

DR. SIGISMUND KRAKOW-KLADOWSKI DAYS, "HONOR BEYOND LIFE"

Ranko Jakovljević

NEGOTIN



A man's honor is something that stands above life

- Zygmunt Cracow -

Summary: This paper presents biographical data and details related to service and life in Kladovo in 1903-1907. Dr. Sigismund Krakow and his ancestors

Keywords: doctor, military service, family, Poland, Serbia, Kladovo

Sigmund /Zygmunt/ Krakow was born on 3/15. April 1849 in Warsaw, from father Ludwik "an old revolutionary from the Polish uprisings of 1830 and 1863" and mother Pauline (1813-1882) "from the Radjejowskis, who gave Poland cardinals and marshals, and who herself was a famous Polish writer" (Krakow, 2004, 28). Her literary works are: "Pamiętniki młody sieroty"; "Powiesci starego wędrowca"; "Rozmowy matki z dziećmi"; "Niespodzianka"; "Wieczory domowe"; "Obrazy i obrazki"; "Proza i poezycja polska, wybrana i zastosowana do użytku młodzieży żeńskiej"; "Wspomnienia wygnanki"; "Nowa książka do nabożeństwa dla Polek". According to the father, the genealogy of the family reached 1665, to Jan Kraków, the bearer of the ceremonial sword during the reign of King Mihail Wisniowecki (Stojić 2019, 353). He graduated from Medicinica in 1872. at the University of Heidelberg / "Ruprecht-Karl University"/ with the grade cum laude superato, earning the title of doctor of medicine and surgery.

He had a son Ludvik from his first marriage. He had a sister Zofia and a brother Casimir. After the Polish "January Uprising of 1863", in 1865 he settled in Paris, working at the Pasteur Institute (Berec 2017, 164). 1885 he came to Serbia as a volunteer in the Serbian-Bulgarian war, as a military doctor. From the title of "contractual military assistant" 13/27..9.1889.g. he was promoted to the rank of "medical lieutenant"

Medical lieutenant of the Lutheran faith, military doctor of the 14th infantry regiment, Sigismund Kraków married a teacher from Kragujevac, in the extract from the marriage book marked with the data "Persida Đoković, daughter of Aćima and Pelagija Đokić, born 11/23. November 1869 in Prijeljina". Commenting on the same document, Biljana Stojić indicates that it is "Persida Nedić, sister of Milan, Milutin and Božidar Nedić, distant relative of King Petar Karađorđević" (2019, 353). Milan Nedić was born from the marriage of the teacher Pelagia, the "granddaughter of Prince Nikola Stanojević", through whom they are in contact with the diplomat Konstantin Fotić and the

former Minister of Justice of Kranjevina Yugoslavia and the leader of the "Zbor" movement Dimitrije Ljotić. It follows that Sigmund Krakow's wife was the maternal sister of Generals Milan and Milutin and reserve officer - war invalid Božidar Nedić.

The wedding took place on May 3/15, 1892 in the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Kragujevac. It was Sigismund's second marriage, her first. On the occasion of his first marriage and request for divorce, the first-instance court in Kragujevac addressed 7/19/12/1891. To the Ministry of Education with a request that it "get all the rules" from the evangelical pastor-church in Belgrade regarding the fact that the first wife Mihalina "left Sigismund 6-7 years ago". The Ministry of Education responded with information dated January 14, 1892. that "in Germany, the church and the clergy have nothing to do with divorces, because civil courts do it,... rules printed from an ordinary book are sent". The marriage was dissolved and the obstacle to entering into a new one was removed. Stanislav Kraków presents the circumstances of his parents' marriage as something different. According to him, Sigismund left his first wife, a Polish woman, and his eight-year-old son from that marriage in Paris; "since his wife died in the meantime, he decided to stay in Serbia and get married..." (2004, 29). In the obituary from 1910. it was announced that he died after "honoring the act" of military protégé Sava Kelić, to whom the family expresses special gratitude.

From the marriage of Sigismund and Persida on March 16/24, 1895. was born on March 16/24, 1895. in Kragujevac, Stanislav, the writer of the capital works of Serbian literature, "a man with 18 decorations, 14 wounds, three death sentences" (Stojić 2019, 350).

As published by "Male novine" from September 13, 1899. "Sigmund Kraków, contractual medical lieutenant, native of Warsaw, Russian citizen" received Serbian citizenship.

As required by the service, he was assigned to military garrisons in Kragujevac, where he served in 1897-1898. was also the manager of the surgical department of the military hospital, then in Niš /from April 21-

May 4, 1901/, Leskovac /from October 12-25, 1901/, Knjaževac /from May 8-21, 1902 /, Zaječar, Kladovo /from September 9-22, 1903/, Belgrade /from November 13-26, 1907/.

According to the order of the Minister of Military No. 3595 of September 9/25, 1903, according to the needs of the service, "medical lieutenant Sigismund Kraków, until now the corps doctor of the Knjaževac garrison, was appointed as the corps doctor of the Kladovo garrison." Stanislaw Krakow wrote about his arrival and life in Kladovo:

"... My father was suddenly transferred from Knjaževac to the border fortress of Kladovo on the Danube. He was satisfied with this change because in Kladovo he had to be not only a military doctor but also the only doctor for the entire area. Like in the Wild West, we traveled for three days in a closed carriage from Knjaževac to Kladovo by the border river Timok and then through the dense oak forests in the Krajina that were never without hajduk... It was already the third night since we left Knjaževac when we saw the lights the small fishing town of Kladovo. Our carriage bounced over the old Turkish cobblestones. He stopped in front of a hotel, which only had a ground floor.

The curious inhabitants of this small town of fifteen hundred souls began to gather around the carriage: - The doctor has arrived. Just at that moment, the door of the tavern opened and the owner of the hotel ran out excitedly:

- Doctor, quickly, save my wife... As my father had his briefcase under his arm, he ran into the tavern. We sat in the carriage and waited. A little later I saw my father coming out smiling. The hotelier's wife got a fish bone stuck in her esophagus and started to choke. My father removed her bone and his reputation as a good doctor was already established on the first night.

The next day we drove into the old Turkish fortress of Fetislam, a few kilometers from the town, where there was a garrison of several hundred people. We drove over the suspension bridge and by the heavy iron gate a guard came out to pay respects to my father...

We got a large separate house, which here, like in the colonies, because of the many snakes, was built so high that it had to be entered via several stone steps. At first,

snakes were a real nightmare for me, and for my mother during our entire stay in Kladovo. I got used to them over time. They were everywhere. Every day we found them in the pantry and the kitchen, which were in a separate building, where they were looking for milk, hanging from the ceiling beams, crawling under cupboards, getting into crates. In the barn where my father's horse was, Seiz was never allowed to put his hand in the hay, lest he come across a snake. But most of them were between the stones of the huge city ramparts, under which there were deep casemates, which used to serve as a prison. It was in the casemate, the one closest to our house, where we kept chickens, that the later famous Serbian statesman Nikola Pašić was imprisoned after the rebellion of Eastern Serbia in 1886 against King Milan.

For me, the Kladovo fortress was the promised land. The presence of a large number of soldiers, in whose life I liked to interfere and share it, huge cannons on the bastions, a citadel in the middle of the fortress, with high towers and a suspension bridge, which could only be entered barefoot or in slippers because it was full of dozens of tons of explosives and gunpowder, underground lagumi, all that was miraculous for me. The largest number of civilian patients of my father were alasi - fishermen, and that's why he was always full of caviar and the best Danube fish. Fishermen taught my mother to roast kechiga, wrapped in parchment, on a spit over low heat, and it became my favorite dish.

That's where I first came into contact with abroad - if you can call it that, Kladovo was on the triple border. I often crossed by boat to Turn Severin, in Romania, or to Orshav, just a few kilometers away, in Austria-Hungary. And between those two foreign countries for me, I discovered another one: Turkey. Better to say, a lost part of Turkey. There, near Oršava, in the middle of a river full of eddies, like an enclave, was the small fortified island of Adakale, the last remnant of Turkish rule on the Danube. When I disembarked for the first time from a large fishing boat, which could hardly maintain its balance in the midst of strong rapids, into the greenery of this small island, it was as if I had come to a country that was from another era and from another continent. Adakale theoretically belonged to Turkey, but there

was no government at all, except for one head of the town, who was like the head of a large family. Not the police, not the customs, not the court, not the hospital. People lived a quiet, unchanged life. They watered their gardens and looked after a few sheep and then came to the center in front of the only tavern, under the blossoming trees, to sip coffee or eat rahatlokum there. Life had completely forgotten about them... It was only after the Balkan Wars /1912-13/ that Austria-Hungary settled the island and introduced it to all the obligations, laws and duties that a modern state imposes on its subjects..

In the summer of 1906, I finished the fourth grade of the elementary school in Kladovo as the best student. The director of the school, Milić, was a grateful patient of my father. I was supposed to travel to Belgrade in the fall to stay with my grandmother and uncle in order to study high school there. That was the last summer of my happy childhood in the Kladovo fortress..." (2004, 19-21).

In the same year, King Petar appointed Dr. Sigismund as his personal physician during treatment at the Brestovačka Banja. Stanislav Krakow concludes his impressions with the words: "when, after more than a month of treatment, King Petar left Brestovačka Banja, my father followed the royal caravan on horseback. The large and dense dust that rose from the country roads when so many carts passed, and in which he rode for days, made my father, when he came to Belgrade with the king, suddenly spit up blood. And when I met my father in the Kladovo fortress, after returning from the capital, he brought a signed picture of the king, fifty gold coins, toys and books for me, but also the beginning of tuberculosis" (2004, 24).

In the Kladovo fortress there was a hospital and a pharmacy, especially the "marvena pharmacy", as Jovan Mišković noted during the control inspection carried out on October 3, 1884; in addition, he also gives a description of the fortress: "The city of Fetislam is mostly four-sided with 6 bastions /4 on the longer, dry side, and 2 on the corresponding Danube side/, 3 gates and 2 brick round towers facing the Danube. There is a visible redoubt in the middle, with two round towers on the land side. It has a powder store on vaults in two compartments. Besides that, a small hand magazine. The casemates

are unusable. There are two out-of-the-ordinary barracks: 1 battalion, and the other one for provisions. Apart from that, about 10 buildings of various sizes and values" (2020, 2, 116). The fortress is also known for the fact that the latter General Kosta Milovanović, commander of the artillery in Fetislam in 1877, served there. and Duke Živojin Mišić - posted here for duty in 1890. as general staff captain first class, 1893. /then in the rank of major/ Colonel Panta Trifunović, father of the divisional general and Minister of the Army and Navy of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, Dušan Trifunović.

At the level of the Ključki district in the period 1903-1907, unlike other districts of the Krajinski district, no one was assigned to work in the health profession, so the presence of Dr. Sigmund Krakow meant a lot to the population (Blagojević 2005, 284-333). The presence of another Pole, Siegfried Policer, a pharmacist in the small border town, was of great importance for healthcare in the Kladovo area. Starting from 1906. he ran a pharmacy at the beginning of Kralja Aleksandra Street, equipped according to the highest standards. A herbarium was located in the specially designed apothecary's attic for the storage of herbs intended for the production of medicines. Medicines were kept in a part of the basement partitioned with stone. The pharmacy was characterized by spaciousness and light. In Kladovo, Dr. Sigismund also found the famous pharmacist Jozef Dilber (1828-17-5-1905), a graduate pharmacist from the University of Prague, the owner, the first president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Serbia, who ran a pharmacy here until 17-5-1905.

In the official military gazettes of 1903-1907. there are data on the humanitarian activities of Dr. Krakow through the work of the Red Cross. According to the Report on the activities of the Serbian Red Cross Society 1.1. In 1907, together with him, the following officers of the Kladovo fortress did it: lieutenant colonel Svetozaar Protić, captain II.cl Pavle Jakovljević, lieutenants Milan Matijević, Dobrivoje Mojsilović, Svetozar Ristić and lieutenants Dragiša Predić, Radoje A Pantić and Milivoje Alimpić.

By order of the Minister of Military No. 9320 dated 13/27. In September 1907, instead of medical lieutenant Josif Radulović, Sigismund Kraków, "so far a corps doctor in

the command of the Kladovo fortress", was appointed acting corps doctor of the Eighteenth Infantry Regiment of "Kraljević Đorđe, the Crown Prince" and manager of the temporary spa infirmary.

He died in Belgrade on March 12, 1910. On this occasion, an obituary was published in the Serbian press: "It is with pain in our hearts that we inform our relatives and friends that our dear, never-forgotten husband or son, Dr. Sigismund Kraków, medical lieutenant, died on March 12 at 1:00 a.m. at the age of 60. his own. On this occasion, we cannot fail to express our deep gratitude to Mr. to the doctors who tried to save the deceased from death, and especially to Dr. Pomorišac, who tried to relieve his pain, and vigil all night over the patient's bed, on whose arms he lost his soul. Mr. Sava Kelić against the military, who acted out of honor. Lord to the officers, and military doctors, friends and acquaintances, who escorted the deceased to their eternal home in such a large number. Belgrade, March 17, 1910. Mourners: wife Persida, sons Ludvik and Stanislav and other numerous relatives. The places of service in Timok - Knjaževac, Kladovo, Zaječar have not commemorated dr. Sigismund Krakow was extracted through several data in the publication "150 years of the Hospital in

Knjaževac /1851-2001/" by Dragan M Ivanović Šakabenta (2001).

There is a wikipedia entry about his son Stanislav: Kraków is a man of wonderful life and idea verticality. He was always rightly determined and consciously sacrificed for the Serbian idea. He was an example of how to fight, how to write, how to act politically and how to believe in courage. In it, a synthesis of a national, modern, traditional, right-wing and brave Serb was created, who with his example negates the thesis of local writers that only anti-national writing in the genre range from "post-Titoism" to anti-war adulation is the only Serbian literature that is worthwhile and that rules the local scene.

He is the holder of the decorations: White eagle with swords, 4th degree; two gold medals for bravery; Officer of the Romanian Crown; bearer of the Albanian monument; The cross of mercy.

In 1944, he emigrated to Austria, and then to France, where he continued to live. In Belgrade, he was sentenced to death by firing squad in absentia.

He died as a forgotten emigrant in Switzerland, on December 15, 1968, in complete misery.



** For the help in collecting the material, which we present in the attachment, the author owes special thanks to the Archives of Yugoslavia, Belgrade, and to Mr. Mirko Demić, director of the National Library "Vuk Karadžić", Kragujevac*

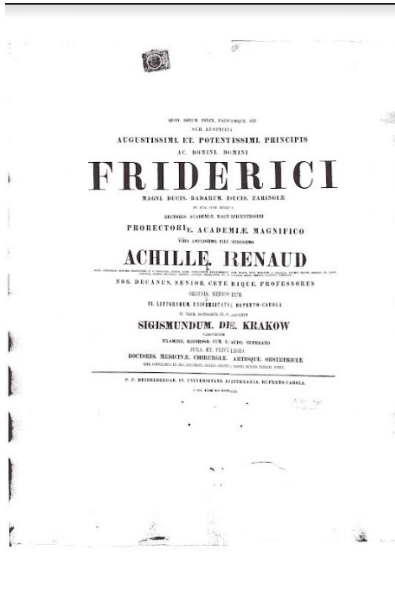
SUMMARY

This paper presents biographical data and details related to service and life in Kladovo in 1903-1907. Dr. Sigismund Krakow and his

ancestors. With his personal generosity and high moral views, he made a significant contribution to the development of healthcare in Serbia.

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Diploma transcript, Archives of Yugoslavia

У ИМЕ
ЊЕГОВОГ ВЕЛИЧАНСТВА
АЛЕКСАНДРА I.
по милости божеј и вољи народној
Краља Србије
МИ КРАЉЕВСКИ НАМЕСНИЦИ

На предлог нашег војног министра про-
изводимо:

контрактуалног лекарског помоћника I.
класе, Сигисмунда Кракова, у чин санитет-
ског поручника, с рангом од 7-ог фебруара
1888-е године

Наш војни министар нека изврши овај
указ.
13 септембра 1889 год.,
у Београду.

Јов. Ристић с. р.
К. С. Протић с. р.
Ј. Вели-Марковић с. р.

У ИМЕ
ЊЕГОВОГ ВЕЛИЧАНСТВА
АЛЕКСАНДРА I.
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МИ КРАЉЕВСКИ НАМЕСНИЦИ

На предлог заступника нашег министра
унутрашњих дела, председника нашег ми-
нистарског савета, нашег министра иностраних
дела, а по договору са државним са-
ветом од 11-ог августа ове године Бр. 1467,
решили смо и решавамо:

да се Сигисмунд Краков, контрактуални
санитетски поручник, родом из Варшаве у
Руској Пољској, поданик руски, прими, по
молби, својој у српско поданство на основу
тачке 8-е највиших правила од 20-ог јану-
ара 1860-е године Вбр. 171 (Збор. XIII. стр.
5.) као српски заштитеник, без отпуста из
свога досадашњег поданства.

Заступник нашег министра унутрашњих
дела, председник нашег министарског са-
вета, Наш министар иностраних дела, нека
ово решење изврши.

25 августа 1889 год.,
у Београду.

Јов. Ристић с. р.
К. С. Протић с. р.
Ј. Вели-Марковић с. р.

Књига *Свадбених*
Страна књиге *58*
Тексту број *33*

ИЗВОД

из књиге за уписивање **ВЕНЧАНИХ** српских бракованих крме *Нова*
Златиборске грама *Св. Јована* у *Златиборцу*
општини *Златиборске* среза *Златиборске* бановине *Српске*

1. Презиме, име и за- имичко рачунало место становања, вера и народност	а) женина б) невесте	<i>Др. Краков Сигисмунд санитетски поручник, контрактуални Златиборске Српске Вели-Марковић</i>
2. Презиме, име, за- имичко и место становања родитеља вечањанина	а) женина б) невесте	<i>Краков Лудвик државни саветник у Београду</i> <i>Др. Златиборски српски бановини и Вели-Марковић</i>
3. Година, месец, дан и место рођења вечањаника	а) женина б) невесте	<i>1869 година, децембар 3 у Варшава</i> <i>1869 година, децембар 11 Београд</i>
4. У који бран ступају	а) женина б) невеста	<i>у српски</i> <i>у српски</i>
5. Када су два венчањани и оглашени		<i>у српски</i>
6. Година, месец и дан венчања		<i>1889 година, мај 3</i>
7. Место и храм где је венчање извршено		<i>у селу Св. Јована Златиборског</i>
8. Презиме и име свекрвника који је венчање извршио		<i>Остарић Невалта</i>
9. Презиме, име, заимичко, веро- исповест и место становања сво- дома (вума и старог снага)		<i>Вели-Марковић Сигисмунд поручник из Београда</i>
10. Да ли су они брачници имали потребу задретности од оглашавања или друге сметње и јесу ли раз- решени.		
11. ПРИМЕДБА		

Да је овој изводу из књиге за уписивање венчањаних крме *Нова*
Златиборске грама *Св. Јована* у селу *Златиборцу* својим
овереним својим потписом и црковним печатом.

у *Златиборцу* 1900

Парох *Златиборске*
Св. Јована

Са болом у души јављамо сродницима и пријатељима, да је мила
мили кнезд неваљављени муж односно отац

† Др. Сигисмунд Краков
санитетски поручник

преминуо 12 марта у 1 сат по поноћи у 60 год. живота свога.

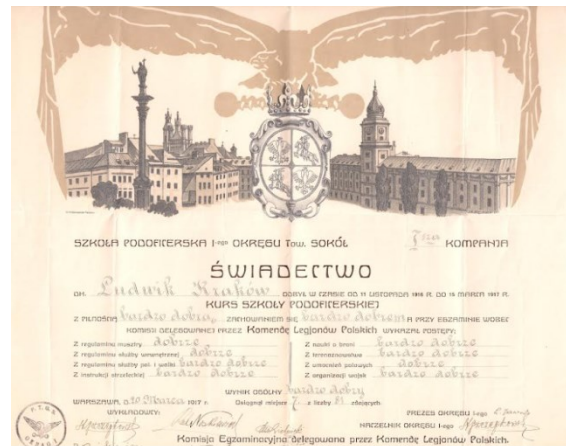
Овом приликом неможемо пропустити да не најљубљиво нашу ду-
боку вихвалност г. г. лекарима која се труђаху да покојника од смрти
спасу; а нарочито г. др. Поморишцу који се труђаше да му болове у
блати, и блиђути пеле љуби над болесничком постељом, на чијим је
рукима и душу испустио. Господњу Сави Кезићу војном проти, који
је почаста чиновствоваоше, Господи официрима, и војним лекарима,
пријатељима и познаницима, који у тако великом броју покојника до
неке куће исрагаше.

Београд, 17. марта, 1910 г.

Ожалошћени: супруга: Персида; синови: Лудвик и Станислав и
остале многобројна фамилија.

999,2-2

Extract from the marriage register, Archives of Yugoslavia



Diploma of Ludvik Krakow, Archive of Yugoslavia