

Janusz Smołucha

ORCID: 0000-0003-2633-7093
Akademia Ignatianum w Krakowie

Introduction

The current issue of the journal includes eleven articles. It opens with an argument by Jerzy Brzozowski on the question of the theoretical and practical legitimacy of the use of modern, and, in fact, colloquial language in the translation of the Holy Scriptures. Referring to the example of the Paulian Bible, which was intended to be characterized by language understandable to the modern reader, the author notes that only ostensibly “modern language” was used. Moreover, full phrases from the Millennium Bible were borrowed in many places. Then follows a discussion by Nicholas Coureas based on Venetian and Genoese notarial deeds drawn up in Cyprus between 1362 and 1458, on the relationships between household slaves or servants and their owners. It turns out that they were very often supported by wills containing bequests for the benefit of slave women and illegitimate children born of these relationships.

Wojciech Kęder analyzed the dispatches of papal diplomats in Europe during the Russian-Turkish War of 1768–1774. The author noted that among the many pieces of information reaching the Secretariat of State at the time, those coming from the Turkish-Russian borderlands and the border lands of the Polish Commonwealth were particularly misleading. Only by confronting these data with other reports did the heads of papal diplomacy have the opportunity to reconstruct a correct picture of this war. The following article by Henryk Benisz shows the life and work of John Jacques Rousseau in the light of classical Greek tragedy. Although Rousseau played the role of victim and martyr throughout his

life, in reality he was a persecutor of those close to him and an abuser of his own children. In the name of the ideas he promoted, Rousseau put on many masks that allowed him to manipulate people at will and adapt the world to his needs. In the following text, Michał Filipchuk took up the analysis of the philosophical literary criticism of Stanley Cavell, an advocate of the mutual complementarity of philosophy and literature. Cavell should be situated at the intersection of many intellectual currents, as his research interests included not only philosophy, but also film, theater, music and literature. The author focused on a few selected aspects of Stanley Cavell's oeuvre overlooked by previous researchers in the context of his use of philosophy to interpret literary texts.

Karol Miernik's article deals with the idea of progress in the writings of Józef Ordęga (1802–1879), a participant in the November Uprising and later an activist of the Great Emigration in France. Following the doctrine of utopian socialism, Ordęga claimed that the progress consisted of humanity fulfilling the goals revealed by God. In this sense, the ideas of the French Revolution had to be linked to the Catholic doctrine, where the slogans of freedom, equality and fraternity were in fact the realization of Christ's teachings. In the next text, Maria Ujwary dealt with introducing the figure of Stanisław Krauze (1902–1977) and his influence on the culture of food and nutrition in Poland. Krauze was the founder of the Polish school of bromatology, a science that deals with food, its composition and nutritional values, hygiene in production processes and its proper storage and circulation. In Piotr Ufnal's article we find an analysis of the birth and development of the parish press in Poland using the example of the Szczecin-Kamień archdiocese. The author noted that after its rapid growth in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the parish press began to slowly disappear. The paper also addresses issues related to the typology and systematization of the term "parish press".

Mikołaj Sokołowski's text analyzes the factors influencing the shape of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) trade agreement between the United States and the European Union and its transformations in recent years. Specifically, it details the contentious elements around which the various negotiating rounds took place, and the role of lobbying groups that influenced both sides during the ongoing negotiations. In the following article, Ewa Modzelewska-Opara analyzed the manuscripts she found of August Antoni Jakubowski, a Polish poet who died in 1837 in the USA and participated in the November Uprising. These texts are the first known materials written by his hand. Jakubowski's manuscripts were found in the collection of Simon Gratz at the Historical

Society of Pennsylvania. They exemplify Jakubowski's versatile writing and poetic skills and show him and his work in a new light.

In the last text included in this volume, Jan Wadowski addressed the similarities and differences in the description of Western civilization contained in the writings of French political philosopher Chantal Delsol and in the eco-philosophy of Henryk Skolimowski. The latter, subjecting Western civilization to total criticism, proposed his own philosophical concept as a way to recover from this decline. Chantal Delsol, who also analyzed the various weaknesses and infirmities of Western civilization, and, like Skolimowski, proposed her solutions to the current crisis. Both scholars maintain that the collapse of civilization is mainly spiritual in nature and its source is to be found in the rejection of the traditional roots of Western culture.

The Editors wish you a good reading experience.

