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# The Correspondence of Marcin Poczobut-Odlanicki in Vilnius University Library

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**ABSTRACT.** Drawing inspiration from modern digital humanities research, and especially several projects related to recreating the ‘Republic of Letters’, Vilnius University Library intends to apply similar methods to the collection of letters of Marcin Poczobut (1728–1810). This article presents the process of describing, digitising, and creating a dedicated database of his letters. The initial stage of the work consists of creating descriptions of the letters. Next, the database should be made, including scanned images of the manuscripts and detailed search possibilities. It should provide better access to the manuscripts and enhance their search possibilities. On inspecting the material, we made some discoveries, attributed several letters and explored the multilingual phenomena of some of the texts, etc. The research carried out within the framework of the project will be useful for further studies in the field.

**KEYWORDS:** Republic of Letters; Marcin Poczobut; astronomy; Vilnius Principal School; Education Commission; Enlightenment; education; history of science.

The Manuscript Division of Vilnius University Library (VUB) today stores more than 300,000 manuscripts, divided into more than 300 different archives. The more significant part of them relates to the history of Vilnius University (VU). The accumulation of these documents was complicated, so that today similar items may be found across different archives. This confusion may also apply to the manuscripts of Marcin Poczobut-Odlanicki (1728–1810).

Marcin Poczobut was an eminent astronomer, who worked as head of the Vilnius Royal Astronomical Observatory and was rector of the university for many years. His efforts in equipping the perfect, modern astronomical observatory<sup>1</sup> and keeping constant and precise astronomical observations of various planets<sup>2</sup> made him encourage knowledge of astronomy in the Commonwealth of the Two Nations, which was made up of the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (further, the Commonwealth). Contemporary scholars in various European countries deemed his observations to be of great importance. His academic achievements can hardly be overestimated, especially taking into account the many problems he faced due to the rapid and profound ideological and political changes of the epoch, as well as his activities in reforming and creating the Principal School of Vilnius<sup>3</sup> (the name of Vilnius University between 1781 and 1803) and his many additional duties: in his administrative role as rector of the university and head of a vast educational district, a serving priest, landowner, and supervisor of a hospital, etc.

Today, the letters of Marcin Poczobut in the Manuscript Division of Vilnius University Library are stored in various collections (most of them are addressed to him). The majority are in the archive of Count Adam Jerzy Czartoryski (1770–1861), the chancellor of the Vilnius Educational Department between 1803 and 1823, the [F2] collection, and in the Poczobut personal archive [F16]. There are also some relevant letters in the archives of Andrzej Strzecki [F17], Jan Śniadecki [F19], and miscellanea [F5]. The Czartoryski archive, containing Vilnius University documents from the years up to and when Count Adam Jerzy Czartoryski was chancellor, had to be given to the next chancellor,

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<sup>1</sup> Detailed information on the instruments acquired by Poczobut can be found in: Anita McConnell, *Jesse Ramsden (1735–1800): London's leading scientific instrument maker*, Aldershot, Burlington: Ashgate, 2007, p. 80; Libertas Klimka, *Tikslieji mokslai Lietuvoje*, Kaunas: Šviesa, 1994, p. 116–123; Daniel Beauvois, *Uniwersytet Wileński. Szkolnictwo polskie na ziemiach litewsko-ruskich 1803–1832*, vol. 1, Rzym: Fundacja Jana Pawła, Lublin: Redakcja wydawnictw KUL, 1991, p. 239; Stasė Matulaitytė, *Senoji Vilniaus universiteto astronomijos observatorija ir jos biblioteka*, Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla, 2004, p. 75.

<sup>2</sup> Especially valuable were his observations of Mercury, as noted by Bohdan Suchodolski, *Zarys dziejów nauk przyrodniczych w Polsce*, Warszawa: Wiedza Powszechna, 1983, p. 114.

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Beauvois, *op. cit.*, p. 19.

Count Nikolai Novosiltsev (1761–1838). After Vilnius University was closed in 1832, these documents were transferred to the libraries of the surviving Medical and Theological colleges, and later sent to libraries in St Petersburg. Luckily, a large part of the Czartoryski archive was saved, and taken to Paris, where it was kept for many years at the Hôtel Lambert.<sup>4</sup> The manuscripts left Paris only in the second half of the nineteenth century, and, together with other collections, were sent to the newly opened Czartoryski Museum in Krakow. There, the manuscripts were described by Dr Jacek Lipski (1892–1925), who published catalogues of the manuscripts in the books *Materiały do dziejów szkolnictwa Polskiego* (1923) and the comprehensive *Archiwum Kuratorji Wileńskiej X. Ad. Czartoryskiego* (1926). Later, after it was decided to return the remaining VU documents to what was then Stephen Bathory University, the manuscripts reached Vilnius in 1939.

The Poczobut archive [F16] consists mainly of letters received by the professor. The collection was made up of donations by the historian, journalist and collector Lucjan Uziębło,<sup>5</sup> and Leon Novosielski, obtained by the library in 1934. In 1967, it was decided to combine this collection with the miscellanea archive [F5], but somewhat later, the archive [F16] was set up once again as a separate unit. It could be that during these procedures, some of the [F2] archive letters were incorporated into the [F5] archive. As the author of this article recently found out, at least five letters look very similar to what is stored in the [F2] archive, and even bear corresponding pencil marks. Among these five there are also some previously unpublished and unknown letters from the French astronomer Jérôme de Lalande to Poczobut and his colleague Andrzej Strzecki.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> A palace bought by the Czartoryski family in 1843, a cultural centre for 19th-century Polish émigrés.

<sup>5</sup> Long before this donation, Uziębło published the texts of some of the letters (as noted by Marek Buika, ‘Wileńscy kolekcjonerzy zabytków i pamiątek historycznych na przełomie XIX–XX wieku’, in: *Prace historyczne*, 2007, vol. 134 [*Zeszyty naukowe uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego*], p. 86). After the death of his widow in 1949, the rest of his vast and valuable collection was stored in the Wróblewski Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (Henryka Ilgiewicz, ‘Archyvinė medžiaga apie XX a. pirmosios pusės Vilniaus draugijas bei jų veikėjus Lietuvos Mokslų Akademijos Vrublevskij bibliotekoje’, in: *Knygotyra*, 2012, vol. 58, p. 248).

<sup>6</sup> Letter to Poczobut (10 01 1788), and to Strzecki (24 04 17[--]) (VUB RS, F5-A41-7979\_1, and F5-A41-7979\_2).

The corpus of Poczobut letters on the VUB shelves may be divided into groups, such as: (a) autographs, either actual letters or drafts, written by the astronomer himself;<sup>7</sup> (b) letters received from his close colleagues, friends and family; (c) international correspondence with scientists, manufacturers of instruments for use in physics and astronomy, bankers and merchants; (d) letters from the parents of current or future Vilnius University students; (e) vast correspondence from colleges and schools coming under the Principal School of Vilnius, and letters from the professors emeriti asking for retirement pensions, or from teachers seeking promotion. A large number of letters are related to changes in the educational system and the process of inviting foreign professors to Vilnius. This process, not a personal initiative by Poczobut but a project of the Education Commission supported by Adam Jerzy Czartoryski, the head of the educational district,<sup>8</sup> nevertheless demanded much patience and diplomacy from Poczobut himself and his colleagues. Such is the case, for example, in the letters from Johann Reinhold Forster (1729–1798) and his son Johann Georg Adam Forster (1754–1794), in which they discuss the future salary and quality of accommodation (the first one wishing to live not in a wooden hut, known as a *chalupa*, but in a normal building).<sup>9</sup>

Digitising and presenting the manuscripts in scanned version may help preserve the texts, create easy access to the manuscripts, and provide new possibilities for research. It may enable us to reconstruct the former integral system of correspondence, and follow the intellectual life of previous centuries. Several accomplished projects related to the COST action IS1310 ‘Reassembling

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<sup>7</sup> As Poczobut had a habit of writing the draft of the answer on the back of the received letter, there are many fragments which may have evolved into real letters, perhaps now stored in other archives in Poland or elsewhere. These drafts may sometimes be classed as independent units, and published, as happened, for example, with the answer to Adam Naruszewicz from 19 09 1789, published by the editor Julian Plattin *Korespondencja Adama Naruszewicza, 1762–1796*, Wrocław: Zakład Narodowy imienia Ossolińskich, wydawnictwo Polskiej Akademii Nauk, 1959, p. 337; in a manuscript currently stored in VUB RS F2-DC51, the text is written on the back of Naruszewicz's letter.

<sup>8</sup> Daniel Beauvois, *op. cit.*, p. 77.

<sup>9</sup> Original in French: ... *qu'on appelle en Polonois une Chalupa ...* (VUB RS, F2-DC53\_19b-1). Some other linguistic features of the multilingual letters in this collection were described in: Veronika Girininkaitė, ‘Kalbų kaita XVIII amžiaus pabaigos Vilniaus universiteto dėstytojų laiškuose’, in: *Taikomoji kalbotyra*, vol. 14, 2020, p. 148–163.

the Republic of Letters'<sup>10</sup> have inspired VUB to implement these ideas in its valuable manuscripts.<sup>11</sup> About 2,000 letters from the above-mentioned diverse epistolary heritage, written primarily between 1770 and 1800, were selected. They are being processed to become the core of the 'Letters of Professors at the Old University of Vilnius'<sup>12</sup> online database. By attempting to implement advanced ways of presenting the manuscripts in digital format, this initiative would help researchers wanting to work with the valuable correspondence and VUB. The work aims to create a free-access online database, which could later integrate into the international digital knowledge space. It could contain a detailed description of every letter, relevant biographical data about the correspondents and the people mentioned in the letters, high-quality digital images, and a convenient browsing system with information presented in at least the Lithuanian and English languages.

The detailed and thorough description performed at present aims to summarise the letters and give each one a separate entry in the electronic catalogue of the library.<sup>13</sup> Every entry in the selected collection of letters is marked by a tag (Senojo Vilniaus universiteto profesorių laiškai),<sup>14</sup> which allows researchers to locate all the relevant entries and see them displayed in one group in the electronic catalogue of the library. In this way, interested researchers may benefit from a more detailed presentation of the information before completing the entire database. Some of the letters, namely [F16] and [F17], are already scanned and available online in the DIGITAL COLLECTIONS of VUB.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Howard Hotson and Thomas Wallnig, eds., *Reassembling the Republic of Letters in the Digital Age. Standards, Systems, Scholarships*, Göttingen: Göttingen University Press, 2019; Meredith Hindley, 'Mapping the Republic of Letters. Using modern technology to understand a network of eighteenth-century thinkers', in: *HUMANITIES*, November/December 2013, vol. 34, issue 6. Internet access (13 03 2019): <<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2013/novemberdecember/feature/mapping-the-republic-letters>>.

<sup>11</sup> Some examples of the online resources dedicated to the reconstruction of the epistolary ties are: *MTRL*, *ePistolarium*, *EMLO*. As in our case we have mixed the communications of Poczobut the scholar, the rector and the person, the results of our work may have their own peculiarities.

<sup>12</sup> This title may yet be changed.

<sup>13</sup> <<https://biblioteka.vu.lt>>.

<sup>14</sup> This may be translated from Lithuanian as 'Letters of Professors at the Old University of Vilnius'.

<sup>15</sup> Available via (15 01 2021): <<https://kolekcijos.biblioteka.vu.lt/en/manuscripts>>.

Before the current detailed description was made of each separate letter, the letters in question were stored in large bundles, which made any research quite cumbersome and time-consuming. Nevertheless, the correspondence of Marcin Poczobut has already been investigated by many historians interested in different topics of history: the history of the education process,<sup>16</sup> the university and its observatory,<sup>17</sup> the francophone epistolary heritage,<sup>18</sup> etc. Also, the texts of some of the letters have been published. Known publications of these letters in the original language or in translation are shown in the appendix to this article (Table 1).

Working with the manuscripts, which are at present in separate traditional archives, has some unexpected advantages. For example, it has enabled the identification of some letters that were previously marked as anonymous, and are now attributed, thanks to distinct traits of the handwriting, or by comparing letters with a full signature with ones signed only with initials. This is the case with the letters of Remigiusz Kossakowski (1730–1780), for example. Born in Samogitia, he joined the Jesuits in Vilnius, worked as a professor of rhetoric and history from 1765 to 1768, and was a preacher and librarian at the large Jesuit library in Hrodna from 1768 to 1769, and 1771 to 1773. After 1773, with the abolition of the Jesuit order in the Commonwealth, he lived in Paris as a representative of the Education Commission and looked after international research communication.<sup>19</sup> He signed the letters which now are in the collection [F16] only with his initials. After comparing them to fully signed letters in [F2-DC42], it was possible to attribute them safely, in part due to his peculiar handwriting.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Janina Kamińska, *Universitas Vilnensis 1793–1803: Od Szkoły Głównej Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego do Imperatorskiego Uniwersytetu Wileńskiego*, Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 2012, and Janina Kamińska, *Universitas Vilnensis: Akademia Wileńska i Szkoła Główna Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego 1773–1792*, Pultusk, Warszawa: Uniwersytet Warszawski, Wyższa Szkoła Humanistyczna imienia Aleksandra Gieyszta, 2004.

<sup>17</sup> Stasė Matulaitytė, *op. cit.*, p. 57–92, 225.

<sup>18</sup> Loïc Boizou, ‘La correspondance en français des savants de l'université de Vilnius de la fin du XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle au début du XIX<sup>e</sup>’, in: *Correspondances d'érudits aux XVIII<sup>e</sup> et XIX<sup>e</sup> siècles: France, Pologne, Lituanie*, Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2014, pp. 201–209, and Dominique Triaire, ‘Lalande, Bernoulli, Poczobut ... Lettres de savants de l'Ouest à des astronomes de l'Est’, in: *Revue d'histoire des sciences*, 2012/1 (Tome 65), p. 159–180.

<sup>19</sup> Ludwik Grzebień SJ, *Encyklopedia wiedzy o jezuitach na ziemiach Polski i Litwy 1564–1995*, Kraków: WAM, 1996, p. 308.

<sup>20</sup> For more on Remigiusz Kossakowski, see: Veronika Girininkaitė, ‘Remigijaus Korvino Kossakowskio (1730–1780) laiškai Vilniaus universiteto bibliotekoje’, in: *Su Erelio ir Vyčio ženklais. Lenkijos ir Lietuvos moksliniai ir kultūriniai ryšiai Vilniaus universiteto istorijoje*, Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla, 2021, p. 28–51.

An interesting example of correspondence about language teaching is the two letters from Franciszek Bukaty (1747–1797) to the Vilnius astronomer Andrzej Strzecki (1737–1797).<sup>21</sup> The letters were written in London on two consecutive days (29 and 30 June 1778), but afterwards they ended up in different places. Hence, their educational purpose became apparent only after comparing them during the current description. It seems that while visiting London and residing in Greenwich, Strzecki (or Andrew Strzecki, Esq., as is written in the letter) wanted to improve his English. Therefore, he asked Franciszek Bukaty, an eminent diplomat and ambassador of the Commonwealth, to write him several letters. The letters have numbers: Bukaty writes about the importance of mastering the orthography of the language and recommends Strzecki practise speaking whenever possible. He also tells his pupil to leave some blank space in his responses to allow the correction of possible mistakes.

A separate description of every letter reveals the immense network of Poczobut's correspondents and shows us the range of his interests and duties. There are also specific facts which can be verified using the contents of these letters. For example, letters from Jan Chevalier (F16-5\_92, F16-5\_93 and others) show clearly that the painter Ignacy Eggenfelder (active in Vilnius from 1751 to 1791) participated in the decoration of Joachim Littawor Chreptowicz's palace in Szczorsy.<sup>22</sup> Also, we found some previously unknown literary works, such as, for example, a eulogy to Marcin Poczobut<sup>23</sup> by Józef Konstanty Bogusławski (1754–1817). According to the letter, Bogusławski read this eulogy on 11 November 1795 at the celebration of St Martin's Day in Vilnius. There is also a poem by Philip Nereusz Golański (1753–1824) dedicated to Poczobut;<sup>24</sup> both pieces were written in Latin.

The idea of creating an online database of scanned letters has many benefits. It will bring together otherwise obscure examples of personal handwriting

<sup>21</sup> VUB RS, F2-DC130\_4 and VUB RS, F17-40, the texts of these letters were published in: Veronika Girininkaitė, 'Kalbų kaita ...'.

<sup>22</sup> Invited there from Vilnius together with the cabinet makers previously working for Prince Bishop Ignacy Massalski (1726–1794). This fact was doubted, for example, by Robert Świętochowski, Norbert Zawisza, 'Eggenfelder (Ekkenfelder), Ignacy de', in: *Słownik artystów polskich i obcych w Polsce działających*, vol. 2, Wrocław, Warszawa, Kraków, Gdańsk: PAN, 1975, p. 156–157.

<sup>23</sup> VUB RS, F2-DC38\_13-20.

<sup>24</sup> VUB RS, F2-DC2\_9d.

that are sometimes necessary to attribute other unsigned manuscripts. It could also help in studying the history of the use of language and the etiquette of the epoch and present regional and personal norms of orthography from different parts of the Commonwealth. The possible future of this project may lie in inter-institutional and international cooperation, which is necessary to recreate the fullest possible picture of the correspondence of Marcin Poczobut-Odlanicki.

## A P P E N D I X

Table 1 represents the known publications of letters from Poczobut's correspondence which are currently held in VUB. In the last column are the shelf numbers of the manuscripts. The entries are arranged chronologically, according to the date of the manuscript. Letters to or from Adam Naruszewicz (1733–1796), Jan Chevalier de Beaulieu (1732–1780), Bishop Stanisław Siestrzencewicz (1731–1826), Jérôme de Lalande (1732–1807), Remigiusz Kossakowski (1730–1780), Charles Messier (1730–1817), Nevil Maskelyne (1732–1811), Jan Sniadecki (1756–1830), and others are mentioned.

Writer	Addressee	Location and date	Source	VUB RS
M. Poczobut	[unidentified] <sup>25</sup>	[Vilnius], [02 1774]	J 2005 <sup>26</sup> , 247	F16-2_1 (fragment)
A. Naruszewicz	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 08 08 1774	P 1959 <sup>27</sup> , 23, R 1958 <sup>28</sup> , 207	F2-DC45_2-1
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 12 09 1774	J 2005, 47	F16-5_7
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 14 09 1774	J 2005, 46	F16-5_9
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 19 09 1774	J 2005, 46	F16-5_10
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 21 09 1774	J 2005, 41-42	F16-5_11
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 04 01 1775	J 2005, 42	F16-5_26
S. Siestrzencewicz	M. Poczobut	Mogilew, 09 02 1775	J 2005, 259	F2-DC47_12-2
S. Siestrzencewicz	M. Poczobut	Mogilew, 27 03 1775	J 2005, 259	F2-DC47_12-3

<sup>25</sup> Unidentified addressee; thought to be Jérôme de Lalande and dated as 1777 in (J 2005, 247).

<sup>26</sup> Regina Jakubénas, *Prasa Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego w II połowie XVIII wieku*, Kraków: Collegium Columbinum, 2005, p. 247.

<sup>27</sup> Julian Platt, *op. cit.*, p. 23.

<sup>28</sup> Edmund Rabowicz, 'Inedita Adama Naruszewicza', in: *Pamiętnik Literacki*, XLIX, vol. 3, 1958.

J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 17 07 1775	J 2005, 247	F2-DC16_5_42
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 02 10 1775	J 2005, 47	F2-DC16_5_49
J. de Lalande	M. Poczobut	Paris, 22 03 1776	M 1971 <sup>29</sup> , 190 <sup>30</sup> , M 2004 <sup>31</sup> , 88- 91, T 2012 <sup>32</sup>	F2-DC54_6-1
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 24 10 1776	J 2005, 247	F16_5_104
A. Naruszewicz	M. Poczobut	Powieć, 07 04 1777	P 1959, 70; R 1958, 208-9	F2-DC45_2-2
A. Naruszewicz	M. Poczobut	[Powieć], 29 09 1777	P 1959, 93; R 1958, 209-10	F2-DC45_2-3
Stanislas August Poniatowski	M. Poczobut	Warszawa, 27 10 1777	U 1910, 1071	[LMAVB f. 7-1383] <sup>33</sup>
J. Strzecki	[unknown]	Vilnius, [-- --] 1777	M 1971, 173-4	F2-DC130_23
Turgot	J. Strzecki	Paris, 02 01 1778	T 2012,	F2-DC54_32
Rochon	J. Strzecki	Paris, 22 01 1778	T 2012	F2-DC130_21
[N. Maskelyne ?]	J. Strzecki	Greenwich, 16 04 1778	J 2005, 253	F17-3s
Lepaute, Dagelet	J. Strzecki	Paris, [05 05]17[78]	T 2012	F17-3e
C. Messier	A l'Academie	Paris, 19 08 1778	T 2012	F2-DC38_31
R. Kossakowski	[Poczobut?]	Paris, 20 08 1778	J 2005, 254	F2-DC42_33
J. de Lalande <sup>34</sup>	M. Poczobut	Paris, 28 08 1778	T 2012, 47	F2-DC54_6-2
C. Messier	J. Strzecki	Paris, 12 09 1778	T 2012	F2-DC54_13
J. Strzecki	[unknown]	Köln, 29 08 1778	J 2005, 251-252	[unknown]
R. Kossakowski	M. Poczobut	Paris, 02 10 1778	J 2005, 254	F2-DC42_33
J. de Lalande	Kossakowski	Paris, 03 10 1778	T 2012	F17-3f
J. Chevalier	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 18 01 1779	J 2005, 40	F16_5_168
R. Kossakowski	M. Poczobut	Paris, 20 01 1779 or 8	J 2005, 255	F2-DC42_33
R. Kossakowski	M. Poczobut	Paris, 07 03 1779 or 8	J 2005, 255	F2-DC42_33
R. Kossakowski	M. Poczobut	Paris, 30 07 1779 or 8	J 2005, 256	F2-DC42_33
M. Poczobut	J. Strzecki	Vilnius, 17 02 1783	B 2008 <sup>35</sup> , 160-162	F2-DC59_5-7

<sup>29</sup> Stasė Matulaitytė, *Astronomijos dėstymas ir kosmologinės pažiūros senajame Vilniaus universitete*, doctoral thesis, Vilnius: Vilnius University, 1971, VUB RS, F76-1481.

<sup>30</sup> This text was translated into Lithuanian.

<sup>31</sup> Stasė Matulaitytė, *op. cit.*, p. 88.

<sup>32</sup> Dominique Triaire, *op. cit.*, p. 9.

<sup>33</sup> This unit is not in VUB today, though it was mentioned as part of the collection by (Lipsky 1923), and the full text of the letter was published by Lucian Uziębło in 1910; in: Lucjan Uziębło, ‘Pamięci Poczobuta. W setną rocznicę zgony wileńskiego astronoma’, in: *Tygodnik Ilustrowany*, 31 12 1910, issue 53, p. 1070-1071.

<sup>34</sup> Mistakenly identified as Charles Messier by Dominique Triaire, *op. cit.*, p. 47.

<sup>35</sup> Liudvika Byševska, *1786 metų kelionės į Vilnių dienoraštis* = Ludwika Byszewska, *Žurnal podróżydo Wilna z roku 1786*, text prepared by Vydas Dolinskas et al., Vilnius: Lietuvos dailės muziejus, 2008.

A. Naruszewicz	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 06 03 1785	P 1959, 244-245; R 1958, 210	F2-DC45_2-4
J. de Lalande	M. Poczobut	Paris, 03 07 1786	T 2012	F2-DC54_6-3
J. Śniadecki	M. Poczobut	Kraków, 18 02 1788	KJŚ 1954 <sup>36</sup> , 8-17; B 1865 I, 137-53	F19-25
A. Naruszewicz	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 31 12 1788	P 1959, 326; R 1958, 210	F2-DC45_2-5
J. de Lalande	M. Poczobut	Paris, 25 08 1789	T 2012	F2-DC54_6-4
A. Naruszewicz	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 19 09 1789	P 1959, 336-7; R 1958, 211	F2-DC51
M. Poczobut	A. Naruszewicz	Vilnius, after 19 09 1789	P 1959, 337	F2-DC51
J. de Lalande	M. Poczobut	Warsaw, 15 01 1791	T 2012	F2-DC54_6-5

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VERONIKA GIRININKAITĖ

## Martyno Počobuto Odlianickio korespondencija Vilniaus universiteto bibliotekoje

### *Santrauka*

Straipsnyje pristatomi Vilniaus universiteto bibliotekoje vykdomi darbai, skirti Martyno Počobuto-Odlianickio (1728–1810) epistoliniams palikimui aprašyti ir pristatyti elektroninėje erdvėje. Siekiant šio tikslo, įkvėpimo semtasi iš sėkmingų Europos bibliotekų ir tyrėjų įgyvendintų projektu, susijusių su vadinamosios „Laiškų respublikos“ (*Republic of Letters*) atkūrimu pasitelkiant skaitmenines technologijas. Vilniuje saugomi laiškai istorijos aplinkybių paveikti liko išblaškyti ne tik po skirtingus archyvus, bet ir skirtingose atminties institucijose. Naujai aprašant laiškus, iš kurių dauguma buvo adresuota Počobutui, vadovautasi semantiniais ir chronologiniais ryšiais, o ne istoriškai susiklosčiusiais fondais, todėl gretinant laiškus pavyko suvokti kai kuriuos anksčiau mažai supranta-mus dalykus, susieti ir tokiu būdu identifikuoti anksčiau neatributuotus laiškus. Naujai aprašant laiškus planuojama greta detalių aprašymų pateikti skenuotus laiškų vaizdus (dalis minimų laiškų jau pateikta VUB tinklapyje, Skaitmeninių kolekcijų skyriuje). Darbo metu autorė paskelbė du straipsnius, kuriuose gvilden-ta šių laiškų lingvistinė ir istorinė reikšmė. Straipsnio priede pateiktoje lentelėje surašytos šiandien žinomas minėtų laiškų tekstų publikacijos įrodo, kad ši medžiaga domina istorikus, laiškuose pateikta informacija yra vertinga.

**REIKŠMINIAI ŽODŽIAI:** Martynas Počobutas; Vilniaus vyriausioji mokykla; Tautos edukacinė komisija; *Respublica litteraria*; Apšvieta; švietimas; mokslo istorija.

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