Krosno 2023, pp. 89-101; **K. Gombin**, Radzyński pałac – wybitne dzieło architektury polskiego rokoka. Analiza formy i treści, [in] *Mecenat dawnych właścicieli ...*, pp. 129-157; **W. Konopczyński**, *Polska w dobie wojny siedmioletniej*, W. 1911; **W. Konopczyński**, *Sejm grodzieński 1752 r.*, Lw. 1907; **W. Mejbaum**, *O tron Stanisława Augusta*, Lw. 1914; **J. Michalski**, *Studia nad reformą i prawa sądowego w XVIII w.*, Wr. 1958; **J. Rudnicka**, *Biblioteka wilanowska. Dwieście lat jej dziejów (1741-1832)*, W. 1996, pp. 22-23;

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Joanna KOWALIK-BYLICKA

**SITKOWSKI Stanisław Kostka Apolinary (1866-1938). Physician, long-standing director of the hospital Szpital św. Kunegundy in Radzyń Podlaski, social activist supporting the development of Radzyń education, founder and activist of several societies, councillor of the Poviat Assembly.**



Stanisław Sitkowski was born in Lublin on 22 July 1866. He was the son of Aleksander, an official of the Lublin City Council, and Bronisława née Smolińska. Stanisław's birth certificate was drawn up on the day of his baptism at the St John's Parish Cathedral on 5 August 1866. At his baptism, Sitkowski was given the name Stanisław Kostka Apolinary, and his godparents were Józef Jezierski and Aniela Zaborowska. Sitkowski began his medical studies in 1887 at the Imperial University of Warsaw. He completed his studies on 23 February 1893, receiving his diploma and the title of a physician. Stanisław's younger brother Bronisław, also a doctor, worked in Lublin at the hospital St. Jan. For the first years of his professional career, Stanisław Sitkowski was associated with Czemierniki. In 1905, he moved to Radzyń and was employed

at the local hospital St. Kunegunda as a gynaecologist and internal medicine physician; in the following years he served as director of the Hospital. Sitkowski did not only work as a physician. He was a member of the Lublin Medical Society. He was secretary of the board from 1924 to 1925, and had been an honorary member of the so-

ciety since 1918. The Lublin Medical Society was founded in 1874. Over the course of its long history, it has had major achievements in the fields of medical, social, cultural and educational sciences. Sitkowski took part in its activities, and as a doctor he made his contribution in scientific terms. He presented his medical research findings on several occasions at conventions organised by the Society. At the first congress of the Society – 1 June 1914 – he presented a lecture titled *On obstetric aseptics in private practice in the provinces*. He also participated in the 2nd congress of provincial doctors organised in Lublin, where he presented the results of his research work at the hospital in Radzyń in a paper on blood pressure measurements titled *Sigmomanometry in the practice of a provincial doctor*.

In Radzyń, he was not only a dedicated doctor, but he was also known for his public and cultural activities. During the period of partitions, he supported the development of Polish education, and between 1906 and 1907 was secretary of the Radzyń club of the Polish Educational Society. How important the education of young people was to him is evidenced by the fact that, in the inter-war period, he financially supported the Radzyń junior secondary school, founded by Halina Rudnicka, under the aegis of Polish Educational Society. Due to difficulties, in 1934 Sitkowski took over and continued to finance the school, which was renamed Dr S. Sitkowski's Private Co-Educational Gymnasium. Sitkowski is also listed among the co-founders of the Fire Brigade Society, which was established in Radzyń in 1895. His passion for music was in turn expressed in his cultural activities, as Sitkowski was among the founders of the Society of Stage and Music Lovers. The Society was founded in Radzyń in 1909. In addition to Sitkowski, its co-founders included Antoni Brydziński and engineer Henry Levittoux. The Society was also active after the First World War. Its task was to organise cultural life for the inhabitants of the town and powiat. In addition to Sitkowski, the Society's 1925 charter was signed by: Janina Hildebrandt, Michał Wazowski, Antoni Bussel, Franciszek Mańko, Mieczysław Laskowski, Kazimierz Prejzner, Karol Paszczuk, Tadeusz Laskowski, Piotr Janiewicz. The Society organised concerts and theatre performances, featuring local performers, as well as artists from Lublin and Warsaw. Between 1922 and 1925, owing to the Society's efforts, a building called the cinema theatre (after the Second World War – the Sportsman's House) was built in Radzyń, at Warszawska Street. It staged two plays in 1925: *L'alba, il giorno e la notte* by Italian writer Dario Nicodemi and Gabriela Zapolska's *Ich czworo. Tragedia ludzi głupich w 3 aktach*. An important event was the staging of Józef Ignacy Kraszewski's *Chata za wsią*, with music composed by Zygmunt Noskowski, and *Pastorałka* by Leon Schiller with music by Leon Schiller and Jan Adam Maklakiewicz. Sitkowski and his wife Jadwiga were also members of the choir at the Society. The choir was led by Kazimierz Prejzner, a teacher. Prejzner came from a musical family (his father was an organ player) and was fascinated by music since childhood, playing the violin and piano. Prejzner's musical achievement was the composition of nine songs for mixed choir to words by Leopold Staff; and several carols of his authorship were also published. A love of music united Prejzner, the Sitkowskis, as well as Zofia (née Mokłowska) and Tadeusz Rossowski, who arrived in Radzyń in the 1920s from Lviv. They were actively involved in organising musical concerts. They also often played together. Kazimierz Prejzner played the violin, Tadeusz Rossowski the viola, Zofia Rossowska the piano, and Stanisław Sitkowski the cello. They also performed in front of the Radzyń audience. One of such concerts took place

in 1926. It featured works by Ludwig Beethoven, Franz Schubert, Robert Schuman, Frederic Chopin and Ignacy Jan Paderewski.

Another field of Sitkowski's activity was public and political. Sitkowski was the Chairman of the Riflemen's Association, an organisation whose mission was military training and physical development of young people. The Rifleman's Association held courses of instruction, talks and lectures in the powiat area. Sitkowski was also an energetic political activist. He was a member of BBWR (the Non-Party Bloc for Cooperation with the Government). Among other things, he served as Chairman of the Powiat Council of the BBWR, and in the 1935 elections was a delegate to the Voivodship Electoral Board in Lublin. As a member of the BBWR, he took part in rallies at which he spoke, among others in the 1930s in defence of the Free City of Gdansk and Poland's access to the sea. Sitkowski was a powiat councillor for many years. He took an active part in the activities undertaken by the Powiat Assembly, including, among others, the construction of a stadium in Radzyń.

For his social work for the country and citizens, he received the Gold Cross of Merit from President of the Republic of Poland Ignacy Mościcki, and the Town Council awarded him the title of Honorary Citizen of Radzyń Podlaski.

In 1918, Stanisław Sitkowski married Jadwiga Stefania (née Chomiczewska), younger than himself, daughter of Antoni and Marcjanna (née Górka). The wedding of Stanisław and Jadwiga took place on 1 June 1918 at the Holy Trinity Church in Radzyń. The couple was blessed by Rev. Tadeusz Osiński, in the presence of witnesses Rev. Karol Wajszczuk and Rev. Józef Rudnicki. The Sitkowski family had two sons. Elder son Stefan Pankracy was born on 12 May 1919. He was a student at the Air Force Officer School in Dęblin, to be promoted to the rank of a technical officer. He died in a Warsaw hospital on 13 September 1939 due to sustained war wounds. His body was exhumed and moved to the Radzyń cemetery. The younger of the Sitkowski sons, Jan Marek, was born on 25 April 1922. After the end of World War II, he graduated from the Gdańsk University of Technology. He worked as a lecturer at the university until his death in 1976.

Stanisław Sitkowski died on 14 January 1938 in Radzyń. He was buried in the Radzyń parish cemetery.

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