



Kanutas Ruseckas, "Italian Landscape. Antiquity ruins. Tivoli Waterfall and Vesta Temple", 1825, Lithuanian Art Museum, LDM T-2108

## CHILDREN OF MYKOLAS KLEOPAS OGINSKIS

Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis officially had eight children. Living in the marriage with Isabel Lasocka (1764–1852) two sons were born – Tadas Antonijus (1798–1844), Pranciškus Ksaveras (1801–1837) and a daughter that likely died while an infant. Paula Szembek-Oginskienė mentioned her in a letter written in 1792 to Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis.

In the marriage with Maria de Neri (1778–1851), five more children were born: Amelia (1804–1858), Ema (1809/1810–1871), Ida (1813-?), Irenėjus Kleopas (1808–1863), and Sophia (1807–1807/1808), who died early. According to I. Zaluskis, Sofia's death was a tragedy in the family of Kleopas and Maria, which was the first step ending their idyllic life.<sup>189</sup>

Two more daughters Mykolas Kleopas mentions in the testament constituted on 16th of August 1818. He did reveal neither their names nor a date of birth/death, only the burial place – Corpus Christi Chapel of St. John's Church in Vilnius.

Tadas Antonijus Oginskis (1798–1844) ir Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskis (1801–1837)

Most information has been found about the children of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis from the second marriage with Maria Neri. Lithuanian written sources often mention M. K. Oginskis' son Irenėjus Oginskis (1808–1863), who brought fame for Rietavas and raised it for a new life and M. K. Oginskis' daughter Amelia Oginskytė-Zaluska (1803–1858), the wife of the November Uprising rebel of Panevėžys County, Commander Karolis Teofilis Zaluskis (1794–1845).

There is less information available about other chil-

dren of Mykolas Kleopas, especially of those born in the first marriage with Isabel Lasocka (1764–1852). All their children equally loved Mykolas Kleopas.<sup>190</sup>

TADAS ANTONIJUS OGINSKIS (1798–1844)  
AND PRANCIŠKUS KSAVERAS OGINSKIS  
(1801–1837)

Tadas Antonijus Oginskis (Tadeusz Antoni Oginski, 1798–1844) and Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskis (Franciszek Ksawery Oginski, 1801–1837) – Mykolas Kleopas sons from his first marriage.

Both of them are directly related to the Vilnius University, the Barons Rönne from the manors of Renavas and Gargždai, and Veisiejai town history. Tadas Antonijus Oginskis was the oldest son of Isabel Lasocka and Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis. His first name was given in an honour of his grandfather from the father's side. When his parents officially divorced, Tadas Antonijus was 5 years old, and his brother was 3.

Brothers Oginskiai [...] graduated Vilnius University, where they were the members of Philomath (Patriots) brotherhood (members of the brotherhood were famous artists and intellectuals of that time, including poet Adam Mickiewicz<sup>191</sup> and Tomasz Zan<sup>192</sup>).

Both brothers were pianists and composers. They often played their own and father's polonaises in salons of prosperous noblemen to entertain the audience. In the Northern Samogitia, brothers Oginskiai met the family of Feliksas Fon Rönne<sup>193</sup>, who owned Renavas manor. The family of Rönne were related with Igelstriomai, Oginskiai and Zaluskis under

<sup>189</sup> I. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 90.

<sup>190</sup> Lithuanian State Historical Archives (LVIA), F. 1177, p. I. 1, f. 33, p. 3.

<sup>191</sup> Lithuanian and Polish poet Adam Bernard Mickiewicz. Born on 24<sup>th</sup> of December 1798 in Zaosie, died on 26<sup>th</sup> of November 1855 in Constantinople (Turkey).

<sup>192</sup> Writer Tomasz Zanas. Born on 21<sup>st</sup> of December 1796 in Minsuciai (Belarus, near Maladzechna), died on 19<sup>th</sup> of July 1855 in Smalenai (near Orsha).

<sup>193</sup> German – Rönne.

strange circumstances, which restores an interesting story. The old baron had five children. The oldest was Antoni<sup>194</sup>. The second was Feliksas, Jr.<sup>195</sup>, whose first wife was Franciska Zaluska (daughter of Ilgestriomai). The third was Maria Teklė, who married Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis' son Tadas Antonijus Oginskis. The fourth was Liudvika (she did not have a family and children, died early). The fifth was Teodora, who became the wife of the second son of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis – Pranciškus Ksaveras.<sup>196</sup>

Thus Tadas Antonijus Oginskis married the Baroness Marija Teklė Rönne-Boreviėienė (1804?–1897). She was the daughter of Renavas manor owners Antanina Gelgaudaitė and the Major of Lithuania, noble officer of the Polish King, St. Stanislaus Knight of the Order Baron Feliksas Rönne (1770–1827). For Maria Teklė this marriage was the second (the first husband was Mykolas Boreviėius (1774–1820).

Maria Teklė was famous for her beauty. In the book "Little by Little from everywhere", Stanislaw Morawski writes<sup>197</sup>:

*"In the early youth of mine, there lived perhaps the most beautiful woman in Lithuania and Poland - Lady Boreviėienė, maiden name Rönytė. In addition, everyone agreed with me. Who would dare to touch the charm of a woman with a quill? Who could describe the true beauty of the body, glittered by a bright sublime soul enshrouded by the virtuous modesty of the honourable woman? Once I saw her-the married woman, embraced by a girlish modesty, timid as the East gazelle, trembling as a May leaf or a tiny flower hanging on a weak stem-when she had to attend noble banquets, in the same way, both men and women were surprised and she could expect for a reasonable respect. The Lady became a widow, and then she fell in love and married the Duke Tadas Oginskis, the son of Lasockytė. Society envied for him of their marriage, because it is very seldom when the great beauty and honesty can be found in one person."*

Rönne was granted with Baron's title on the 1st of March 1799 by the Prussian King. This title, which is the equivalent to Lithuanian Count, went over to all his children. Oginskiai and Rönne mar-

riage was equivalent in terms of titles.

Teodora married M. K. Oginskis' second son Pranciškus Ksaveras. Living in the marriage, they had the first son Feliksas Oginskis (grandchild of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis) in 1828.

Two young couples of Counts Oginskiai were close friends.

Brother of Maria Teklė and brother-in-law of Tadas Antonijus Oginskis – Antanas Rönne -married twice. His first wife was Pszecziszewska, the second – Gorska of Birpūvėnai. Living in the marriage with Gorska they had a daughter Olympia. She became the wife of her cousin Feliksas Oginskis, who was the grandson of M. K. Oginskis and his son Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskis' son.

"Feliksas and Olympia had a child (his name is not known). There is the memorial stone in Vilnius Rasos Cemetery with the inscription, "Here was buried Olympia with the child, Countess Oginska from the House of Rönne, died on 10th of April 1861." Feliksas and Olympia were cousins; therefore, there could have been genetic complications. Probably the baby was born dead<sup>198</sup>.

After a while, Feliksas Oginskis married for the second time. Natalia Nazhymka (1844–1914) became his second wife. They did not have any children. Grandson of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis Feliksas Oginskis (he died on 2nd February 1893, Wiesbaden) did not lineage Oginskiai family. In his book "Oginskiai Gene", I. Zaluski writes that during the November Uprising (1830–1831) Tadas Antonijus and Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskiai were in Warsaw with their wives, and later lived in St. Petersburg, Vilnius, and Veisiejai. Pranciškus Ksaveras died in 1837 (many believe that in St. Petersburg). Maria Teklė and Tadas Antonijus Oginskis had three daughters: Gabrielė Maria Isabele Amelia Oginskytė-Rönne (1830–1912), Natalia Oginskytė-Gauronska (1830-?) and Amelia (Aurelija) Oginskytė-Valaviėienė (around the year 1835-?). Natalia Oginskytė married the owner of Paeberiai manor Sigismund Gauronski (1816–1866). In 1849, they had a son Vladimir Gau-

<sup>194</sup> Antoni Rönne – marshal of the district of Telėiai, from 1803 he was a governor of the Renavas manor.

<sup>195</sup> Felix Philip Rönne (1800–1844) – governor of the Gargzdai manor.

<sup>196</sup> I. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 133.

<sup>197</sup> S. Moravskis, *Iš visur po truputį. I dalis: Nuo Merkinės iki Kauno. Atsiskyrio gavenda*, Vilnius: Vilniaus dailės akademijos leidykla, p. 455.

<sup>198</sup> I. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 133.

ronski. Amelia became the wife of Count Vitoldas Valavičius (1825–1875) and had the son Count Algirdas Mykolas Valavičius (1869–1900).

Gabrielė Maria Isabele Amelia was married twice. For the first time, she married Edvard Krasicki. They had four daughters: Maria Kazimiera (1859–1919), who on 16th of November 1886 married to Count Vincentas Lubenskis; Michalina (1862–1909), who on 2nd of October 1880 married to Stanislovas Teofilis Michailovskis; Jadvyga (1863–?), who on 2nd of July 1893 became the wife of Alexander Horvat; Gabrielė (1866–1938), who on 26th of April 1898 married to Count John Gottfried Donatas Bieberstein-Krasicki.<sup>199</sup>

From the following facts, it is clear that Oginskiai gene inherited by Tadas Antonijus Oginskis from generation to generation throughout the female line could be transmitted up to now.

Gabrielė Maria Isabele Maria Gauronskytė's first husband E. Krasicki died in 1876. After four years (1880), Gabrielė married her cousin, the poet Eugenijus Karolis Antanas Teofilis Rönne (1830–1895), who was the son of Gargždai Baron Feliksas Philip Rönne (1800–1844), the inheritor of Renavas and Gargždai manors. This was his first and only marriage. He did not have his own children, thus he took care of the children from wife's first marriage.

Written sources indicate that Tadas Antonijus Oginskis' wife Maria Teklė Rönne had two more daughters and two more sons from the first marriage: Liudvika Teodara Eleonora (b. 1814) and Teodora Petronėlė (b. 1816), Liudvikas Izidorius (b. 1814) and Antonijus Ipolitas Kvirinas (b. 1819).

When she was still very young, she was arranged to marry Mykolas Borevičius (1774–1820). Their marriage was registered on 20th of June 1813. Mykolas Borevičius died 46 years old. Therefore, if Maria Teklė was really born in 1804, thus she gave birth to the first two children (it is likely the twins) when she was just ten years old. It is hard to believe in such fact. Many historians believe she had been born at least 5-7 years earlier.

Maria Teklė Rönne-Borevičienė-Oginskienė died in 1897 in Renavas. Maria Teklė and Tadas Antonijus remains rest in the crypt of St. George Church in Veisiejai. Memorial plaques are set up for pepe-

tuation of their remembrance there.

The founders of the current impressive St. George Church of Veisiejai parish church (Lazdijai district), also known as Dainava Cathedral, were the General, the Elder of Berpininkai Matas Pynievas (died in 1814) and his wife Viktorija Oginskytė-Pynievienė (died in 1830). Epitaph board of Veisiejai Church indicates that Viktorija was Pynievienė, she is also called Zynieviene or Pyneviene in other written sources.

In 1768, after the death of Veisiejai manor host Mykolas Juozapas Masalskis, the ownership of a property went to Vilnius Bishop Ignatas Jokūbas Masalskis. Matters of the manor went to his relative Viktorija Oginskytė's (died in 1830) husband the German-born Baron Matas Pynievas, who, in 1790, bought Veisiejai possession and began to build there the brick church.

In 1808, as specified in the statistical inventory of the Duchy of Warsaw, that at the time there were 550 residents in Veisiejai, a large palace, but the town itself seemed poor. M. Pynievas took care of a construction until his death in 1814. In 1817, his wife V. Oginskytė Pynievienė finished the church. She also took over the ownership of Veisiejai possession.

Pynievai were childless. V. Oginskytė-Pynievienė her property bequeathed to the Count Tadas Antonijus Oginskis (1798–1844), who was married Maria Teklė Rönne (1803–1897).

In 1832, he began to govern Veisiejai. It is not known what relation linked Viktorija with Tadas Antonijus and Maria, for her to leave precious manors of Veisiejai to Tadas Antonijus.

In 1822, as written sources state, Tadas Antonijus Oginskis and Maria Teklė Rönne moved to Veisiejai. The childless relative V. Oginskytė-Pynievienė invited them there. After she died responsibility to repair and decorate Veisiejai manor and church took over Tadas Antonijus and Maria Oginskiai. When Tadas Antonijus died in 1844, Veisiejai manor was managed and the church was patronized by the widow Maria Teklė. In 1877, manor holdings were taken over by Maria Teklė and Tadas Antonijus Oginskiai daughter Amelia (Aurelija) Oginskytė-Valavičienė (around 1835–?). In 1884, Veisiejai manor ownership was transferred to Sigismund Gauronski, the husband Natalija, who was a sister of Amelia. Later,

<sup>199</sup> Povilas Dvėrebas, "Rönne Pėmaitijojė" ("Ronne in Samogitia"), *Renavas: Pėmaitijojė praeitis, knyga 9*, Vilnius: Vilniaus dailės akademija, 2001, p. 50.

son of Natalija and Sigismund Valavičiai Vladimiras Valavičius governed in Veisiejai. He handed over Veisiejai manor to the Rietavas Duke Bogdanas Oginskis. Very soon, B. Oginskis sold Veisiejai and Paveisiejai manors to the property owners Petras Gurskis and Edmundas Muravickis.

Fires devastated Veisiejai in the last three decades of the 19th century: fires of 1872 and 1877 burned down rectory, Jewish synagogue, and many dwelling houses. During the fire of 1895 was badly damaged Veisiejai manor, the central palace of it. After the fire, some buildings have not been rebuilt.

Today a territory around the manor is looked after, some buildings are renovated. There is established the Veisiejai Regional Park.

The cellar of Veisiejai church is now open for the visitors. There is the restored crypt of the church founders Viktorija and Matas Pynieviai and Marija Teklė and Tadas Antonijus Oginskiai. Coffin with the sarcophagus of the Duke Tadas Antonijus Oginskis is especially luxurious. Next to him, there is a coffin (without sarcophagus) of the Duchess Maria Tekle Rönne-Oginskienė. Once the crypt was found, General's wife V. Oginskytė-Pynievienė remains were identified by the date of death and pelvic bones of the nulliparous women. Other mortal remains of deceased that were found in the cellar are placed under the plate "Eternal rest of the dead".

Epitaph board for Tadas Antonijus Oginskis was created around the year 1844, epitaph board for Marija Teklė Oginskienė was created around the year 1897, and they are hanged in Veisiejai church. Author of the epitaph for Tadas Antonijus Oginskis is unknown; the founder was Maria Teklė Oginskienė. The epitaph board was made of marble and metal, techniques of casting, engraving, and polychrome were used. Website of the Department of Cultural Heritage<sup>200</sup> concludes:

*"The composition and some decoration elements of epitaph are classicist; however, there are relics of the Baroque.*

*Memorial record of the epitaph is engraved on the marble plate, which is dark gray with veins. On the top side axis, there is the coat of arms of Oginskiai family (Oginiec), framed by lush baroque acanthus leaves and spirals. The coat of arms is depicted in the white cartouche, which echoes the heraldic shield frame in a red and white mantle. The shield consists of two horizontal fields with heraldic symbols of the family: St. George on the top, the head of the bull on the bottom. The shield is crowned with the duke's crown.*

*The epitaph of the Duchess Maria Teklė Rönne-Oginskienė is in the church nave, separated by the pedestal. Its author is also unknown. The epitaph board was made from stone. Minimalistic, which characteristic to the end of the 19th century, the epitaph is composed almost entirely from a square-format plate with engraved and gilded with a memorial record."*

Brothers Tadas Antonijus and Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskiai were relatively famous musicians in Europe, especially in Warsaw. Tadas Antonijus was not as good in a sphere of music as his brother Pranciškus Ksaveras, whose repertoire during concerts consisted mostly of "his own compositions, composed on a fashionable style of neo-romantic Moscheles<sup>201</sup> and Hummel<sup>202</sup> with bravura, but with a strong Polish mood."<sup>203</sup>

Pranciškus Ksaveras was born in 1801 in Brzeziny manor (in the central Poland). He inherited the talent for music from his father. In aristocratic salons of Warsaw, which he together with his brother Tadas Antonijus began visiting in 1820; Pranciškus was welcomed with ovations. He began to compose music even earlier. Pranciškus Ksaveras usually played his and father's compositions in nobility banquets. They were enthralled by his clarity and emotionality. He particularly liked the music of J. L. Dussek<sup>204</sup>, A. Collona<sup>205</sup>, G. Spontini<sup>206</sup> and his father.

This was the period when the young composer Frederic Chopin began his career. Musicologists recognize that not only Mykolas Kleopas but also his son Pranciškus Ksaveras made a significant in-

<sup>200</sup> "Veisiejø parapinės baþnyþios Ðv. Jurgio kripta" ("Veisiejai Parish Church of St. George's Crypt") [http://www.heritage.lt/restauravimas/alytaus\\_aps/veisieju\\_baznycios\\_kripta.htm](http://www.heritage.lt/restauravimas/alytaus_aps/veisieju_baznycios_kripta.htm) [Site previewed on: 10-07-2015].

<sup>201</sup> Ignaz (Isaac) Moscheles – Jewish composer, pianist virtuoso. Born in Prague (Czech Republic). Died on 10<sup>th</sup> of March 1870 in Leipzig (Germany).

<sup>202</sup> Johann Nepomuk Hummel – Austrian composer and pianist virtuoso. His music reflects the transition from the classical to romantic music. Born on 14<sup>th</sup> of November 1778, died on 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1837.

<sup>203</sup> I. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 134, 135.

<sup>204</sup> Jan Ladislav Dussek – son of Czech musician Jan Josef Dussek (1738–1818), pianist, music – organist, composer, pedagogue, had many concerts in various European cities. Born on 12<sup>th</sup> of February 1760 in Ěaslav. Died on 20<sup>th</sup> of March 1812 in Saint Germain (near Paris).

<sup>205</sup> Composer, pianist Angelo Collona.

<sup>206</sup> Gasparo Luigi Pacifico Spontini – Italian composer, member of Prussian Academy of Arts (1833). Born in 1774.

fluence on Chopin's creative searches.

According to I. Zaluskis, Ksaveras idealized his father; despite not knowing him very well. He tried to nurture the link with his father by laying and popularizing father's compositions.

First polonaises of Ksaveras mostly reminded musical experiments. No. 1 D (Fantasia alla Polacca), Polonaise No. 2 C with a trio F, No. 3 E minor, No. 4 E were released in St. Petersburg around the year 1820. After Tadas Antonijus and Pranciškus Ksaveras concert in Warsaw, Brzezina in Miodowa Street released their other polonaises. Among them was Antonijus' polonaise for piano duet.

Ksaveras composed six more mature polonaises, starting with a set of three dedicated for his father. They were released in 1826. Ten famous Ksaveras' polonaises were trendy for that time. Four Vilnius polonaises and six Warsaw polonaises clearly differ in quality. Warsaw polonaises are subtle examples of the Polish soul and German bravura fusion. They were more for piano and less melancholic than father's polonaises were. They reflected the optimism that spread in the Congress Poland<sup>207</sup> before the mood swings in the parliament. Mykolas Kleopas' polonaises were composed for an individual or orchestral interpretation while Ksaveras' polonaises were played exactly as composed – by the piano. Although he used his father's "crossed hands" technique, however, Ksaveras developed the "left hand" technique into something more than accompaniment chords. In some cases, the actual melody was played by left hand, and there were some very impressive virtuosic passages, such as in polonaise No. 7 E flat.<sup>208</sup>

Ksaveras composed many romances in a style of his father, but only four of them remained to the modern days. One of them "Le Page Blesse a B Avie" (the words of Leonardo Chodzka) was published in St. Petersburg in 1820. J. Dambrowski in Warsaw released the other three "Le Lis", "Le Retour du Groise" (which was inspired by Walter Scott "Ivanhoe" and "Trioletto" (written under the influence of Tadas Zanas) in 1829. T. Zanas together with Adam Mickiewicz was one of the founders of Philomath Society and the member of the fellowship.<sup>209</sup>

#### AMELIJA OGINSKYTĖ-ZALUSKA (1804–1858)

In her book "Vilnius and Lithuanian Manors", G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė writes<sup>210</sup>: "Oginskis had three beautiful daughters, and the cheerful and noisy house, which was full of foreign teachers, made Zalesye just a paradise on earth."

Amelia Oginskytė-Zaluska was the oldest daughter of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis and Maria de Neri. Amelia was born in Zalesye manor. Since her childhood, it was evident that Amelia was into art: she enjoyed painting, poetry, music, dance and languages (she spoke English, Italian, Polish, Lithuanian, Latin, French, Russian and German). While a child, she began playing music, creating scores and music. Together with her sister Ema, she played the piano with four hands. Amelia wrote poems and painted.

Amelia and Ema had a talent for music from the early stage of their childhood. They had professional teachers, including D. Palliani, and, of course, the old J. Kozłowski put his hand in their education. Amelia smoothly and gracefully played the piano and was good at composition theory. Following father's example, she composed several duets for piano, which played with Ema, including polonaise C minor for four hands. The manuscript remained up to these days. The dramatic beginning reminds of her the first polonaise "Venice" of Mykolas Kleopas.

She also composed romances in a style of her father; two of them remained – "Mon ame aujourd'hui" and "Jaime la nuit".

Mykolas Kleopas encouraged both girls to create music and composed for them a march impromptu for four hands (this composition did not remain).

Amelia grew up listening to father's stories about the great operas in Slanim, and became interested in musical theatre and began composing plays. She involved servants into performances, wrote songs and choruses, as well as violin and piano interludes, for them.

Oginskiai Palace had the artistic atmosphere. Everyone loved painting and drawing. Amelia also had a talent for painting and contributed the creation of family albums. Guests were fascinated by her paintings,

<sup>207</sup> Poland Congress Kingdom or Poland Kingdom, Congress kingdom, Congress Poland

(in Polish: *Królestwo Kongresowe*, *Królestwo Polskie* – by the decision of the Congress of Vienna in 1815, it was formed from the existed duchy in 1807–1815. Existed till 1916. It was nominally an independent state, but actually controlled by Russia.

<sup>208</sup> Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskis has written a several dozen of polonaises in total, a large part of them have remained. (I. Zaluskis, p. 159).

<sup>209</sup> I. Zaluskis, *Klaipėda*, p. 134, 135.

<sup>210</sup> G. Giunterytė Puzinienė, p. 29.

especially the watercolor depicting the park.

Amelia loved poetry with great passion – she created many poems, mostly about Zalesye and nature. Poet Antoni Edward Odyniec<sup>211</sup> was a regular guest in Zalesye; also poet Aleksander Chodzko<sup>212</sup> and ethnographer Leonard Chodzko<sup>213</sup>. L. Chodzko became personal secretary of Mykolas Kleopas in Zalesye, managed his letters and diaries, wanted to print Amelia's poem "Do Muzyki" in his magazine "La Pologne pittoresque"<sup>214</sup>.

On 11th of May 1826, Amelia married a rich landowner of Gulbinai (Panevezys District), Noble Marshal of Panevėzys County, the Count Karolis Teofilis Zaluski (1794–1845)<sup>215</sup>.

G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė when writing about events in Vilnius in the 3rd decade of the 19th c. mentions the fact that in the year 1826 a lot of Amelia's acquaintances married and that, "Senator's wife Oginskienė did not want to wait too. Amelia married Count Karolis Zaluski, who, admittedly, had only one eye, but was rich and highborn. He did not give happiness to his wife, so she tried to find happiness in her own family, carrying a duty of a large family."<sup>216</sup>

After the wedding, the newlyweds Zaluski settled in Gulbinai (formerly in Panevėzys District, now it is in Biržai District). They both loved music. Karolis played the piano and violin very well; Amelia played the piano and composed music.

Creativity had always been an important part of her life. Up to now her march "Les Adieux a Joseph" is very famous. A lot of dance music for piano and violin is attributed to her authorship.

Karolis Teofilis sometimes composed too. In 1830, he created a march in honour of his wife.

When married, Amelia devoted herself to motherhood. She gave a birth to a total of 11 children: Mykolas (1827–1893), Teofilis (1828–1829), Maria (often called Marinija) Eugenija Sofija (1829–1910), Ema (1831–1912), Juzefas (1832–1834/1835), Karolis Bernardas (1834–1919), Irenėjus (1835–1868), Stanislovas (1838–1904), Ivas (1840–1881), Ida (1841–1916), Francioka (1843–1924).

In the earlier-mentioned memoirs J. S. A. Morawski described Amelia: "She was kind, gentle, educated, loyal and self-sacrifice to her husband, wise and honest, she vastly differed from her mother, therefore, Amelia was never loved by her."<sup>216</sup> Alas, it is difficult to say, whether these words objectively describe a relationship between Maria de Neri and her daughter.

In 1829, Count K. T. Zaluski, against his own will, was elected as the Chairman of Upytė Council for the second time. Therefore, he had to spend some in Panevėpys, where he rented an office.

The quiet life of Zaluski family dramatically changed in 1830–1831, when the November Uprising began. Karolis Teofilis was invited to join the rebels and he accepted the challenge:

On 11th of March K. T. Zaluski was unanimously elected as the chairman of the local council of the uprising. After a few days he has been appointed the colonel of local armed forces, later, in the last year of the uprising, he became the governor of Lithuania. Gold and money, which he saved for a journey to Florence to visit the sick father-in-

<sup>211</sup> Antoni Edward Odyniec – Polish poet, translator, memorialist, Philaretos society member of Vilnius University. Born on 25<sup>th</sup> of January 1804 in Giejstuny (Ashmyany district). In 1820–1823 he studied in Vilnius University. Together with a friend Adam Mickiewicz traveled to Italy, Germany, Switzerland (described the trip in "Listy z podróży (1875–1878)" („Travel Letters (1875–1878)”). In 1837–1866 lived in Vilnius, edited "Kurier Wileński" ("The Vilnius Courier"). Created romantic ballads, dramas, songs, translated Lithuanian folk songs to Polish language. Died on 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1885 in Warsaw.

<sup>212</sup> Aleksander Borejko Chodyko – Russian imperial diplomat, orientalist, Lithuanian poet, wrote in Polish language, slavist. Born on 30<sup>th</sup> of August 1804 in Krzywice. In 1820–1823 studied in Vilnius University. Along with other filarets in 1823–1824 he was prisoned in Vilnius Basilian monastery. In 1831–1841 he served in a Russian embassy of Prussia. Published translations of Persian poetry. Died on 27<sup>th</sup> of December 1891 in Noisy-le-Sec (France).

<sup>213</sup> Leonard Borejko Chodyko (1800–1871) – Polish historian, geographer, cartographer, publicist, painter, personal secretary of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis. He took care of the issue of M.K. Oginskis – "Memoires sur la Pologne et les polonais", Paris, Geneve, 1826 ("Memoirs About Poland and Polish"). "La Pologne historique, littéraire, monumentale et Pittoresque" ("Historical, Literary, Monuments and Picturesque Poland") was a very important three-part work of the painter, which was prepared in 1835–1842 and published in Paris. All three parts were arranged in chronological principle: first triatomic part is dedicated to an Ancient Poland history, second – to the joint Polish and Lithuanian history from the times of Jogaila and Vytautas to the times of John Sobieski, and the third covers the history of Poland in 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> c.

<sup>214</sup> I. Zaluski, Vilnius, p. 99, 100.

<sup>215</sup> Born on 24<sup>th</sup> of January 1794 in Warsaw, died on 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1845 in Iwonicz.

<sup>216</sup> G. Giunterytė Puzinienė, p. 125.

<sup>216</sup> I. Zaluski, Klaipėda, p. 149, p. 125.

On the right: extract from the noble book of the Lithuania-Vilnius Governorate about the origins of Kozelsk Oginskiai. Dukes Oginskiai considered ancestors originated from Rurik dynasty (9<sup>th</sup> c.). Vilnius. 6<sup>th</sup> June 1810. Polish, manuscript. Central State Archive of Early Acts in Moscow, F. 12, in. 1, f. 313a, p. 1.

Wypis z Księgi Szlacheckiej Gubernij  
 Litewskiej Wyrodo. Familij Uro-  
 dzonych, Wzrost z Koziołska z  
**Ogólnskich**

A. 213



W Roku 1813  
 Miesiąca Junij 7 dni

Przed nami Kazimierzem Kulistrasem Ma-  
 jorskim Gubernialnym, Orderu Anny 2gój Klasy Kawalerem, Prezydentem se-  
 wszystkich Powiatów Gubernij Litewskiej do przyjmowania i wystawiania Wywodów Szlacheckich, ob-  
 nym; zbrany zwał Wywod Familij Urodzonych, Wzrost z Koziołska Ogólnskich, Herbu Giniec / proca-  
 aby najdokładniejszy, wieloimi Dowodami z Praw y Księgiptwości Litewskiej, bój Szlacheckiej, przynależny Sz-  
 inny, ujemny Urządów Najjaśniejszych Cesarzów Rosyjskich, Książki, Księgiptwości, Praw  
 Księgi

law, he had to spend funding the uprising.<sup>217</sup>

After the defeat of the uprising, Oginskiai found out that for participating in the uprising the most likely fate for Karolis Teofilis was the death penalty. At that time, Amelia was pregnant with her daughter Ema. Zaluski family took the necessities for a living and moved to Prussia, where they temporarily settled in Klaipėda (Memel) at Griffins. The Tsarist rule seized the property of Karolis Teofilis.

Amelia had not been accused of having participated in the uprising, so she could visit Vilnius, Zalesye at any time, and bring some of their belongings left there. I. Zaluski writes: "Thanks to acquaintances and her eloquence, she managed to sue out a pension from Russia. It was a real success in such circumstances."<sup>218</sup>

On 9th of August 1831, Karolis Teofilis' father died, and after two years the second wife of his father Mariana Gorska-Zaluska also died. Iwonicz manor, which Teofilis Zaluski previously repurchased, stood empty, but Zaluski family could not move there to live because Iwonicz was in the territory of Austria. Austria did not want to worsen relations with Russia and denied the rebels immigration.

These years were very hard for Amelia. In 1831, after she gave a birth to Ema, she became ill with cholera. After a while, she became pregnant again and, in 1832, gave birth to a son Juzefas. In 1834, Zaluski family were still living in Klaipėda. There, in 1834, Karolis Bernardas was born. He inherited mother's talent for music and in written sources is described as a beloved child Amelia.

In 1835, the fifth child Irenėjus was born, and then... All children got sick dysentery. Two-year-old Juzefas died. Diseases had repeatedly chased children of Zaluskiai. Overcoming hardships, the biggest burden had Amelia as Karolis Teofilis struggled with depression, which appeared after the defeat of the November Uprising.

The ever-changing political situation turned Klaipėda into unsafe place for former rebels.

In 1834, Karolis Teofilis went to Galicia in order to find out if there are any possibilities to settle in Iwonicz with his family. With a help of a relative General Jozef Zaluski, he visited Iwonicz, looked over the manor, but there were not any possibilities to settle there.

In 1835, Prussia demanded for all the rebels to leave the country, and the Russian Emperor cancelled the amnesty. Zaluski family were planning to move to the Great Britain. In the beginning, Karolis Teofilis along with a few comrades went there. He stayed in Edinburgh, where after the uprising some comrades were granted asylum. At the beginning of 1836, he went to London, where worked for the Society of Polish Refugees. From there Karolis Teofilis went to Paris.

Left with children in Klaipėda, Amelia insisted that her husband would be allowed to live in Iwonicz. At the beginning of 1837, the good news reached Karolis Teofilis in Paris – the permission to live in Iwonicz was granted. Then he went back to Prussia, Memel, met his family and went to Iwonicz to prepare for the arrival of his wife and children.

In Wroclaw, he contracted an eye infection and for almost whole month had lost his eyesight. Amelia's sister Ema, who with her husband Ipolit Brzostowski, lived in Poland, nursed him. When the eyesight recovered, he continued his journey. In summer, Karolis Teofilis met with Jozef Zalucki in Jasienica and they together went back to Iwonicz. Jozef helped him to prepare the manor for a family living.

Iwonicz palace was small and had already started to fall down, so in such short period there was time to fix only the most important things.

In July, Amelia packed essential supplies into a five horse-drawn carriage, which belonged to Oginskiai and was very old and squeaky and drove away to Iwonicz together with her children, maid Mina and carrier Lithuanian Tomas. The oldest son Mykolas was then 10 years old, Marinija – 8, Ema – 6, Karolis Bernardas – 3, and Irenėjus – 2. They, by passing Russian controlled territories of Poland, had to overcome a long way of 1,200 kilometers. During the journey Amelia once again showed high-class organizational skills – children were not only fed on time, but also taught (verbal lessons were organized). Irenėjus suffering from rickets, as directed by doctor, was daily bathed in a saline solution.

After a month-long journey, the equipage stopped in Krosno city, situated in the south east of Poland. There Amelia accidentally met Jozef Zaluski. Karolis Teofilis quickly arrived there too. From Krosno whole family went to Iwonicz. After this journey,

the carriage was considered as a relic of Zaluski family and was preserved in the manor for more than a hundred years, sadly, during the Second World War the carriage disappeared.

Zaluski rebuilt the manor and revived gardens in a few years period. They did an investigation of mineral springs of Iwonicz and revived them for a usage – recreation and treatment. Professor Jozef Dittlis, who was the leading expert, innovator of the 19th century in Poland, once wrote, "Iwonicz spring, situated in the most beautiful places of foothills, is the spring of all springs containing iodine."<sup>219</sup>

Zaluski had more four children in Iwonicz: Stanislovas in 1838, Iwo in 1840, Ida in 1841, Franciõka (Fanë) in 1843. Servants Mina, Tomas, and the older children helped Amelia raising babies and with the housework.

Amelia, like her father, respected ordinary people, behaved kindly with them, if needed nursed them, worked together various jobs. Servants and locals respected her for this and treated as a local.

Amelia and Karolis Teofilis revived the glory of the healing springs in Iwonicz: they built new pools, a sanatorium, and few hotels (designed by Amelia) in the village.

Zaluski put their hearts to a new home – Iwonicz resort. They paid so much attention for culture, especially music, that Iwonicz and the home of Zaluski quickly became the famous cultural center and attracted artists from whole Poland. Amelia played the piano for guests and was a soul of all cultural gatherings held in their home. She also composed while living in Iwonicz.

To our days, Amelia's efforts are still remembered in Iwonicz. Mineral spring and sanatorium was named after her and a memorial plaque hangs in parish church.

K. T. Zaluski died on 28th of November 1845. He was first one to be buried in Zaluski family tomb of the Church of All Saints in Iwonicz.

After her husband's death, Amelia took control over the matters of Iwonicz manor. Iwonicz was vastly devastated during the uprising, which broke out shortly in Austria after the death of Karolis Teofilis. During the uprising teacher of Zaluski children Mr. Gnatkowski was arrested, manor and public buildings were destroyed. Iwonicz town was lucky that no slaughter reached it. During the uprising, Amelia took her children to sister Ema's house.

Cholera and typhus epidemics deteriorated the situation in a region. The mineral spring resort was forgotten, business was dying. Amelia had to declare bankruptcy, however, she managed to stay strong, and not only took care of her family, but also helped the others – together with Marinija and Ema they visited sick peasants.

In 1850, Amelia's health deteriorated, her tiring liver disease began to progress. She necessarily needed medical treatment. Amelia entrusted the matters of a resort to her staff and went to Vienna. There she caught measles, which was very dangerous for an adult to catch. After a treatment, medics advised her going to Bad Deutch-Altenburg in the Italian Alps. There she started another two-year course of treatment. In 1854, she endured a surgery (supposedly, she had a breast cancer). Later, in 1857, Amelia settled in the Southern Italy in the island of Ischia, which is the largest island in Parthenope archipelago. She died there on 5th of September 1858. Karolis Bernardas Zaluski was with his mother on that moment.

Amelia was buried on the island of Ischia. Son Karolis Bernardas took care of building a small memorial chapel with a sculpture of the Saint Virgin Mary (made by Irenëjus, who had recently become a sculptor) in honour of Amelia.

Twenty years after the family of Amelia and Karolis Teofilis arrived to Iwonicz village, researcher of springs Karolis Trochanovskis, in his publication "Iwonicz", presents the following information:

*"The village leaves a wonderful impression for a visitor. Turning right off the main road, by the tavern, there is one-kilometer length road, by which emerged rural houses and farm buildings. At the entrance, by the crossroad, where the road leads to the manor and its outbuildings, a traveler must pass through the bridge, connecting Lubatovka riverbanks. In 1783, the city Governor built this bridge of hewn stones and decorated by the coat of arms with the inscription, "If you seek long life, / Try avoiding bridges in Poland." Continuing the walk, you shall pass a parish church built of larch; church bents of four hundred years, consecrated in 1464, will be visible from that spot. [...] There is an old giant oak by the church; its top reaches church tower, probably it has seen the era of even the Piast dynasty. The old lime-tree also stands by the church; it is about a thousand years old. Across the street, there is small and nicely handled parish*

<sup>219</sup> I. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 159.

cemetery. Poplar and fir trees surround the cemetery from all sides as if a shelter for the passed away. There are graceful graves in the cemetery, including the monument for Zaluski family. In one of these graves, the Count Karolis Zaluski was buried.

Walking along the steep road, right behind Lubatovka River, and at the beginning of the village finally emerges a wide, enchanting valley with a fir forest. The valley is 950 meters long and 380 meters wide, 405 meters above the sea level. In this beautiful valley, divided into two parts by a mountain river, from the foot of Przedziwna hillside the legendary ancient mountain springs exude. There is also a mineral spring surrounded by the verdant hillside, which protects the spring from the sun and wind and noisy neighborhood.

It is necessary to mention the one most important attribute of Iwonicz area, which made this place so famous a long time ago. This is Belkotka spring – a true natural wonder. This water contains gas, formed in to bubbles; if you drop the paper into the water, it will catch fire.

The hill, of which the spring exudes, was named Przedziwna (in Polish – strange). Today Lubatovka River has been renamed to Ivoniki Potok. It flows out of the forested Carpathian foothills and flows into a quiet Sano River, which flows into the Vistula River, stretching north of Sandomierz. The biggest settlement is on the main road of Krakow-Rzeszow, 10 kilometers South from Krosno, and tourists arrives via 5 kilometers long road heading directly to South from the main road."<sup>220</sup>

Amelia shared her love for music with all nine of her children. She taught them by herself. She often played the piano, sang for them, and taught music basics. As children were getting older and they learned to play by ear, Amelia conducted music lessons for them, familiarized with creative work of the grandfather Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis.

Marinija loved music the most; she had a very pleasant voice and nicely sung. Ema and Karolis Bernardas were good at piano playing; Bernardas, as his grandfather Mykolas Kleopas, had a natural talent for improvisation.

While raising children Amelia composed many pieces of music. Here she also composed the collection of waltzes "The Sounds of Iwonicz". In 1847, Gustav, Albrecht published this collection on charitable purposes without giving the name of an author; he just

wrote a short sentence below, "Publies au profit des pauuvres"<sup>221</sup>. From Amelia's work, the A polonaise (that is a supplement to polonaise C minor, which is played by four hands) has remained, also the polonaise C minor, which Amelia dedicated to her sister living in Zalesye. D bemol mazurka, polka C, three waltzes, and three marches (D bemol, F and F minor, "Cavalry March" have remained as well.

Frederic Chopin himself and Karolis Mikelis taught Amelia's daughter Ema. She became a famous pianist.

Karolis Bernardas played the piano, composed music, was interested in the Eastern culture and languages; he was a friend of the composer Franz Liszt. At the same time, he was already known as a diplomat: he was the Austrian ambassador, attaché and special envoy in Egypt, Japan, Prussia, Sweden, China, Turkey, Persia, and Siam.

Brothers Iwo Zaluski and Andrzej Zaluski are the grand-grand-grandchildren of Amelia and Karolis Teofilis Zaluskiai. They now live in Britain. They are researchers of music history, publishers, and promoters of musical heritage of Oginskiai.

#### EMA OGINSKYTĖ-BRZOSTOWSKA-VYSOCKA (1809/1810–1871)

Ema Oginskytė-Brzostowska-Vysocka was the middle daughter of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis and Maria de Neri. From the early days, she like sister Amelia and brother Irenėjus, travelled a lot along with her parents. The Countess received proper education at home, as renowned teachers of that time were hired for her.

She had inclination to the arts since childhood. She, Amelia, and other family members played and composed music together. Ema and Amelia were taught music by the Italian singer D. Palliani. They also participated and played in performances and concerts held in Zalesye manor. Historians believe that M. K. Oginskis wrote duets for his daughters. They often played the piano by four hands.

In her book "Vilnius and Lithuanian Manors", G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė mentions Ema Oginskytė. She writes that the middle daughter of Maria de Neri, "Ema in one meeting in Kairėnai at Messieurs Lopacinski captured the attention of Count Ipolitas Brzostowski from the Kingdom."<sup>222</sup>

After creating a family, Ema Oginskytė and Ipolitas

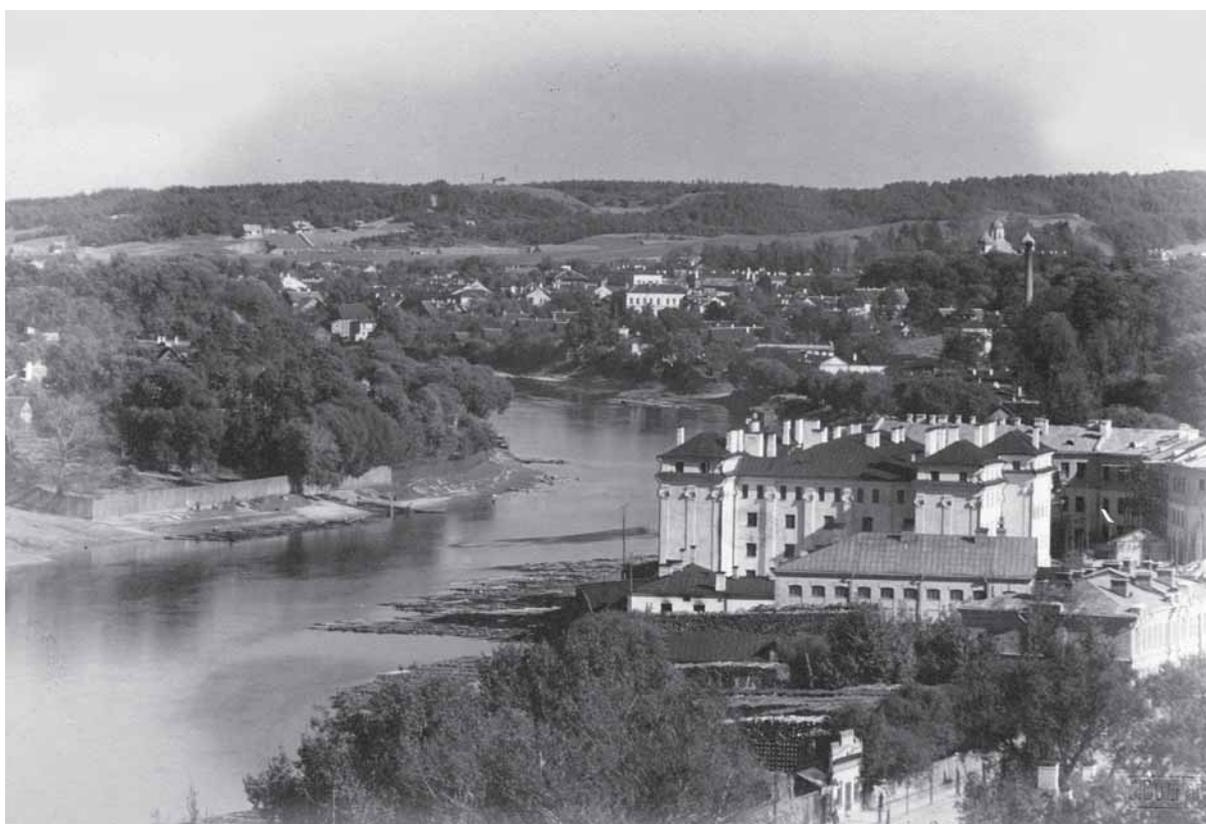
<sup>220</sup> I. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 160.

<sup>221</sup> Translation from the French language: "Published in a non-commercial purposes".

<sup>222</sup> G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė, p. 125.



The oldest known image of the Slushko Palace. Painter Pranciškus Smuglevičius (1745–1807). 1785–1786, Reproduction from the archives of the Regional Cultural Initiatives Center



View of Vilnius. On the right: Slushko Palace, 1915. Photo by Jan Brunon Bulhak (1876–1950), Lithuanian Art Museum, LDM Fi-316/19

Mykolas Rokas Brzostowski (Pol. Hipolit Michal Roch Brzostowski, died in 1872.) lived in the southern Poland, near Czestachova. Ema visited her sister Amelia oftenly, especially when their family settled in Iwonicz.

In the beginning of 1833, when Mykolas Kleopas health rapidly deteriorated, Ema with her husband arrived to Florence; she was pregnant at the time. After visiting Mykolas Kleopas, Brzostowski family decided to stay in Italy for one year. They settled in Viareggio. They returned to Florence in the late summer. Here, Emma gave birth to a daughter Helen Maria (1833–1892), who was mostly called Lena. Ema wanted Mykolas Kleopas to see her daughter and brought her to him. At that time, Mykolas Kleopas was already chained to the bed. He only managed to raise his hand and bless the baby, recognizing that she was his granddaughter. M. K. Oginskis died on 15<sup>th</sup> of October 1833. In that hour, his daughter Ema was with him. After a while, Ema broke up with Ipolit and married Antoni Vysocki (1796–1877) in 1844. They did not have children.

A. Vysocki was a famous artist from Krakow. Emma, living with him, devoted a lot of time for music. As long as Amelia was alive, she frequently visited her in Iwonicz. When, in 1845, Amelia's husband Karolis Teofilis got sick and he needed to go for a treatment, Ema let her sister to go with him as she took care of Zaluski's youngest daughter in Krakow.

Ema's daughter Helen Maria on 9th of May 1860 married her cousin Mykolas Karolis Zaluski (the son of Amelia Oginskytė and Karolis Teofilis Zaluski, 1828–1893). After his mother's death, Mykolas Karolis was entrusted to govern Iwonicz. In 1861, the son Karolis was born, however he died after a year. The boy was buried in the family tomb near the grandfather K. T. Zaluski. In 1863, for Helen Maria and Mykolas Karolis Zaluski daughter Ema (Emilia) was born.

IDA OGINSKYTĖ KUBLICKA PIOTTUCH  
(1813 – after 1843)

The only fact left about the youngest daughter of M. K. Oginskis and Maria Neri is that she was exceptionally beautiful. In the book "Vilnius and Lithuanian Manors", G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė writes about the Dabraulėnai manor life<sup>223</sup>:

*"Several carriages drove to our porch in the afternoon. Illuminated rooms were filled with cheerful guests, and everyone's eyes were set on the beautiful Duchess Ida Oginskytė, who was her prime beauty of the age of 18: black fiery eyes, entertaining smile, beautiful posture, accent, skin color, everything showed that she was Italian [...]".*

G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė writes about a noble party held in 1830 (costume Tuesday it was called):

*"Everyone's eyes turned on the Neapolitan with fiery black eyes like a volcano; she was the Duchess Ida Oginskytė. Someone wishing to curry a favor from the Senator's wife said that, "the daughter recalls her own youth." However, Ida's mother was more proud of the beauty of her daughter than being vain of her own, therefore she snapped bitterly: "Quelle idée, je n'avais jamais ces beaux yeux!"<sup>224</sup>. Ida is truly the Queen of the banquet!"<sup>225</sup>*

G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė adds:

*"In 1830, the beautiful Ida was given into marriage with Adolfas Kublicki, who was the only choice in these years. He was ugly, bloated, but honest, rich and educated. He looked badly by his beautiful fiancée, who was tired of life at home, so she used to say, "J'epouserai Witkowski pour quitter la maison"<sup>226</sup>, but a merchant from Kharkov was even uglier than Mr. Adolfa<sup>227</sup>".*

As already mentioned, from the book of G. Giunterytės-Puzinienė we learnt that, in 1838, Ida already had a four-year-old son Karolis. G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė writes about the most important events of Vilnius in 1843 and again noble parties: "In those more numerous gatherings more elaborate toilets could be seen. Many remembered the lemon-colored crepe gown with bright red camellias, in which Ida Kublicka appeared in the party, that beauty of Griudon, for a long time unseen

<sup>223</sup> G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė, p. 110.

<sup>224</sup> Translation from French to English language: "It is a strange thought, I have never had such a beautiful eyes!"

<sup>225</sup> G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė, p. 118–119.

<sup>226</sup> Translation from French language: "I will marry Witkowski in order to leave home".

<sup>227</sup> Adolf Witkowski.

On the right (from the top): Luis Philippe Alphonse Bichebois (1801–1850), Albertas Vaitiekus Pametas (1821?–1876), Jan Kazimierz Wilczynski (1806–1885), "The surroundings of Vilnius. Vingis", 1848, Lithuanian Art Museum, LDM G-2504; Victor Vincent Adam (1801–1866), Luis Philippe Alphonse Bichebois (1801–1850), Albertas Vaitiekus Pametas (1821?–1876), Jan Kazimierz Wilczynski (1806–1885), "Verkiiai. Rural school", 1848, Lithuanian Art Museum, LDM G-674a



in Vilnius."<sup>228</sup> A further life of Ida Kublicka-Piottuch and the date of her death are not known.

#### IRENĖJUS KLEOPAS OGINSKIS (1808–1863)

Irenėjus Kleopas Oginskis was the only son born in the marriage of Mykolas Kleopas and Marija de Neri. He was born in Florence. At first, he studied at home, and later in Italy. The letter of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis ("Precepts to a Son", 1822) is dedicated to the 14 years old Irenėjus before leaving to study in Italy and has remained to the current day.

A. Zaluski writes that, "When M. K Oginskis lived in Italy, he wanted to employ his son Irenėjus in the Russian Embassy in Florence, and he did that with a help of the minister of the Kingdom Grabowski"<sup>229</sup>.

The father and son corresponded to each other during the subsequent years. Under his father's request, Irenėjus moved his archive from Zalesye to St. Petersburg, from where manuscripts and other documents during upheavals were shifted to Moscow. I. Zaluski writes that later Irenėjus lived in St. Petersburg. Like his father, he was enamored with music. After the death of his father, Irenėjus inherited a large property, including Rietavas manor and Juodainiai village (Laukuva Eldership, Ėilalė District).

When Mykolas Kleopas went to live in Italy, Maria de Neri, who with children fled to the former territory of the Polish-Lithuania Commonwealth, supervised his manors and other property. Later, when she got sick and went to Italy, using inheritance law Irenėjus began to take care of the inherited manors. He settled in Rietavas manor, additionally bought Endriejavas and Veivirpėnai (both villages of Klaipėda District), where he governed progressively. I. K. Oginskis had two wives: the daughter of the Polish Army General Joseph Kalinowski and Emilia Potocka Juzefa Kalinowska (1816–1844), who died young and did not have offspring; and the sister of the first wife, maid of honor of the Tsar Alexander II Olga Kalinowska (1820–20th of April 1899), with whom they had two sons. These family relations granted a patronage of the Tsar Palace for I. K.

Oginskis himself and other Oginskiai family members. Marrying Olga, I. K. Oginskis received not only a rich wife (the Russian Emperor assigned 7 manors in Russia and around 2 million rouble in gold), but also a strong patronage of the Tsar.<sup>230</sup>

Literary sources<sup>231</sup> reveal that even Prince Alexander (the future Emperor Alexander II<sup>232</sup>) was in love with Olga. In his book "History of Vilnius Streets. Route of the Rulers. The first book. Rūdninkai Street" (Vilnius, 2001), Antanas Rimvydas Ėaplinskas writes that until 1830, Irenėjus worked for the Russian Embassy in Italy. Later he lived in St. Petersburg for some time, where, in 1841, he was arrested and imprisoned.

The essence of his crime was lost in the pages of history and now is unknown<sup>233</sup>. In Zalesye, his mother wrote on behalf of Irenėjus for the ministers, asking for mediation in the name of her son. Irenėjus was released. This dubious event, the fact that Irenėjus was indebted for the Emperor, may have had something to do with the matters of Kalinowska. Irenėjus was married to Juzefa Kalinowska, who died in 1844. After four years, in 1848, he married her sister Olga Kalinowska, who was beloved by Prince Alexander. Marriage was organized with a blessing of his father Tsar Nicholas I, because Olga was pregnant. Later, there were rumors that the child's father was not the Prince, but Emperor Nicholas.

Immediately after the marriage Olga gave birth to a son Bogdanas (born on 29th January 1848, Königsberg, died on 8th April 1909 in Rietavas). He was given the surname of Oginskis, as though not genetically, but born in marriage, he was legitimate child of Irenėjus.

The important fact was that Oginskiai family name, which was an appropriate name and completely acceptable for Emperor's family, occurred at the right time. Irenėjus reputation was now flawless, his escapade in 1841 was declared as unfounded and Irenėjus fully regained the favor of the Emperor.<sup>234</sup>

Diaries of Olga Kalinowska are stored in the Department of Rare Manuscripts of Vilnius University [Vol. 1–1836–1839; Vol. 2–1839–1840]. They are written in French and none scientific study has been done on them yet.

<sup>228</sup> G. Giunterytė-Puzinienė, p. 125.

<sup>229</sup> A. Zaluski, Vilnius, p. 89.

<sup>230</sup> Eleonora Ravickienė, *Atsisveikinimas su tėvyne* ("Farewell to the Homeland"), Vilnius: Mokslo ir enciklopedijų leidykla, 1992, p. 16.

<sup>231</sup> I. Zaluski, Klaipėda, p. 183.

<sup>232</sup> Alexander II – Russian Emperor, King of Poland and the Grand Duke of Finland (1855–1881). Born on 29th of April 1818 in Moscow, died on 13th of March 1881 in Saint Petersburg. His father was the Tsar Nicholas I, mother Tsarina Alexandra Feodorovna. He inherited the throne after the father's death in 1855.

<sup>233</sup> Eleonora Ravickienė in a book *Atsisveikinimas su tėvyne* ("Farewell to the Homeland") writes, that it could be related to the fact that Irenėjus Oginskis was contributed to the Uprising in 1831.

The first child born in the marriage of Olga and Irenėjus had four names: Bogdanas Pranciškus Juozapas Mykolas. The second son was Mykolas Mikalojus Severinas Markas (1849–1902). They were often called by their first names.

Bogdanas in Russian means Bogom danyj (*God-given*). It is evident from the photos that he resembled the Tsar Alexander II.

Bogdanas and Mykolas recovered the title of a Duke. Their grandfather Mykolas Kleopas tried to recover it too. Even though he originated from the Dukes Oginskiai family, unfortunately through a variety of historical upheavals, expropriations and divisions, the duke title was lost and he could officially call himself and sign only as a count. However, in many written sources he was still called the duke. After his father's death, in 1863, Bogdanas inherited Rietavas, Mykolas – Zalesye. E. Ravickienė writes:

*"I. Oginski as his residency chose the old Rietavas manor, where Jaujupis flows into Jūra. He ordered to tear down all old dwellings and build a new town in another place. A pond with islets was excavated in the greatest street of town; splendid palace was built in marketplace square. For tearing down the dwellings, residents got compensations. The park was formed and orchard was planted. There were 95 strains of tree. Rare plants blossomed in orangery. There were 206 species of flowers: 106 of roses, 72 of solid dahlia and a variety of others. He brought seedling from Berlin, Tilsit, Königsberg, Zalesye. Several statues were built nearby the palace. About 3 million gold roubles were spent for all work done in Rietavas."*<sup>235</sup>

When Irenėjus began governing in Rietavas manor, the life in the manor and throughout the town began to change very quickly. He established a hospital, pharmacy, retirement home and orphanage, post office in Rietavas. In 1835, I. Oginskis abolished serfdom in his manors. He was a member of a special Kaunas Governorate Committee solving the abolition of serfdom issues. In 1836, under concern of Duke Irenėjus two-class school began its work. In the 5th decade of the 19th century, on his initiative, the manor palace was rebuilt to a spectacular palace and, in 1859, orangery was built.

Around the year 1850, I. Oginskis instructed to replan the Rietavas town under classical manner. In 1859, I. K. Oginskis established the Two-Class Agronomy School in Rietavas – the first school of agronomy in Lithuania. At that time, I. K. Oginskis did a lot of other work, which contributed the agricultural and cattle breeding development and technical progress. Irenėjus had an artistic nature, lucid mind, spoke well Samogitian, and took care of an education of locals. He supported the Samogitian cultural movement and its activists Simonas Daukantas and Mykolas Akelaitis. In 1846, he sponsored the publication of the first Lithuanian calendar "Metskaitliai" (the first Lithuanian periodical), and distributed books of Simonas Daukantas. Thanks to I. K. Oginskis, Rietavas became an important economic and cultural center of Samogitia. Two his sons Mykolas and Bogdanas did a lot of work in the following years organizing and establishing music schools, orchestras in Rietavas and Plungė, although even they were not always able to agree with local people. Oginskiai family name is beautifully perpetuated in Rietavas church, which construction they funded. Here, in 1863, artist A. Cattier created I. Oginskis monument-bust of a black and white marble. Next to it, slightly above, there is a bust of Olga created by the same artist. Irenėjus Oginskis died in 1863 in Rietavas (before the beginning of the uprising), while being 55 years old. The Duke's tomb with a black stela is in Rietavas, near Oginskiai family chapel (built from 1873 to 1874 m.). There his wife Olga and two sons – Mykolas and Bogdanas were also buried. Earlier in the place where I. Oginskis formed the manor park, was also serfs cemetery, therefore, when constructing the chapel, cellars for departed were made between double walls. A metal twig fence surrounded the chapel and a large area around it. During the mass, only the priest and the sacristan stayed inside – all others gathered to pray outside by the mausoleum on a graveled area. There was the Neo-Gothic-style crucifix with a small bell by the chapel. However, only the crucifix remained. Records left inside the chapel show that the sculptor Leon Bucneau from Brussels designed it.

<sup>234</sup> J. Zaluskis, Klaipėda, p. 183.

<sup>235</sup> E. Ravickienė, *Atsisveikinimas su tėvyne* ("Farewell to the Homeland"), p. 16–17.