

ZBIGNIEW ANUSIK

Between Russia and France. A Draft of the History of Sweden

After the death of the king Frederic I in 1751 the second period of the “Age of Liberty” in Sweden begun. The new king – Adolf Fredric von Holstein-Gottorp and his wife, Lovisa Ulrika Hohenzollern dreamed about strengthening the weak position of the monarchy. Their plans however were lighted against by the powerful party of "Hats" which had dominated Swedish policy for years. These were “Hats” who had made the king and the queen back out of their support for the conspirators during coup d'état in 1756. After those events royal couple was humiliated and the royal authority in Sweden ceased almost to nothing. Because of unsuccessful participation of Sweden in the Seven Years War (1756-1763) the “Hats” lost the rule in favor of the oppositional party of “Caps”. But the “Caps” as well (since then allied to the royal court) had not any intention to strengthen a position of the king in the country. It was the reason why the royal couple once again tried to enter into friendly relations with the party of “Hats”. In 1769 the "Hats" (with the king's support) gained the rule in Sweden for another two years, but they did nothing to increase the royal authority. For worse their come back to the rule caused the conflict between the nobility (the majority of “Hats” were noblemen) and unprivileged estates. In the end of 1770 the quarrels between the parties led Sweden to the state of complete anarchy. At 12th of February 1771 Adolf Fredric died suddenly.

His eldest son and heir of the throne – prince Gustavus was at that time in Paris. As soon as he received the news about his father’s death, he came back to Sweden. Before leaving Paris he was given the promise of French aid in overthrowing the Swedish constitution. In that time the court of Versailles was interested in considerable strengthening the position of the king in Sweden. Since the beginning of his reign Gustavus III tried to reconcile the hostile parties. When he failed in his attempts, at 19th of August 1772 he executed the famous monarchistic coup d'état which subversed hitherto existing constitution. That was the end of the “Age of Liberty” in Sweden. Till now Swedish historians dispute how to judge this period in their history. Independently of all further opinions about the “Age of Liberty”, one thing seems to be certain. The great majority of Swedish society did not regret collapsed political system.

BARTOSZ WRÓBLEWSKI

Permanent Contribution and the Controversy of Regional Tax Problem in Early Session The Great Sejm

Sejm in periods 1788-1792 made a wide reform program for example they changed the financial system. On 26 March 1789 it was imposed a new tax which took 10% of profits from every nobility fortune. It was the first, in the history of Polish and Lithuanian Union, the permanent taxation from profits which was made on nobility land.

The nobility accepted this reform in general but when Sejm must accept one technique of taxation this caused a great deal of controversy. In result of that confusion there were argument between big parts of the country for example Wielkopolska and Małopolska. The delegates from those two provinces had many historical and economical reasons to dislike each other.

The delegates from Małopolska, especially from eastern part of this province supported the idea of Fryderyk Moszyński. He made the plan that the profits from possession could be estimated on the basic price of lands in provinces during the periods 1778–1788. This project caused strong opposition among the delegates from the rich province of Wielkopolska (where land prices were high). In this article I try to show this discussion and special economical and

historical questions, which were important in the discussion. I try to use the statistical information to show the material bases on those controversies.

This theme is important to understand the economical situation of land owners from different province during the last period of Polish and Lithuanian Union existence.

JOLANTA A. DASZYŃSKA

The Events from John Marshall's Life – the Riddle of Autobiography

John Marshall is known as the Great Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court. His famous opinions to such cases, as *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), *Fletcher v. Peck* (1810), *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819), *Cohens v. Virginia* (1821) or *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824) shaped constitutional law and greatly developed the future course of American history. His federal judiciary power strengthened the national supremacy and federalism.

The early life of Marshall was less known to the contemporaries, though it was full of events. He described only selected parts of it in the short letter to his friend Joseph Story in 1827. The earlier letter of the same character was written as an answer to the editor Joseph Delaplaine, who asked him to describe his life. But unfortunately both of those letters were lost. The earlier letter was found long after Marshall's death in 1848. The letter to judge Story was found at the beginning of XXc. It might be thought as an autobiography of John Marshall, but in fact, it is only an autobiographical sketch.

This sketch is well prepared, but it gave no real picture of Marshall's life. There are still many questions and doubts for it. Was he only so modest? Not at all. The reader got just that, what Marshall himself wanted to present. He created his image as good citizen, good lawyer, and first of all the ardent Federalist, who fought for the ratification of the constitution of 1787. He also supported the unpopular Jays Treaty with England, 1794, and was sent to France to stop the Quasi War and to prevent the real one. So called XYZ Affair, as a result of that mission brought him great popularity, and he was described as a national hero. In 1801 he was nominated as a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and started his great judicial career. The events after that were not mentioned in his autobiographical sketch.

WŁODZIMIERZ KOZŁOWSKI

The 4th Infantry Division in 1919-1921. Its Genesis. Organization. Commanders

In November 1918 Poland regained the independence after 123 years of national slavery. From the beginning of its existence the Polish Armed Forces had to struggle for the frontiers of the state. Among others the 4th Infantry Division came into being in 1919. It belonged to the Łódź General District in 1919-1921. First that division took part in the Polish-Ukrainian War, then in the Polish-Russian War. The reorganization of the 4th Infantry Division, as well as the others, was carried out in November 1921. After the return from the front it belonged to the VIII Corps District in Toruń and composed of three infantry regiments instead of four like so far. In September 1939 the 4th Infantry Division fought as part of the “Pomorze” Army defending Poland against the Third Reich.

ANDRZEJ M. BRZEZIŃSKI

Problem of the Collective Security in the International Relations (1919–1939)

This article is attempt of brief characterization the Collective Security system in the theory and practice the international relations between World Wars. The paper presents four questions: 1) reception of the Collective Security system of the League of Nations, 2) attempts the strengthening Collective Security system in the international scale, 3) regional conception of the Collective Security, 4) collapse of the Collective Security system.

The principles of the Collective Security in the Covenant of the League of Nations were the novelty in the theory and practice international relations after the First World War. These principles were the compromise between American-British and French conception of the peaceful international relations in the post-war World They have based on the idealistic conception about solidary action all the countries – members of the League of Nations – for defense the state being in danger of aggression regardless of their individual national affaires. From the very beginning governments and public opinion in many countries were very skeptical about the ability the League of Nations to preserve the international security and peace. As time goes on this scepticism was deeper and deeper because of fiasco to employ the Collective Security system in practice. The attempts to organize the Collective Security in the regional form were also deceptives. Towards the end of thirties the League of Nations was completely powerless to preserve international security and peace.