

**CONRAD
WALLENROD: AN
HISTORICAL POEM**

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Conrad Wallenrod: An Historical Poem by Adam Mickiewicz

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ADAM MICKIEWICZ

**CONRAD
WALLENROD: AN
HISTORICAL POEM**

©
CONRAD WALLENROD,

AN

HISTORICAL POEM,

FOUNDED ON EVENTS IN THE ANNALS
OF LITHUANIA AND PRUSSIA,

TRANSLATED FROM THE POLISH OF

ADAM MICKIEWICZ,

BY

LEON JABLONSKI,

CAPTAIN IN THE LATE POLISH ARMY.

FRASER & CRAWFORD, EDINBURGH.
HENRY WASHBOURNE, LONDON; AND
W. CURRY, JUN., & CO., DUBLIN.

M.DCCC.XLI.

TO THE MEMORY

OF

PETER WYSOCKI,

COLONEL IN THE LATE POLISH ARMY,

A VIRTUOUS, DEVOTED, AND MOST DISINTERESTED

PATRIOT,

WHO UNFURLED THE NATIONAL STANDARD OF LIBERTY

AND INDEPENDENCE,

AND GAVE THE SIGNAL FOR THE POLISH REVOLUTION

OF

29TH NOVEMBER 1830 ;

WHO

LIVED, FOUGHT, SUFFERED, AND DIED

FOR HIS COUNTRY ;

THIS LITTLE VOLUME IS INSCRIBED

BY

HIS COMPANION IN THE MILITARY SCHOOL OF WARSAW,

FELLOW-SOLDIER, AND AFFECTIONATE FRIEND,

LEON JABLONSKI.

EDINBURGH, 29TH NOVEMBER 1840,

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
POLISH REVOLUTION.

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In the Polish orthography *w* sounds always like *v*; in many instances, however, the Translator, to facilitate to the English reader the pronunciation of proper names, has substituted the latter for the former consonant.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Polish literature, although rich in talented productions, is very little known in the western part of Europe, and especially in Great Britain. The circumstance of the Polish language not being far spread beyond the limits of its native soil, forms the chief obstacle to our literature being known in foreign countries. To obviate this difficulty, many of the most distinguished Polish authors in past centuries preferred writing in the Latin language. Among those may be named the celebrated Copernicus; Sarbiewski, called the Horace of Poland; Hossius, President of the Council of Trent;

Tomicki; Kromer; Orzechowski; Starowolski; whose works are found in all large libraries. The last mentioned author composed not fewer than thirty works in the Latin language, the subjects being the geography of Poland, biography, statistics, and general literature. But these writers are read and appreciated only in the learned world, and cannot be popular, even in their own country. An author, and especially a poet, in order to gain popularity, must speak to the feelings of the people in their mother tongue; consequently all modern Polish authors, (with the exception of a few who used the German and French,) have written in the Polish language. They have enriched their literature in all its branches, and brought the national language to the highest degree of perfection and purity.

Among the modern poets whose superior talents have established their fame

in the literary world, Adam Mickiewicz stands in the first rank. The productions of his genius abound in passionate and patriotic sentiments, and are felt and admired, not only by his countrymen, who read them in their native tongue, but by all to whom they have been made known by translations. Several of his works have been rendered into the languages of Germany and France, and have fully established the celebrity of the author in these countries. None of his poems have been as yet translated into English, although some literary periodicals, as, for example, the "Foreign Quarterly Review," "Athenæum," "Polyglot Magazine," and others, have severally given extracts of his writings, and done homage to his genius.

Mickiewicz, we may say, is the founder of a new school in the national literature. In Poland, as well as in other countries, men of letters used to imitate the ancients ;