

THE LAST KING OF POLAND AND GRAND DUKE OF LITHUANIA STANISLAV AUGUST PONIATOWSKI AND HIS MONARCHICAL DUTIES AT THE GRODNO SEIMS IN 1784 AND 1793

N. Vasilyuk

Grodno state University, Grodno, Belarus

Some believe, that Stanislaw August Poniatowski did not manarchy Affairs, only spent time at balls with friends and lovers. But this opinion does not quite correspond to reality. Look at the political everyday life of the last king of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania during the Grodno meetings 1784 and 1793 y. In the work were used the diaries of one of the members of the Sejm of 1793 [3], materials of the regional conference of students and graduate students of Grodno [4], the study of the Russian historian N. F. De Pula [5], who described the daily life of Poniatowski, and Dz. Lavascape to assess the Grodno Sejm of 1793. [6].

The purpose of the research is to discern the daily life of Stanislaw August Poniatowski in Grodno during the Sejm and on this basis to determine its impact on the course of important political, crucial for the Commonwealth events.

Material and methods. To achieve this goal, General scientific and special historical research methods were used. The method of analysis was used to investigate the development of the topic in domestic and foreign historical science. The method of generalization helped to create a General idea of Stanislaw August Poniatovsky's everyday life and its influence on the course of important historical events. By comparing method to compare the daily life of the past with modern processes. The method of induction and deduction helped to obtain reasonable results of the study. The historical-typological method contributed to the development of a General typology of sources and tipologia analysis talebani historiography on the subject. Historical comparative method allowed to estimate and compare the political ability Poniatowski as king of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania. Method preparat (personal history) were used in the study of the biographies of Stanislaw August, as well as people that surrounded him.

Findings and their discussion. In 1784 it was decided to hold the Seims in Grodno. That was demanded by the Lithuanian province, and also by the king who wished that the Lithuanian magnates agreed to pay his personal debts from the state Treasury.

On October 4, the Seim began, as always, a prayer service in the Jesuit Church. The main question was about the Royal debt. It was successfully solved, the throne and the Royal family were saved from a public scandal caused by bankruptcy. XXII according to the resolution of the Sejm to pay debts remains of the Royal made for the postponement by 10 years Slota 700 thousand per year to be paid skarbowy commissions of both Nations with the treasure of the king [7, p. 29].

Of course, these witnesses characterize the king from a not very good side, but show him as a politician: Stanislaw Augustus understood that the truth of the

case can not be solved, so he moved to extraordinary steps –organized in Belovezhskaya Pushcha hunting, thanks to which the Lithuanian magnates and agreed to the terms Poniatovsky. He couldn't do anything else.

XVII the resolution of the Sejm concerned a former great descendant of mayor on, Grodno headman Anthony Tizengauz. The atmosphere of decision-making was cold. Attack more personal enemies descendant of mayor Michael Zaleski on the instructions of a Permanent happy, Brest Ambassador Matosevic. King defended his friend, but Grodno Sejm in 1784 recognized Anthony Tizengauz guilty of causing harm to the Royal Treasury, but withdrew financial debt and sequestration and filed Tizengauz retire descendant of mayor [7, p. 32].

You can notice an interesting fact: every politician, every king is a person who is friends, loves, loves. So Poniatovsky was friendly with Tizengauz and did everything possible to save his friend, but, unfortunately, he could not. Politics was stronger for the personal.

Francis Xavier Hans, major-General of troops on, later recalled that the Seimas "hinduness rare and commendable rate of decisions of adjudications memorable" [7, p. 35].

Assessing the work of the Seimas, Stanislaw August Poniatovsky in his memoirs wrote:"the Grodno Seimas was perhaps the last manifestation of genuine national greatness in Europe without false tinsel i putting dust in the eyes." The other was the opinion of the associate of Kosciusko Juliana-URSA Nemtseva. In his memoirs, he noted that the diet was pretty shameful spectacle, the Sejm absolute bassella, including on the part of the king, because the ambassadors of the States, which divided the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, did not allow to solve important issues. Everything that happened there, happened in the dark picture is sisea restrictions on the political awareness, the complete impoverishment of belongings and administrative collapse" [7, p. 33].

And after 9 years, I came seventeen hundred and ninety-third year, the year of last samavia meeting of the Commonwealth and of the second section of the state.

Stanislaw August can be accused of weakness of character, but that he was poorly versed in political Affairs – in any case. Having not yet arrived in Grodno, the king knew what would happen there, so he refused to go to Grodno, wrote letters of complaint to Catherine II, referring to his lack of money, debts, poor health. Finally, he decided to Express his fear that he would be forced to sign a new section. Several times he began to cry and begged the Ambassador to stay in Warsaw for a while. Russian Ambassador same, I. Seavers, trying to refute all the arguments of the head of the Commonwealth, convinced that about any violence is out of the question.

First, Poniatowski stayed on the diet adequately. He tried with all his strength to prevent the division of the state, to the last defended the independence of his people. King began his speech at the diet of statements that will not yield an inch of their native land. I sincerely wanted to save the country, saying the following words: "Let them shoot...Let SBR sent, but the state is not

sddm" [6, p. 54], and then with the Royal throne flew tactical statements about the renunciation of the crown. Then came concessions ... gradual-from article to article. Each day of the diet was discouraging public opinion and smansa sympathy for the king. V. I. Vodovoza, Russian Methodist, writes: "But he had to endure a lot of humiliation. He was required to he denounced as traitors to their former friends. The king cried, almost to the point of insanity. The unfortunate king did not know whom to keep, and leaned to one, then to another party" [2, c. 47].

By his visit to the Seimas in Grodno and his position, the monarch actually committed political suicide [4, c. 25].

In his speech, the king blamed all the misfortunes on forcing almost 150 thousand soldiers located in the region by force, who "everyone stops resistance". The resistance of ratification, he said, would entail the ruin of the edges [3, no. 3, pp. 45–48].

During the last samawah regulations Stanislaw August had been fully in agreement with the enemy, dumasi only one or will pay a reward for his obedience to the state, razobraly in parts of his country, his debts and provide him the opportunity to quietly live the rest of years [1, p. 10]. Apparently, he maintained good relations with Ya Swaram – Russian Ambassador. Acts. Ilovaisky, Russian historian and publicist of the XIX century, wrote that Sivers and Ponyatovsky during the contact stipulated not only state Affairs, describing the name of Sivers in 1793 and bring the proof of the following fact: "the King by his Secretary sent a birthday (Seavers) gifts for his daughters, that bracet and necklace" [6, p. 65].

Very bad the characterization given Boskamp, a close adviser to the Russian Ambassador Sievers on Polish Affairs, Stanislaw August. While recognizing his intelligence, courtesy, he noted the extreme weakness of the character and beliefs of the king, which made him a victim of the influence of a variety of political factions. Summing up his analysis, Baskamp recommended Sivers to rely on the king, "hiding, however, from him our interest in him. Fortunately, we have a serious means of pressure on him: the threat to leave him to the massacre of his many enemies or to transfer the king's income to his numerous creditors who have already appealed to the Empress" [8].

M.-M. Poulet, a Russian historian of the XIX century, writes about the king: "he appealed to Sivers, who was present in the hall, with a request to give his court a wish to return the lands taken to Poland. Given the undesirable consequences that Stanislaw August's speech could have, seavers immediately took tough measures to defeat the king's tenacity. Bankers-creditors Stanislaw August it was announced that Russia does not intend to begin repayment of the king's debts before the signing of a separate agreement and the end of the Sejm [5, c. 29].

Doesn't that sound like blackmail? Undoubtedly, the behavior of Stanislaw Augustus should be considered, taking into account external circumstances.

The king justified his position and actions in the most important events since his accession to the throne, assured that he was not involved in any disasters of his country. This diet it is not considered fair, for it was fitting to

yield to the onslaught of the majority and to begin negotiations with the Prussian king [3, no. 2, pp. 33–34].

After signing the treatise on the division of the country Stanislav Augustus, calling the Russian Empress Catherine the Second sister and expressing joy for what happened, sent her a message: "your Majesty, my sister! What I've longed for has finally come to pass. You wanted to become an eternal ally of Poland. If only the Sky had wanted this to happen six years earlier! I put all my zeal into this cause because I acted on the belief that I was doing good to my country and that from now on nothing could cloud my intentions and personal feelings. But I ask your Majesty to deign to give a resolute order in order to stop the measures that make the nobility suffer, the inhabitants of the cities and peasants of my country, whose poverty, increasing as a result of a very poor harvest this year, has reached the point that their diseases and deaths are transmitted to the troops of your Majesty" [8].

In rescript Siwers of October 18, Catherine, Russian Empress, announced that he has decided to withdraw a significant part of the Russian troops from Poland. However, she instructed the Ambassador "to summon the king in a gentle way, that it is not enough to sign treaties, they must be accurately and punctually fulfilled, following their true meaning and spirit" [8].

Conclusion. Thus, the behavior of Ponyatovsky cast a real shadow on his reign, but a significant role in these phenomena played a weak character of the king and unbearable conditions in which he was put. As a politician, Stanislav Augustus was right, he knew how to act, and the Sejm in 1784 is proof of this, and in 1793 personal traits and external circumstances, unfortunately, prevented the king from using political skills in all its power.

Reference list:

1. Walk, N. I. "Sproba chanelas asobi Stanislava Augusta" / N. I. Walk // Actual problemi socialna-humantronic Veda: materialy III Minor. stud. NAV.-Tiaret. Conf., Minsk, 18 Kras. 2018 / Belarus. jarge. UN-t im. M. Tank; radcal.: A. V. Kosovo [I NS.] - Minsk, 2018. – P. 9–10.
2. Vodovozov, VI Essays on Russian history of the XVIII century. / IV Vodovozov – SP.: Russian state library, 1904. – 548 p.
3. Gnet L. Apon the diet, Racy Paspati // Arvy I spravodajstvo. - Mn, 1999. – № 2; № 3; № 4; № 5; № 6.
4. Grodno – 875: Materialy oblasnoy conference students I aspirant, 25 November 2003 / Pad red. S. V. Marozava, And. P. Crane, U. S. Amalek. – Grodno: Grgu, 2004. – 64 p.
5. De Pula, M. F. Stanislaw-August Poniatowski in the Grodno and Lithuania in the years 1794-1797 / M. F. De-Pule. – SPb. : Type. Maikova, 1871. – 255 p.
6. Ilovaisky D. I. Grodno Sejm of 1793. The last Parliament of the Commonwealth / D. I. Ilovaisky // – Minsk, Belarus. 2015. – 538 p.
7. Shved, V. V., Gosse, A. P. Garadna. Apavada s glory Horad (Zaraza 16 – 18 this article). / W. W. Swede. AP Gossey // – Hrodna: Parchment, 1997. – 140 p.
8. Ya. E. Sivers and Grodno Sejm // Eastern literature. Medieval historical sources of East and West [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: <http://www.vostlit.info/Texts/Dokumenty/Polen/XVIII/1760-1780/Stegniy/framepred36.htm>. – Date of access 26. 07 2017.