

**Jan Ludwik Jastrzębski. Z życia naukowego Wielkiej Emigracji**

**Jan Ludwik Jastrzębski (1804-1852). From the scientific life  
of the Great Emigration**

SUMMARY

Jan Ludwik Jastrzębski, a participant in the November Uprising of 1830-1831, was forced to emigrate after its failure and settled, as the majority of insurgents, in France. Not interested in political disputes, he devoted himself to research work. He soon became famous as a palaeographer, as he managed to decipher the Gospel Book, the so-called *Texte du Sacre*, used during the coronation ceremonies of French kings. This had previously proved impossible for Sergei Stroev, a Russian whose work was supported by his government. In pursuing his professional career Jastrzębski was faced with the hardships of living as an émigré, and yet, thanks to the education he had acquired before the Uprising at the University in Vilnius, and then the Ecole des Chartes, he gained a high position in the field of Slavonic studies. Later, he worked successfully as a historian, publishing documents connected with the history of France; at the same time he preparing materials relating to the history of Poland, taking a particular interest in methodological problems. He stayed in Paris until 1844, when he gave up his relatively stabilised life, in order to serve his nation and devote his abilities to his homeland. He left for Rome and in the Vatican Archives he collected sources connected with Polish history. In Rome, Jastrzębski's work was capriciously financed by Adam Potocki, a young Polish aristocrat. In Rome Jastrzębski had a chance to establish contacts with some of the most enlightened of Polish minds (Adam Mickiewicz, Zygmunt Krasiński, Cyprian Norwid, and others). At the same time he faced increasing difficulties in publishing, had to endure the dismal life of an emigré, and suffered from a serious disease. All of these may have contributed to his suicide in 1852.

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