



PARENTS OF MYKOLAS KLEOPAS OGINSKIS³¹

Mother of M. K. Oginskis was the Countess Paula³² Szembek (1737–1798), father – the Grand Chancellor of Lithuania, the Voivode of Trakai and Castellan Count Andrius Ignas Joachimas Juozapotas Oginskis (1740–1787). They married on 21st of July 1763 in Guzow (near Warsaw, Lodz Voivodeship, Poland). Paula Szembek's parents were the counts Jadwiga Rudnicka and the elder of Brest, Adjutant General Marek Szembek.

COUNTESS PAULA SZEMBEK (1737–1798)

Paula was born in Brest (Poland). She married three times. Her first husband was a Count Celestin Lubanski³³. In this marriage, Paula had a son Feliks Valezjusza Wladyslaw Lubenski. C. Lubenski died on 16th of January 1759. After the first marriage, P. Szembek married Jan Prosper Potocki³⁴ the son of Belza Voivode and Guzow elder Antonio Michala Potocki (1702–1766) and Liudvika Marija Sapiegaitė (1682–1736). On 27th of November 1760, the King Augustus III signed an agreement transferring Guzow ward for Jan Prosper Potocki and his wife Paula until their death. Paula and Jan's son Antonio Protazo (Proto) Jach Potocki was born on the 2nd of September 1761. His father suddenly died on the 23rd of January 1762 in Kosovo and was buried in the Miedniewice Monastery. On the 21st of July 1763, P. Szembek married for the third time the renowned

politician Andrius Oginskis (1740–1787). Their marriage was registered in the Church of Miedniewice Reformed. They had two children – daughter Juzefa Sofija Oginskytė (1761/1764–1847)³⁵ and son Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis (1765–1833). On the backside of Paula Szembek's portrait (which until this day is kept by the Krasicki family in Poland), the unknown author left a note which ends with the words "Pauline from Szembek family [...] is a Lady in Lithuania, Russia and Poland". Mykolas Kleopas in his memoirs states:

*"My mother Pauline, maiden name Countess Szembek, first married Lubenski, who lived for a very short time. The second time she married Potocki, who about a year later left her a widow. Finally, she married my father Oginskis. [...] As my mother had a son with every husband, in the public eye she was often called the mother of the three provinces. My mother was one of the most beautiful Polish ladies, her behaviour was impeccable, and she could have been the best example of a dutiful wife and the most kind of mothers."*³⁶

Paula Szembek died on 20th of January 1798. She was buried in Franciscan Monastery of the Miedniewice, next to her second and third husbands.

ANDRIUS BOBOLA JOACHIMAS JUOZAPATAS ADOMAS OGINSKIS (1740–1787)

The Duke Andrius Oginskis was a son of the politician of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania Tadas

³¹ An information about Andrius Oginskis, used during the preparation of the text, was presented in a book *Valdovø kelias: Rūdninkø gatvė* ("Rulers Path: Street Rudininkai"), Vilnius: Charibdė, 2001, written by Antanas Rimvydas Ėaplinskis, Vilnius: Charibdė, 2001).

³² In written and literary sources, she is often called Polina or Paulina.

³³ Count Celestin Lubanski – a high officer of King's manor.

³⁴ Jan Prosper Potocki (1734–1761) – son of the Voivode of Belz and the Elder of Guzow – Antoni Michai Potocki, Polish war figure, Polish lieutenant-general. On 2nd of September 1761, while living with him in marriage Paula (Paulina) Szembek gave birth to a son Antoni Prot (Protazy) Jacek Potocki (1761–1801), who became a banker, factory owner and a voivode of Kiev. Jan Prosper Potocki died on 23rd of January 1762. Buried in a cellar of Miedniewice monastery (Poland).

³⁵ Juzefa Sofija Oginskytė – sister of Mykolas Kleopas Oginskis. She was born in 1761 or on 15th of July 1764 in Vienna, died in 1847. As well as her mother, she has been married for three times. Her husbands were Ignas Oginskis, Ignas Ėiūka and Jonas Nikodemus Lopacinskis.

³⁶ M. K. Oginskis, *Atsiminimai*, p. 7.

Pranciškus Oginskis (1712–1783) and Izabelė Kotryna Radvilaitė (?–1761).

Andrius Oginskis was born on 13th of April 1740 in Taduline (Vitebsk Voivodeship³⁷). In 1755, at the age of 15, he received the rank of a colonel, which was ceded by the relative from the father's side Ignas Oginskis³⁸. In spring 1757, his father signed away Andrius Oginskis to Aðmena Eldership; and on 4th November 1757, Andrius became the supervising officer of the Seimelis of Aðmena. In October 1758, A. Oginskis was a representative from the Duchy of Livonia in the Seimas; in 1760, as a representative of Kaunas, Andrius Oginskis got the stick of the Tribunal of Lithuania. In addition, on 8th of October 1762 in Warsaw, as representative of the Duchy of Livonia, A. Oginskis was ranked as the Great Armourer of Lithuania. With this, he was rewarded for signing the Brulow rights manifesto of Polish szlachta.

A. Oginskis married Paula Szembek on 21st of July 1763 in Guzow. In 1764, he became the governor of Guzow. The main residence of A. and P. Oginskiai became the Guzow manor. There Andrius Oginskis mostly focused on economic development and with that, in 1783, he implemented land division, preservation and reclamation reforms.

Being married, Andrius Oginskis continued to participate in political arena. In May 1764 (when there was no actual ruling power in the country), he signed the Czartoryski Confederation Act in Warsaw; and when the King of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was crowned in Seimas, A. Oginskis swore to S. A. Poniatowski. In 1766, he was a member of the Treasury Commission of Lithuania (Finance Committee). In 1769, the Senate obliged him to be the special envoy to St. Petersburg. A. Oginskis stayed in St. Petersburg for a short range of time (from 30th of September to 6th of October), because he did not know the decision of Empress Catherine II not to accept any delegations. Unfortunately, because of this trip the Bar confederates declared A. Oginskis an enemy and abolished his holdings; whereas the King S. A. Poniatowski acted contrary and awarded A. Oginskis with the White Eagle and St. Stanislaw Orders. Moreover, on 21st of November 1771 S. A. Poniatowski entrusted A. Oginskis for the rapporteur of Lithuania (envoy) position.

In December 1771, A. Oginskis was obliged to be

the special envoy for a mission in Vienna. By this, the King S. A. Poniatowski was hoping to reach the Austrian diplomatic support and help to unite the Bar confederates and the throne. A. Oginskis left for Vienna from Warsaw on January 1772 and reached the destination on mid-February. In Vienna, A. Oginskis began the negotiations with the Bar confederates led by M. J. Pacas, however discussions were unproductive. During a farewell audience (A. Oginskis left Vienna on December 1772) envoys of Austrian emperor confirmed that the partition of Lithuanian-Polish Commonwealth between Austria, Prussia and Russia is inevitable and the King Augustus resistance could only deteriorate the situation. Therefore, the mission failed. On 27th of April 1773, A. Oginskis became the Great Chancellor of Lithuania. In June 1773, he took part in secret confederations and as the King's attorney discussed the structure of the government, the necessary actions that had to be made after the partition of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Once again, now the Seimas delegated A. Oginskis to Vienna. In September 1774, he was involved into diplomatic activities with the exception that this time he was rewarded with success. After his return, the Seimas appointed A. Oginskis as the governor of Guzow, Kadaria, Mockai and Plateliai (Trakai Province) elderships.

In 1774, A. Oginskis was the envoy and worked as an authorized minister in St. Petersburg. In July 1775, in Seimas he became the Trakai Voivodeship deputy in Seimas. In the same year, childless Aunt Elena Oginskienė³⁹ bequeathed upon him the lands in Podlachia and folwark in Samogitia, which was a part of Plungė eldership.

In 1778, A. Oginskis became the Castellan of Trakai and in the same year on 13th of May – the member of the Senate. In that year, he also was the Grand Marshal of Lithuania. In 1780, A. Oginskis was a senator, the elder of Aðmena, the Voivode of Brest and from December 1783, the Voivode of Trakai.

In November 1783, Andrius Oginskis received the legacy of his father Tadas Pranciškus Oginskis – Izabelin lands in Aðmena Powiat.

In 1786, A. Oginskis completed the release and publication of the "Brief Instructions for People Who Run the Service at the Farm [...]". A. Oginskis was one of the founders of the Masonic Lodge "Temple of Wisdom" – a lodge reorganized from "St. Charles Knights" Lodge.



Luis Philippe Alphonse Bichebois (1801–1850), Kanutas Ruseckas (1800–1860). "The surroundings of Vilnius. Antakalnis". 1848. Lithuanian Art Museum, LDM G-12827

Andrius Oginskis died on 12th of September 1787 in Guzow and was buried in Miedniewice Franciscan Monastery. After A. Oginskis death, his wife

Paula continued to live in Guzow with the eldest son Feliks Valezjusza Wladislaw and the teacher of Mykolas Kleopas Jean Rolay⁴⁰.

³⁷ Vitebsk Voivodeship – administrative territorial units of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania since 1503 and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1569–1793). From the year of 1772, it was existing nominally. Capital – Vitebsk.

³⁸ Ignas (Ignotas) Oginskis – war and political figure of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, marshal of the Lithuanian Chief Tribunal, one of the first Lithuanian masons. From 1774 Lithuanian manor marshal, between 15th of April 1750 and 22nd of February 1768 Lithuanian chief marshal, from 1768 – castellan of Vilnius. Also he was the Voivode of Trakai. Two times was sent with orders to Saint Petersburg by August III. On 11th of August 1736 he was awarded by an order of the White Eagle. Born in 1698, died on 26th of February 1775 in Halle (Germany). He was the son of Martynas Mykolas Oginskis (1672–1750). Brothers: Pranciškus Ksaveras Oginskis (18th c. – after 1750), Tadas Pranciškus Oginskis (1712–1783), Kazimieras Ignotas Oginskis (18th c. – after 1769), Stanislovas Jurgis Oginskis (1710–1748).

³⁹ M. K. Oginskis grandfather's Tadas Pranciškus Oginskis (1712–1783) brother's Ignas Oginskis (1698–1775) wife was Elena (Halina) Oginskytė-Oginskienė. She was born in about 1700, died in about 1790–1792. Written sources states that E. Oginskytė-Oginskienė was a diplomat and her husband Ignotas Oginskis did a role of representor. She has been referred as "a beautiful lady, wise and strong enough to break horseshoes". Together with her husband Ignotas, she was a collator of the church in Salantai, in 1765–1771 she funded a construction of the church in Grūdlaukė (subdivision of the church in Salantai). The church was built in 1778 and burned down in 1945. Elena and Ignotas ruled manors of Luokė, Vaiguva and Grūdlaukė in Samogitia region. Elena inherited the manor of Grūdlaukė after her father's death as a bride's dowry. In 1768–1771, Elena and Ignotas built a three floor building corps of Oginski Palace near the street Rudininkai. Then the houses, which stood there before the construction, were added in the area of palace. The building took a place from the current North-western wall till the inner longitudinal wall.

⁴⁰ Jean Rolay (1735–1808) – pedagogue, bibliographer, bibliophile.