## Marek L. Wójcik

"Sanctimoniales. Zakony żeńskie w Polsce i Europie Środkowej (do przełomu XVIII i XIX wieku)", ed. Andrzej Radzimiński, Dariusz Karczewski, Zbigniew Zyglewski, Bydgoszcz-Toruń 2010 : [recenzja]

Hereditas Monasteriorum 1, 324-325

2012

Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

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Andrzej Radzimiński, Dariusz Karczewski, Zbigniew Zyglewski (eds.), Sanctimoniales. Zakony żeńskie w Polsce i Europie Środkowej (do przełomu XVIII i XIX wieku) [Sanctimoniales. Female convents in Poland and Central Europe (until the turn of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries)], Bydgoszcz-Toruń: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Kazimierza Wielkiego w Bydgoszczy i Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika w Toruniu, 2010, 514 pp., illustrations, tables, charts, CD

The book is a collection of studies, which were delivered on 24<sup>th</sup>–26<sup>th</sup> November 2004 at the conference organized in Mogilno by the Institute of History of Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz and Institute of History and Archival Sciences of Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. It contains 32 articles grouped in 6 sections.

In the first section, discussing legal and constitutional issues related with the functioning of female congregations, are published the drafts concerning the constitution of Norbertine sisters in the post-tridentine period (sr. M. Borkowska OSB), the care of Dominicans on the convents belonging to their female branch (S. Zonenberg), Cistercian nuns abbeys on the Polish lands in the light of 13<sup>th</sup> century general chapter statutes (A. Galar), the statutes of Clarisses from the convent in Znojmo from 1436 (O. M. Przybyłowicz), religious observations of Cistercian-Benedictine nuns of Toruń in 1311–1632 (J. Kurek), and finally the visitation of Cistercian sisters from the abbey in Owińska in 1591–1619 (R. Witkowski).

The second section consists of four works undertaking the problematic of female convents functioning on the lands neighbouring with Poland. Three of them sythetically discuss the development of women's religious orders in the Middle Ages in Moravia (T. Borovský), Slovakia and Hungary (D. Valechová), and the Czech Republic (H. Pátková), with the latter being limited to the Premonstratensians in the post-Hussite era. The seperate study is devoted to Hungarian houses of Beguines (D. Dvořáková).

The third section concerns female convents on the Polish lands and includes works on the following subjects: research perspectives on canonical sisters from Piasek Island in Wrocław (A. Pobóg-Lenartowicz), sisters in the Military Order of the Crusaders of the Red Star (M. Starnawska), the foundation salaries of the Silesian female convents until the middle of 14<sup>th</sup> century (A. Tarnas-Tomczyk), the premises granted to the Norbertines from Czarnowąsy and Rybnik until 1228 (M. Kopka-Jędrychowska), the relationship between dukes of Opole and female monasteries located on the lands of their duchy (W. Dominiak), Tertiaries of the St. Bernardine monastery of Lviv (T. M. Trajdos), the order of Bridgettines in Protestant Gdańsk in the light of their dispute with the city on the Siedlce district in 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries (S. Kościelniak), and the abbey of Benedictine Sisters in Bysławek in 1602–1836 (A. Brygman).

Four articles discuss monastic convents: the composition of medieval female Dominican convent in Racibórz (A. Barciak) and Wrocław (K. Kaczmarek) and Clarisses in Opava (I. Pietrzyk), and the socio-ethnic composition of the Norbertine convent in Żukowo in 1579–1834 (A. Wilczewska).

Four works were devoted to selected manifestations of everyday life in the monasteries: the mental world of the nun in 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, based on the chronicles of the Benedictine abbey in Poznań (M. Bogucka), the cuisine and infirmary of the Clarisses monastery in Cracow until the end of 18<sup>th</sup> century (P. Gąsiorowska), menu of Norbertines from the abbey of Zwierzyniec in Cracow in 18<sup>th</sup> century (J. Rajman), and the elementary components of daily life (clothing, food, tableware, hygiene, funeral ceremony, burial, equipping the deceased) of Norbertines in Strzelno in the light of archeological research, with the multimedia presentation on CD (K. Sulkowska-Tuszyńska).

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The last chapter contains works concentrating on the literature and book collections; post monastic documents in the collection of National Archive in Wrocław (R. Stelmach), the literature of Cistercian nuns of the abbey in Trzebnica in 13<sup>th</sup> century (A. Wałkówski), scriptorium from the abbey of regular canons in Czerwińsk as the emergence place of liturgical manuscripts of Norbertine sisters from Płock (M. Stawski), intellectual culture of Benedictine sisters congregation of Chełmno (J. Gwioździk), dispersing the book collections of monasteries dissolved in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (I. Pietrzkiewicz), the documents of Cistercian sisters abbey in Stare Brno from 1378–1419 in the archive in Brno (P. Krafl).

This volume, together with the comprehensive publication about Cistercian sisters issued few years ago (A. M. Wyrwa, fr. A. Kiełbasa SDS, fr. J. Swastek (ed.), Cysterki w dziejach i kulturze ziem polskich, dawnej Rzeczypospolitej i Europy Środkowej. Materiały z siódmej Międzynarodowej Konferencji Cystersologów odbytej z okazji 800. rocznicy fundacji cysterek w Trzebnicy, Trzebnica 18–21 września 2002 r. [Cistercian sisters in the history and culture of Polish territory, former Commonwealth and Central Europe. The proceedings of 7th International Conference of Cistercian Researchers on the occasion of 800th anniversary of founding Cistercian sisters in Trzebnica, Trzebnica 18<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> September 2000], Poznań: Wydawnictwo Poznańskie, 2004, 1120 pp.), provides a valuable summary of scientific research achievements on female religious life.

> Marek L. Wójcik Institute of History University of Wrocław

Ewa M. Zlółek, Miedzy tronem i ołtarzem. Kościół i państwo w Księstwie Warszawskim [Between the throne and the altar. Church and state in the Duchy of Warsaw], Lublin: Towarzystwo Naukowe KUL 2012, 880 pp., 26 ill., 2 maps, 4 tables, bibliography, index of names

This is the first monograph on the relationship between the state and the Catholic Church in the period of the Duchy of Warsaw (1806–1812). The author points on the undertaken attempts to reconstruct the "alliance of the throne and altar", which complicated the dependence of the Duchy from France. The first chapter discusses the impact of Austrian and Prussian policy on the condition of the Church in the Polish lands, the establishment of the Duchy of Warsaw, and the attitude of Governing Commission towards the Church. The second chapter – the place of the Catholic Church in the legal system of the Duchy of Warsaw, and failed attempts to conclude the concordat with the Holy See. The third chapter – the influence of military character of the Duchy on the material condition of the Church, and the issue of its relation to the Polish army.

HM readers will be mostly interested in chapter four: Polityka rządu wobec zakonów [Government policy towards the religious orders]. As the author emphasizes, contrary to the commonly known views, the authorities of the Duchy did not seek to dissolve the monasteries, because needing the Church support, they were trying to avoid any conflicts. They were also aware, that considering the fact of very small number of diocesan priests, the friars could take over some of their duties. The difficult situation of the convents in this period was the result of their poor economic conditions caused by the policy of the occupant Austrian and Prussian authorities before 1806. The Duchy authorities, struggling with huge financial problems, were unable to support the monasteries. The remedy for this situation was to be a decree of 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1811 postulating, under the approval of Church