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THE MEDICAL FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEIDEN AND ITS GRADUATES FROM THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN COMMONWEALTH SOME INTRODUCTORY REMARKS*

It is well known that the practice of *peregrinatio medica* (medical travel) was so common in the early modern period that in 1678 the Copenhagen anatomist Thomas Bartholin argued that a well-respected physician is obliged to have his multiannual training abroad:

In our age such great usefulness redounds to the physician from his travel that no one puts much faith in the authority of a physician who has not set foot outside his native land, and although each may have at home in abundance those things which are necessary for medical instruction, nevertheless they ought to be strengthened or increased by a comparison with things abroad¹.

It is no surprise then that medical students in early modern times were on a constant move; that they travelled across the Continent and the British Isles, and sometimes even overseas², seeking out the best teachers and train-

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¹ T. Bartholin, *De peregrinatione medica. On medical travel*, (1961), p. 45.

² For instance, a Lithuanian Alexander Carolus Curtius. Universitaire Bibliotheken

ers, therefore resembling, to some extent, of course, surgical journeymen in search of the most experienced master craftsmen and noblemen³ on their grand tours. During their educational journeys, aspiring physicians were obliged, as a part of their training, to visit: “1. Loca perlustranda, sunt academiae, nosocomia, officinae medicae, horti, montes, sylvae, metalli fodinae, thermae, triremes, castra, amphitheatra anatomica. 2. Morbi & remedia varia observentur. 3. Consulantur medici clari vel chirurgi: imo & veterinarii seu hippiatry. 4. Discat precio vel precibus, sive utilium praepertorum communicatione, sive exemplorum commonstratione, a dogmaticis juxta & empiricis”⁴, as it was claimed in the *Encyclopaedia* of Johann Heinrich Alsted published in 1630.

Consequently, the destination, length and scope of educational travels of early modern medical students, regardless of particular instructions published in *ars apodemica* treatises⁵, depended on many different factors, especially confessional, socio-economic, and political ones, to name only the most obvious; undoubtedly, they varied from one student to another. The travel pattern, however, remained almost always the same. The medical travel lasted a few years. The student matriculated at least at two medical faculties. He graduated from one of them, and afterwards, he continued his educational journey from one place to another and from one master to another, let them be renowned medics, apothecaries, surgeons, collectors,

Leiden (further: UBL), Archieven Senaat en Faculteiten der Leidsche Universiteit (further: ASF) – 414, pp. 54–55. See *Appendix*.

³ See, for instance, K. Pękacka-Falkowska, H. Bogusz, *Christian Heinrich Erndtel, lekarz nadworny Augusta II Mocnego, i jego relacja z podróży uczonej do Anglii i Północnych Niderlandów*, in: *Lekarz jako autor i bohater literacki*, eds. E. Białek, D. Lewera, (2019), pp. 41–43.

⁴ *Encyclopaedia, Septem Tomis Distincta*, (1630), col. 2121–2212 (Lib. XXXV: *Apodemica, Critica etc.*).

⁵ See, for instance, T. Haye, *Lorenz Gryll (d. 1560): A Traveller in the Service of Medical Training*, in: *Artes Apodemicae and Early Modern Travel Culture, 1550–1700*, eds. K. A. E. Enenkel, J. de Jong, (2019), pp. 75–91; T. Bartholin, *De peregrinatione medica*, (1961); O. Grell, ‘Like the bees, who neither suck nor generate their honey from one flower’: the significance of the peregrinatio academica for Danish medical students of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, in: *Centres of Medical Excellence? Medical Travel and Education in Europe, 1500–1789*, ed. O. P. Grell, A. Cunningham, J. Arrizabalaga, (2010), pp. 171–189; O. Grell, *Three seventeenth-century manuals on how and where to study medicine*, in: *Medicine, Natural Philosophy and Religion in Post-Reformation Scandinavia*, ed. O. Grell, A. Cunningham, (2016), pp. 136–152.

instrument makers, librarians, lithotomists etc. Such ‘multistageness’ and careful planning of *peregrinatio medica* was necessary to get to know new knowledge, new skills, and new behaviours that would equip a young man not only to successfully encounter numerous occupational challenges within a short time, but also to respond to the needs and expectations of his patients, clients, ‘friends’, patrons, and superiors (including, in the latter case, the city authorities). In the 17th and 18th centuries, the medical profession actually required that an adept would be well-informed in many subjects. Thus, he had to acquire not only reliable training in practical medicine, but also to acquire expertise in natural history (especially in botany), chymiatry, anatomy, along with hands-on experience both in surgery and in obstetrics. All this was possible only by way of autopsy along with the study of texts in various centres of medical excellence. Equally important was that an aspiring medic should comprehend the principles of civility along with the multifaceted practice of *amicitia* and genteelness. It is not surprising then that one of the alumni of Academia Lugduno-Batava (Leiden), Christoph Gottwald from Danzig in Royal Prussia, could explicitly state shortly before his death that the knowledge and experience he had gained during his seven-year educational trip across Europe were beneficial to him throughout his whole life. The same applied to the social connections he had made as a medical peregrinate⁶.

Much has been written about German, English, French, Swiss, and Northern European medical students living in the 17th and 18th centuries⁷. There is also much known about the state of medicine in the Early Modern period in western Europe, whereas medicine in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth along with the mobility of medical students coming from that part of the continent seems to be still an unexplored field of research⁸. Surprisingly, this also applies to the most ‘networked’ part of Poland, namely to Polish (respectively Royal) Prussia. Also, medical educational travels of

⁶ K. Pękacka-Falkowska, *Wokół kolekcji przyrodniczych w Rzeczypospolitej Obojga Narodów*, 1: *Christoph i Johann Christoph Gottwaldowie oraz ich gdańskie muzeum*, in: *Kwartalnik Historii Nauki i Techniki*, 2 (2018), pp. 51–97.

⁷ *Centres of Medical Excellence?*

⁸ S. Sokół, *Polnische Mediziner in Basel im XVI.–XVII. Jahrhundert*, in: *Kwartalnik Historii Nauki i Techniki*, 5 (1960), pp. 175–190; T. Brzeziński, *Polskie peregrynacje po dyplomach lekarskich (od średniowiecza po odzyskanie niepodległości w 1918 r.)*, (1999), pp. 154–161 (Bibliography).

future physicians born into burgher families in Danzig (Gdańsk), Thorn (Toruń), Elbing (Elbląg), Graudenz (Grudziądz), etc., are poorly researched and have not been an issue of interest among historians⁹.

This unsatisfactory state of research on medical education of inhabitants of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth may result from at least two factors. As Bernard O'Connor, a Scottish physician to the King of Poland John III Sobieski, claimed in his *Description of Poland* published at the end of the 17th century, medicine in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was under developed when compared with the one in Western countries:

As for the Practice of Physick in *Poland* it is but very imperfect. The Doctors there know nothing of the Modern Discoveries in *Anatomy* and *Chymistry*, nay, the *Materia Medica* is hardly known to them, much less improv'd. The Medicines which they use are altogether *Galenical*, and those always of the worsers sort. They are but little acquainted with Modern

⁹ See, for instance, M. Chachaj, *Podróże edukacyjne młodzieży z Prus Królewskich do Bolonii, Sieny i Perugii w XVI i XVII wieku*, in: *Prusy Książęce i Prusy Królewskie w XVI–XVIII wieku*, ed. J. Wijaczka, (1997), pp. 195–210; M. Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie absolwentów Gimnazjum Elbląskiego w latach 1536–1772*, in: *Zeszyty Naukowe Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika. Nauki Humanistyczno-Społeczne*, 24 (1967), pp. 112–144; H. Kenkel, *Studenten aus Ost- und Westpreußen an außerpreußischen Universitäten vor 1815, anhand der gedruckten Matrikeln*, (1981); M. Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie młodzieży z Prus Królewskich w XVI–XVIII w.*, (1988); idem, *Wyjazdy młodzieży warmińskiej na studia uniwersyteckie w XVI–XVIII w.*, in: *Komunikaty Mazursko-Warmińskie*, 3 (1993), pp. 403–411; idem, *Studia uniwersyteckie grudziądzan w epoce staropolskiej*, in: *Zeszyty Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej w Bydgoszczy. Studia Historyczne*, 3 (1993), pp. 59–68; idem, W. Długokęcki, *Studia uniwersyteckie malborczyków do 1773 roku*, (2004). On citizens of Danzig and their medical, educational travels see B. Nadolski, *Wyjazdy młodzieży gdańskiej na studia zagraniczne w XVII w.*, in: *Rocznik Gdański*, 24 (1965), pp. 195–203; *Vitae medicorum Gedanensium Ludwiga von Hammenai Valentina Schlieffa*, ed. B. Siek, A. Szarszewski, (2015), pp. 192–253; Pękacka-Falkowska, *Wokół kolekcji przyrodniczych*; eadem, *Freundschaft die auch nach dem Tod wärt: Daniel Gödtke, Gerard Blaes i zootomia*, in: *Zapiski Historyczne*, 85 (2020) [in press]; eadem, *Między Gdańskiem a Toruniem: Georg Seger i anatomia*, in: *Historia to (nie) fraszka. Studia ofiarowane Profesorowi Krzysztofowi Mikulskiemu w 60. rocznicę urodzin*, eds. A. Zielińska, M. Targowski, (2020) [in press]; L. Thijsen, *Polska Niderlandy: 1000 lat kontaktów*, (2003), pp. 184–189 (first published in 1992 as *1000 jaar Polen en Nederland*). However, most of these works only enlist medical centres where *peregrinants* from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth were studying medicine. We know almost nothing about the study programmes, the scope and nature of teaching particular subjects, student life or students' contacts with their teachers and other 'curious people', and thus about things that formed the intellectual profile of the later physician.

Authors, and particularly with those of our Nation, tho' they have heard of their Names, and will allow that the *English Physicians* have improv'd *Physick* beyond any other Nation whatever, but this is still more by hear-say than out of any knowledge they have of us or our Authors [...] the *Poles* use the same Medicines as we do, yet are they ignorant of the Method of applying them. In their *Consultations* they advance but little reason, tho' they quote Presidents and Authors for their Practice¹⁰.

Moreover, O'Connor complained about the low number of physicians practicing in the Crown and Lithuania and about the lack of interest in *ars medica* and natural history among members of Polish *szlachta* (nobility), who could afford (almost as the only one) a proper, yet extremely expensive, medical education and training:

As for *Physicians* in *Poland*, there are no great number there, and those few that are, for the most part are either *French, Italians, or Germans*, scarce any of the Natives caring to addict themselves to that Profession; for having little conveniency to improve themselves in it in their own Country, none but the richer sort of Gentry can bear the expence of going to learn it in Foreign Countries, and then such of the Nobility as do Travel are generally either too *Lazy* or too *Proud* to apply themselves to what requires so much fatigue to study, and so much judgment afterwards to put in Practise. This, *Sir*, is the reason why the *Poles* have hardly any Person thoroughly learn'd in this Profession¹¹.

Certainly, one may say that such an opinion was exaggerated and pretty unfair, yet, there are also other historical sources which ascertain us that Poles were actually disinterested in studying medicine and natural history¹².

¹⁰ [B. O'Connor], *The history of Poland; vol. 2 in several letters to persons of quality, giving an account of the antient and present state of that kingdom, historical, geographical, physical, political and ecclesiastical [...]: with sculptures, and a new map after the best geographers: with several letters relating to physick / by Bern. Connor [...] who, in his travels in that country, collected these memoirs from the best authors and his own observations; publish'd by the care and assistance of Mr. Savage*, (1698), p. 86.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 80.

¹² K. Pełkacka-Falkowska, *Jacob Breyne's horti sicci from 1659 and 1673*, in: *Zapiski Historyczne*, 83 (2018), pp. 47–49.

The only exception was Royal Prussia, along with its *Burgerschaft*, which means a township. Yet, even such a statement might be considered misleading, for although O'Connor excluded from his narration German-speaking citizens of Polish Prussian towns, in reality, according to the renowned collector Johann Philipp Breyne, who in 1704 ended his *peregrinatio medica* and got back to his native land, also the most accomplished city of the region, Danzig, was lagging behind. "As for my person, I am forced to be concealed in this corner of Europe, where [...] people is more interest to ged money"¹³ than make curious things, he wrote to his English friends Hans Sloane and James Petiver.

Unequivocally, in the 17th and 18th centuries, the physicians to the kings of Poland almost always came from Saxony, France etc. Those, who in turn might be described as 'Poles' were usually Jews or German-speaking Protestant dissenters¹⁴. Contrary to the view of J. P. Breyne, marred by his stays in Amsterdam and London, many of them (sometimes exhibiting a growing interest in natural history) originate from Polish Prussia. The same applies to the physicians of the Polish magnates and the wealthy noblemen, who willingly used the services of foreign and indigenous medics; they also typically belonged to the group religious dissenters¹⁵. In the Baroque period and during the Enlightenment, the Polish Catholics of higher social rank hardly ever undertook medical and natural history studies; these simply did not suit the educational ideals and aims of Polish legally privileged noble class, *szlachta*, whose members, by contrast, were interested in studying law. Admittedly, some Catholic burghers underwent medical training in Padua and Bologna, but after 1600 they rarely graduated with a degree of

¹³ British Library (further: BL), Sloane Ms 3322, fol. 1r. (original spelling).

¹⁴ See, for instance, W. Lisowski, *Lekarze w służbie królów i hetmanów polskich*, in: *Lekarz Wojskowy*, 62 (1986), pp. 5–6, 378–385; W. Leitsch, *Das Leben am Hof König Sigismunds II. von Polen*, 1 (2009), pp. 613–628, 2 (2009), pp. 1019–1037, 1331–1340, 3 (2009), pp. 1557–1562, 1700–1708, 1741–1743; K. Targosz, *Jan III Sobieski mecenasem nauk i uczonych*, (2012), pp. 336–441; idem, *Uczony dwór Ludwiki Marii Gonzagi (1646–1667)*, (2015), pp. 348–381.

¹⁵ S. Kościński, *Słownik lekarzów polskich: obejmujący oprócz krótkich życiorysów lekarzy Polaków oraz cudzoziemców w Polsce osiadłych, dokładną bibliografię lekarską polską od czasów najdawniejszych aż do chwili obecnej*, vol. 1–2 (1883–1885); L. Gąsiorowski, *Zbiór wiadomości do historii sztuki lekarskiej w Polsce od czasów najdawniejszych, aż do najnowszych*, vol. 1–4 (1839–1855).

a doctor of medicine¹⁶. As a result, the only estimable exception in early modern Poland regarding medical educational trips was aforementioned Royal Prussia with its *Burgerschafft* and several urban centres in the Crown and Lithuania inhibited by the dissenters. They were the sons of privileged citizens of a few towns in Polish-Lithuania and formed a specific group of medical students on their educational journeys and sometime later, the collective of doctors (of philosophy and) medicine.

Consequently, in this paper, I shall focus on German-speaking students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, in particular those from Polish Prussia, who graduated from one of the most renowned Western universities of the early modern period. The focus of this study will thus be the Medical Faculty of the University of Leiden in the 17th and early 18th centuries¹⁷. Travelling from Polish-Lithuanian territories to the educational, cultural and economic centre in the Dutch Republic and back again, well-trained in anatomy, zootomy, botany, (iatro)chymistry, (iatro)physics, drug formulation, surgery etc., they transferred new knowledge, new skills and new ideas to their home and native land¹⁸. Yet, it should also be remembered that while on multiannual medical tours, they also disseminated the local Central European medical and natural history knowledge to the Western world, at least to some extent¹⁹.

¹⁶ Brzeziński, *Polskie peregrynacje*, pp. 140–141, 183–190; H. de Ridder-Symoens, *The mobility of Medical Students from the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries*, in: *Centres of Medical Excellence?*, p. 84.

¹⁷ It is worth noting that some Polish Prussian cities like Danzig and Elbing established strong trade ties with the Netherlands; and obviously trade was bringing people, knowledge and various material resources (e.g. artefacts and specimens) from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to the Dutch Republic and from the Low Countries to the Republic of Poland. The two countries in the late 16th, 17th and early 18th centuries also had intensive scientific, artistic, architectonic, military, and religious contacts. However, in case of the Crown, it was always Danzig that served as ‘aurea porta’, that is the golden gate, of the exchange. On Polish-Dutch relations in the 17th–18th centuries see, for instance, L. Thijsen, *Polska Niderlandy*; A. Fleischer, *Breyne’s Botany: (Re-)Locating Nature & Knowledge in Danzig*, in: *Locations of Knowledge in Dutch Contexts*, eds. F. J. Dijksterhuis, A. Weber, H. J. Zuidervaart, (2019), pp. 112–115 (the case of Danzig).

¹⁸ Cf. Pękacka-Falkowska, *Między Gdańskiem a Toruniem*.

¹⁹ K. Pękacka-Falkowska, *Matthias Ernst Boretius z Mazur i jego promocja doktorska w Niderlandach: z badań nad historią nauczania medycyny w XVIII wieku*, in: *Wybrane problemy historii medycyny. W kręgu epistemologii i praktyki*, eds. A. Magowska, M. Owecki, K. Pękacka-Falkowska, (2020), pp. 211, 214–216.

In the Renaissance, inhabitants of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth were keen on studying medicine in Italy. The Catholic burghers from Lesser Poland and Mazovia chose that destination occasionally also in the 17th and 18th centuries²⁰, whereas the dissenters from Greater Poland, Polish Prussia and Lithuania due to confessional differences matriculated for extensive periods of time at academies of Protestant Europe, visiting Catholic universities and Catholic scholars only during subsequent stages of their educational trips²¹.

From the year 1600 onward, it was the Dutch universities that attracted a great number of Protestant students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and especially it was Leiden that had numerous qualities that transformed it into the place of choice for those who wanted to study the higher disciplines of medicine, theology and law²². As to medicine, Leiden was an impressive town of scientific productivity, with many private and public libraries, distinguished translators, talented typesetters and notorious

²⁰ Brzeziński, *Polskie peregrynacje*, pp. 167–172, 179–180, 183–189; L. Rossetti, *Dottorati polacchi dal 1600 al 1744 nel Sacro Collegio dei filosofi e Medici di Padova*, in: *Relazioni tra Padova a la Polonia*, (1964), pp. 131–174.

²¹ See, for instance, [J. P. Breynje], *II. Epistola D. J. Phil. Breynij, M. D. Gedanensis, & Reg. Societ. Lond. Sodal. ad. D. Hans Sloane, M. D. dictæ Societatis Secretarium; varias observationes continens, in Itinere per Italiam suscepto, Anno 1703*, in: *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, 27 (1710), pp. 447–459.

²² Yet, it must be remembered that for the Lutherans the University of Leiden was attractive first and foremost as a place of medical training, whereas for the Calvinists, it was also an important centre of theological studies (UBL, ASF-357). In turn, for all new-comers from early modern Poland, regardless of their denomination, Leiden was an interesting touristic site. See, for instance, an opinion of Christian Gabriel Fischer, a preceptor of a law student Nathanael Gerlach of Danzig, who with his mentee spent in Leiden a winter semester 1727/28: “Auch finden Medici nirgends in Teutschland bessere Anführung, zur Anatomie, Chirurgie, Botanic, Physiologie, alß hie, zu Leiden. Daher ist auch der Confluxus von dergl[eichen] Studiosis größer, alß anderwärts. Wer von dießen fleißig ist, und gute Fundamenta mitbringt, kann sich, im Jahr, von hie wohl expediren. Vor Teutsche Juristen aber, und Theologos, taugt diese Academie gar nicht [...]. Aber, es ist der Mühe wohl werth, daß ein reisender Studiosus Theologiae, oder Juris, diesen Orth besucht, und sich eine weile in Literariis umsiehet, ehe er von dannen eilet: Welches in wenigen Wochen, bey angenehmen Sommer-Monathen, geschehen kann. Andere Jahres-Zeit, ist den Teutschen sehr beschwerlich, weil das Land dem Scorbut, und Häuffigen Fiebern seht unterworfen ist, welche im Vorjahr, und Herbst, mit allerhand Zufällen sich äußern”. Biblioteka Politechniki Gdańskiej (further: BPG), Ms D.a.85, vol. II, §. 77, pp. 127–128.

publishing houses²³. It hosted a famous anatomical theatre, along with its vast collections, where even some exhibits from Central Europe were on display²⁴. The university had its own botanical (medical) garden, in which among exotic flora even a few Polish and Cassubian plants were introduced²⁵. In a university hospital, the St. Caeciliagasthuis, clinical teaching was provided²⁶. Moreover, in Leiden, there were numerous instrument makers' workshops like the one run by the Musschenbroeks²⁷, an observatory established in 1633²⁸, and many other sites of knowledge production and exchange. It is no surprise then that from 1597 until 1772 at least 1203 students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth matriculated at the Academia Lugduno-Batava, attracted by increasing reputation and many highlights of that place. 46% (557) of them came from Polish Prussia, 45% (546) from the Crown and only 9% (100) from Lithuania (Tab. 1).

Naturally, students from Polish Prussia also matriculated at other Dutch universities, for instance, Groningen and Harderwijk (Tab. 2). Nevertheless, it was always the University of Leiden that due to its material, teaching and intellectual advantages attracted the largest number of motivated and ambitious foreigners.

Polish Prussians also willingly attended Dutch illustrious schools, which is often overlooked by scholars. A typical example of such a student is Christian Rudenick, a graduate of Athenaeum Thorunense, who had already studied medicine in Königsberg and Copenhagen, and together with his good friend Niels Stensen got prepared at the Amsterdam Athenaeum

²³ D. W. Davies, *The World of the Elseviers 1580–1712*, (1954); D. Prögler, *English Students at Leiden University, 1575–1650: Advancing Your Abilities in Learning and Bettering Your Understanding of the World and State Affairs*, (2013), passim.

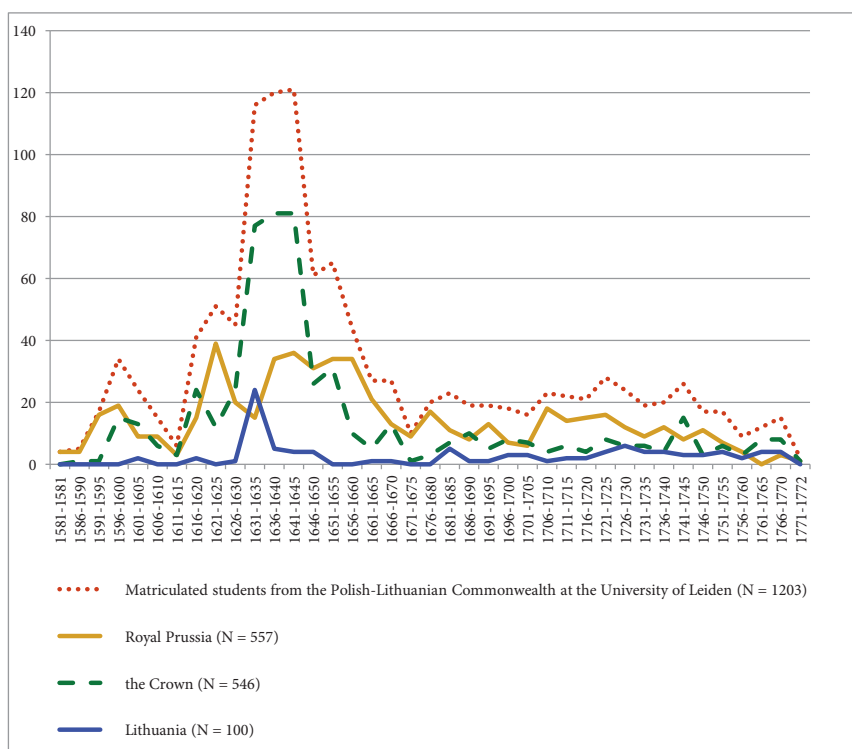
²⁴ T. Huisman, *The Finger of God: Anatomical Practice in 17th Century Leiden*, (2008), pp. 55–56.

²⁵ [J. Breyne], *Prodromus fasciculi rariorum plantarum, Anno M.DC.LXXIX. in hortis Celeberrimis Hollandiae, praesertim Incomparabili & Nobilissimo illo Florae Pandocheo Illustrissimi atque Excellentissimi Domini, Domini Hieronymi van Beverningk etc. observatarum a Jacobo Breynio, Gedanensi [...]*, (1680), pp. 29 (*cicutaria Cassubica*), 40 (*laserpitium daucoides Prutenicum*), 52 (*tripolium*).

²⁶ Huisman, *The Finger of God*, pp. 112–118.

²⁷ More on the Musschenbroeks see P. R. De Clercq, *At the Sign of the Oriental Lamp, the Musschenbroek Workshop in Leiden, 1660–1750*, (1997).

²⁸ W. de Sitter, *Short History of the Observatory of the University at Leiden, 1633–1933*, (1933).



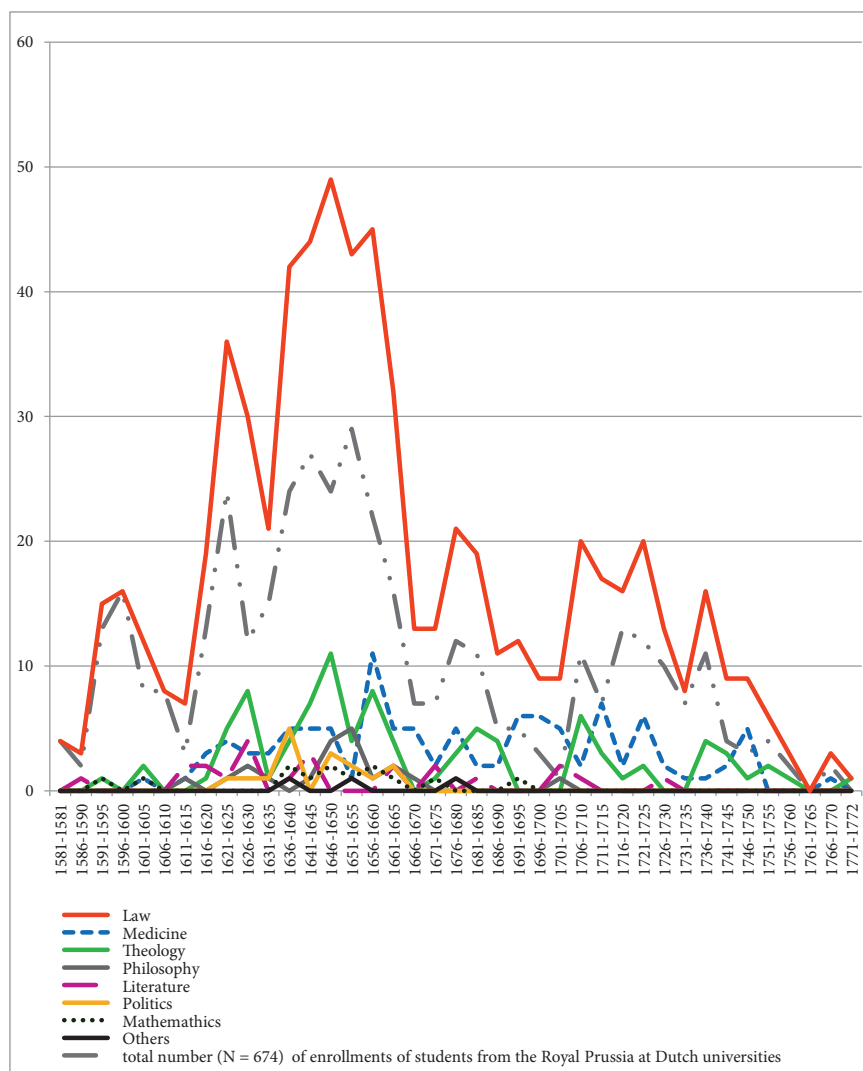
Tab. 1: Students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth matriculated at the University of Leiden. Source: Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie młodzieży*, Tab. 25

to move after a short time to Leiden to be trained there by Frans de la Boë Sylvius. In Amsterdam, Rudenick lived under one roof with a renowned anatomist and a professor of medicine Gerard Blaes²⁹. Another household member and pupil of that host was Daniel Gödtke from Danzig, who first matriculated at the Medical Faculty in Leiden and just after a few months moved to the capital city of the Dutch Republic to be trained by Blaes and to become a member of his Collegium Privatum³⁰.

It should also be remembered that sometimes students from Royal Prussia during the course of their educational stay in the Netherlands were

²⁹ D. van Miert, *Humanism in an Age of Science. The Amsterdam Athenaeum in the Golden Age, 1632–1704*, (2009), s. 118–119, fn. 11; G. Scherz, *Stensen's first dissertation*, in: *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, 15 (1960), p. 251 & Fig. 3 (facsimile).

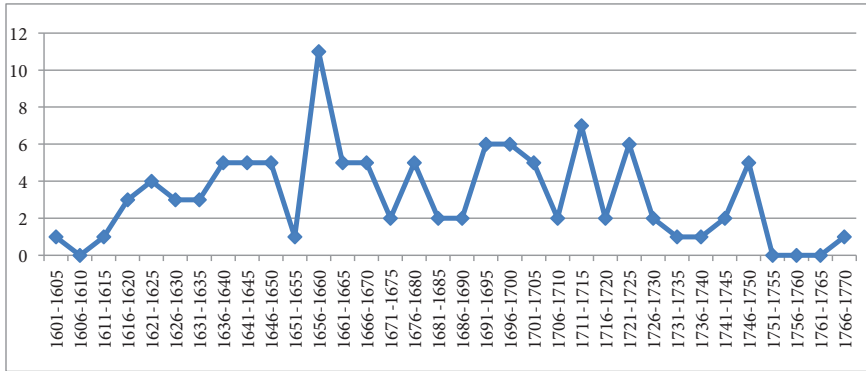
³⁰ Pękacka-Falkowska, *Freundschaft*.



Tab. 2: Students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth matriculated at all Dutch universities (1578–1772). Source: Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie młodzieży*, Tab. 29

rapidly changing their field of study. For instance, in 1649 Johannes Specht from Danzig started to study law in Leiden that he continued (from 1651) in Groningen. Again, in 1654 he got back to Leiden, matriculated at the Medical Faculty and graduated in 1657 (Aug 17th) as a candidate in medicine. Yet, transfers in the opposite direction also could take place. Another

student from Danzig, Gerhard Martini, started with theology in Franeker. In 1621, he moved to Leiden to the medical faculty, and after just one year he returned to theology, which he continued in Groningen³¹. It is hard to explain in the absence of their ego documents and other relevant historical sources why the students moved across the faculties. We may only guess whether it resulted from their interests or an influence of their professors, peers, colleagues, parents or patrons.

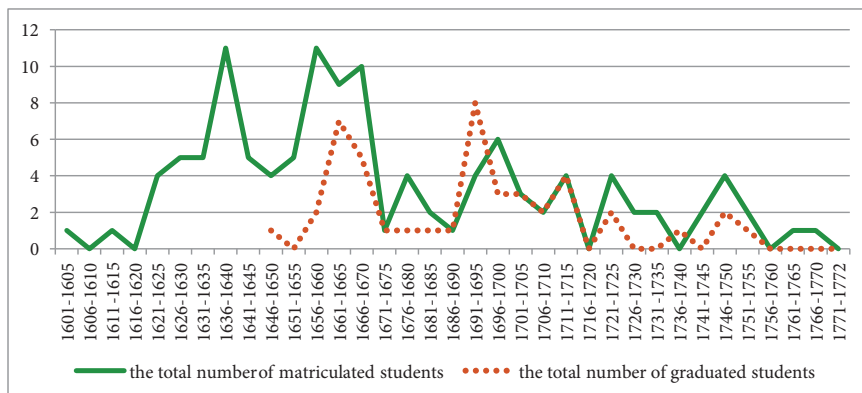


Tab. 3: Number of matriculations of Royal Prussian students (N = 109) at all medical faculties in the Dutch Republic (1578–1770). Source: Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie młodzieży*, Tab. 29, col. 2

On the other hand, when it comes to medicine, in the 17th and 18th centuries for many Protestants from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth Academia Lugduno-Batava was the Dutch university of their first choice. Local professors like Johannes van Horne, Otto Heurnius, Frans de la Boë Sylvius, Herman Boerhaave and many others, kept with their commitment to the hands-on approach and practical training of physicians, which actually attracted many young adepts of medicine. From 1604 until 1766, at least 9% (119) of a global number of students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth who matriculated at the University of Leiden chose the medical faculty and at least 45 of them graduated there.

The first student from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to matriculate at the Medical Faculty of Academia Lugduno-Batava was a student

³¹ Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie młodzieży*, pp. 153–167.



Tab. 4: Matriculations (119) & graduations (45) of students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth studying at the Medical Faculty in Leiden (1601–1772). Source: UBL, ASF 7–15, ASF 414–415; *Album studiosorum Academiae Lugduno Batavae MDLXXV–MDCCCLXXV*, ed. G. du Rieu, (1875)

from Danzig, Mattheus Radetius (1604)³², whereas the first graduate (1632) was Adam Freytag from Thorn³³. Shortly thereafter, Freytag gave up medicine in favour of engineering. Also, John Jonston from Lissa (Leszno) and Daniel Zwicker from Elbing, who graduated respectively in 1634 and 1639, abandoned (at least partially) medicine. The former one, a universal scholar, took first and foremost to natural history, although he was active as a *Stadtphysicus* in Lissa³⁴. The latter one, in turn, became a renowned Unitarian theologian³⁵. Thus, it may be assumed that the first graduate (1650) of the Medical Faculty in Leiden who originated from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and actually devoted himself completely to *ars medica* was Simon Schultz from Thorn. In October 1651, he was to become a city physician (*Stadtphysicus*) in his native town³⁶.

³² *Album studiosorum Academiae Lugduno Batavae MDLXXV–MDCCCLXXV: accedunt nomina curatorum et professorum per eadem secula*, ed. G. du Rieu, (1875), p. 75.

³³ A. Freytag, *Disputatio Medica inavgyralis de Apoplexia: quam cum bono deo ex avthoritate [...] preside Petri Cvnaei [...] Academiae Lugdunensis Rectoris [...] pro Gradu Doctoratus summis in Arte Medica [...]*, (1632).

³⁴ T. Bilikiewicz, *Jan Jonston (1603–1675). Żywot i działalność lekarska*, (1931).

³⁵ P. G. Bietenholz, *Daniel Zwicker (1612–1678). Peace, Tolerance and God the One and Only*, (1997).

³⁶ K. G. Prätorius, J. E. Wernicke, *Topographisch-historisch-statistische Beschreibung*

As stated before, the vast majority of medical students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth who studied in Leiden, originated from the largest cities of Royal Prussia. They were primarily Lutherans. Among 91 students from Polish Prussia, 68 were born in Danzig, 6 in Elbing, 4 in Marienburg (Malbork), and only one in Graudenz. The rest described themselves simply as ‘Polono-Borussus’ and did not indicate their birthplace in the *Album Studiosorum*. Students that came from Greater Poland were born in Lissa (5) and Fraustadt (Wschowa) (1) and were Czech and Polish Brethrens. Those from Lithuania originated from Vilna (Wilno) (3) and were Calvinists. Yet, also those who described themselves simply as Poles (*Polonus*) (18) were religious dissidents like, for instance, the Socinian Christophorus Crell Spinowski and the aforementioned John Jonston, who was a Calvinist. Only one enrolled medical student failed to provide information about the place of his birth. This was Johann Philipp Breyne, a son of the renowned Danzig botanist Jacob Breyne whose family lived in Amsterdam³⁷.

A similar remark applies to the graduates of the Medical Faculty at the University of Leiden. The majority of them – 37 out of 45 – were Lutherans from Royal Prussia³⁸.

None of the Leiden medical students and alumni who originated from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth seems to have been a Roman Catholic. Surely, Catholic nobles on their grand tours matriculated (often with their servants and tutors) at the Academia Lugduno-Batava, yet they were interested rather in history and politics, familiarizing themselves with foreign ‘curiosities’ and making acquaintance with famous, powerful, wealthy men etc., rather than studying medicine. They also attended fencing classes and visited numerous sights of interest, like the anatomical theatre and the polders with windmills. Perhaps some of them participated also in *collegia privatissima* held by professors of history and arts³⁹. Yet, the great majority of them were simply ‘tourists’, like Marek and Jan Sobieski, the future Polish

der Stadt Thorn und ihres Gebietes: die Vorzeit und Gegenwart umfassend, die Vorzeit und Gegenwart umfassend, (1832), p. 389.

³⁷ BL, Sloane Ms 3321, fols. 138–139; Sloane Ms 4039, fols. 369–370.

³⁸ See *Appendix*.

³⁹ A. Kucharski, *Theatrum peregrinandi. Poznawcze aspekty staropolskich podróży w epoce późnego baroku*, (2013), pp. 301–302, 381–383.

king, completely disinterested in becoming an alumnus⁴⁰. However, this also applied to highly born dissenters from other countries who 'hie [in Leiden] pro forma studiren'⁴¹.

Medical students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth who decided to study in Leiden could complete their academic medical training in two, respectively three years⁴². The grade of doctor of philosophy and medicine earned at this renowned academy guaranteed them not only a medical career in their homeland, but also a career in the municipal administration and educational institutions. More than half of the graduates of the Medical Faculty at the University of Leiden became *Stadt-Physici* and other officials; a few of them also became professors of medicine at local academic gymnasiums⁴³. It is not surprising then that medical students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth keenly attended public classes and concurrently took also private (typically paid for) instructions at professors' homes⁴⁴. Those who wanted to become doctors of philosophy and medicine also held public practice disputations (*exerciti gratia*) that formed an important part of their curriculum. In that way, adepts gained additional learning experience and new practical, e.g. public speaking and oratorical, skills.

Students who decided to graduate from the Medical Faculty of Academia Lugduno-Batava, earning a degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Medicine, were obliged to take a two-step examination first. On the first day, a young man, usually in his late twenties or early thirties, had to explain in the afternoon two selected aphorisms of Hippocrates that had been communicated to him early in the morning at 8 a.m. (see *Appendix*). On the following day, in turn, he was obliged to explain a case-history of a patient and to suggest a detailed treatment. Afterwards, in a very short time, he was entitled to have the inaugural thesis printed and to request a date for the graduation ceremony. At the graduation ceremony, in front of his fellow students, colleagues, professors, university authorities and other people the

⁴⁰ K. Targosz, *Jana Sobieskiego nauki i peregrynacje*, (1985), pp. 147–150.

⁴¹ BPG, Ms D.a.85, vol. II. § 77.

⁴² See *Appendix*.

⁴³ Pawlak, *Studia uniwersyteckie młodzieży*, pp. 168–182; Archiwum Państwowe w Gdańsku, 300/R/ H,q2; 300,42/258.

⁴⁴ Pękacka-Falkowska, *Wokół kolekcji przyrodniczych*, pp. 58–60.

candidate defended his dissertation *pro gradu* that he authored⁴⁵ and usually a few additional short theses, called ‘corollaria’. The advising professor acted here as a ‘promotor’; there was no *praeses*, or ‘presider’ (see *Appendix*). The public disputation lasted a little longer than one hour. Shortly thereafter, the candidate received his doctor’s diploma and took an oath, thus becoming a doctor⁴⁶.

However, public promotions in Leiden were very expensive with a fee around 70–80 guilders or even more in some cases (not to speak about the costs of feasting for the professors and colleagues from the faculty⁴⁷);

⁴⁵ Prögler, *English Students at Leiden University, 1575–1650*, pp. 104–105.

⁴⁶ H. Beukers, *Clinical teaching in Leiden from its beginnings until the end of the 18th c.*, in: *Clinical Teaching, Past and Present, Clio Medica*, 21 (1987–1988), pp. 139–152.

⁴⁷ The aforementioned Ch. G. Fischer described in his diary two medical graduations in 1728. These are the most extensive descriptions of such ceremonies next to the report by Albrecht von Haller who in his diary gave an account of a graduation ceremony from 1725 (G. A. Lindeboom, *Haller in Holland: het dagboek van Albrecht von Haller van zijn verblijf in Holland (1725–1727)*, (1979), pp. 49–50): “§. 61. D. 23. Febr. [1728] war eine Doctor-Promotion, in Medica Facultate. Der Candidatus hieß: Adrianus van Royen, ein geschickter Mensch, von etl. 20. Jahren, aus einer hiesigen vornehmen Familie. [...] Boerhaven will dem jungen Menschen wohl, und hat eine einige Tochter, die größtes Geld dermahleins zu hoffen. Nach der Promotion gehet der neue Doctor nach Franckreich, die Botanique zu excoliren. Hieraus machen einige des Prognosticon, daß dieser von Royen dermahl eins Boerhaven, wo nicht werde adjuncjiret, gewiß nach seinem Tode succediren werde: Obgleich D. Albinus, zur Professione Botanices große Neigung zeigt. Die Disputatio inauguralis, de Anatome, et Oeconomia Plantarum, war dem Hrn. Boerhaven, mit einer schönen Latinischen Elegie dediciret, die Ausführung des gedachten Arguments, ist sehr wohl gerathen. Was bißher von Malpighio, Grewio, und andern, mir verdrüßlicher Weitläufigkeit, und, ohne Ordnung, von dieser Materie vorgetragen, ist hin mit einem deutlichen, und fleißenden Styl, in ein anatomisch Physiologisches Systema zusammen gezogen, woran ich nichts desiderire, alß, daß nicht die Autores gehörig sind allegiret worden, aus deren Erfahrungen der Autor seine Sätze gemacht. Mir kommt aber diese Arbeit alß ein Grund-Riß eines großen Wercks vor, woran der Autor zu arbeiten Lust bezeiget. Der Actus disputatorius, gieng umb 10. Uhr, Morgens, im großen Auditorio an. Zu Anfang war Niemand, dem Hr. Boerhaven, alß Promotor, zugegen. Nachdem der Doctorandus von der untern Cathedra mit bloßem Haupt und kurzen Worten, libertatem disputandi gebethen; So meldete sich der erste Opponens auf der Banck, vor dem Catheder, bath auch, mit 2. oder 3. Worten Erlaubniß, zu reden, vom Promotore, und proponirte gleich das Argument wieder die allegirten Worte. Wem einmahl darauf geantwortet worden, schritt der Opponens zu einem andern Argument. In solcher Arth opponirten in einer Stunde 3. Studiosi, und ein Candidatus Medicinae, alle mit entblößtem, und endlich, ein junger Doctor, mit gedecktem Haupt, /: weil Promoti das Jus pilei, auch so gar, in Foro litigioso coram Magistratu haben :/ Mittein im Argument schlug die Uhr 11 worauf, da es der Pedell vor dem Catheder meldete, der Opponens gleich aufhörte; der Respondens

therefore a number of not well-off students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, like among others the aforementioned Daniel Gödtke, having completed their medical education at Academia Lugduno-Batava matriculated at the university of Harderwijk, and in two or three days graduated there⁴⁸.

What were the “cognitive” gains of these medical alumni from Polish Prussia who (among others) studied in the Netherlands and earned their grades at the University of Leiden? To answer this question it would seem sufficient to use two selected examples. In the case of an alumnus from Thorn, Simon Schultz, who studied medicine supervised by Adolph Vors-tius, I will briefly present his literary production. In the case of Christoph

dankte darauf, mit wenigen und gemeinen Worten, denen Profesoribus, pro praesentiu., dem Promotori, pro libertate concessu disputandi, denen vornehmen Hospitibus, pro praesentiu., und dem Auditorio, und den Opponenten, pro attentione et oppositione. Unter dem Disputiren, welches so still und leise fortgesetzt ward, daß man in der 3^{ten} Banck vor der Catheder fast nichts hören konnte, wartete der Pedell vor dem Auditorio, und so oft ein Professor in seinem Talar ankam, gieng er biß am die die Banck vorher, mit seinem größten klingenden Sorgter. Nun halte diese Pedell keinen schwarzen Habit an, sondern er war nur gewöhnlich licht gemäntelt. Nach der Disputation giengen alle Professores nach einander, und endlich auch der Doctorandus hinauf in die Promotions-Stübe, allwo über seine Capacite geurtheilet die vota colligirt, das Promotions-Geld gezahlet, und, der Titel des Doctoris dagegen ertheilet wird” (BPG, Ms D.a.85, vol. II, fols. 86–88). It is also instructive how Fischer described one of the graduations in the Law Faculty and the ceremonial evening dinner, which followed: “§. 79. D. 11. 12. 13. Martii, waren auf der Academie 3. Doctor-Promotiones; die beyden ersten, in Medicina, publice: die 3^e in Jure, sub Camino. Der Doctorandus war Mons. Guil. Sautzn, ein reicher Gast, von Amsterdam, aus vornehmen Familie [...]. Selbiger ließ auf die Promotion viel gehen. Nach der Promotion, kalm er bey unsern Wirth, in den Tempel Salomonis /: da wir, wegen Commodite zu speisen angefangen :/ zu Tisch, und war, von der Fuß-Sohlen, biß an den Halß, mit breiten Silber beschlagen: die Kleidung importirte mehr, alß manches Doctoris ganzes Capitel. Unter der Mahlzeit, beachte der Pedell die Bulle, mit dem anhangenden großen Siegel, woran sich der Hr. Doctor über Tisch belustigte: Seine guten Freunde, und Tisch-Compagnons unterdeßen nicht etwas mit Ihm zu scherzen unterfiengen. Gegen die Nacht, umb 9. Uhr, war der Doctor-Schmauß angesetzt, auf welchen unser Wirth die raresten Delicateßen zurichtete. Hie war wieder eine höltzerne verguldete Pastet vor 30. Gr. Holl. und, was nur neues und rares von Essen, an Wilpret, und Braten, zu erdencken war. Eine junge Gans bezahlete der Koch mit 2. Ducaton, jeden Phasan, 1. Ducaton. 1. Hasen, 6. Gr. Holl. Die Zurichtung war auf Personen wovor der Koch allein bekommen” (ibid., fols. 129–130).

⁴⁸ UBL, ASF–358, passim; D. Onnekink, G. Rommelse, *The Dutch in the Early Modern World: A History of a Global Power*, (2019), pp. 166, 169; Pękacka-Falkowska, *Freundschaft*.

Gottwald from Danzig, a supervisee of Frans de la Boë Sylvius, I will focus on his iconographic legacy.

As one may assume, the majority of graduates from the semiperipheries such as the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth eagerly recalled the study time in Leiden in their adult life. The city physician of Thorn Simon Schultz (1622–1679) is the foremost example of a professional from the Polish Prussia who re-worked and described his past experiences in the Dutch Republic. During his study years under Vorstius, a great physician and a botanist, Schultz closely followed and recorded numerous behaviours of his fellow students, teachers and ordinary men. These observations gave later rise to the long series of his medical observations – *observationes* – published in ‘Miscellanea Curiosa’, the learned journal of the Academy of the Curious as to Nature (Academia Naturae Curiosorum). Descriptions of peculiar dining behaviours of his table-mates, numerous impressions from anatomical demonstrations or city walks were forged by Schultz into short, and instructive medical entries.

In 1649, one of Schultz’s fellow students, an anonymous Scotsman, young, healthy, yet a little bit pale and with swollen eyelids, as a citizen of Thorn described him over the years, regularly consumed spiders that inhabited his place. Further eyewitnesses of that uncommon dining behavior of Schultz’s roommate were two other medical students, Tobias Schultz from Thorn and Nicolaus Witte from Riga, who regularly dined with them. Witte was to become in 1652 a *physicus secundus* in his native city⁴⁹; thus, he was a credible witness of high social rank who could provide a gentleman’s testimony of this bizarre behaviour described by Schultz in 1671⁵⁰.

Schultz and other alumni also eagerly recalled their practical medical training, referring in particular to anatomy classes. Hence, in one of his further *observationes*, Schultz described that in 1648 he took part in an autopsy of a young woman with an abdominal tumour. The corpse was cut open by a hospital surgeon in the presence of J. Walaëus, a professor of

⁴⁹ A. Tering, *Riga Municipal Physician Nicolaus Witte von Lilienau (1618–1688): His Medical Views at the Crossroads of Tradition and Changes in Medical Teaching during his Student Years at Dutch Universities in the 1640s*, in: *Acta Baltica Historiae et Philosophiae Scientiarum*, 2 (2014).

⁵⁰ S. Schultz, *Obs. X: Idiosyncrasia Naturalis, Araneorum Comestio innoxia*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa, sive Ephemeridum Medico-Physicarum Germanicarum Academiae Naturae Curiosorum*, 2 (1671), p. 29.

medicine and the supervisor of the St. Caeciliagasthuis, and of numerous students matriculated at the Medical Faculty. The dissector cut the enormous tumour off the deceased lady's uterus and showed it to the audience, whereas the teacher provided a comprehensive commentary⁵¹. During his professional career as a city physician in Thorn Schultz keenly focused on such pathologies and most likely communicated them not only to the learned readership but also to the students of Atheneum Thorunense (who were interested in medicine) along with local barber-surgeons.

Another dissection, yet, public this time, was performed in the presence of Schultz on December 30th, 1649. For the nonce, it was a corpse of an 18-year-old-male beggar suffering from epilepsy who had died in St. Cecilia's hospital two days before. The young man's body was cut open in the anatomical theatre crowded by scholars and laymen. The dissector was Doctor Adrian Falkenburg, a public lecturer in anatomy and surgery, who searched in presence of the viewers for the 'true cause' of the young man's death⁵². Falkenburg's (and other Leiden teachers') dissecting techniques might have been adopted by Schultz who afterwards could have introduced them in Thorn. At this point, it should be emphasized that another physician from Royal Prussia Georg Seger stated several times that he exclusively relied on dissection methods introduced by Thomas Bartholin, Seger's beloved teacher during his study stay in Copenhagen⁵³.

Last but not least, medical students from Royal Prussia like those from Thorn also had numerous ethnographical insights referring to popular medicine. For instance, Schultz described a specific building stone from Bentheim used by the dwellers of Amsterdam and Leiden as a remedy against kidney stones⁵⁴. It is very likely that Doctor Schultz used similar

⁵¹ S. Schultz, *Obs. LX: Infirmus Venter Totus Scirrhusus*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa, sive Ephemeridum Medico-Physicarum Germanicarum Academiae Naturae Curiosorum*, 2 (1671), p. 118.

⁵² S. Schultz, *Obs. LXII: Corporis Epilepsia Extincti Anatomica Administratio*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa, sive Ephemeridum Medico-Physicarum Germanicarum Academiae Naturae Curiosorum*, 2 (1671), p. 120.

⁵³ G. Seger, *Obs. XXXII: De Anatome Solemni Furis Quinquagenarii*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa Medico-Physica Academiae Naturae Curiosorum*, 8 (1677), pp. 59–62; Pękacka-Falkowska, *Między Gdańskiem a Toruniem*.

⁵⁴ S. Schultz, *Obs. LXIII: Remedium plebejorum ad calculum*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa, sive Ephemeridum Medico-Physicarum Germanicarum Academiae Naturae Curiosorum*, 2 (1671), p. 121.

‘earthy’ simple medicines in his daily practice in Thorn. Suffice it to recall that this type of remedies was still very popular at the beginning of the 18th century⁵⁵.

In Leiden, the young citizen of Thorn also found a piece of evidence for maternal imagination theory. In ‘Miscellanea Curiosa’ he accurately described a curious case of a heavily pregnant woman of low social rank who while passing the *Langebrug* in Leiden, suddenly felt fatigued and sat down in front of the entrance door to a brick house that belonged to a man with club feet and deformed clenched hands. When she unexpectedly saw one of his palms, she was so terrified that she nearly fainted. Thus, the good man comforted her and strengthened her spirits with a glass of French wine. Shortly thereafter, she returned home and told the story to her husband. In a very short time, the woman gave birth to a child with limb deformities, exactly the same as she had seen earlier. When Schultz after his educational trip that he continued in England and the Spanish Netherland was getting back through the Dutch Republic to his native town, he was informed that the child was perfectly healthy, only his extremities remained unchanged⁵⁶. For an alumnus, this was definitive proof that the power of maternal imagination may be as great as to deform even a fully-formed 9-month foetus.

As mentioned before, before graduating, students also took part in various disputations for practice: both public and private ones. In 1648, two years before graduating, under Vorstius as presider Schultz explained the causes, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of Polish pile (*plica Polonica*)⁵⁷. Despite the fact that it was Vorstius who *served as* a ‘presider’, it is most likely that it was Schultz, the respondent, who had chosen the topic on his own. Nearly 30 years later he re-edited the disputation and published its new extended version in ‘Miscellanea Curiosa’. The long, erudite passages

⁵⁵ BL, Add Ms 4435, fols. 176–177.

⁵⁶ S. Schultz, *Obs. LXI: Phantasia Et Terror In Gravida Foetui Valde Noxia*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa, sive Ephemeridum Medico-Physicarum Germanicarum Academiae Naturae Curiosorum*, 2 (1671), pp. 118–120.

⁵⁷ [S. Schultz], *Disputatio medica de plica Polonica. Quam auspice Deo ter opt. max. Praesid Spectabili, Clarissimo et Experientissimo Viro, Dn. Adolfo Vorstio Med. D. Ejusdemque & Botanices P.P. ac Horti Academici Praefecto. In florentissima Lugduno-Batava Academia public examine subjicit Simon Schultz, Thorunio-Prussus a.d.13 Julii, Loco horisque solitis* (1648); Książnica Kopernikańska w Toruniu, call number K. 6 nlb. (4°).

from the original Leiden disputation were enriched this time by his numerous observations from the Kingdom of Poland (Fig. 1)⁵⁸. Such a practice of republishing was reserved for authors⁵⁹. It suffices to recall that Frans de la Boë Sylvius republished the disputation *exerciti gratia* by Christoph Gottwald⁶⁰. However, also professors of numerous illustrious schools and universities Europe over did the same thing. For instance, Georg Seger republished in Danzig natural history and medical disputes he presided in Thorn in the years 1668–1673⁶¹.

However, observations made by the medical students from the Polish Prussia during their educational stays at the University of Leiden were forged not only into textual testimonies. There is also a vast iconographic legacy of their medical stays. And here the most illustrative example is Christoph Gottwald (1636–1700) along with his etchings.

Doctor Gottwald was not only a city physician in Danzig and a collector, whose vast ‘museum’ after his son’s death was transferred to the *Kunstkamera* of Tsar Peter the Great⁶². He was also an anatomist, an ivory-turner and an accomplished engraver. In the late 1650s, he started his medical training in Strasbourg, and shortly thereafter, attracted by the fame of the Medical Faculty in Leiden, moved to the Netherlands.

When Gottwald studied in the Dutch Republic in the early 1660s, many dissections and experiments went on there. On the one hand, in Leiden the dissections took place in the anatomical theatre; on the other hand, they were performed in the *St. Caeciliagasthuis* and possibly also in private

⁵⁸ S. Schultz, *Obs. CXXXVIII: De Plica Explicata*, in: *Miscellanea Curiosa Medico-Physica Academiae Naturae Curiosorum, Sive Ephemeridum Medico-Physicarum Germanicarum*, 6/7 (1675/1676), pp. 187–202.

⁵⁹ See, for instance, Van Miert, *Humanism in an Age of Science*, pp. 153–156.

⁶⁰ *Disputatio VIII. De vasis lymphaticis ac lymphæ. Resp. Christophoro Gottwald Dantisco-Prusso*, 19. Mart. 1661, in: F. De Le Boë Sylvii, *Medicinae Practicae in Academia Lugduno-Batava Professoris. Disputationum Medicarum Decas. Primarias corporis humani functiones naturales. nec non febrium naturam, ex anatomicis. practicis etc.; chemicis experimentis deductas. complectens: Omnibus ad Leidense exemplar fideliter conformatis*, (1674), pp. 127–160.

⁶¹ G. Segerus, *Synopsis Physicae Antiquo-Novae, edition secunda*, (1677); Pekacka-Falkowska, *Między Gdańskiem a Toruniem*.

⁶² D. Novgorodowa, *Musaeum Gottwaldianum i jego losy w Rosji*, in: *Klio. Czasopismo poświęcone dziejom Polski i powszechnym*, 46 (2018), pp. 109–137.

houses of the professors⁶³. During the two-and-a-half-year stay at Academia Lugduno-Batava Gottwald attended at least 8 dissections both *in Nosocomio* and in the public anatomical theatre. The dissections in the Caeciliagasthuis were mostly performed by his beloved teacher Sylvius, on whose request the young citizen of Danzig took many anatomical sketches as he did not mind the odour of the dissection chamber. After Gottwald's return to his native city, the drawings formed the basis for his copper-plates and his 'paper museum'.

Indeed, a few of Gottwald's anatomical copperplates display the autopsies the young Royal Prussian took part in during his stay in the Netherlands. For example, along with Sylvius he searched for a submandibular gland (Fig. 2), a thoracic duct and salivary ducts. In Leiden, he also researched intestines and mesentery, observed gangliocytoma of the cerebellum and liver spots (which were called *moles*). Moreover, Gottwald – both in Leiden and in Amsterdam – witnessed numerous physiological experiments on animals⁶⁴, and also saw, in 1661, a sea-monster from Katwijk found on November 12th and dissected shortly thereafter by Johannes van Horne (Fig. 3–5)⁶⁵.

In Danzig, the physician continued his anatomical studies in a Sylvian manner, conducting anatomical and zootomical research in a private anatomical room in his house (Fig. 6). He also started to amass a collection, the *Musaeum Gottwaldianum*. Some of the exhibits on display were acquired during his study years in the Dutch Republic; some of them could even have been gifts made by his teacher Sylvius. Gottwald's rapidly growing interest in minerals and lithiasis also resulted from Sylvius' iatrochemical teachings⁶⁶.

As mentioned before, when Gottwald studied in Leiden, much experimenting went on there in order to investigate the nature of newly discovered physiological phenomena⁶⁷. As the Dutch historian of medicine

⁶³ Huisman, *The Finger of God*, passim.

⁶⁴ Pękacka-Falkowska, *Instrumenty*.

⁶⁵ *Zeemonster gevangen tussen Schevelingen en Katwijk, 1661 Een Wonderlyck Zee-Monster te sien*, (1661), <http://hdl.handle.net/10934/RM0001.COLLECT.370269>; *Abbildung /// Eines erschrecklichen // Meer=Wunders // So am Ende deß 1661. Jahrs in Holland zwischen Schevelingen und Catwick // auff=See gefangen Worden*, (1662), <http://sammlungen.ub.uni-frankfurt.de/freytag/urn:urn:nbn:de:hebis:30:2-40429>.

⁶⁶ Pękacka-Falkowska, *Wokół kolekcji przyrodniczych*.

⁶⁷ G.A. Lindeboom, *Dog and Frog: Physiological Experiments at Leiden during the Sev-*

Tim Huisman argued, many of these experiments were performed with the help of syringes and other surgical and anatomical instruments⁶⁸. Coloured fluids were injected into organs in order to determine the course of blood vessels and veins. Similar techniques were used to inject coloured wax and coloured fluids composed of alcohol, different metals, pigments and wax into the veins and vessels of anatomical specimens⁶⁹. Gottwald like other prominent students of Sylvius – Swammerdam, De Graaf, Ruysch etc. – was also well-trained in the use of syringes in anatomical and physiological research. One of his copperplates depicts a syringe – a tube with a piston – together with numerous tubes of different shapes (Fig. 7)⁷⁰. Gottwald used it not only in his physiological experiments on dogs and other animals, but also while making anatomical specimens and models, for instance, the one representing his deceased baby son⁷¹.

* * *

These briefly presented examples of the two alumni of the Medical Faculty of the University of Leiden – Doctors Gottwald and Schultz – may show us what type of knowledge, skills, research interests and artefacts students from Royal Prussia brought back home from their educational journeys, including their study years at the Academia Lugduno-Batava.

enteenth Century, in: *Leiden University in the seventeenth century: An exchange of learning*, ed. by Th. H. Lunsingh Scheurleer, G.H.M. Posthumus Meyjes, (1975), pp. 279–293.

⁶⁸ Huisman, *The Finger of God*, pp. 83–84.

⁶⁹ E. J. Cole, *The history of anatomical injections*, in: *Studies in the history and method of science*, ed. C. Siger, 2 (1921), pp. 285–323.

⁷⁰ K. Pękacka-Falkowska, *Instrumenty chirurgiczno-anatomiczne i rytownicze gdańskiego lekarza Christopha Gottwalda (1636–1700)*, in: *Klio. Czasopismo poświęcone dziejom Polski i powszechnym*, 46 (2018), pp. 157–183.

⁷¹ I argue that a wax figure of an infant lying in a glass case, wearing a bonnet and wrapped in a cloth (depicted by Ivan Sokolov as a part of *Icones pictae rerum quæ in Academiæ thesaurus in sunt*) was created by Ch. Gottwald and is a realistic representation as to colour and form of his dead son, whereas Jozien Driessen has pointed out that “this was not a waxwork model, but a model made from a dry preparation from Peter the Great’s collection which he bought from the Amsterdam doctor Frederik Ruysch”. See *The Paper Museum of the Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg c. 1725–1760: Introduction and Interpretation*, ed. R. Kistemaker, (2005), p. 217 (fn. 4), 221 (n. 0558); G. Kohfeldt, *Eine akademische Ferienreise von Rostock bis Königsberg im Jahre 1694*, in: *Baltische Studien*, 9 (1905), p. 22: ‘14): “Sein sohnchen in wachs posiret als lebendig in glaesernen Sarck”.

In 2010, Andrew Cunningham wrote, that in the Early Modern period medicine was ‘the subject where foreign travel was most valuable, especially when one came to set up a practice at home’⁷². The students from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth who were alumni of Dutch academies came back to their homeland really enthusiastic about what they had seen and learnt abroad. Trying to practice the way they had experienced in Leiden, Amsterdam and Harderwijk, writing about their past and current medical involvements, corresponding with their former colleagues and teachers etc. they were transforming the medical cultures of not only Danzig, Thorn, Lissa, or Elbing, but also of the Polish royal court and numerous magnates’ courts.

Corrected by Agnieszka Chabros

⁷² A. Cunningham, *The Bartholins, the Platters and Laurentius Gryllus: the peregrinatio medica in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, in: *Centres of Medical Excellence*, p. 4.

APPENDIX

THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN ALUMNI OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEIDEN (1657–1751). SOURCE: UBL, ASF 414–415

Year	Month	Day	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 1	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 2	Type of disputation	Year of graduation	Month	Day	Name	Surname	Origins	Title	Supervisor
xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	publica	1650	V	16	Simon	Schultz	Tor.	De scorbuto	Adolf Vorstius
1657	X	1	20, Book 1	22, Book 1	publica	1657	X	15	Johannes	Spechtius	Geda, Boruss.	De Calculo	Adolf Vorst in nomine Joannis van Horne
1659	II	28	2, Book 1	3, Book 1	publica	1659	III	13	Israel	Conrat	Dantisc. Borus.	De sanguine	Adolf Vorst
1661	VII	23	8, Book 5	9, Book 5	publica	1661	IX	11	Christianus	Rudnicki	Bithovio-Borussus	Peripneumonici Historiam & Curam (...)	Sylvius
1662	V	4	2, Book 1	3, Book 1	publica	1662	VII	11	Christophorus	Gottwaldt	Dantisc. Prussus	de melancholia hypocondriaca	Sylvius
1662	VII	3	5, Book 1	8, Book 2	publica	1662	VIII	15	Alexander Carolus	Curtius	D.	De Calculo renum ac vesicae	Johannes van Horne
1664	III	31	51, Book 2	52, Book 2	publica	1664	V	20	Samuel	Moeresius	Dantiscanus	Florilegium quaestionum medicarum	Sylvius
1664	IV	22	70, Book 7	72, Book 7	publica	1664	V	21	Ioannes Iacobus	Doebelinus	Dantiscanus	De Lithiasi renum	Van Horne
1664	V	22	50, Book 2	51, Book 2	publica	1664	VII	11	Romanus	Serrarius	Dantiscanus	De Epilepsia	Van Horne
1665	V	15	1, Book 4	2, Book 4	publica	1665	VI	1	Ioannes Casparus	Penning	Marienburgo Borussus	De Arthritide	Schuyt

Year	Month	Day	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 1	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 2	Type of disputation	Year of graduation	Month	Day	Name	Surname	Origins	Title	Supervisor
1667	VI	10	21, Book 2	22, Book 2	publica	1667	VI	21	Iacobus	Bartelmaei	Dantiscanus	De lethargo	X
1668	IV	5	55, Book 4	56, Book 4	publica	1668	IV	27	Fredericus	Albinus	Dantisc. Boruss	De scorbuto	Van Horne
1668	III	27	57, Book 5	58, Book 5	publica	1668	VI	16	Ioannes	Blumigk	Thurino-Prussus	De Febribus	promotus a Ioanne van Horne, nomine D Schuyf
1669	VI	28	20, Book 1	21, Book 1	publica	1669	IX	23	Ioannes	Beyer	Lesno-Polonus	De febre hectica	dr van horne loco syvius
1670	IX	17	34, Book 2	4, Book 4	publica	1670	IX	29	Elias	Nitschke	Lesn.-Pol.	De productione mucii depravata	Dreincurt
1672	V	2	29, Book 5	52, Book 5	publica	1672	IX	30	Petrus	Pantelius	Prussus	Positiones inauguales medico felici ad praxin exercenda necessariae	Dreincurt
1680	I	31	47, Book 2	48, Book 2	publica	1680	II	6	Iohannes Christianus	Hofischer	Dantisc.	De visione	Dreincurt
1682	VI	23	33, Book 2	40, Book 2	publica, in castris Minervae jam Veteranus & strenuus miles	1682	VII	6	Christophorus	Crelle Spinowski	Polon. Angl.	De Calculo renum ac vesicae	Herman

Year	Month	Day	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 1	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 2	Type of disputation	Year of graduation	Month	Day	Name	Surname	Origins	Title	Supervisor
1690	IX	8	59, Book 6	60, Book 6	publica	1690	IX	26	Johannes Henricus	Panning	Prussus	De Gangrena et sphacelo (med.-chir)	Dreincourt
1691	III	3	15, Book 1	16, Book 1	publica	1691	III	5	Gofried	Stube	Gedanensis	De Virium imbecillitate	Hermann
1692	I	17	15, Book 2	16, Book 2	publica	1692	II	5	Iacobus	Horn	Elbinga-Prussus	De motu invito	Hermann
1692	III	18	11, Book 4	12, Book 4	publica	1692	IV	17	Adrianus	Soehmerus	Dantiscanus	De Angina	Nuck
1692	VI	10	18, Book 6	19, Book 6	publica	1692	VI	19	Casparus	Wendeland	Elbinga-Borussus	De Hydrope	hermanno
1692	IX	27	22, Book 3	23, Book 3	publica	1692	X	2	Christianus	Maevius	Boianoviensis Polonus	De incubo	Pitkairnio
1693	I	30	15, Book 7	16, Book 7	publica	1693	VII	3	Michael	Pantelius	Gedanen. Boruss.	De Calculo renum ac vesicae	Hermann
1694	V	28	42, Book 6	43, Book 6	publica	1694	VI	18	Johann Daniel	Arnolt	Lesna-Polonus	De acido peccante et corrigente humores	Hermann
1695	IX	26	50, Book 4	56, Book 4	publica	1695	IX	30	Simon	Weis	Thorun. Prussus	De Auxiliari morbo	Dekkers
1696	X	9	7, Book 1	8, Book 1	publica	1696	X	19	Johannes Theodor	Paulitz	Gedanendis	De morbis animatis	Bidloo
1696	X	26	7, Book 1	8, Book 1	publica	1696	XI	2	Johannes	Vogetius	Dantisco-Bat.	De morbis haereditariis	Dekkers
1699	XII	9	92, Book 2	93, Book 2	publica	1700	III	17	Elias Godefredus	Nitschkus	Lesna Polonus	De calculo renum	Hotton

Year	Month	Day	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 1	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 2	Type of disputation	Year of graduation	Month	Day	Name	Surname	Origins	Title	Supervisor
1702	I	31	2, Book 1	3, Book 1	publica	1702	VII	6	Breyne	Johann Philipp	Jac. Fil.	De fungis officinalibus et eorum usu in medicina	Dekkers
1703	VI	15	12, Book 6	13, Book 6	publica	1703	VII	2	Michael	Sieffert	Elbinga-Borussus	De Epilepsia	Albin
1705	I	7	16, Book 5	17, Book 5	publica	1705	I	26	Nicolaus	Buchner	Vilna-Lithuanus	De Scorbuto Dumamindano	Le Mort
1706	VI	9	7, Book 4	8, Book 4	publica	1706	VI	X	Weiss Gedeon	Gregori	Grudento-Borussus	De lienis dolore	Hotton
1708	XI	22	21, Book 3	30, Book 3	publica	1708	XII	18	Ernesti	Johannes Godofridus	Mariaeburgo-Prussus	De lienteria	Albin in nomine La Mort
1711	V	7	50, Book 6	51, Book 6	publica	1711	IX	21	Georgius	Remus	Gedanensis	De Functione pulmonis	Dekkers
1712	VIII	16	75, Book 4	76, Book 4	publica	1712	VIII	19	Sigismund	Tolekemit	Elbing-Pruss.	De sacchari saturni usu et abusu	Bidloo
1715	VI	20	21, Book 1	22, Book 1	publica	1715	VII	17	Daniel	Barth	Gedanus	De simplici hectica febribus succedente	Borhaave
1715	VII	23	56, Book xxx	57, Book xxx	publica	1715	IX	19	Aegidius	Glagau	Gedanensis	De Senectute ipsa morbo	Le Mort

Year	Month	Day	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 1	Aphorisms by Hippocrates; Aph. n. 2	Type of disputation	Year of graduation	Month	Day	Name	Surname	Origins	Title	Supervisor
1724	VIII	11	1, Book 2	2, Book 2	publica	1724	IX	11	Johannes Petrus	Kind	Gedanensis	De remediis calculum in renibus diffringentibus	Boerhaave
1724	IX	6	9, Book 1	10, Book 1	publica	1724	IX	15	Johannes Samuel	Kind	Gedanensis	De Tractatione et curatione morborum quorundam acutorum eorundemque cautelis medicopractis	Schacht
xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	publica	1738	VI	24	Antonius	Gundlich	Thorunensis Borussia	De ileo sive passione iliaca	
xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	publica	1746	IV	1	Johannes Theophilus	Prochnau	Thuruno-Borussus	De Praesagienda vita et morte in morbis	
xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	publica	1749	VI	16	Nicolaus Fredericus	Gottstein	Thorunensis Pol. Borussia	De Respiratione laesa	
xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	publica	1751	VI	24	Philippus Silvestrus	Lursenius	Gedanensis	De cortice peruviano	

WYDZIAŁ MEDYCZNY UNIWERSYTETU LEJDEJSKIEGO I JEGO
ABSOLWENCI Z RZECZYSPOLITEJ POLSKO-LITEWSKIEJ

UWAGI WSTĘPNE

STRESZCZENIE

Począwszy od pierwszych lat XVII wieku Wydział Medyczny Uniwersytetu Lejdejskiego cieszył się dużym zainteresowaniem młodych protestantów pochodzących z Rzeczypospolitej Obojga Narodów. Wielu immatrykulowanych na Academia Lugduno-Batava studentów z Gdańska, Leszna czy Wilna właśnie tam uzyskało stopień doktora. Po zakończeniu wieloletnich peregrynacji medycznych zakładali praktyki w rodzinnych miastach oraz – jak na przykład Christoph Gottwald z Gdańska i Simon Schultz z Torunia – przekuwając zdobytą wiedzę w teksty naukowe.

DIE MEDIZINISCHE FAKULTÄT DER UNIVERSITÄT LEIDEN UND IHRE
ALUMNI AUS POLEN-LITAUEN

EINIGE VORBEMERKUNGEN

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Seit Anfang des 17. Jahrhunderts zog die Medizinische Fakultät der Universität Leiden eine große Anzahl junger Protestanten aus Polen-Litauen an. Zahlreiche immatrikulierte Studenten aus Danzig, Lissa oder Wilna haben an der Academia Lugduno-Batava promoviert. Nach Abschluss der mehrjährigen medizinischen Ausbildungsreisen richteten die Alumni in ihren Heimatstädten Arztpraxen ein und verwandelten – wie Christoph Gottwald aus Danzig und Simon Schultz aus Thorn – das erworbene Wissen in wissenschaftliche Abhandlungen.

THE MEDICAL FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEIDEN AND ITS
GRADUATES FROM THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN COMMONWEALTH

SOME INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

SUMMARY

From the very beginning of the 17th century, the Medical Faculty at the University of Leiden attracted a vast number of young religious dissenters from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Numerous students from Danzig, Lissa or Vilna, earned their MDs at the Academia Lugduno-Batava. After completing their multi-annual educational and medical travels, the alumni set up medical practices in their countries and, as Christoph Gottwald from Danzig and Simon Schultz from Thorn, they transformed the acquired knowledge into scientific testimonies published.

SŁOWA KLUCZOWE / SCHLAGWORTE / KEYWORDS

- historia medycyny; *peregrinatio medica*; Lejda; Prusy Królewskie; XVII–XVIII wiek; Christoph Gottwald; Simon Schultz
- Geschichte der Medizin; *peregrinatio medica*; Leiden; Königlich Preußen; 17.–18. Jahrhundert; Christoph Gottwald; Simon Schultz
- history of medicine; *peregrinatio medica*; Polish Prussia; Leiden; 17–18th c.; Christoph Gottwald; Simon Schultz

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ŹRÓDŁA DRUKOWANE / GEDRUCKTE QUELLEN / PRINTED SOURCES

Abbildung//Eines erschrecklichen//Meer=Wunders//So am Ende deß 1661. Jahrs in Holland zwischen Schevelingen und Catwick//auff=See gefangen worden, (1662).

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DISPUTATIO MEDICA
DE
PLICA POLONICA.
QVAM

Auspice DEO TER OPT. MAX.

PRÆSIDÆ

Speḗtabili, Clarissimo & Experientissimo Viro,

DN. ADOLFO VORSTIO Med. D.

ejusdemque & Botanices P. P. ac Horti Aca-
demici Præfecto.

In florentissima Lugduno-Batava Academia

Publico examini subjiçit

SIMON SCHVLTZ, Thorunio-Prussus,

Ad diem 13. Iulii, Loco horisque solitis.



Lugduni Batavorum,

Excudebat SEVERINVS MATTHÆI, 1648.

Fig. 1a.

DISPUTATIO MEDICA

DE

PLICA POLONICA.

Certum est, quamlibet ferè regionem aliquid habere, quod sibi jure quodam modo suo vindicare videtur: sic quoque & morbos quosdam nonnullis Provinciis ita familiares esse, ut ejus quasi proprii dicantur, in aprico est. Appellant hos propter communem aliquam causam ^{indignus}, ac si dicas, vernaculos sive indignas & proprios. Talis morbus, à Plinio Sceletyrbe & Stomacace, à recentioribus Scorbutus dictus, ad Septentrionalis maris littus habitantibus communis est. Talis Neapolitanis podagra; Alpinarum regionum incolis, Hispaniaque finitimis bronchocele esse putatur. Galenus Alexandrinis elephantiasin familiarem scripsit. De singulorum natura variè varia observarunt. Affectum, cui à capillorum ceu glutine quodam inviscatione & invicem complicatione, Plica nomen tribuitur, & qui Polonis peculiaris est, vix quidam ex observatione propria, pauci ex relatione aliorum hucusque consideraverunt. Hinc naturâ ejus nondum planè perspecta, auxilia per indicationes invenire, haud facile est. Hanc plicam nos, auxiliante Numine, explicare annitentes, usitata hæcenus methodo ab ejus nomine exordium faciemus.

POSITIO I.

Dictus est hic morbus plica, quod capillos inter se plane complicit: plica Polonica, quod Polonis imprimis eis qui inter Ungariam & Pociutium habitant, & his finitimis familiaris, licetque primo ortu epidemius fuit, postea endemius tactus est. Schenckius quidem Lib. 1. Observ.

A 2

Med.

Fig. 1b.

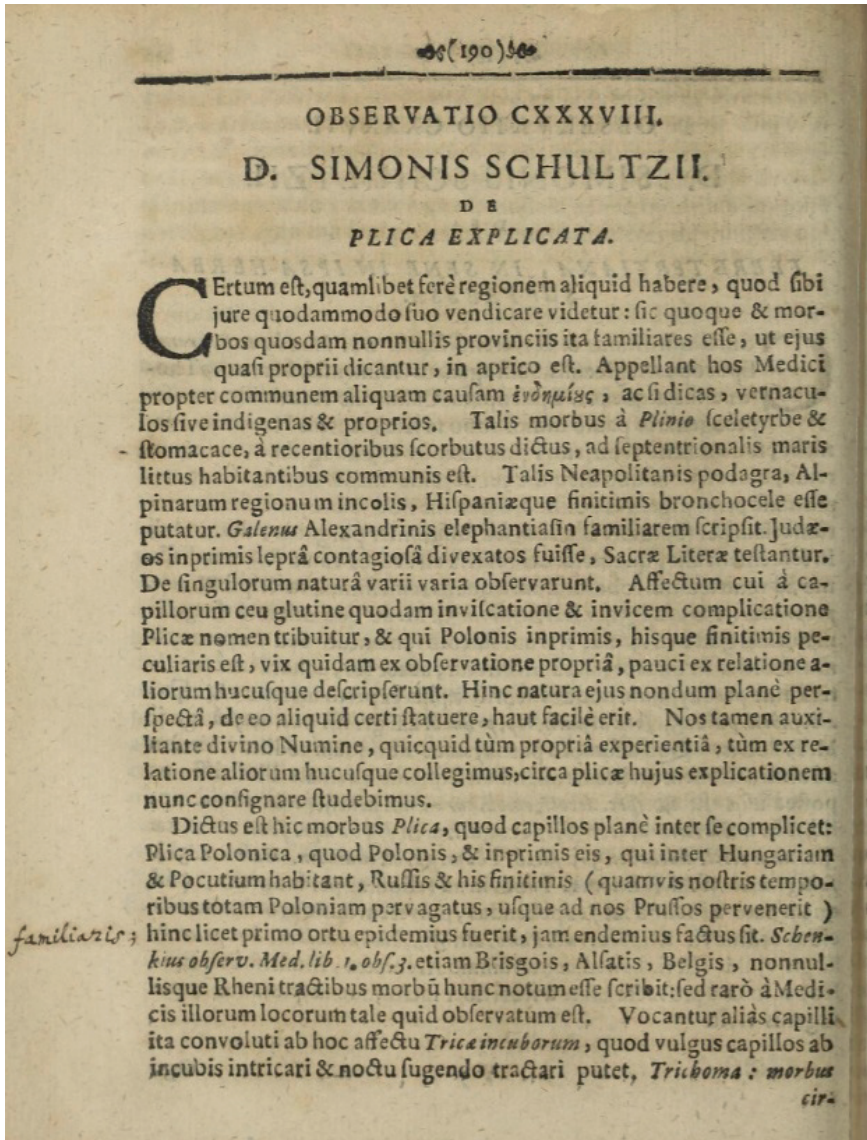


Fig. 1c.

Fig. 1a–c: Two papers on Polish pile (*plica polonica*) by Simon Schultz; his medical disputation published in 1648 (a, b) and an *observatio* published in 1675 (c). Source: see footnotes n. 57 and 59.

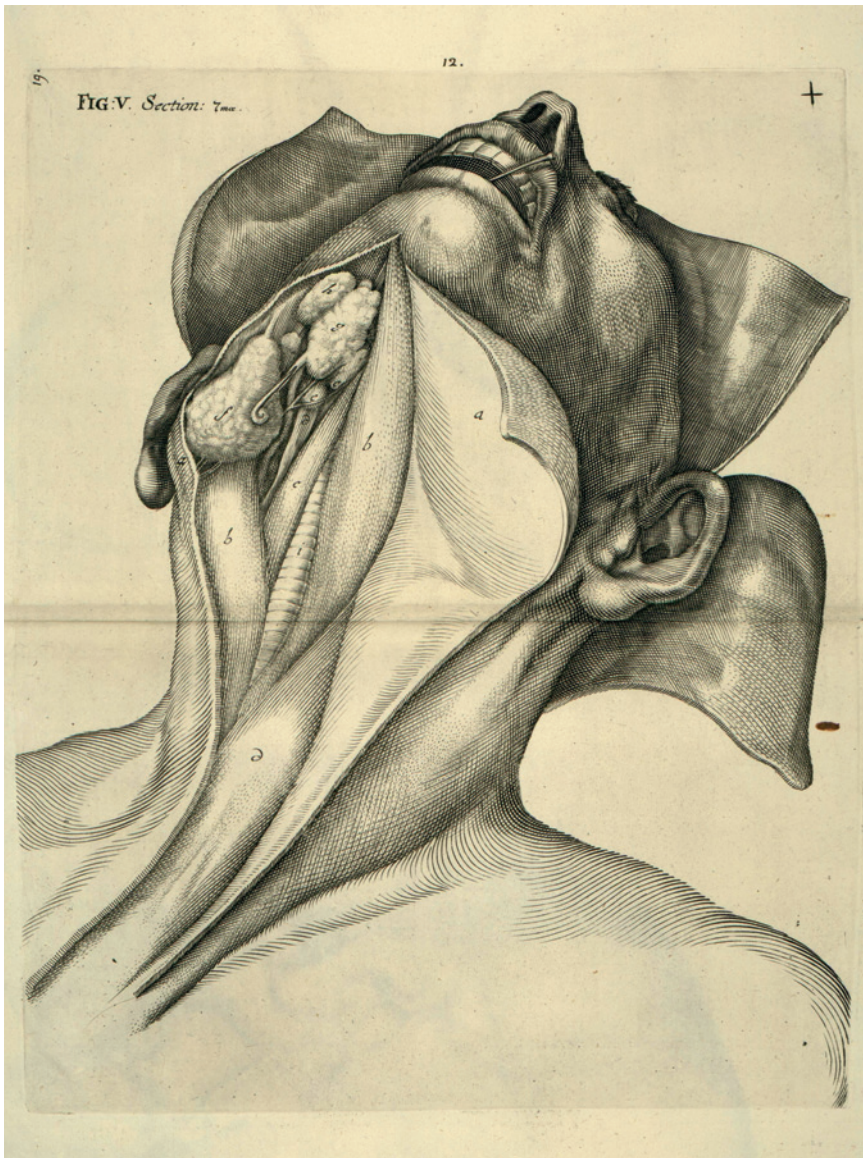


Fig. 2: A copperplate etching by Christoph Gottwald together with its description. Source: UBL, call number BOERH a 527 (description); *Musaeum Gottwaldianum*, Collection Bnu en dépôt à l'Université de Strasbourg; <https://docnum.unistra.fr/digital/collection/coll13/id/43952> (etching). Original caption under the illustration: *Tab. + // Fig. V. ostendit glandulas maxilla. inferioris, illarumq. ductum salivalem, Warthonianum dictum, qui exit circa radicem ligamenti lingua. inferius. Distant a se [crossed out: imp] invicem duorum illorum ductuum utriusq. lateris insertiones, latitudine calami scriptorii crassioris*

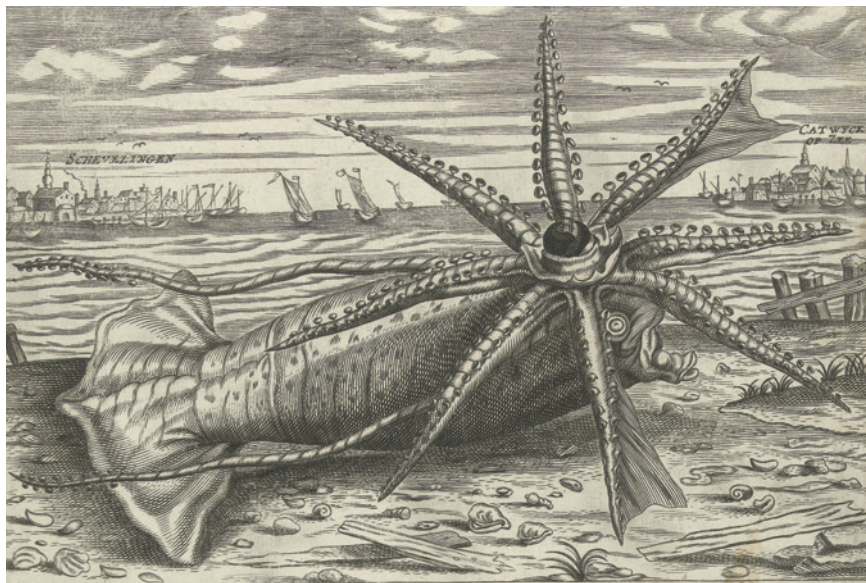


Fig. 3: Sea monster found between Scheveningen and Katwijk, The Netherlands, in 1661 (attributed to Salomon Savery) (detail). Source: Rijks Museum, *Zeemonster gevangen tussen Scheveningen en Katwijk, 1661*

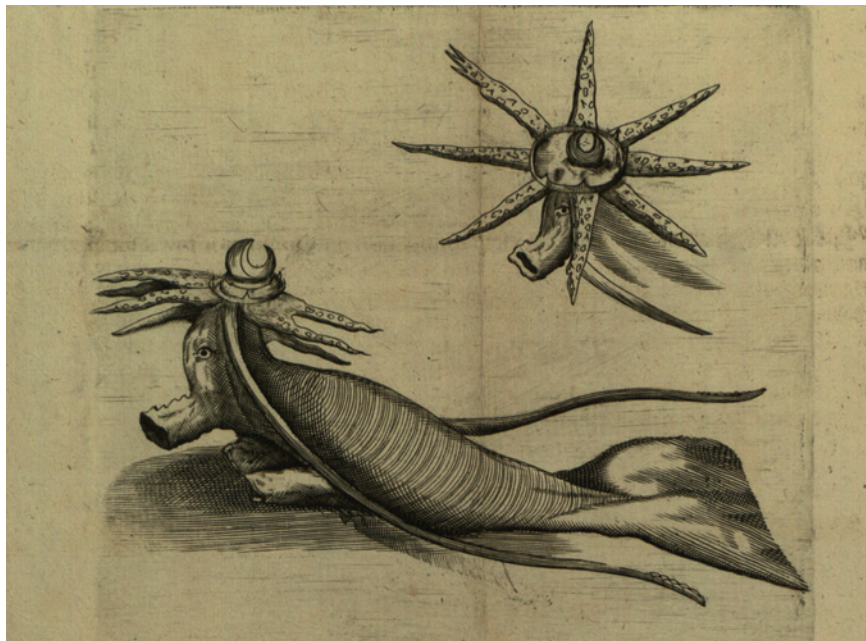


Fig. 4: Sea monster found between Scheveningen and Katwijk (published by Christoph Lochner) (detail). Source: *Abbildung//Eines erschrecklichen//Meer=Wunders//So am Ende deß 1661. Jahrs in Holland zwischen Schevelingen und Catwick//auff=See gefangen worden, (1662)*

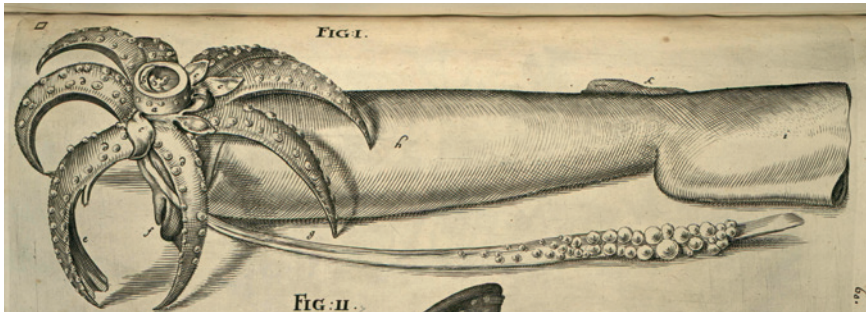


Fig. 5: Sea monster found between Scheveningen and Katwijk (depicted by Christoph Gottwald) (detail). Source: *Musaeum Gottwaldianum*, Collection Bnu en dépôt à l'Université de Strasbourg



Fig. 6: Christoph Gottwald's private anatomical chamber in Danzig. Source: *Musaeum Gottwaldianum*, Collection Bnu en dépôt à l'Université de Strasbourg

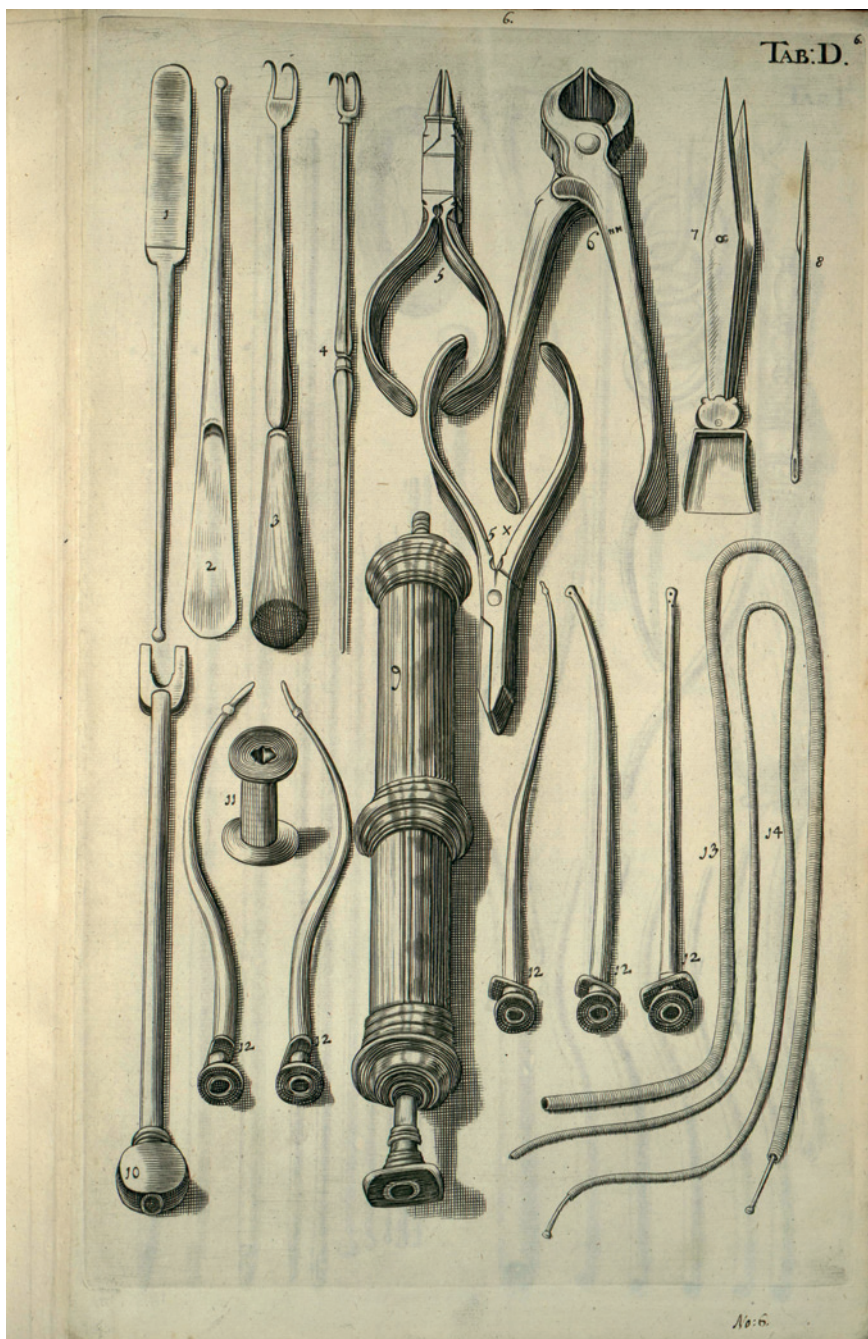


Fig. 7: Syringe with tubings by Christoph Gottwald. Source: *Musaeum Gottwaldianum*, Collection Bnu en dépôt à l'Université de Strasbourg