

Summary of doctoral dissertation

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Topic: *Young Cracovian conservatists in the political 'school' of Hotel Lambert*

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Date: 24th October 2018

My thesis concerns the political cooperation between Hotel Lambert (or strictly speaking Bureau des Affaires Polonais) and Ludwik Wodzicki, Jan and Stanisław Tarnowskis and Stanisław Koźmian in the years 1860–1864. The aim of this work is not only to examine stańczyks' political activity in the mentioned above years but also to analyse evolution of their political thought before 'Przegląd Polski' began to be published. The political and social views of my characters reflect very well sentiments, hopes and fears of other Polish, who were ideologically and politically connected with Hotel Lambert – especially Galician – conservatists. Thus, the latter might be extrapolated from the first.

My work is divided into 5 chapters. The first chapter deals with the childhood and youth of Jan and Stanisław Tarnowskis, Stanisław Koźmian and Ludwik Wodzicki. In this chapter I show what life experiences (family background, education, interests, historical events etc.) had moulded their characters, personalities and formed their views. The second one focuses on the creation Bureau des Affaires Polonais, account for why it was set up and show how it worked and what changes it underwent – with special reference to how the collaboration between future stańczyks and Hotel Lambert was struck up. The last three chapters explain how the cooperation functioned before and during the January Uprising and examine the extent of reciprocal influence. The epilogue completes my work. It presents Stanisław Tarnowski's, Ludwik Wodzicki's and Stanisław Koźmian's fates and evolution of their political thought before the first issue of 'Przegląd Polski' was brought out.

Due to the lack of studies related the field of my interest I had to conduct researches in different Polish and foreign archives and scientific librarians. Nevertheless, my dissertation is based mainly upon the archival materials which are kept in the Princes Czartoryski Library in Cracow – e.g. this library holds letters from and to Tarnowskis' brothers, Stanisław Koźmian and Ludwik Wodzicki. Apart from the archival materials I have made use of different memoirs from that period and also newspapers of the time.

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