

**Piotr Ernest Jan Scheffler XVII-wieczny gdańsko-warszawski
przyrodnik i ekspert górniczy**

**P.E.J. Scheffler, naturalist and mining expert, active in
Gdansk and Warsaw in the 18th century**

SUMMARY

The paper contains a short description of the biography as well as the scientific and social activities of P.E.J. Scheffler (1739-about 1809), a forgotten scientist of the 18th century. Scheffler born in Gdansk (Danzig), obtained the degree of doctor of medicine in Królewiec (Königsberg) in 1762. After that he worked as a physician and natural history teacher in Gdansk. From 1763 he was a member of a learned society existing in Gdańsk, and afterwards he became a member of different scientific societies in Berlin, London, and Göttingen. Beginning from 1782 he resided in Warsaw as an adviser to the prince bishop M. Poniatowski, the head of the Ministry of Education in Poland. In the early 1780s he visited (as an expert in mineralogy) the iron ore mines in the South Poland. In the 1790s he made an attempt to set up an iron mill in Warsaw, but this was unsuccessful. He was also active in Warsaw as a member of the Circle of the Rosicrucian Order and as an officer and chairman of the masonic Lodge "Göttin von Eleusis". From 1805 he was also a member of the Society of Friends of the Sciences in Warsaw. King Stanislaus Poniatowski conferred upon him the titles of baronet and mine councillor. He was also an honorary professor of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. Two scientific papers, written by Scheffler and connected with mineralogy, are also discussed in the paper.

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