

Henryk Sienkiewicz *(1846-1916)*

*The most famous writer
of Świętokrzyski Region*



opracowanie

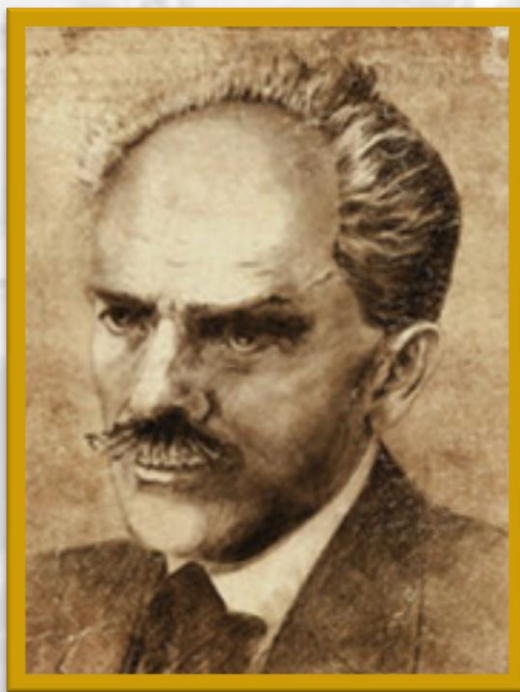
Muzeum Literackie Henryka Sienkiewicza
Oddział Biblioteki Raczyńskich
Poznań, Stary Rynek 84



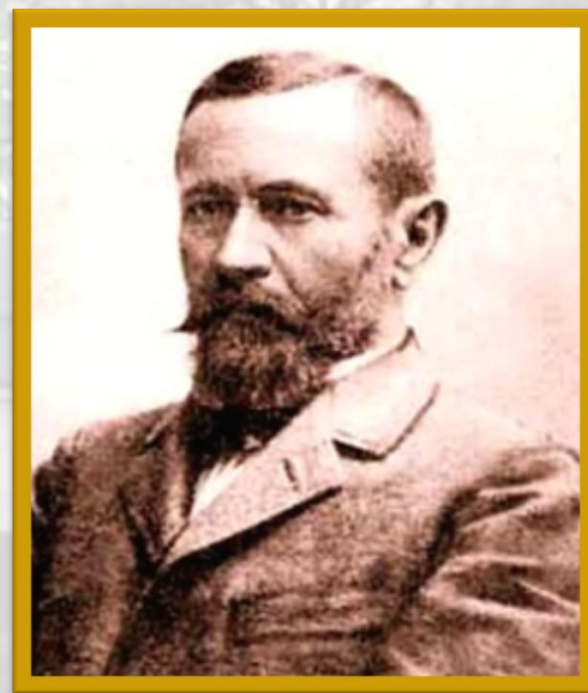
The Świętokrzyski Region is the place where many famous and highly valued writers and poets, apart from Henryk Sienkiewicz, lived.



Mikołaj Rej



Stefan Żeromski



Adolf Dygasiński



Biography

Henryk Sienkiewicz- was born in 1846, in a village in eastern Poland's Podlasie region. He was a nobleman and his family used the coat of arms Oszyk. He was a journalist, a novelist and one of the most popular Polish writers at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries.

During his lifetime he travelled a lot and the travels inspired him to his works. He visited the USA (California,) Spain, Africa, England, Switzerland and France. In 1900 Sienkiewicz celebrated the 25th anniversary of his artistic work. On that occasion he was given an estate at Oblęgorek as a national gift. In the same year the Jagiellonian University awarded Sienkiewicz an honorary doctorate.

SIENKIEWICZ'S ESTATE IN OBLĘGOREK



Henryk Sienkiewicz's Museum in Oblęgorek

Sienkiewicz lived in Oblęgorek from 1902 to 1914. Oblęgorek was for him only a summer residence, where he stayed with his family and friends when he wanted to rest.

In 1958, thanks to Sienkiewicz's children, who wanted to commemorate their father, the museum was opened in the palace's interiors. The furnished interiors contain a gallery of portraits of the writer and his family, a collection of hunting weapons and trophies, paintings based on Sienkiewicz's novels, a number of bronze sculptures and photographs of the novelist.

There is also an exhibition devoted to Henryk Sienkiewicz's life and literary achievements. The Museum has an extensive library, too including manuscripts and various editions of the writer's works, including translations, monographs and books that once belonged to him. Nowadays the museum is often visited especially by school children.

THE MUSEUM'S INTERIORS



Living room



Writer's study



Dining room



Bedroom

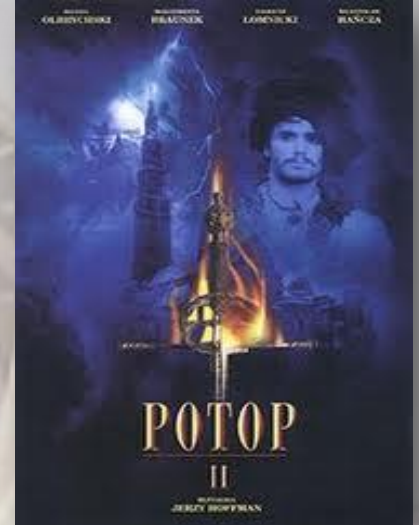
HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ'S BEST-KNOWN WORKS:

„WITH FIRE AND SWORD”

A historical fiction novel, set in the 17th century in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. It was published in 1884 and it is the first volume of a series known as the Trilogy. The novel has been adapted as a film several times, most recently in 1999 directed by Jerzy Hoffman.

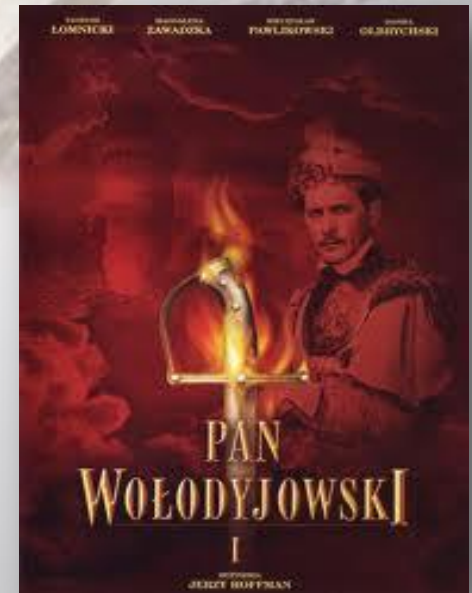


„THE DELUGE” - a historical novel, published in 1886. It is the second volume of Trilogy, adapted for the screen in 1974.



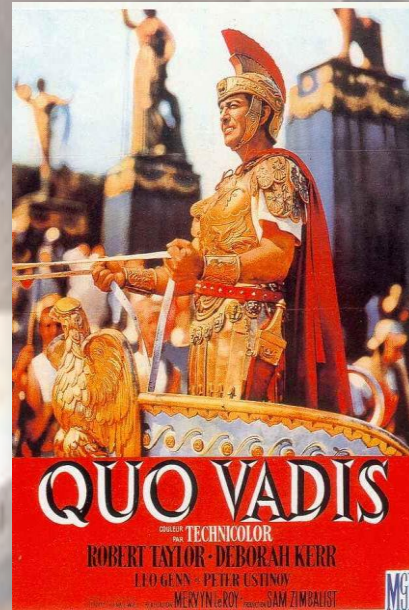
„FIRE IN THE STEPPE”

also translated into English as Colonel Wolodyjowski; a historical novel, published in 1888. The story is set during the Ottoman Empire's invasion of Poland in 1668. It is the third volume of the Trilogy, adapted for the screen by J. Hoffman in 1968.

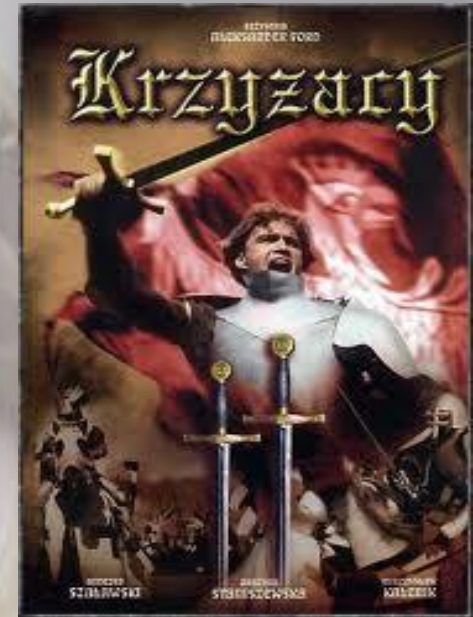


"Quo vadis"

It's a historical novel that gained recognition and became extremely popular all over Europe. It was translated into 40 languages, including Arabic and Japanese. The novel was repeatedly adapted and put on the stage. In 1913 Quo Vadis was screened and the novel was filmed several more times including the 1951 Hollywood production and the 2001 adaptation by Jerzy Kawalerowicz. A 1951 version directed by Mervyn LeRoy was nominated for eight academy awards.



*American
production- 1951*



„The Knights of the Cross”

is also a historical novel, relating to the Battle of Grunwald. It was published in 1900, made into a movie with the same title in 1960.



2001

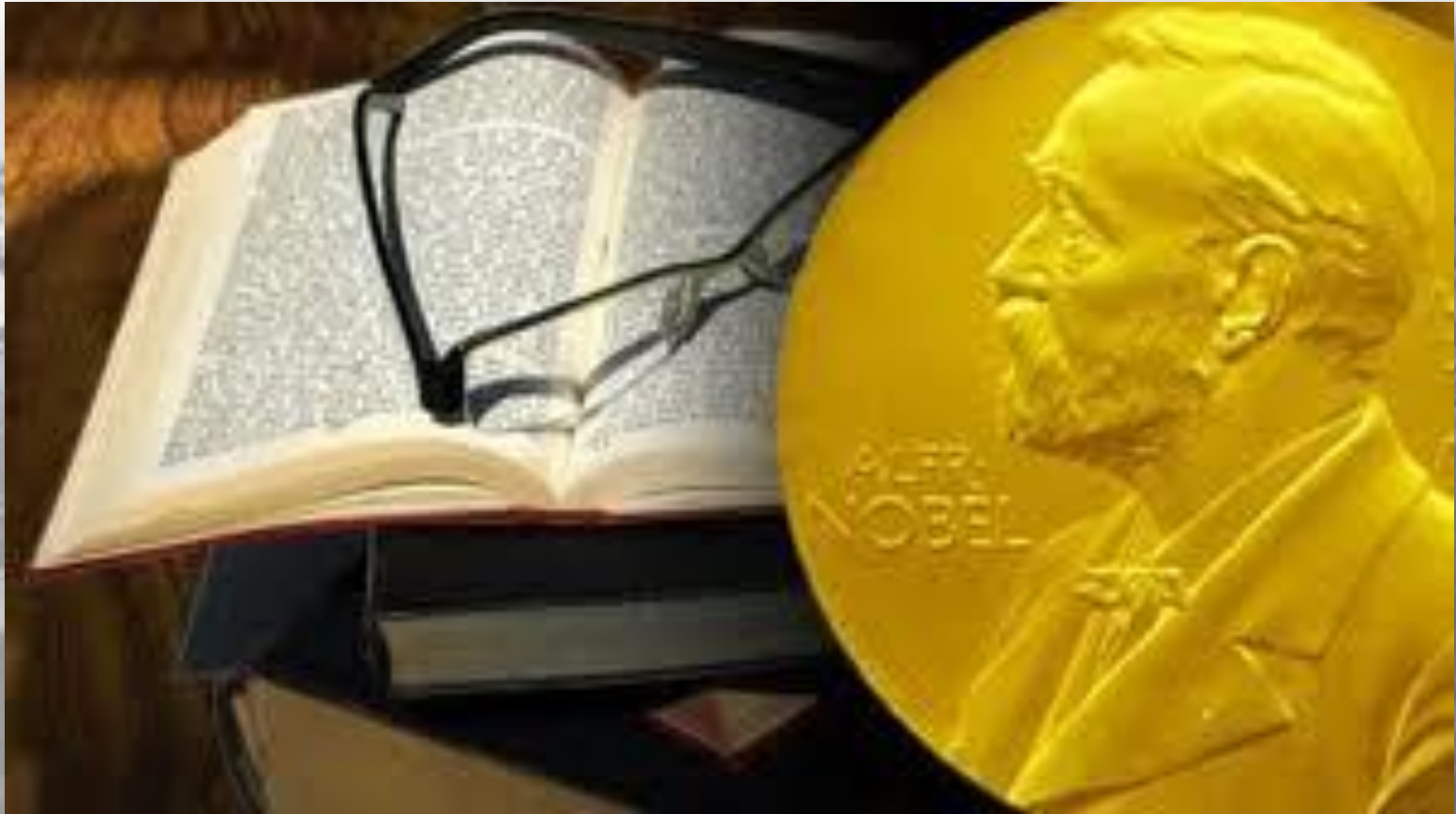


„IN DESERT AND WILDERNESS”

is a popular novel for young people, written in 1912. It is in fact, the author's only novel written for children. The book tells the story of two kids, Staś Tarkowski and Nel Rawlinson, kidnapped by the rebels in Sudan. It was filmed twice, in 1973 and in 2001. The first movie version was released in 1973, but work on it started in 1971. The movie was filmed in Egypt, Sudan and Bulgaria, with an international cast and crew. The 2001 version was directed by Gavin Hood. It was filmed in South Africa, Tunisia and Namibia.



HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ-THE NOBEL PRIZE WINNER



The Nobel Prize in Literature 1905 was awarded to Henryk Sienkiewicz. It is often said that he received his Nobel Prize for „Quo vadis”. He actually received it "for his outstanding merits as an epic writer", although Quo vadis perhaps brought him the widest international recognition.

Henryk Sienkiewicz died November 1916, in Vevey, Switzerland where he was buried. In 1924, after Poland had regained its independence, the writer's ashes were repatriated to Warsaw and placed in the crypt of St. John's Cathedral. In commemoration of the writer many monuments to him have been erected, there are some streets and schools named after him. In 1990s. Sienkiewicz's portrait was on Polish banknotes.



The monument of Henryk Sienkiewicz in the centre of Kielce



The main street in Kielce, named after Henryk Sienkiewicz

