

## TO THE HISTORY OF JANUARY UPRISING 1863: THE CHAPLAIN STANISLAW BRZHOOSKA

The article deals with the figure of Stanislaw Brzhooska who being the parochial priest managed to lead small insurgent detachments that resisted the armed soldiery of Russian parts, and afterwards became the main chaplain of Polish insurgent forces. The activity of S. Brzhooska continued even in the conditions of slump of insurgent motion. In May 1865 a priest S. Brzhooska was grasped by Russian troops and executed in decision of the military weeds court.

*Key words:* Stanislaw Brzhooska, January uprising 1863, insurgents, Pidliashia.

Father Stanislaw Brzhooska was born on December 30, 1834, in Dokudowo, near the White Podlasie, called the White Radziwilowska, in the petty gentry family. His father, Marcel Brzhooska, held subordinate positions in the administration of estates (which was a common occurrence among indigent nobility), among others served as treasurer in the farm Slawacinek the White Podlasie. His mother, Karolina Brzhooska from the Enskajt's family, probably was from the family of former Scottish or German [2; 17, 10; 22, 43; 5, 63; 33, 10].

The term social status of Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska at this point is quite significant, because in the current literature it is often mentioned that he has been a peasant child, which according to the current state of research on this issue is a false statement. Stanislaw's parents had a small plot of land in the villages Old Brzhooski, Brzhooski Tartars and Shymbory Andrzejewieta in the district of Lomza province Augustan. Brzhooska's state undoubtedly include the petty

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**Трущинські Марек**, доктор філософії, ксьондз, стажист-дослідник кафедри новітньої історії Львівського національного університету імені Івана Франка, м. Ломжа (Республіка Польща).

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nobility. Back in the seventies of the twentieth century rather close relatives of Fr. S. Brzhooska, of the same name, lived in the county Zascianki Siedlce: in Przesmyki and nearby Tarkowie [8, 280; 11, 31; 33, 29].

Stanislaw Brzhooska had three brothers – Alexander, Joseph and Leopold – and two sisters – Isabella and Teofila (Isabella died at the age of three years in 1835). Upbringing and education of children dealt mainly with their mother as their father died at age 36, in 1840 [1; 3; 4].

Having received a good education, domestic, Stanislaw fetch then study at the District School of Bialska. It is worth noting that such types of schools were mostly available for the nobility's children. The Middle School of Bialska, one of the many educational institutions in the Kingdom of Poland, starts its history from the seventeenth century. During the partition of Russians demoted to the rank of a school faculty of the school, then the district. Yet until 1864, it had been the forge of enlightened people and ardent patriots [30, 154-165].

In 1851, Stanislaw Brzhooska went to Kiev to study at the local University medical school. For unknown reasons, after two years of study, he returned to the East England, where in 1854 he entered the Seminary of the Diocese Janow Podlaski. In July 25, 1858 he was ordained and appointed curate at the parish church in Sokolow Podlaski. Parish Sokolowska, whose pastor was Fr. Andrew Karnicki, covered quite a large area – outside the city of the priests served numerous Zastsianki, farms and villages. Pastoral work in the parish was not the easy due to the complicated religious relationship. The Uniates' presence in the area, popularly called Podlasie «unijatam», directed at priests increased attention to administrative authorities – the police [19, 5-6; 25, 3; 27,9; 33, 110].

Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska was very good in performing his duties in the parish Sokolowska. However, excessive work in a large parish undermined his health and for two months he had to be on leave. In April 1860, the authorities decided to move the diocesan priest Brzhooski to the Arch, where he was to receive equivalent duties as in Sokolow. Parish

Lukowska was not less extensive than Sokolowska, but the local parish priest Fr. Jakub Roszkowski had another Vicar – Fr. Joseph Korzuchowski to help him. Moreover, in the parish worked Piarists and Bernardine. Thus pastoral duties in Lukow were for Fr. Brzhooski less burdensome. To work on the new facility proceeded with enthusiasm. Quickly young curate himself as a good preacher. Normal pastoral work in Lukow unexpectedly was interrupted by his arrest. He fell out of favor with the local military and administrative authorities for breaking the ban, announced October 14, 1861, the state of war in the Kingdom of Poland. During the service on November 10, 1861 Fr. Brzhooska announced in his speech a story about the wheat and the tares, which were classified as «inflammatory minds». It was considered that the voice of the vicar of the Arch was directed against the invaders and insulted the officers present in the church. Despite numerous interventions and the intercession of December 10, 1861, the Field Court Martial in Siedlce sentenced him to two years of exile, which then eased up to six months in the dungeons of the fortress [26, 3; 29, 36].

Vicar Lukowski was deported from Siedlce to the fortress in Zamosc January 28, 1862, the deteriorating health of imprisoned became the cause of his early release. Finally, after four months in dungeons, June 2, 1862, Fr. Stanislaw was released. After returning to the Arch of the young curate immediately stretched police supervision. The repression did not prevent Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska pursue activities and conspiracy, especially since in 1862 the party movement, or conspiracy young radicals, surrendered to the National Central Committee, drafting an armed uprising. The Committee had a strong position in the Podlasie region through the initiative Frankowski brothers: John, Stanislaus and Leon. Community of the Lukow county was organized under the leadership of Leo Frankowski [6, 60-61; 18, 342-343; 17, 24].

Fr. Brzhooska established close cooperation with repressed by the tsarist authorities priest Adam Slotwinski who served as head of the county insurgent organizations.

Fr. Brzhooska performed the task as the head of the Arch Central Committee. Brzhooska and Slotwinski were not the only ones Podlasie clergy, who worked in the underground prepares rise. It is necessary to mention such priests as Michael Rzultowski, Seweryn Pashkowski, Constantine Byszewski, Paul Krajewski, Paul Shepietowski, Alfonso Rempalski, Leopold Kurowski, Antoni Stankiewicz. Fr. Pashkowski held responsible steward of the diocesan function to maintain direct contact between clergy secret Podlasie and the National Central Committee [2; 28, 83-84, 91; 32, 25-26].

Night of the January 22 to 23, 1863, she found a priest Brzhooska in Lukow. Standing at the head of a volunteer squad he has taken military action on five companies of soldiers infantry regiment. Threatened by beating the Russians retreated occupying defensive positions. The arrival of the relief in the form of eight troop Brzhooska forced to issue a command to a dispersion of insurgent squad [7].

The further fate of the insurgent activities of Fr. Brzhooski tied to the branch of Colonel Lewandowski, with whom he participated in the Battle of Siemiatycze (7 February 1863), Woskrzennicami (14 February 1863). He was wounded by gunshot in Staninie (14 March 1863) [14, 48].

After recovering, he took the priest Stanislaw in a small parish Rzelechow, he returned to active insurgent action, but under the command of Charles Krysinski (injured Lewandowski got into Russian captivity) [33, 69].

Merit Stanislaus Brzhooski in the armed struggle soon has been highly appreciated by the insurgents. War Department of the National Government in dispatches dated 22 July 1863, was appointed chief chaplain Brzhooska Podlaskie province, which gave him the authority to supervise in the said province chaplains departmental activities. Insurgent activity priest Brzhooska interrupted unexpectedly in November 1863, the disease (typhoid). Then he left the party Krysinski. Only in February 1864 he was back to health until [2].

Meanwhile, the increasing repression August tsarist authorities bear fruit the falling mass judgments on the insurgents,

contributions imposed on the Roman Catholic clergy and the Kingdom of Polish landowners and homeowners in cities. Tsar reform enfranchisement of 2 March 1864 laying shattered the chances of obtaining the peasant masses to fight for Polish independence. The tsarist authorities have developed appropriately military – police apparatus to fight the guerrillas. These circumstances largely made the rise of free burned out even in the Lublin and Podlasie. More and more leaders left the borders of the country. In late February 1864, his office of Commissioner Plenipotentiary of the National Government in the Podlasie region, Fr. Leon Korolec. The same is done around mid-April of this year Odrowarz Ignatius Wysocki, who is such a position in Lublin [24, 286; 9, 345].

In April, the tsarist authorities caught the chief commander of the uprising, Romuald Traugutt. May 13, 1864, the order of the Commander living for the Kingdom of Polish army lieutenant, Count Berg, announced the completion of a military campaign. Propaganda unleashed by that act, however, denied the reality, because the Podlasie region still continued rebellion [12, 340].

Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska did not cease operations insurgent placing much hope in the power of the people. With that in mind since the spring of 1864, proceeded to further, more independent struggle for the independence of the Fatherland, showing two small divisions of cavalry. They helped with the deputy appointed by him, who often visited with his aide Francis Wilczynski [2].

From June until the autumn of 1864, Fr. Brzhooska stayed between Lukow and Stoczek in the so-called Jackich swamps. Located around them villages Klimki, Krynka, Rosa, Rose dips and Zdziary – were the main supply base branch Brzhooski. In October 1864, the tsarist authorities threatened the population of Podlasie court martial and destruction of property for the storage of Fr. Brzhooski and his subordinates. Concerned himself yet still lacked faith in the success of military action. In a letter of December 1864, addressed to the National Government has expressed a

strong conviction about the chances of success of the uprising, hoping for a response and intervention by Europe on Polish. He urged authorities to persuade insurgent officers and chiefs to return from exile and to continue the fight for Polish independence [13, 833-834; 19, 30-31; 23, 107-108].

No denying Fr. Brzhooska courage and zeal in the fight for freedom falls Homeland noted that such treatment of the topic uprising in the period testified about his somewhat poor orientation in matters of domestic and foreign, which concerned such as the uprising in other districts of the Polish Kingdom, the mood of landowners and peasants after Tsar's emancipation, the intervention of France, England and Austria in matters related to the establishment of the Polish lands [17, 51].

Warsaw summoned the commander of the Don Cossacks, Colonel Zanikisowa to entrust his mission to track down S. Brzhooski. General Maniukin delegated to catch Fr. Stanislaus five rot army. Conducted raids and searches in counties adamowskim, zhelechowskim and Siedlce, however, brought no results. Scouring the woods near Jagodne, Hawks and sheds. In the late autumn, the priest Brzhooska was supported only by the strongest subordinates who have not given amnesty in August tempted. The population refers to «Kryjaki» (as they commonly called) very friendly. In November 1864, Brzhooska abandoned mud jackie and moved in Siedlce. With a group of comrades cast him hiding in Przewozkach, Krasnodebach-Sypytkach under Sokolov Podlaski. Then he went to the village Scythes, and thus escape the enemy went into the woods Sokolovsky. There, together with the accompanying partisans celebrated Christmas [34, 55-56].

Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska government was supported by especially villages and majorackie and Zaccianki nobility. Such an attitude of the local population probably influenced pretty lasting echoes the January uprising and membership Brzhooska to the clerical state. A significant part of the population of Podlasie, despite disasters and severe repression by the General Maniukina and other Tsarist authorities, together with Fr. Brzhooska believed in the sense of military effort. In

an atmosphere of patriotism all attempts of the invaders: intensive search, raid and increased repression, failed. Then gene Maniukin turned to his superiors about the cause of exclusion Fr. Brzhooska from the clerical state. In this particular case Prince Vladimir Cherkasy, performing the functions of the Director of the Committee on Governmental Affairs and the clergy, sent a letter to the Bishop of Podlasie, Benjamin Shymanski. In response, Bishop Brzhooski instead of degradation, in the beginning of January 1865, announced a pastoral letter to the faithful of the Fr. Brzhooski. Raw words of the letter were more convinced Brzhooska to leave the country rather than offend his insurgent activities. Prince Cherkaskiy dissatisfied position of bishop, led to him then several months of controversy correspondence. The head of the Diocese of Podlasie, enhanced support Episcopal persists in defense of Fr. Brzhooski [33, 87; 31, 180-181; 4; 1].

Further treatments Bishop Szymanski were no longer significant, since April 29, 1865, Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska and his aide, Francis Wilchynski were captured in Krasnodebakh – Spytkakh where they were hiding. The location of Brzhooski was issued by the russians priest courier, Anna Konarzewska previously captured and subjected to torture. April 28, 1865, in the morning, the roundup went, which argued: Officer 4 Don Cossacks regiment, war chief of the county Stanyславiv von Kremer and shtabskapitan gendarmerie Cigrin with eleven Cossacks. Brzhooska and Wilchynski escaped, but without success. The detainees were transported to Warsaw and locked in a prison investigator [8, 357-358; 1, 280].

In May, held a hearing, after which the prisoners were handed over to the War Tribunal Polowemu . An instance of that on 17 May 1865, ruled the guilt litigants and issued sentences. In relation to Fr. Stanislaus Brzhooski determined to deprive him of his dignity and the rights of the priesthood and the sentencing to death by hanging. In addition, the court issued a ruling on confiscation of any assets of the convicted person [2, 65-68].

Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska and his aide, Francis Wilchynski were executed on May 23, 1865, in the market in Sokolow Podlaski. The next day the body was buried in the moat of

the fortress of Brest. Audytariat Field on June 10 issued a proclamation, reported about the Rapture, adjudged and losing, by order of the governor Berg, Fr. Brzhooski.

The execution of Fr. Brzhooski took place with the assistance of numerous crowd of residents gathered Sokolow and surrounding areas. In the obituary of Fr. Stanislaw is said: «The last soldier is armed uprising, which the zeal, faith, and complete dedication served from the beginning to the end of his life. Energetic and tireless, he shared all the hardships of the camp, undeterred by any disaster, the failure derived strength for new efforts, and the fire of his soul and faith in the life of the case cheered the perseverance of others. I never slept, indeed was the first in assigned an injured, comforting the dying, where fatigue gripped all, he did not rest tireless until the branch was not fed with the lowest ministry he served. He was just, tolerant of human weaknesses, and for treason and crimes inexorable [...] People looking at his life of self-denial, surrounded it with a halo of sanctity for a full fatigues sacrifice» [20,5].

The legend of the heroic chaplain was born in his lifetime. The memory of Fr. Stanislaus Brzhooska and his «kryjaky» survived in all corners of Podlasie. The figure of the heroic priest went on the card numerous studies in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century and during the Second Republic. In 1919, Bishop Henry Przewdziecki, Bishop of Podlasie, while visiting the parish Sokolowska took the initiative to build the monument and made him the first victim. In 1922, the local circle of scouts wrote to the City Council's request for the appointment of Sokolow space under the so-called commemorative obelisk. A big market – the place where executed Brzhooska and Wilchynski. The result of these efforts was the unveiling of the monument to the 60th anniversary of the memorable events [15].

Three years later, in 1928, on the initiative of foresters area Lukow unveiled in Dombrowka, forests jackich a monument dedicated to the «Hero of the struggle for independence, Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska inflexible knight



Podlasie 63 anniversary of his martyred death». To the sixties of the twentieth century, the manor reeve Belinsky in Krasnodebakh – Sypytkakh (place of last refuge Fr. Brzhooski) was cultivated in the tradition of struggle for independence and reminded turning battles with Russia, which was not welcomed by the communist government, ordered to demolish the house. Only the stone threshold survived, which dated proof of a commemorative plaque of the monument: «When the human memory goes the stones speak. Here was hidden in August and was arrested Gen. Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska last Commandant Uprising 1863 Podlasie and his aide Francis Wilchynski. Great glory to the heroes» [21; 6].

In 1984, in Sokolow Podlaski, through the initiative of the inhabitants the monument was restored by Fr. S. Brzhooski former appearance, and the anniversary of the death of Fr. Brzhooski – May 23, 1984 – have been re its unveiling [5].

Biography of Fr. Brzhooska took up Charles Kozminski – its release was the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the January uprising. Although historians of the January uprising dealt with Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska quite often in rather marginal manner. Only Helena Maliszewska devoted Fr. Brzhooska interesting, though small outline monograph, which today is a basic hearing about his life and activities. In 1983, Fr. Stanislaw Brzhooska was decorated with the Star of Perseverance. May 23, 2008 the President of Poland Lech Kachynski admitted Fr. Brzhooska after death the Order of the White Eagle.

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2. Archiwum Diecezjalne w Siedlcach, akta osobowe ks. S. Brzóska, I, k. 1-2, 5-8, 19-19v, 65-68, 79-80.

3. Archiwum Powiatowe Lubelskie, Lubelska Izba Skarbowa, 3790, k. 291; NWPL, 42, k. 193-193v.

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Reviewer: *O.M. Sukhyi*, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor, Head of Department of modern history of Ukraine, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

**Трущинські М.  
ДО ІСТОРІЇ СІЧНЕВОГО ПОВСТАННЯ 1863 РОКУ: КАПЕЛАН  
СТАНІСЛАВ БЖУСКА**

Серед організаторів Січневого повстання 1863 р. на Підляшші виділяється постать Станіслава Бжуски, який, будучи парафіяльним священиком, зумів очолити невеликі повстанські загони, що протистояли озброєним військовим російським частинам, а згодом став головним капеланом польських повстанських сил. Діяльність С. Бжуски продовжувалася навіть в умовах спаду повстанського руху. У травні 1865 р. священик С. Бжуска був схоплений російськими військами і страчений за рішенням воєнно-польового суду.

*Ключові слова:* Станіслав Бжуска, Січневе повстання 1863 р., повстанці, Підляшшя.

**Трущински М.  
К ИСТОРИИ ЯНВАРСКОГО ВОССТАНИЯ 1863 ГОДА:  
КАПЕЛЛАН СТАНИСЛАВ БЖУСКА**

Среди организаторов Январского восстания 1863 г. на Подляшье выделяется личность Станислава Бжуски, который, будучи парафиальным священником, сумел возглавить небольшие повстанческие отряды, противостоящие вооруженным воинским российским частям, а впоследствии стал главным капелланом польских повстанческих сил. Деятельность С. Бжуски продолжалась даже в условиях спада повстанческого движения. В мае 1865 г. священник С. Бжуска был схвачен российскими войсками и казнен по решению воєнно-полевого суда.

*Ключевые слова:* Станислав Бжуска, Январское восстание 1863 г., повстанцы, Подляшье.