

EDITOR'S PREFACE

We present the reader with the third volume of "Fasciculi Archaeologiae Historicae" which is different than the previous two. Since it is – despite assumptions of the series – monothematic, it also does not contain – inconsistently with the title – the archaeology in the strict sense. It includes the complete publications of scientific conference entitled *Polish Coin of the Modern Period – the 16th – 18th Centuries. The State of Investigations and Perspectives* organized in Łódź in November 1985 thanks to the Łódź Division of Polish Academy of Science and Polish Archaeologic and Numismatic Society. It was the fourth successive symposium devoted to methodics of numismatic studies in Poland and to investigations of monetary finds coming from Polish territories. The previous symposia treating about earlier periods have been held in Cracow, Warsaw and Łódź.

The editor is fully aware of mutual differences among particular elaborations included in the volume. However, these differentiations have resulted from some factors on which the editor did not have any effect. Both the state of studies of particular minting problems or given groups of coins and particular authors who manifested unequal dispositions of their research and workshop exerted an influence upon them. The initiators of the conference tended to present and discuss the possibly complete list of minting issues and types of coins from the chosen period of time and chosen area, moreover the social character of the

organizer enabled to include into the works of the conference also amateurs with respect to these detailed problems which did not appear interesting enough for the researchers gathered in numismatic circles of Poland.

However, we do not think that such a practical solution had a bad influence upon the final result of the conference i.e. the extensive studies of the sources – the coins and mintage in Poland and in neighbouring territories during the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. It is significant – as we suppose – that the reader would be fully aware of such a conditioning in creating the present volume before he took to reading it.

The editor regrets that some gaps appeared in a quite consistent and relatively full project of the conference programme during its realization. Two lecturers, L. Wędzicha and T. Bylicki, did not present their reports at the conference and also did not deliver them to be published. One of the presented reports, elaborated by M. Męcłewska and entitled "Coins of the last kings from the Jagiellonian dynasty", was not delivered to be published and was not included in the present volume though the discussion evoked by this report was printed.

*Translated by
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