## Jerzy Stranawski

"Wojownicy sarmaccy", Szymon Starowolski, Warszawa 1978 : [recenzja]

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Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.



Szymon Starowolski, Wojownicy sarmaccy (Sarmatiae Bellatores), transl. and ed. by Jerzy Starnawski, Warszawa 1978.

The only edition of collected works of Szymon Starowolski, the author of about 70 books, was the volume Tractatus tres, published by Wilhelm Bogumił Korn in Wrocław, in 1733. The volume contained three Latin works: Polonia (a geographical work, referring to the 16th-century descriptions of Poland, with Kromer's Polonia in the first place), Scriptorum Polonicorum Hekatontas – the first Polish biographical dictionary of writers and scholars, and Sarmatiae bellatores - the first Polish dictionary of rulers, commanders and knights. In the 18th century there were plans for further editions of Starowolski's works, but they were not carried into effect. In our times the three works previously published under the common title Tractatus tres were successively issued in Polish translation and with introductions and comments. Scriptorum Polonicorum Hekatontas was translated by Jerzy Starnawski (Introduction: Franciszek Bielak and J. Starnawski, Kraków 1970), Polonia-by Antoni Piskadło (Kraków 1976). Now the time has come for the third of the series. Sarmatiae bellatores.

In his commentary Starnawski deals first of all with the Polish tradition of biographical writing, starting with medieval hagiology, through the biographical writing of the Renaissance. He discusses the work of Krzysztof Warszewicki and other predecessors of Starowolski, then Starowolski himself as a biographer, not only the biographer of commanders and knights; references are also made to the biographies by Paolo Giovio whom Starowolski wanted to imitate. The translator presents the series, characterizes its arrangement and the principles of composition assumed by the author, discusses the historical sources of the work, discovers literary similia and both the antique and humanistic sources, and finally characterizes the language of the author and the figures of speech he used—Starowolski wrote in the silver Latin, the influence of which was particularly conspicuous in the 17th century, when the Ciceronian Latin, the Latin of the golden age was temporarily in disgrace.