

Biography of Józef Siemiradzki



Dr. J. Siemiradzki

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ABSTRACT: In this work, the biography of Józef Siemiradzki (1858-1933) has been documented by various archival materials, and accompanied by the list of his most important publications. Józef Siemiradzki was a Professor of Palaeontology at Jan Kazimierz University in Lvov, Member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, Honorary Member of the Polish Geological Institute, Commander of the Order of Polonia Restituta, Defender of Lvov, awarded the Cross of Valour. He co-operated with the Museum of the Physiographic Commission in Kraków and the Dzieduszycki Museum in Lvov. He was a representative of the National Department of the Galician *Sejm* in the expedition to Brazil in aim to support Polish emigrants. He wrote over 60 treatises, *e.g.* "Explanations to the Geological Map" – the first synthetic presentation of the geological structure of Polish lands, "Geology of Polish Lands" – the first monograph on the geological structure of Poland written in 20th century, and "Palaeozoology" – the first Polish textbook on palaeontology for academic use. In the field of palaeontology and stratigraphy he has been known as an author of the monograph on the Upper Jurassic ammonites from the Kraków Upland and the monograph on the genus *Perisphinctes* of Western Europe.

INTRODUCTION

The text and illustrations are a contribution by the author (E.G.) to the exhibition „Professor Józef Siemiradzki (1858-1933) a positivist and geologist” presented to accompany the events of the 7th Jurassic Congress on the Jurassic System in Kraków in 2006. The exhibition was organised by Ewa Głowniak (University of Warsaw) in co-operation with the Museum of the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków.

SKETCHING THE PROFILE

Józef Siemiradzki (Figs 1, 3) was active at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. It was a time of

great discoveries in science and of major turning points in politics. He was a positivist. As did other scientists of his generation, he believed that science and work for society could strengthen the country and create foundations for its future existence. He passed away in the year when Poland regained its independence.

Józef Siemiradzki worked in Lvov. He was a Professor of Palaeontology at Jan Kazimierz University (Fig. 2) and member of respected Polish scientific societies: The Learned Society of Warsaw, The Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków (later the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences), The Learned Society in Lvov and the Mikołaj Kopernik Polish Society of Naturalists in Lvov. He was a board member of social institutions supporting Polish emigrants. Above all, he was a versatile researcher specialising in the geology of Poland.



Fig. 1. Józef Siemiradzki, by 1900. Source of photograph: Siemiradzki, J. 1900. *Szlakiem Wychodźców, wspomnienia z podróży po Brazylii, odbytej z polecenia Galicyjskiego Wydziału Krajowego*, 1, 154 pp. A. T. Jezierski, Warszawa.

He wrote over 60 treatises (*cf.* list of his publications in this paper), including papers on petrography, mineralogy, geological mapping and palaeontology. In the field of stratigraphy he focused on the Cambrian to Quaternary periods ("diluvium") (Fig. 4). He carried out systematic studies on the faunas of different areas, from the Tatry Mountains to Žmudź, and from the Świętokrzyskie Mountains to Podole. He was the author of the first Polish textbook on palaeontology for academic use, the first part of which was entitled "*Paleozoologia*" (Siemiradzki 1925) (Fig. 5). His "Explanations to the Geological Map" co-authored with Emil Dunikowski (Siemiradzki and Dunikowski 1891) (Fig. 6), were the first synthetic presentation of the geological structure of Polish lands under the rule

of Russia, Austria and Prussia. The later "*Geologia Ziemi Polskich*" (Geology of Polish Lands) in two volumes, issued twice in Lvov (in 1903-09 and in 1922-28), was used by generations of Polish geologists. In the opinion of Małkowski (1971), this book was one of the greatest achievements in Polish geology in the times before World War I. It was the first monograph on the geological structure of Poland since that of G. G. Pusch (1836), and the first book of the kind ever written in Polish. In Europe he has been known as an author of the monograph on the ammonites of the genus *Perisphinctes* (Siemiradzki 1898-99).

Józef Siemiradzki was intent on popularizing natural sciences. He wrote over 100 works on popular science: from news to engulfing stories inspired with his expeditions to South America. He also ventured into novel writing: his short novels were published in Warsaw literary magazines, such as *Tygodnik Ilustrowany* (Illustrated Weekly) or *Biesiada Literacka* (Literary Feast). They were published next to instalments of *Krzyżacy* (The Teutonic Knights) by Henryk Sienkiewicz, novels by Bolesław Prus or short stories by Maria Konopnicka.

Gustaw Manteuffel (1911, p. 221) noted with appreciation:

"... A number of Polish scientists from the Western European University in Dorpat could be increased significantly..., let me just name the Dorpat Doctor of Mineralogy Józef Siemiradzki (son of a colonel and commander of a Hussar regiment famous for his nobleness,



Fig. 2. The former University building in Lvov, St. Nicolas Street (currently Hruszewski Street), postcard, 1842-1844. Property and copy prepared by BNI.

brother of Henryk, ever much regretted master of Polish painting). Works of Doctor Józef Siemiradzki supported the progress of science, and currently he is a professor at the Technical University of Lvov...”.

SELECTED FIELDS OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

From Dorpat to Warsaw (1878-1887)

Józef Siemiradzki completed his studies at the University in Dorpat (renamed Yuryev, now Tartu, Estonia) (Fig. 7), in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. As a student he was the author of several scientific articles in the field of mineralogy, which were published *e.g.* in the *Sitzungsberichte der Naturforscher-Gesellschaft bei der Universität Dorpat*, its university journal. He was awarded the Master's degree and then the Doctor's degree on the basis of the published theses “Die geognostischen Vehältnisse der Insel Martinique” (Siemiradzki 1884) (Fig. 8) and “Ein Beitrag zur Kenntniss der typischen Andesitgesteine” (Siemiradzki 1885), respectively. He had collected the material for theses during his expedition to the Northern Andes in the years of 1882-83.

The *Cesarea Universitas Dorpatensis* (the Imperial University of Dorpat) was founded by the Russian Tsar Alexander I in 1802 in place of the former Swedish academy *Universitas Gustaviana* (*cf.* Manteuffel 1911). Over a period of the 90 years of its existence it became a highly recognized university centre, supporting 70 university chairs. The professors and assistant professors came mainly from Germany and the students from the Baltic countries. About 14 thousand students graduated in the Dorpat University. 300 of them became professors and assistant professors at Russian or Western European universities. Many held responsible positions in civil and military service of the Tsar. Among the distinguished graduates of the University were the following professors of the legendary academic institution in Warsaw, the *Szkoła Główna*: Benedykt Dybowski – Professor of Zoology, and the explorer of Lake Baikal; Konstanty Górska – Professor of Zoology; Tytus Chałubiński – Professor of Botany, and Professor at the Warsaw Medical and Surgical Academy; and other well known researchers and naturalists (*cf.* Wójcik 2005).

After having been awarded his Doctoral degree, Józef Siemiradzki returned to Warsaw (1885-87).

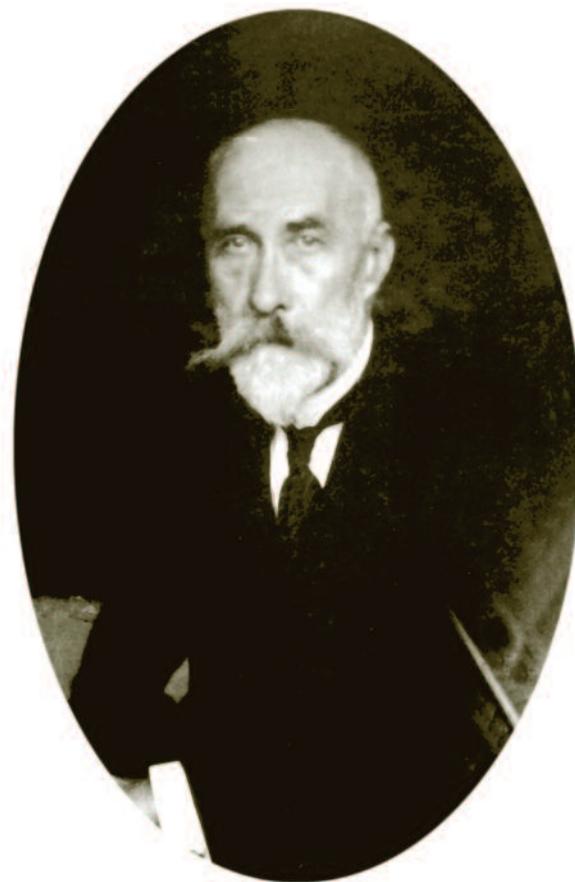


Fig. 3. Professor Józef Siemiradzki, photograph, no date. Property of AMZ (original), CAG (copy).

He re-established scientific relations with the *Gabinet Zoologiczny* (the Zoological Hall) (Fig. 9) at the Imperial University of Warsaw. It was here that, during his Junior High School years, he had got to know the milieu of the Warsaw Naturalists: Władysław Taczanowski, Benedykt Dybowski, Konstanty Jelski and Jan Sztołcman. The *Gabinet Zoologiczny* was founded at the University of Warsaw in 1818. After the University was closed, in 1860s, the *Gabinet* belonged to the *Szkoła Główna*. It became a well known and successful research centre, on parity with similar institutes in Europe. Władysław Taczanowski – a distinguished ornithologist – was the custodian of the *Gabinet Zoologiczny* at the time. The Branicki family patronized the *Gabinet*. Due to their financial support it was possible to collect precious zoological exhibits.

The *Szkoła Główna* in Warsaw was an institution teaching students to a university level, although, for political reasons, it was denied the formal title of university. It was founded in 1862 and

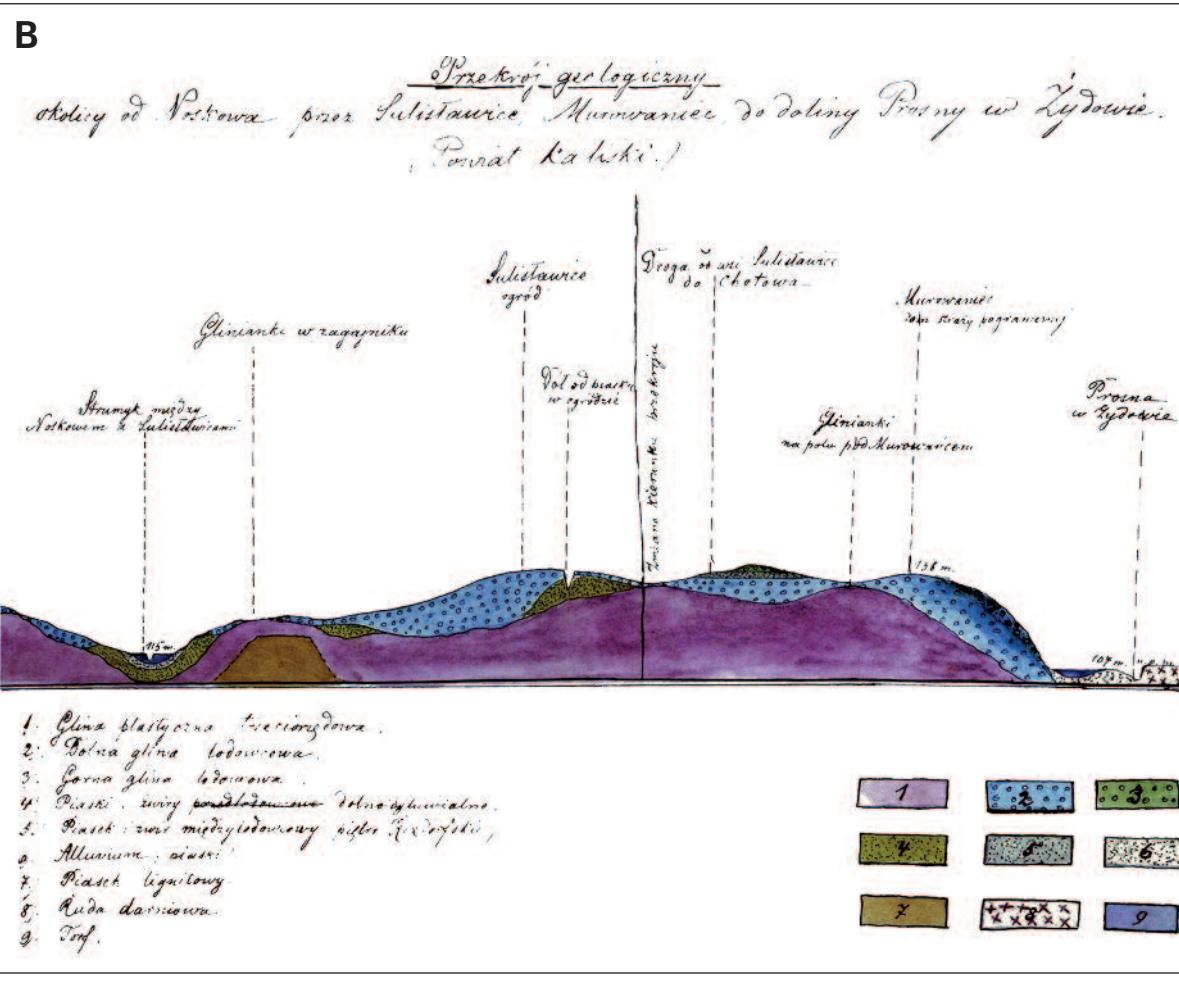
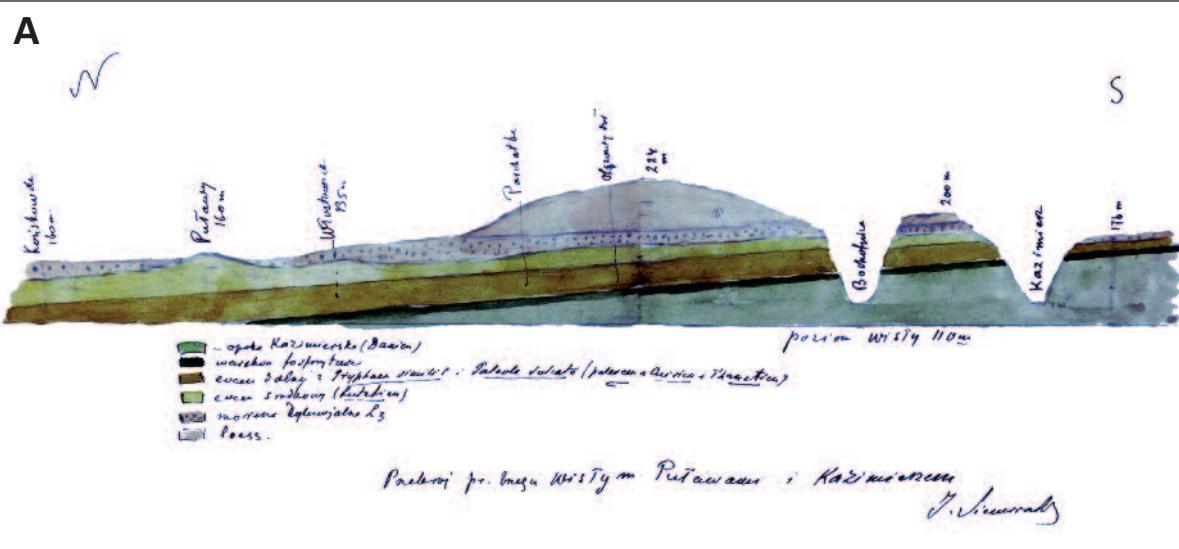


Fig. 4. Geological sections by Dr. Józef Siemiradzki, ink and watercolour: A – 'On the Eocene deposits of Lublin Upland', unpublished article, after 1931. B – 'Geological map of the village of Sulisławice located in Kalisz County, unpublished article, no date. Property of AMZ.

replaced the Royal University of Warsaw. The latter was dissolved by the Tsar Alexander I after the fall of the November Uprising. Natural sciences were highly represented in the *Szkoła Główna*. They were taught in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science – one of the four faculties of the School. Professor Benedykt Dybowski taught the theory of Darwin there. As a result of the policy of Russification, the *Szkoła Główna* was closed in 1869. The Polish University of Warsaw was re-established in 1915.

During his time in Warsaw, Józef Siemiradzki published a few works on the geology of the Kingdom of Poland. They appeared for instance in the Warsaw journal *Pamiętnik Fizyjograficzny* and in the Viennese *Jahrbuch der kaiserlich-königlichen geologischen Reichsanstalt*. He wrote his first adventure book “From Warsaw to the Equator” (Siemiradzki 1885), containing

reminiscences of the expedition to South America in which he had participated during his student times, in the years 1882-83. He became a member of the Editorial Staff of *Wszeszywiat*, a weekly magazine devoted to natural sciences. He also published reports of publications in international scientific magazines and journals on scientific discoveries in the field of geology, as well as reviews of scientific books and articles concerning geology. They appeared in the columns entitled “Scientific Chronicle” and “Reports”.

Professorship at the Lvov University. Co-operation with the Dzieduszycki Museum

Under Austrian partition, Lvov was, apart from Kraków, one of two academic centres where the research groups were staffed by native candidates, and classes were held in the Polish language.

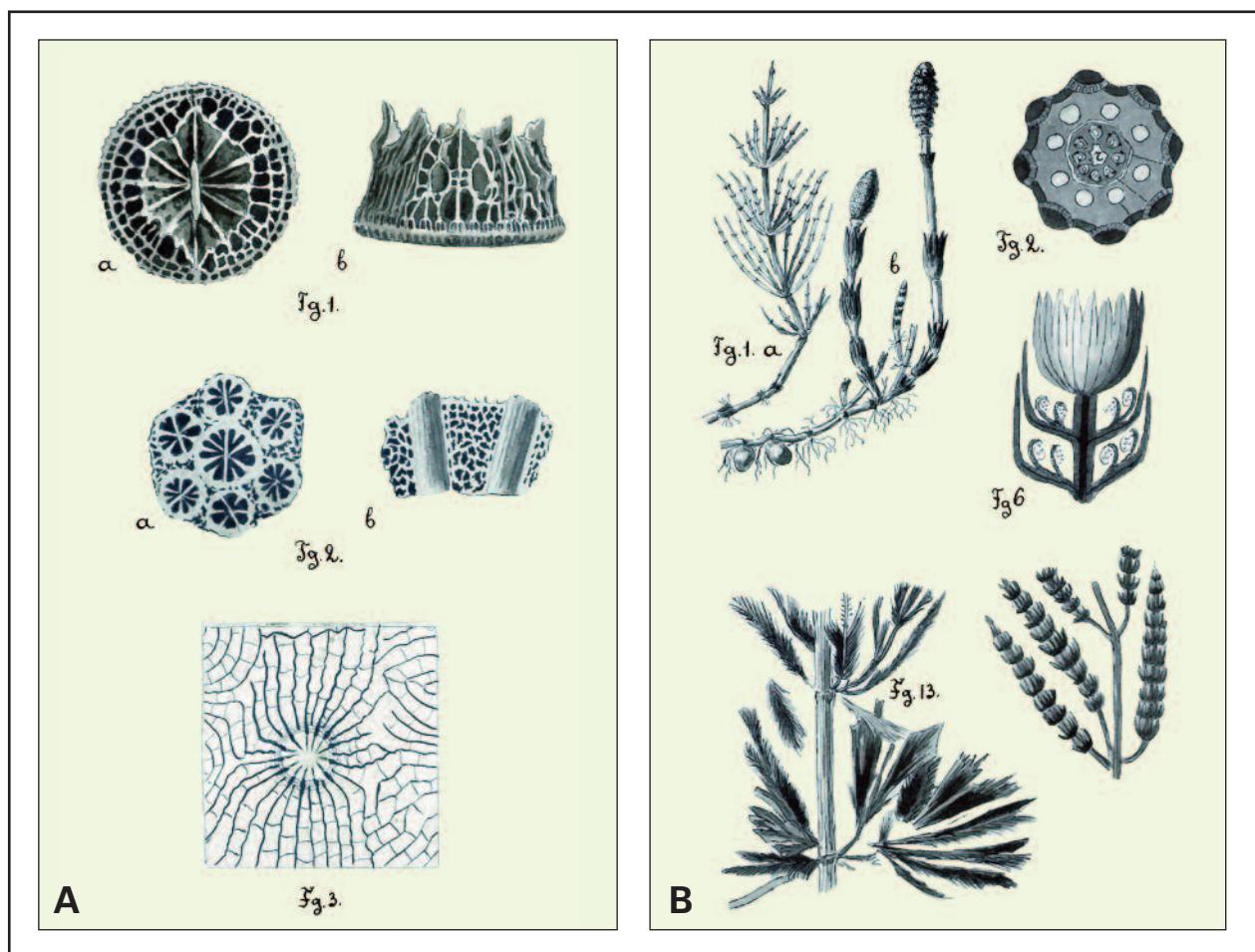


Fig. 5. Illustrations based on the archival drawings made by Józef Siemiradzki: A – J. Siemiradzki 1925. Academic textbook of Palaeontology. 1. Paleozoology. Warszawa. B – Palaeobotany. Unpublished academic textbook, dated for ca. 1930. Manuscript and plates – property of AMZ. Selection and preparation by E. Główniak.

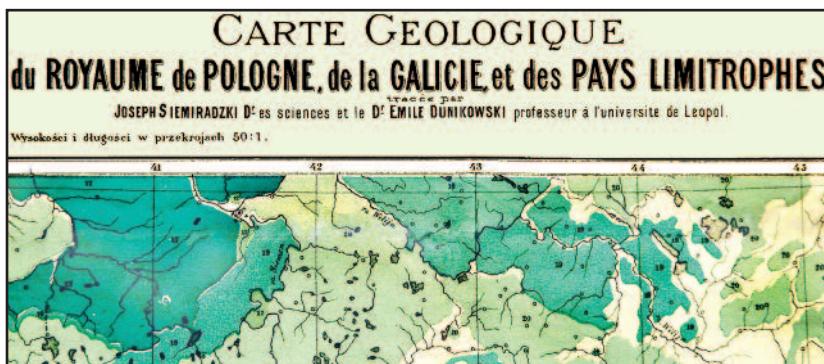


Fig. 6. Fragment of the geological map of Polish Lands. In: J. Siemiradzki, E. Dunikowski 1891. *Szkic geologiczny Królestwa Polskiego, Galicji i krajów przyległych* (Explanations to the Geological Map). *Pamiętnik Fizjograficzny*: 11. BWG.

In September 1888, Józef Siemiradzki was appointed Reader in Geology in the Department of Philosophy at the Imperial Royal University of Lvov. He then led classes in general geology, geodynamics and microscopic petrography, and, after appointment as Associate Professor in 1894, also in palaeontology. In 1906 he was appointed full Professor. As first holder of the new Chair of Palaeontology, he organized the first Institute of Palaeontology in Poland. He ranked among the highest officer-holders in the Jan Kazimierz University in Lvov (as the University was named after 1919). He was Head of the Philosophy Department (1922-1923), Chancellor (1926-27) (Fig. 10) and Vice-Chancellor (1927-28) of the University. His students included such famous geologists as Bolesław Böhm, Bolesław Bujalski, Jan Czarnocki and Walery Łoziński (jun.).

In his Rector's address given on October 16, 1926 in the Aula Magna of the University during the ceremony marking the beginning of the new academic year 1926-27, Józef Siemiradzki said:

"...Having been appointed by the confidence placed in me by my university colleagues to the most honorable university post, on behalf of the Academic Senate I wish to welcome all those who by their presence decided to honor our annual ceremony... Remember that you are the flower and the hope of the nation and that it is you who are responsible for regaining the former brilliant position of Poland among the

nations of Europe...". (J. Siemiradzki 1928, p. 1).

Professor Józef Siemiradzki was also a long-term research associate in the Department of Mineralogy, Palaeontology and Geology of the Dzieduszycki Museum in Lvov (Fig. 11). The museum was a renowned research centre with extensive natural collections and its own publishing house. It had been founded in 1855 by Count Włodzimierz Dzieduszycki, and

opened to the public and wider circle of experts in the year 1880. Józef Siemiradzki catalogued and worked on the palaeontological collections of the museum. The systematic descriptions of sponges, corals, brachiopods and foraminifers completed by him were published in Lvov, in the years 1918-1922, in *Rozprawy i Wiadomości z Muzeum imienia Dzieduszyckich (Acta Musaei Dzieduszyckiani)*.

Co-operation with the Physiographic Commission at the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków

In 1931, Dr. Józef Siemiradzki, Professor at Jan Kazimierz University in Lvov, was appointed Resident Full Member in Class III of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU) in Kraków (Figs 12-13).



Fig. 7. The sight of the University building in Dorpat (currently Tartu, Estonia), photograph, 1809-1893. In: Manteuffel, G. (1911).

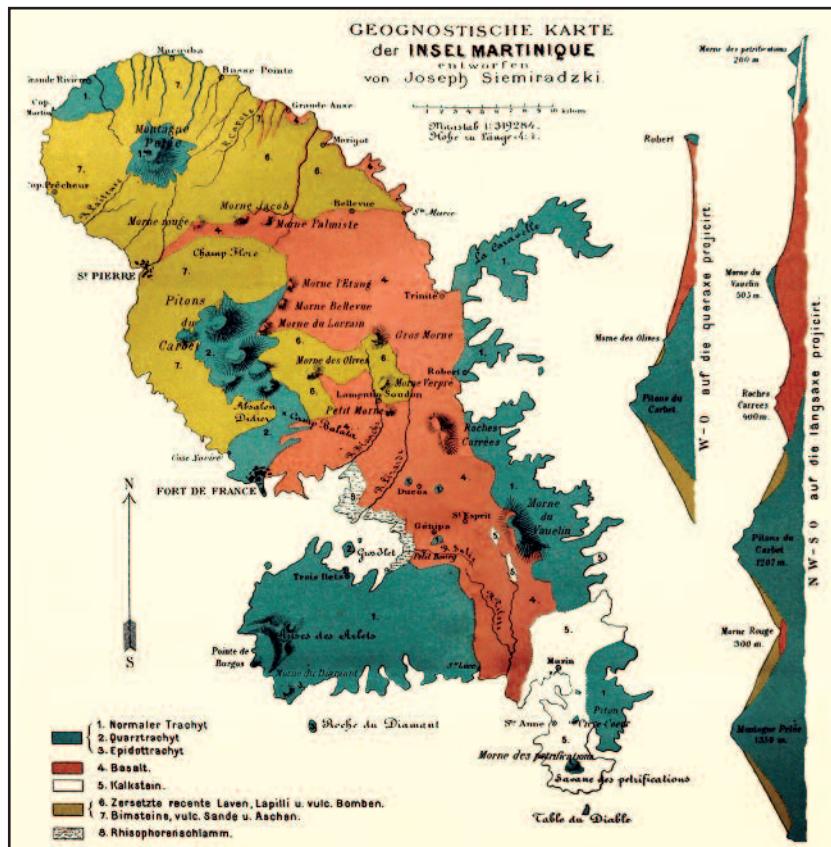


Fig. 8. Geological map of Martinique – appendix to the thesis "Die geognostischen Verhältnisse der Insel Martinique", on the basis of which Józef Siemiradzki was awarded the Master's Degree, 1884. BJ.

His "Kraków debut" took place in 1888, when he published an article on the age of conglomerates from the Kielce and Chęciny region in the *Sprawozdanie Komisyi Fizjograficznej Akademii Umiejętności w Krakowie* (Physiographic Commission Report). The date marks the start of over 40 years of co-operation with the Physiographic Commission in Class III at the Academy. During this time he wrote over 60 papers, 10 of which were published in Academic journals, including *Pamiętnik Akademii Umiejętności, Wydział matematyczno-przyrodniczy; Sprawozdanie Komisyi Fizjograficznej Akademii Umiejętności w Krakowie; Rozprawy Wydziału matematyczno-przyrodniczego Akademii Umiejętności w Krakowie; Anzeiger der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Krakau, Mathematisch-naturwissenschaftliche Classe*.

The *Academia Literarum Cracoviensis* (The Academy of Arts and Sciences – AU in Kraków, renamed the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences – PAU in 1918) was one of the first, though not the oldest, scientific societies serving the whole Polish nation. The Physiographic Commission had existed in Kraków before, initially as part of the Learned Society of Kraków. When the AU was founded in 1872, the Physiographic Commission became part of Class III of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. The Commission operated without interruption for eighty years, until after the World War II. Its objectives were: (1) to support field research to determine the geological structure of the country, (2) to gather and work on palaeontological collections, (3) to engage in cartographic works and issue a "*Atlas Geologiczny Galicyi*" (Geological Atlas

of Galicia). All these objectives have been achieved. The Commission laid the foundations for contemporary geological research in the country.



Fig. 9. The *Gabinet Zoologiczny* (Zoological Hall) in the times of the Imperial University in Warszawa, 1888. MUW.

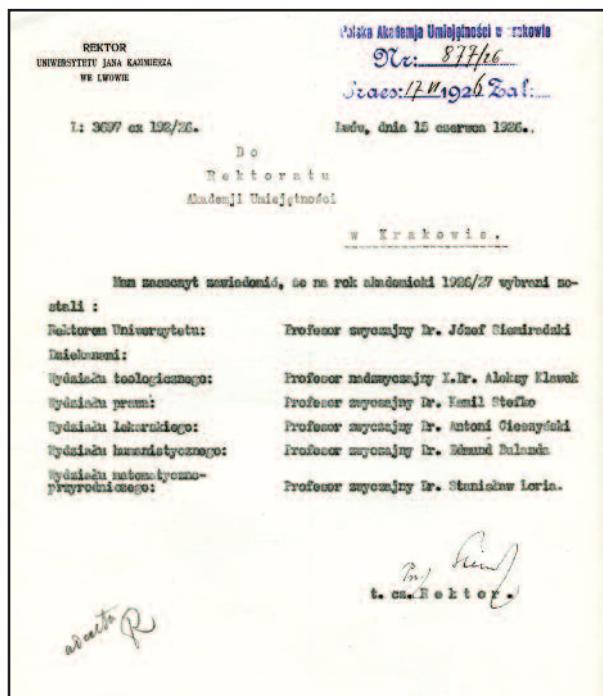


Fig. 10. Notice on the appointment of Professor Dr. Józef Siemiradzki as Chancellor of the Jan Kazimierz University in Lvov for the academic year 1926-1927, typescript, 1926. Property and copy prepared by ANP.

The Physiographic Commission oversaw the palaeontological studies. The foundation of the Museum of the Physiographic Commission (1870) and the running of its activities was a significant development. Stanisław Zaręczny (1848-1909), teacher at the higher secondary school, and member of the Physiographic Commission volunteered to become the first custodian. The Museum gathered and worked on palaeontological and mineralogical collections from the region of Galicia. Some of these collections, *e.g.* that of Upper Jurassic cephalopods from the Kraków Upland, have survived to the present day. They are now kept in the Museum of the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków.

Józef Siemiradzki worked on the palaeontological collections of the Museum, and one of his early works dealt with the taxonomical classification of the Upper Jurassic cephalopods, mainly ammonites, from the Kraków Upland. He completed his treatise on the ammonites from the Kraków Upland in 1891. The treatise was approved by the Academy, as recorded in the *Annals of the Board of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Cracow*, and published in *Pamiętnik Akademii Umiejętności, Wydział matematyczno-przyrodniczy* (Siemiradzki 1891).

It was most likely Władysław Szajnocha, Professor at Jagiellonian University, who inspired Józef Siemiradzki to involve himself in the ammonite studies. In his reviewer's comments Władysław Szajnocha wrote:

"... Mr Siemiradzki could do very good service to his country if he elaborated in monographic form one or another of the many subjects he has already embarked upon [...] His stay at Prof. Zittel's or Prof. Neumayr's institutes could contribute to the monographic palaeontological elaboration of one of his previous subject of study, to which the rich collections there (some indeed Polish, *e.g.* the huge palaeontological collection from the Jurassic of Kraków region housed in Munich) would be essential."

(Excerpt from a reviewer's comments for the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków by Władysław Szajnocha, in reply to the research plan presented by Józef Siemiradzki in the scholarship application; letter, 22 XII 1889. Property ANP).

Over the next few years, encouraged by Professor Szajnocha, Józef Siemiradzki deepened



Fig. 11. Dzieduszycki Museum building in Lvov, postcard, by 1900. Property of Janusz Wasylkowski.

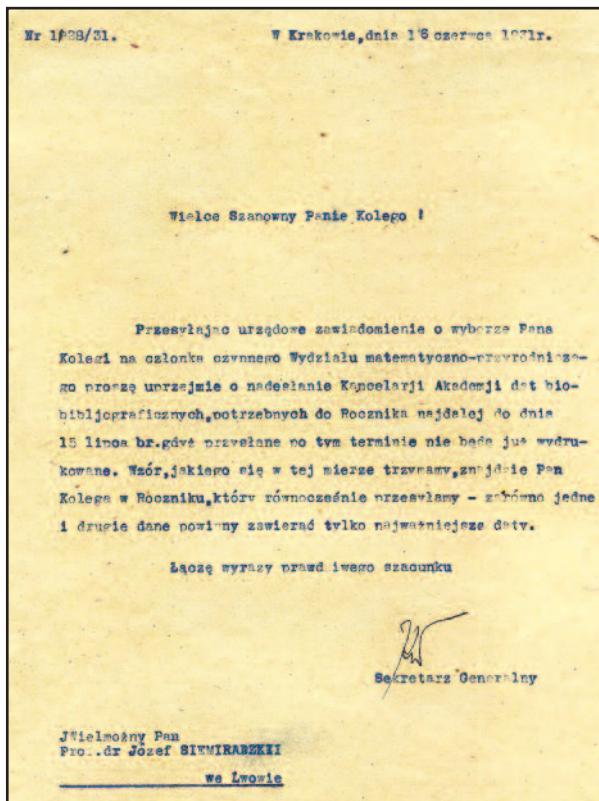


Fig. 12. Notice on the appointment of Professor Dr. Józef Siemiradzki as resident full member in Class III of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków, typescript, 1931. Property and copy prepared by ANP.

his scientific interests in ammonites and extended his research to include the collections of Western Europe. He completed his major monograph on the ammonite genus *Perisphinctes*. It was published in 1898-99 in the journal *Palaeontographica* in Stuttgart.

Research in South America.

Participation in the activities of Polish migration associations.

The end of the 19th century was a period of "Brazilian fever" in Poland. However, spontaneous quests for the Golden Fleece in Brazil and other South American countries brought only disappointment. Józef Siemiradzki was involved in the movement for emigrants. He travelled to Brazil twice (in 1891-92 and in 1896-97) in order to examine the possibilities of improving the living conditions of local Polish émigré communities (Fig. 14). In the expedition to Brazil in the years 1896-97, he was one of two representatives of the elective legislature, the Galician *Sejm*. His mission

involved analysing the potential to strengthen Polish émigré groups. The results of the expedition were presented by Józef Siemiradzki and Jan Wolański (1900) in the "Report on the expedition of representatives of the National Department to Brazil, submitted to the High *Sejm* during the session in 1897" and published in Lvov in *Gazeta Handlowo-geograficzna* (*Commercial and Geographical Gazette*). The results of the institution's activities included the establishment of the Austro-Hungarian consulate with Polish staff at Curitiba (Brazil). The consulate supported Polish immigrants irrespective of the part of the country from which they came. It operated until the first years after the regaining of independence by Poland. Later on, Józef Siemiradzki was the Head of the Union of Emigration Associations. He was the Editor-in-Chief of the periodical *Emigrant Polski* devoted to the affairs of Polish émigré communities. Additionally, he co-operated with the Ministry of Labour and Social Education in issues related to emigration.

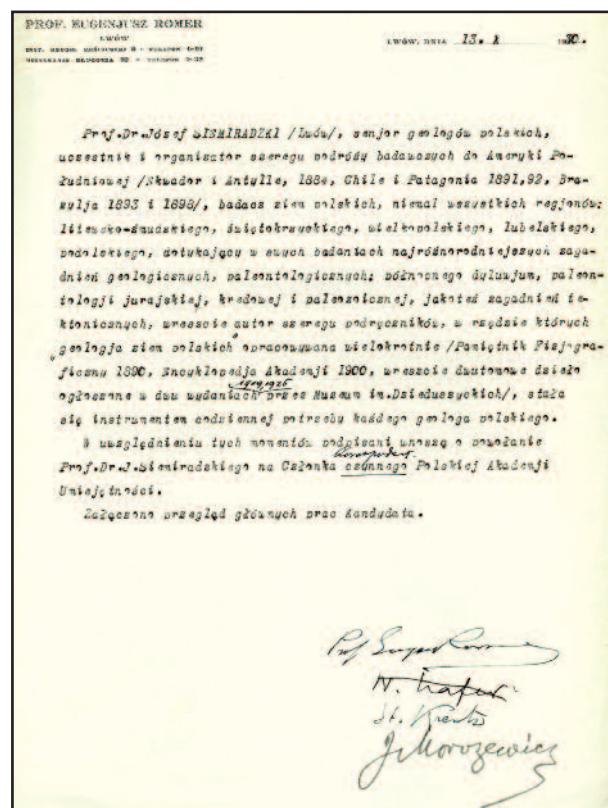


Fig. 13. The motion to appoint Professor Józef Siemiradzki an active member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Science in Kraków, signed by Professors: Eugeniusz Roemer, Władysław Szafer, Stanisław Kreutz and Józef Morowczewicz. Typescript, 13 October 1930, Kraków. Property and copy prepared by ANP.

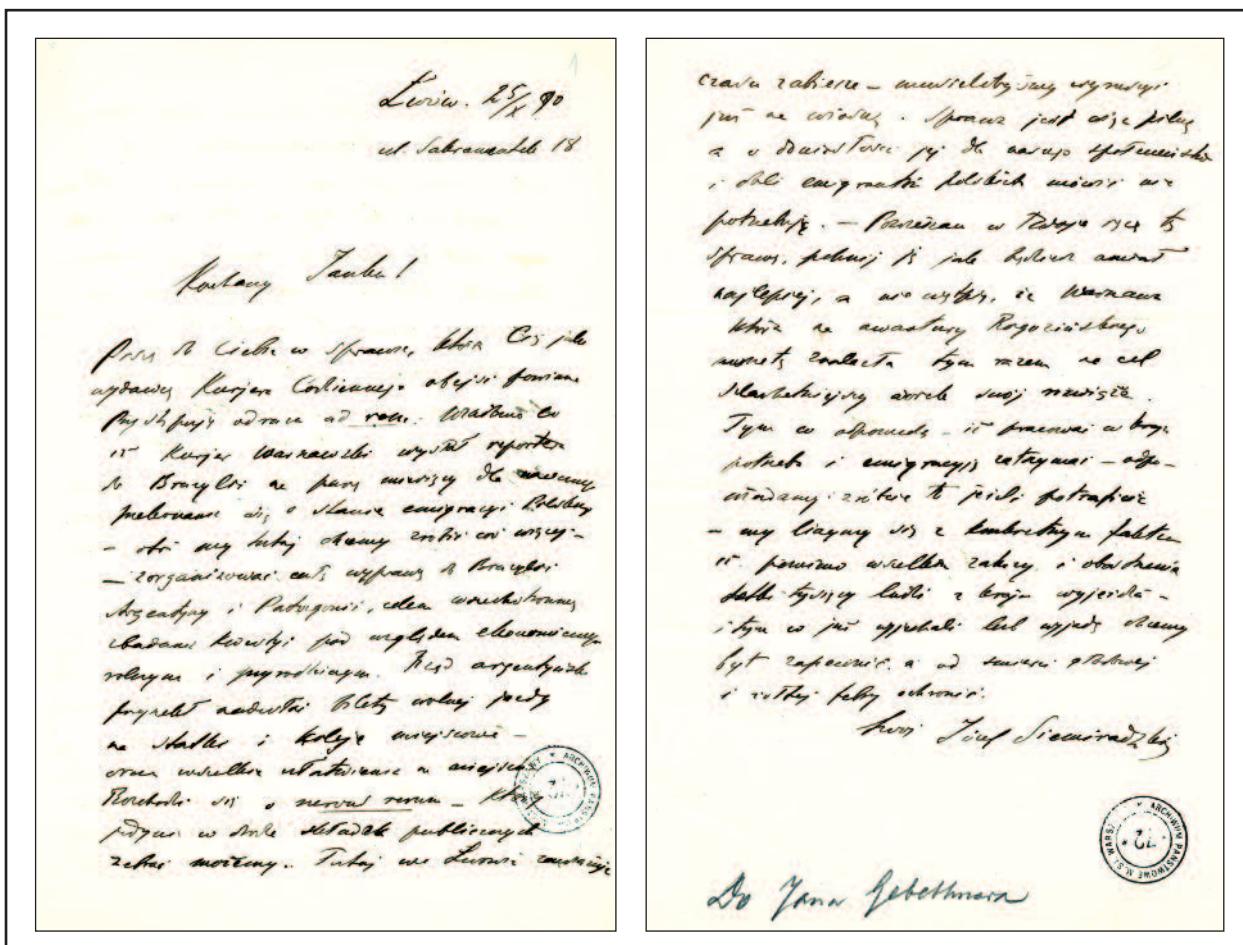


Fig. 14. Fragment of the letter of Józef Siemiradzki to Jan Gebethner, the Editor of "Kurier Codzienny" (Illustrated Weekly), regarding the expedition to Brazil, Argentina and Patagonia, 28 October 1890. Property and copies prepared by APW. Józef Siemiradzki wrote: "The purpose of the expedition is simple and clear: check the actual status of Polish emigration, find the most proper location for Polish emigration and, if possible, organise it in one place – in order to ensure that hundreds of thousands of people scattered in exile are not wasted".

He combined his involvement in social matters with a love of science and a passion for travel. He first participated in the expedition to the Northern Andes in 1882-83 as a new graduate of the University of Dorpat (Fig. 15). The preparation of a geological map of Martinique (Lesser Antilles) (Fig. 8) and the collecting of samples of volcanic rocks from western Ecuador were the scientific achievements of this expedition. He published the results of this research in publications of the University of Dorpat as well as in *Neues Jahrbuch für Mineralogie, Geologie und Paläontologie*. A second purpose of the expedition was to collect ornithological specimens. The participants of the expedition collected about one hundred species of bird, which were transferred *i.a.* to the *Gabinet Zoologiczny* (Zoological Hall) in Warsaw. One of them, from western Ecuador, was illustrated by H. Berlepsch and W. Taczanowski (1884, pl. 24)

in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* (Fig. 16).

Józef Siemiradzki started his second expedition to South America in 1891. The route led through Brazil, Paraguay, Chile and Argentina. He began the expedition with A. Hempel and W. Łażniewski, and completed it on his own. For scientific and research purposes he crossed Patagonia. The scientific results of the expedition dealt with the geology of the sub-Andean zone of Northern Patagonia. He wrote several papers, which came out in the years 1892-93 and were published *i.a.* in *Revista del Museo de La Plata* (Buenos Aires), *Mitteilungen aus der Justus Perthes Geographischen Anstalt* (Gotha), as well as in *Neues Jahrbuch für Mineralogie, Geologie und Paläontologie* (Stuttgart).

The results of his second visit to Brasil (1896-97) were presented in the paper on the geology of

southern Brazil published in 1898, in the Viennese journal *Sitzungsberichte der kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Mathematisch-naturwissenschaftliche Classe*.

Józef Siemiradzki undertook his last expedition to Argentina in 1916. He wrote up his reminiscences of this expedition in his unpublished book "Przez Pampasy i Andy do Oceanu Spokojnego" (Across Pampas and the Andes to the Pacific coast). The text was accompanied by nearly one hundred photographs made by him (Fig. 17). Two versions of the manuscript of this book, including photographs, are kept in AMZ (cf. the list of unpublished manuscripts).

Co-operation with the Polish Geological Institute in Warsaw (1930-1933)

After retiring, Professor Siemiradzki moved to Warsaw. Since 1930, he co-operated with Polish Geological Institute. He carried out field research on the Jagielnica and Zaleszczyki sheets of the Geological Survey. The results of his work were published in *Comptes - rendus des Séances du Service Géologique de Pologne* – a periodical issued in Warsaw, in the years 1931-32. The works were entitled: "Preliminary note on the Eocene of the Lublin Upland" (Siemiradzki 1931) and "Report on geological research carried on in 1931 at Lubelskie voivodeship" (Siemiradzki and Zych 1932).

THE IMPORTANCE OF SIEMIRADZKI'S STUDIES TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF JURASSIC AMMONITES

The two palaeontological papers of Siemiradzki published in 1891 and in 1898-99 represented progress in the studies of the Upper Jurassic ammonites. The earlier of these studies was one of only two 19th century ammonite dissertations (the other being that of Bukowski 1887) devoted to the Kraków Upland – a classic reference area with outcrops of

Upper Jurassic limestones. Up to the present day, this study stands as the single most complete historical description of the ammonite faunas of this area. The ammonites described by Siemiradzki (mainly Oxfordian perisphinctids), laid the basis for the first biostratigraphical conclusions drawn with respect to the Kraków Upland. Siemiradzki distinguished there, for example, "the domain of the species *Peltoceras transversarium*" of Oppel (1868) which, known as the Transversarium Zone is present in the current standard zonation of the



Fig. 15. Józef Siemiradzki (on the right) and Jan Sztolcman during the expedition to the Northern Andes, 1882-1883. Photograph. Property and copies prepared by AlZ.



Fig. 16. *Chlorospingus ochraceus* – the specimen collected by J. Siemiradzki and J. Sztołcman during their expedition to western Ecuador. In: H. Berlepsch, W. Taczanowski (1884, pl. 24). BN.

Oxfordian Stage. Siemiradzki's studies enabled the first ever comprehensive correlation of the Upper Jurassic rocks in Europe.

In the monographic review of the genus *Perisphinctes* of Western Europe, published in German in 1898–99, Siemiradzki summed up the knowledge of ammonites of this genus – which then were understood in a slightly broader context than today. He re-classified nearly 460 nominal species, which constituted almost the entire number of taxa of species-rank described up until the year 1899. Nearly 60 of these, as well as one genus (*Procerites*), represented taxa which Siemiradzki himself introduced. The priority of the names of the species and genera

introduced by Siemiradzki are now protected by the International Zoological Code. The species founded by Siemiradzki are of major importance in terms of contemporary stratigraphic and palaeontological studies and some of these species are diagnostic ones for ammonite correlations in the Upper Jurassic. Some of them have attained a higher taxonomic rank, e.g. *Perisphinctes kretutzi* Siemiradzki, which became a type species of the genus *Subdiscosphinctes* distinguished by Malinowska in 1972.

In both these works, Siemiradzki presented the approach to ammonite-related issues which attained high 19th century scientific standards. He submitted himself to the tradition of ammonite studies in Zittel's 'German school' of Munich, and the Austrian studies pursued by Neumayr in Vienna. In his research endeavours, he reached beyond the boundaries of pure taxonomy. He noted the importance of ammonite studies to the recognition of the palaeobiogeographic diversity of faunas, which represented an essential achievement of his work. He formulated the goal of the studies in the following way:

"... Only in the Polish lands this fauna is still not thoroughly studied and because of the work done by Neumayr and Teisseyre its position is a kind of set apart and occupies somewhat intermediate place between several separate Jurassic basins. From the point of view of theory, it is of utmost importance..."

(J. Siemiradzki 1891, p. 1).

Both monographs by Siemiradzki, of 1891 and of 1898–99, are listed in the canon of the 19th century



Fig. 17. On the lava field, Alumina plateau (Argentina). Photograph from the last expedition of Józef Siemiradzki to South America in 1916. Property of AMZ.



Fig. 18. The obituary for Józef Siemiradzki. *Kurier Warszawski*, 13 December 1933, 844: p. 9, Warszawa. BUW.

European studies in the field of palaeontology and represent essential contribution of Polish geological thought to the history of studies on the Jurassic System.

EPILOGUE

Professor Józef Siemiradzki died on 12 December 1933.

The obituary (Fig. 18), that came out in *Kurier Warszawski*, 13 December 1933, in Warsaw commemorated Józef Siemiradzki in the following way:

"The late

Dr. Józef Siemiradzki,

Professor at Jan Kazimierz University, Member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, Honorary Member of the Polish Geological Institute, Commander of the Order of Polonia Restituta, Defender of Lvov, awarded the Cross of Valour, died on 12 December 1933, at the age of 74.

Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the chapel of the Church of St. Charles Borromeus (in Powązki Cemetery) at 9:30 am, on Friday, 15 December, after which the remains will be escorted to the adjoining cemetery.

To this sad ceremony we invite all relatives, friends, colleagues and acquaintances, we, burdened with deep grief, Daughter, Son and the rest of the Family."

Siemiradzki has left an ample legacy of scientific outputs, as well as disciples who in turn passed his knowledge on to more successors. It is now the fourth generation of geologists who are utilizing this body of knowledge. What kind of reflection can be stirred by the following words of one the founders of Polish geology:

"I end my study with this hope, that this outline will be the foundation for many a younger scientist conducting detailed studies in our country, which can complement or correct many of my conclusions. [...] This work cannot be done by one man alone, despite his best intentions, therefore I call upon all those interested in the physiography of our country with this outline: share your knowledge with your colleagues [...] and together we will one day write an exhaustive geological monograph of our country."

(Józef Siemiradzki, In: Siemiradzki and Duniowski 1891, p. 105).

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Siemiradzki J. Przez Pampasy i Andy do Oceanu Spokojnego. Two versions of unpublished book, after 1916, manuscript, typescript and photographs, 210 + 173 pp., register of 94 photographs made by author, 74 photographs, sygn. S1/12.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- b.d. – No date.
- AIZ – Archive of Institute of Zoology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw.
- AMZ – Archive of the Museum of the Earth of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw.
- ANP – Archive of Science of Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) and Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU), Kraków.
- APW – State Archive of the Capital City of Warsaw.
- BJ – The Jagiellonian Library, Kraków.
- BN – National Library, Warszawa.
- BNI – Iconographic Collections of the National Library, Warsaw.
- BUW – Warsaw University Library, Warsaw.
- BWG – Geological Library of the Faculty of Geology of the University of Warsaw.
- CAG – Central Geological Archive of the Polish Geological Institute, Historical Department, Warsaw.
- MUW – Museum of University of Warsaw, Warsaw.

SOURCES OF PHOTOGRAPHS

AIZ: 15	BJ: 8	BWG: 6
AMZ: 3; 4; 5; 17	BN: 16	CAG: 3
ANP: 10; 12; 13	BNI: 2	MUW: 9
APW: 14	BUW: 18	

Gustaw Manteuffel (1911): 7.

Janusz Wasylkowski (Lvov Institute, Warsaw): 11
Józef Siemiradzki (1900): Photograph on the title page, Fig. 1.

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