

MIROŚŁAWA PODHAJECKA  
University of Opole  
mpodhajecka@uni.opole.pl  
ORCID: 0000-0002-1910-071X

## ANTONI PARYSKI'S *WIELKI ILUSTROWANY ANGIELSKO-POLSKI I POLSKO-ANGIELSKI SŁOWNIK...* (1899): FACTS AND MYTHS

**Keywords:** Paryski, illustrated dictionary, *Ameryka*, Polish Americans, analysis

### Abstract

Antoni Paryski, one of the most successful Polish publishers in the United States, was also a bilingual lexicographer. Among other things, he undertook the compilation of *Wielki ilustrowany angielsko-polski i polsko-angielski słownik...* [*The great illustrated English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary...*], asserting that it would cover as many as 250,000 head-words. The dictionary appeared in fascicles from May 1899 but was discontinued soon thereafter. Albeit none of the few fascicles published is available today, one page of the first fascicle was reprinted in Paryski's weekly *Ameryka*, thus allowing for a preliminary assessment of the quality of the endeavour. Drawing on data culled from issues of *Ameryka* (1898–1899), this paper also aims at reconstructing the story of the dictionary.

### 1. Introduction

Antoni Paryski was one of American Polonia's richest and most successful publishers dubbed the "Polish Hearst" (Pula 1995: 31).<sup>1</sup> Thanks to his determination and entrepreneurial skills, he quickly rose from humble beginnings to become the founder of the Paryski Publishing Company in Toledo, Ohio. Apart from issuing the weekly

---

<sup>1</sup> For an overview of Polish-American immigration, see e.g. Bukowczyk (1987, 1996), Pula (1995), Majewski (2003), and Kantowicz (2005).

*Ameryka* (later *Ameryka-Echo*), which had more readers than any other Polish newspaper in the United States, he published around eight million books. As Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann (2015: 16) points out:

Throughout his life, Antoni A. Paryski was truly committed to the ideals of Polish Positivist thought, which he transplanted into the Polish American community and tirelessly advocated through his newspapers and his publications (...). The idealism of Polish Positivism, as well as the socialist ideology, clashed with Paryski's amazing and natural knack for business and his devotion to the other set of ideals—those of American capitalism in its unbridled turn-of-the-century industrial revolution form. Paryski himself consistently sought a practical way of combining the two, but throughout his long career the tension between a Polish Positivist and an American capitalist in him remained constant.

This paper aims to shed some light on Paryski's lexicographical activity as described on the pages of *Ameryka* in order to understand his goals and motivations. In particular, it focuses on reconstructing the story of *Wielki ilustrowany angielsko-polski i polsko-angielski słownik...* [*The great illustrated English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary...*], which remains largely unknown to the general public. Surviving evidence, albeit both scarce and ambiguous, comes from the memoirs edited by Harvey Scribner (1910: 344), a lawyer and writer from Toledo. As he records:

The Polish population in America numbering about 3,000,000 consists chiefly of the laboring classes, and the intellectual progress has not always kept pace with the vast numbers that are pouring annually into our country. In order to remedy this state of affairs, and to facilitate the study of the English language, Mr. Paryski, in 1898, began the publication of an illustrated monthly which he calls the *Dictionary of English and Polish Languages*. It has gained wide circulation and is eagerly perused by the Polish population in America.

This information has served as a point of departure for the study, which is also an exercise in dictionary criticism, demonstrating that even a minuscule sample may allow researchers to evaluate the quality of the lexicographical product.<sup>2</sup>

## 2. The lexicographer

Antoni Alfred Paryski, whose real name was Panek, was born on 11 July 1865 to a peasant family. On leaving elementary school, he pursued a secondary school education. He worked as a post office clerk in Łowicz and a court clerk in Warsaw. At that time, he tried his hand at journalism, writing articles for *Kurier Codzienny* (Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann 2008: 487). In 1883, for reasons difficult to ascertain, he left for America. While working on a farm, he studied English intensively and became interested in American politics. A year and a half later, he moved to Detroit, where he

<sup>2</sup> In what follows, excerpts from Polish sources have been translated into English by myself and are accompanied, where applicable, by my initials in square brackets.

sought employment as a typesetter and printer first with American and later Polish publishers. He was also an editor for, among others, *Gazeta Narodowa* (Detroit) and *Krytyka* (Milwaukee). After a brief period of affiliation with the American labour movement, he became disillusioned with political activity.

In 1889, Paryski published his own weekly, *Ameryka*, and, in 1902, merged it with *Echo*; hence, *Ameryka-Echo*. Its circulation grew steadily eventually to find its place “at the forefront of the Polish press in the United States” (Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann 2008: 491; cf. Majewski 2003: 40–41).<sup>3</sup> He also put out a wide range of Polish books, from the Bible and saints’ lives to low-brow literature, sold by his “educational agents” criss-crossing the United States. Since Paryski was a member of the Polish National Alliance,<sup>4</sup> *Ameryka-Echo* supported the national-liberal camp and was openly anti-clerical. Throughout his life, however, he strove to enhance “his reputation for political independence”, claiming that his newspaper was free from any party affiliation and represented no particular interests (Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann 2015: 52).<sup>5</sup>

After Paryski’s death in 1935, the publishing empire was bequeathed to his wife and children. In 1956, financial problems led to the sale of the newspaper to a private corporation before it finally merged with *Dziennik Chicagoski*. Its closing fifteen years later brought down the curtain on the “amazing rags-to-riches story of Antoni Paryski” (Podhajecka 2016: 181).

### 3. The great illustrated dictionary

#### 3.1. Prologue

The first contemporary mention of the illustrated dictionary comes from *Bibliografia wydawnictw zwartych Polonii amerykańskiej, 1867–1900* (1991: 954), whose author, Wojciech Chojnacki, conducted comprehensive research in American libraries, including Toledo’s Public Library.<sup>6</sup> In October 2020, I contacted Dr Chojnacki who told me that he had never held the dictionary in his hands, but that a page of it had been reprinted in *Ameryka*.<sup>7</sup> I used *Chronicling America*, a digital database of the Library of Congress which holds a bountiful selection of the weekly publication, to find the right issue and gather all available information. The query results show that the first page of the first fascicle was published on 1 April 1899, i.e. a month before the fascicle left the printing presses. That single page, complemented by reviews and editorial information, has been taken under scrutiny here as a sample of Paryski’s unfinished (in reality, barely begun) dictionary.

<sup>3</sup> One of the newspaper’s innovative features was a section titled “Kącik dla wszystkich” [‘Corner for everybody’], publishing letters from readers who spoke “in their own voices about their own experiences, opinions, and concerns” (Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann 2014: vii).

<sup>4</sup> The history of the Alliance has been described by Pienkos (2008).

<sup>5</sup> Some of the facts given in Paryski’s biographies might be indicative of his “careful myth building of his own persona” (Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann 2015: 31). After his death, a detailed biographical sketch was written by Dr Wiktor Rosiński, his son-in-law (see Rosiński 1945).

<sup>6</sup> This could be the successor to the public library to which Paryski donated hundreds of his books at the end of the nineteenth century (Chojnacki and Drzewieniecki 1978: 67).

<sup>7</sup> My thanks go to Mr Adam Starczewski, who kindly shared with me Dr Chojnacki’s email address.

### 3.2. The prospectus

On 24 September 1898, Paryski announced on the pages of *Ameryka* that he was collecting subscriptions for *Słownik angielsko-polski i polsko-angielski* [*An English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary*], on which he had allegedly been working for the past fifteen years.<sup>8</sup> Putatively intended to comprise ten volumes, the dictionary was to include “ten times more headwords than Chodźko’s” [M.P.],<sup>9</sup> and the cost of its production was estimated at \$25,000. This same information appeared in Chicago’s *Telegraf* of 28 September 1898.<sup>10</sup>

The title page of the dictionary was first featured in *Ameryka* of 29 April 1899. The readers were informed that it would be titled *Wielki ilustrowany angielsko-polski i polsko-angielski słownik, zawierający wszystkie wyrazy, zwroty i przysłowia, używane w mowie i literaturze angielskiej i polskiej, oraz nazwy techniczne i geograficzne, imiona własne, wykazy skrótów, znaków, symbolów itd., z podaniem wymowy, sylabizacji i form gramatycznych*.<sup>11</sup> This signalled a reference work of a new quality, with exhaustive English and Polish wordlists, including an array of specialist terms and proper names, and furnished with illustrations. Every headword would be accompanied by pronunciation, syllabification, and grammatical information (see Fig. 1).

Despite Paryski’s ambitious goals, the publication was discontinued a few months later. Its status is that of a ghost dictionary, as none of the fascicles that appeared has survived to date (see Podhajecka 2016: 181–182). It is even unclear how many fascicles saw the light of day. According to Dr Chojnacki, there were four, but the lists of books printed in *Ameryka* indicate that only three fascicles came to be published (see e.g. *Ameryka* of 4 November 1899).

Paryski vigorously advertised the new endeavour in his weekly. This served a well-defined purpose: the safest way to issue a publication was through subscription, a method that relieved the publisher of the necessity to finance it personally. In the promotional material published in *Ameryka* of 13 May 1899, Paryski emphasized:

*The great illustrated English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary will be published in fascicles once a month. The fascicles will include 16 pages 9.5 × 12.5 inches in size. One fascicle will be sold at 25 cents, 12 fascicles at \$2, and 24 fascicles at \$3. Those who pay \$10 will receive the quittance for the whole publication no matter how many fascicles it might run to [M.P.].*

He went on to explain the reason why the bilingual and biscopal dictionary had become a pressing need:

<sup>8</sup> At the same time, he was promoting a new textbook aimed at self-study learners of English which he himself had written.

<sup>9</sup> This is a reference to the only comprehensive dictionary for Polish learners of English available at that time. Compiled by Erazm Rykaczewski, it was published anonymously in Berlin between 1849 (vol. 1) and 1851 (vol. 2). All subsequent editions appeared under the name of Aleksander Chodźko (cf. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann 2013: 111).

<sup>10</sup> Other newspapers, such as *Dziennik Chicagowski*, consistently advertised Rykaczewski’s / Chodźko’s dictionary.

<sup>11</sup> The English translation of the title is as follows: *The great illustrated English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary, containing all words, phrases and proverbs used in English and Polish speech and literature as well as technical and geographical terms, proper names, lists of abbreviations, signs and symbols, with pronunciation, syllabification and grammatical forms.*

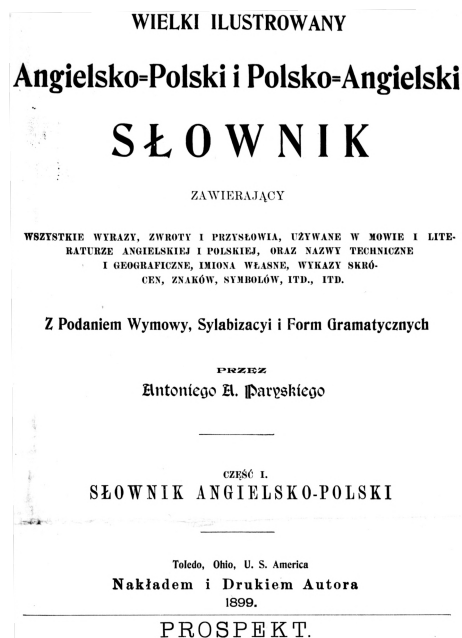


Figure 1: The title page of the illustrative dictionary

In commerce, industry, mechanics, education, and literature English has become an exigency for people who are dissatisfied with something that is outdated or second-hand. We, the Poles, have so far had to use French or German dictionaries in order to find English words, because Chodźko's dictionary, compiled fifty years ago, falls short of meeting these current needs [M.P.].

His dictionary was clearly meant to fill the void. What is truly astounding is the breadth of Paryski's vision, insofar as he planned to include 250,000 English words used in "speech, literature, and technology" [M.P.]. He outlines the project as follows:

Each word is carefully translated, and all its different senses are explained in detail and supported by examples. Proverbs are duly replaced by Polish counterparts and, in addition, each word is defined in its literal sense. Pronunciation is explained with a new, easier system. Each word is divided into syllables and marked for stress. Words are spelled with upper or lower case, according to the way they should be written, and are supplemented with [variant] forms and grammatical inflection. Botanical, biological, and mineralogical terms, etc. are accompanied by their Latin names [M.P.].

A new dictionary to be launched onto the market would need some added value to prevail over the competition. The impressive coverage and thorough lexicographical treatment given to each headword would not be the only assets, we are told, because Paryski decided to embellish the definitions with around 5,000 illustrations, which would mainly accompany scientific terms. The dictionary was to be designed in such a way that it might be used by both experts and self-taught learners. Regarding financial matters, Paryski reveals:

If the number of subscribers exceeds 1,000, we will issue two fascicles a month; with 3,000 subscribers, we will issue three. It is thus up to the public how quickly our work will have been completed. The dictionary may prevent the contamination of the Polish language, especially in America, with linguistic idiosyncrasies made both in speech and writing. We appeal to those of our Fellow Countrymen who understand the significance of such an endeavour to use their leverage in order to publicize *The great illustrated English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary*. We ourselves expect no profit; with the dictionary, we wish to give back to society in return for the support our different publications have always enjoyed [M.P.].

With hindsight, this was no doubt a sales pitch, because practically every element of the new dictionary's structure and content might have been a potential pitfall. Firstly, the gigantic coverage means that many headwords would be peripheral lexical items and, worse still, that they would have no ready-made Polish equivalents.<sup>12</sup> Secondly, it is difficult to imagine how the senses of English polysemous words, both literal and metaphorical, were to be explained. Polysemy results in lexical ambiguity (Katamba 2015: 123) and, for this reason alone, finding accurate equivalents for each sense would be a sheer impossibility. Thirdly, incorporating thousands of illustrations was bound to be expensive, which made the financial aspect all the more important in the production of the reference work. Lastly, no dictionary has ever been able to overcome linguistic distortions; this is a theory advocated by language purists rather than a fact supported by evidence.

#### 4. Reviews

Paryski, as Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann (2015: 69) maintains, “quickly showed his business genius and his ability to take financial risks. When in 1907 he built the new modern factory, he did not hesitate to invest in the most technologically advanced printing machines. In addition to books and newspapers, Paryski also expanded and diversified his business and printed forms and receipts, stationery, business cards, tickets, invitations, announcements, by-laws and circulars, signs and posters, and other items”. His lexicographical activity was a step in the same direction. He deduced, quite rightly, that a bilingual dictionary would always be a sought-after commodity in Polish-American homes.

He must have been aware, however, that working-class Polish Americans would be ready to purchase his dictionary only if they were convinced of its practical value. Little wonder laudatory appraisals, or reviews, began to crop up.<sup>13</sup> They appeared in the Polish press (e.g. *Polonia w Ameryce* of 4 May 1899, *Dziennik Milwaucki* of 15 May 1899, and *Dziennik Chicagoski* of 17 May 1899), the American press (e.g. *Blade* of 12 May 1899, *Sunday Morning Courier* of 14 May 1899, and *The Toledo Commercial* of 15 May 1899), and the local German press (*Der Toledo Express* of 13 May 1899).

<sup>12</sup> For comparison, Rykaczewski's English-Polish part (1849) has a little over 26,000 entries.

<sup>13</sup> The reviews were grouped under the headline “Uznanie od prasy” [‘Words of recognition from the press’]. At the turn of the twentieth century, advertisements in the ethnic press replaced word-of-mouth recommendations.

Despite the riches of *Chronicling America*, access to the above newspapers is limited, but I managed to track down *Dziennik Chicagoski* of 17 May 1899 and may confirm that the review was indeed placed there. What is critical here, nonetheless, is attention to detail. The text was penned neither by the newspaper's publishers nor journalists; it would most probably have been submitted as a paid advertisement.

Let me reproduce two English reviews placed in *Ameryka* of 20 May 1899:

A. A. Paryski's Great Work. – Is Issuing a Dictionary of the English and Polish Languages. – Anthony A. Paryski, a Toledo man and probably the most eminent person in Polish literary circles in this country, has practically completed the work of his lifetime, an unabridged English Polish and Polish-English dictionary, which is the most exhaustive and comprehensive work of the kind in the world. Mr. Paryski has been patiently collecting and assorting the material for his stupendous undertaking for the last 15 years, at a cost of thousands of dollars, performing an amount of labor that seems almost incredible. – The dictionary will consist of 3,000 pages, in large, plain type, profusely illustrated throughout and printed on the finest quality of paper. The cost of getting out the work will amount to \$50,000, which sum has already been assured by the subscriptions that have poured in. The dictionary will first be issued in parts, after which it will be published in book form and placed on the market. The first part is already out. – *The Toledo Commercial*, May 15, 1899 (Toledo, Ohio).

Polish Dictionary. – Splendid work being published by Anthony A. Paryski. – Anthony A. Paryski of this city is having published a work that promises to take prominent part in the literature of the world. It is an English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary, containing all the words and idiomatic phrases of the English and Polish people. It gives rules for pronunciation and grammatical forms. It will contain 3,000 pages and over 300,000 words, with about 6,000 illustrations.<sup>14</sup> It will be published in book form, one book each month of 16 pages. It is more complete than any dictionary of any language outside the English language. Mr. Paryski is assisted by many experts in scientific knowledge in all parts of the world, to whom proofs are sent for revision, so that the translations have the best authority that can be found, and will be a valuable addition to the languages of the world. The work contains all the technical words in any language, defines the words and furnishes illustrations so that it is made plain. On the subject of machinery the different parts are explained in detail and likewise illustrated. The first number has been issued and the Polish press expressed astonishment at size and completeness of the work. – *Sunday Morning Courier*, May 14, 1899 (Toledo, Ohio).

Both reviews resorted to hyperbole, a rhetorical device involving a purposeful exaggeration in order to exert psychological or emotional influence on the readership. Expressed by a range of qualitative adjectives (*eminent, exhaustive, comprehensive, stupendous, incredible, fine, splendid, prominent, complete, valuable*), some of them in the superlative form, together with nouns and phrases denoting what may be termed high-class concepts (*literary circles, undertaking, experts, scientific knowledge, authority, completeness*), it sought to yield an unequivocally positive response from

<sup>14</sup> A similar review appeared in *Ameryka* of 20 May 1899, but the number of illustrations was raised to 7,000.

the readers. The excessive numbers of headwords (300,000 instead of 250,000) and illustrations (6,000 instead of 5,000) were likewise used to impress.

Most of the factual information given above should, therefore, be taken with a pinch of salt. It would be naive to believe that Paryski had completed the dictionary, as he was merely probing whether there was demand for it on the market. Had it been compiled in its entirety, it would surely have been published even given the lack of interest on the part of the Polish diaspora. It is also doubtful whether he succeeded in collecting subscriptions to cover the full cost of publication (which, in the meantime, had risen from \$25,000 to \$50,000) within a month and a half. Upon closer scrutiny, all the reviews seem to have been written by Paryski or his collaborators, thus casting doubt on their integrity.<sup>15</sup>

The idea of compiling a dictionary surpassing any other lexicographical project for Polish and English was ingenious, but Paryski failed to realize the problems he would have to cope with, if only in terms of labour and time. He also underestimated the Polish immigrants's doughty pragmatism by wrongly assuming that they would invest their hard-earned money (\$10) in a dictionary that could take years to produce, especially as Rykaczewski's / Chodźko's bulky volume could be bought for \$4 there and then.<sup>16</sup>

One of the reviews in *Ameryka* of 27 May 1899 suggests that Paryski's endeavour was modelled on *The century dictionary*, a handsome contribution to American lexicography.<sup>17</sup> The new dictionary is described as more exhaustive than Rykaczewski's / Chodźko's, recording as many as thirty-five more headwords between *A* and *abaft* and eight between *abaft* and *abandon*.<sup>18</sup> We also learn that Paryski "invited the co-operation of a few distinguished Polish professors and local literati, such as Professor Siemiradzki (Detroit), Mr Sz wajkart, and Mr Sadowski (Chicago), as well as a number of professors from the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. The drafts are being revised by several Polish and English linguists" [M.P.]. Recording more headwords than a competitor for the sake of simple arithmetic is obviously no proof of the quality of the dictionary. As for the collaborators, securing the help of Siemiradzki, Sz wajkart, and Sadowski might be viable, but any co-operation with the Jagiellonian University would have been out of the question. It would have led to an increase in costs and inevitable bottlenecks in the execution of the project,<sup>19</sup> but the main problem was the language barrier. Compiling a bilingual dictionary clearly requires native-like fluency in both the source and the target languages. To my knowledge,

<sup>15</sup> The last reviews appeared in *Ameryka* of 26 August 1899, nearly two months after suspending publication.

<sup>16</sup> It should be noted that Rykaczewski's / Chodźko's dictionary was republished in the United States throughout the first half of the twentieth century (see Podhajecka 2016: 572).

<sup>17</sup> Compiled under the editorship of William D. Whitney, *The century dictionary* (1889–1891) was a multi-volume work of 7,000 pages and around 10,000 wood-engraved illustrations. Landau (2009: 203) suggests that "there had been nothing like it before and there has been nothing like it since."

<sup>18</sup> A similar strategy of emphasizing the strengths of a dictionary was used by Kapmarski (1945) in his review of *Lilien's dictionary* (1944–1951).

<sup>19</sup> Drafts of the fascicles would have to be sent from Toledo to Krakow, revised on the spot, and then sent back from Krakow to Toledo.



only professor Wilhelm Creizenach, head of the Jagiellonian University's Department of German, and Michael Henry Dziewicki, a lecturer in English, spoke English and a little Polish (cf. Podhajecka 2021: 268).<sup>20</sup>

The readers' attention was also drawn to the quality of the paper. Paryski's books were always printed on cheap low-quality paper,<sup>21</sup> so this dictionary looked set to be an exception. One cannot exclude the hypothesis that good-quality paper was used for the first fascicles as a marketing device.

#### 4.1. The lexicographical material<sup>22</sup>

I took it for granted that Paryski's illustrated dictionary was not written from scratch, so it needed to be analyzed from a comparative perspective. The major disadvantage is that the lexicographical material is restricted to fifteen entries, of which as many as seven describe the letter *A/a* in its various uses. Not necessarily a representative of the whole material, they had to suffice, however. The *A/a* entries include some examples of usage (e.g. *25 cents a yard*, *convicted of adultery*, *A number one cook*, *There is a wideness in God's mercy*, *we need a Washington*, *a great many books*, *so great a statesman*, *how fine a morning*, *birds of a feather flock together*, and *wool is more useful than silk*), which are useful for establishing the background sources.

The first page includes not only entries, but also illustrations for two headwords: *aardvark* and *aardwolf* (Fig. 2).



Figure 2: Illustrations in Paryski's dictionary

Bearing in mind that Paryski drew on the *Century dictionary*, I juxtaposed it with his entries, but this analysis was a great disappointment. More precisely, the *A/a* entries show little similarity. Among other things, the American dictionary provides no information on the letter *A* for women accused of adultery. Five of the remaining eight entries recorded by Paryski, i.e. *aa*, *aabec*, *Aachenian*, *aal*, and *aannerodite*, were not included in the *Century dictionary*. Both works have drawings for *aardvark*

<sup>20</sup> A decade later, Dziewicki published *A miniature Polish-English and English-Polish dictionary* (1910) in two volumes.

<sup>21</sup> This information comes from Wojciech Chojnacki's email of 3 October 2020.

<sup>22</sup> The single page of Paryski's great illustrated dictionary appeared in five 1899 issues of *Ameryka*: 1 April, 15 April, 8 July, 26 August, and 2 September.

and *aardwolf*, but those in the *Century dictionary* are unlike Paryski's (see Fig. 3). Taken together, even if the *Century dictionary* was indeed a consideration in the compilation process, other sources must also have come into play.

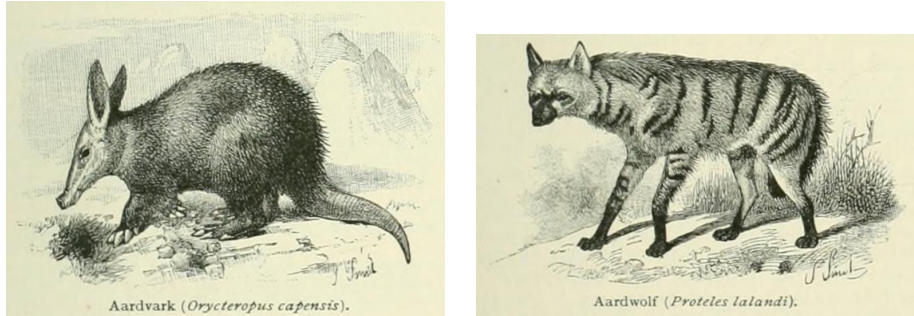


Figure 3: Illustrations in the *Century dictionary* (1889–1891)

The *Century dictionary* was not the only great illustrated dictionary on the American market. There were at least three other unabridged works: Joseph Worcester's *A dictionary of the English language* (1860),<sup>23</sup> *Webster's international dictionary of the English language* (1890), a revised and expanded edition of Noah Webster's 1828 work,<sup>24</sup> and *A standard dictionary of the English language* (1893) edited by Issac K. Funk.<sup>25</sup> These three dictionaries were compared with the single page of Paryski's endeavour.

That Paryski used Worcester's *magnum opus* cannot be confirmed beyond doubt. The *A/a* entries are markedly different, the five entries are missing again, and so are the entries for *aardvark* and *aardwolf*. There are, consequently, no illustrations for either noun. Another difference concerns the headword types, which are small capitals in Worcester's volume.

*Webster's international dictionary* does not record the five entries missing from the *Century dictionary*. It includes only one illustration, that for *aardvark*, which is somewhat dissimilar in form (Fig. 4). What is more, all the headwords in Webster's dictionary are printed in upper case, while those in Paryski's are rendered either in lower or upper case, depending on usage. Both components of *aardvark's* Latin name, *Orycteropus capensis*, are capitalized, but only the first initial is given in upper case in the English-Polish dictionary. Even such tiny details may be treated as cues.

<sup>23</sup> Worcester's dictionary covered 104,000 entries, illustrated with 1,000 woodcuts, in more than 1,800 pages. No wonder Landau (2001: 73) considers it "the culmination of his life's work".

<sup>24</sup> It offered 175,000 headwords, many of them specialized terms, in 1,681 pages (Landau 2009: 200–201).

<sup>25</sup> In 1893, *A standard dictionary* "burst on the scene with 304,000 entries", as Landau (2001: 86) puts it. Its subsequent version, *New standard dictionary* (1913) included as many as 450,000 entries in 2,800 pages.

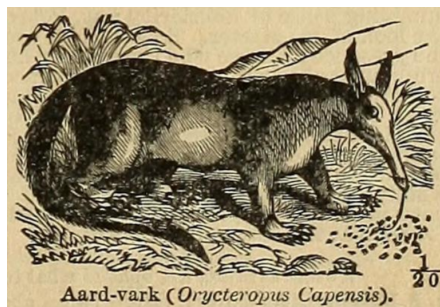


Figure 4: An illustration in *Webster's International dictionary of the English language* (1890)

Turning to Funk's *A standard dictionary* was illuminating. Despite some variation in the contents, there is sufficient correspondence to establish that Paryski drew on this dictionary. In the second sense of the first entry for *A/a* labelled "an abbreviation", for instance, *A standard dictionary* includes the definition 'the badge of a convicted adulteress, among the New England Puritans, 1658–1785', supported by a quotation from Hawthorne's *Scarlet letter*. The examples of usage are either the same or similar (e.g. *There is a wideness in God's mercy, one dollar a bushel, A number one cook, birds of a feather, so great a statesman, we need a Washington, a great many voters*), and all the entries missing from the rival dictionaries are to be found here. Funk, moreover, incorporated identical drawings of the two animals (Fig. 5).



Figure 5: Illustrations in *A standard dictionary of the English language* (1894)

Paryski might have deliberately admitted to drawing on the *Century dictionary* to avoid accusations from Funk and Wagnalls, the American publishers of *A standard dictionary*, and the ensuing threat of a lawsuit over copyright infringement.<sup>26</sup>

Let us now look at the way he worked with the monolingual material to assess his lexicographical competence.

<sup>26</sup> Majewski (2003: 43) notes that pirating books was a common practice among Polish-American publishing houses, of which Dyniewicz's and Paryski's were "the most blatant offenders".

Headword	English definition in <i>A standard dictionary</i>	Paryski's translation
aa	<i>n.</i> a form of cooled lava-stream, consisting of rough blocks piled to a height of from 20 to 40 feet, the material being brittle but not scoriaceous: contrasted with <i>pahoehoe</i> . [+ citation]	<i>n.</i> grzyzy ostudzonej lawy.
aabec	<i>n.</i> An Australian medicinal bark said to promote perspiration.	<i>n.</i> abek (drzewo australskie, z którego kora jest używana w medycynie na poty).
Aachenian	<i>n. Geol.</i> The Lower Neocomian (Cretaceous) deposits of clay and sand of Belgium: the Wealden and Lower Greensand of England.	<i>n.</i> (geol.) glina akwizgrańska.
aal	<i>n.</i> [E. Ind.] <b>1.</b> a red dye obtained from the root of an east-Indian shrub ( <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> ) of the madder family ( <i>Rubiaceae</i> ); also, the plant. <b>2.</b> a tree of the terebinth family ( <i>Terebinthaceae</i> ) of the Molucca Islands, the aromatic bark of which is used as a condiment.	<i>n.</i> (bot.) <b>1.</b> marzanna ( <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> ); <b>2.</b> farba z marzanny; <b>3.</b> jagody z marzanny.
aam	<i>n.</i> a measure varying from 37 to 41 English wine-gallons, used in continental Europe. [+ etymology] <b>ahmŕ; aumŕ; ohmŕ.</b>	<i>n.</i> om, beczka (miara używana w Europie, zawierająca około 40 galonów).
aannerodite	Same as ANNERODITE.	Zob. <i>annerodite</i> .
aardvark	<i>n.</i> a burrowing and ant-eating edentate mammal ( <i>Orycteropus capensis</i> ) of South Africa, about the size of the pig, with a long protrusile tongue, molar teeth, and strong, digging fore feet; ground-hog; ant-bear. [+ etymology]	<i>n.</i> świnia murzyńska (owadożernik w P. Afryce).
aardwolf	<i>n.</i> [-WOLVES, <i>pl.</i> ] a nocturnal carnivorous mammal ( <i>Proteles lalandi</i> ) of South Africa, like a small hyena but having very weak teeth. [+ citation] [+ etymology]	<i>n.</i> [pl. <i>aardwolves</i> ] wilk afrykański ( <i>Proteles lalandi</i> ).

Table 1: Entries from *A Standard dictionary* and Paryski's dictionary

Regarding the macrostructure, one of the eight headwords in Table 1, *aannerodite*, is cross-referenced to a more widespread spelling variant. The remaining seven headwords are all scientific terms: two geological (*aa* and *Aachenian*), two botanical (*aabec* and *aal*), two zoological (*aardvark* and *aardwolf*), and one is a unit of measure (*aam*). After all, they come from an encyclopedic dictionary, a characteristic genre of American monolingual lexicography.

As stems from the analysis of the microstructure, the primary technique applied was translation. In the case of two entries, *aabec* and *aam*, Paryski rendered the entire definitions into Polish, treating them as parenthetical glosses.<sup>27</sup> Other entries, such as those for *aa* and *Aachenian*, are indicative of gist translation. This comes as no surprise, since Paryski aimed at saving space. Whenever functional equivalents escaped him, he borrowed the English words or proposed his own translations. Two monolingual dictionaries of nineteenth-century Polish may be treated as a point of reference in this respect.<sup>28</sup> They include neither the loanwords 'abek' and 'om'<sup>29</sup> nor Paryski's suggestions, such as 'gruzy ostudzonej lawy', 'glina akwizgrańska', 'świnia murzyńska',<sup>30</sup> and 'wilk afrykański'.<sup>31</sup> Orgelbrand's *Encyklopedia powszechna* (vol. 12, 1884: 338) names *aardwolf* 'wilk ziemny', while modern English-Polish dictionaries opt for 'protel' (NKFD1) and 'protel grzywiasty, hiena grzywiasta' (Diki). On the basis of three examples, 'glina akwizgrańska' (*Aachenian*), 'marzanna' (*aal*), and 'świnia murzyńska' (*aardwolf*), I will make an attempt to describe Paryski's working practice.

Paryski was evidently no scholar, so he followed a simple rule of thumb: *Aachen* was translated into Polish as 'Akwizgran'<sup>32</sup> and *clay*, one of the keywords in the English definition, as 'glina'; hence, 'glina akwizgrańska'.

The entry for *aal* has two senses. The first refers to the East-Indian shrub *morinda citrifolia*, Indian mulberry, whose roots are used in dyeing. Paryski provides two equivalents: 'marzanna (*Morinda citrifolia*)' ['madder' (*Morinda citrifolia*)] and 'farba z marzanny' ['dye from madder'], both of which are essentially incorrect. *Aal* and madder belong to the same family *Rubiaceae*, but the latter grows in Southern Europe and Northern Africa.<sup>33</sup> In the case of the second sense, 'A tree of the terebinth family...', Paryski failed to find a suitable Polish term, so he substituted it with the phrase 'owoce marzanny' ['madder's fruit']. Such a strategy of circumventing lexicographical problems might be viewed as smart, but it clearly missed the dictionary's intended purpose. It is worthy of mention that nineteenth-century Polish sources gave legitimate equivalents for both senses, 'morwa indyjska'<sup>34</sup> and 'terpentynowiec' respectively.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Of the two categories of equivalents, "translational equivalents", i.e. lexical units to be inserted into the target text, and "explanatory paraphrases", i.e. definitions, Zgusta (1984: 147) favours the former.

<sup>28</sup> These are: Samuel B. Linde's *Słownik języka polskiego* [A dictionary of the Polish language] (1807–1814) and *Słownik języka polskiego* [A dictionary of the Polish language] (1861), the so called Wilno dictionary, edited by Aleksander Zdanowicz et al.

<sup>29</sup> In fact, *om* was recorded in the Wilno dictionary (1861), but in a completely different meaning: 'for Indians, a mysterious word composed of three letters, *a*, *u*, and *m*, with which they begin their books, and which is meant to denote the Indian trinity' [M.P.].

<sup>30</sup> 'Mrównik' and 'prosię ziemne', first attested in Dyakowski's *Zwierzęta lądowe i morskie w różnych częściach świata* (1907), are the contemporary equivalents (NKFD1).

<sup>31</sup> Michał Trotz's *Nouveau dictionnaire françois, allemand et polonois...* (1744) provides the French headword *Dabuh/Dabach* with the gloss 'The African wolf has legs and arms like a human' [M.P.], referring to a denotatum that emerged in the popular lore.

<sup>32</sup> See e.g. *Akwizgran* in *Encyklopedia powszechna* (vol. 1, 1883: 63).

<sup>33</sup> See e.g. the entry for *marzanna* in *Encyklopedia powszechna* (vol. 7, 1884: 375).

<sup>34</sup> Today, it is better known as 'noni' (Diki).

<sup>35</sup> The former has been found in, among others, *Encyklopedia rolnicza...* (vol. 7, 1898: 201) edited by Jerzy Alexandrowicz et al. The latter comes from Władysław Kierst and Oskar Callier's *Pocket*

‘Świnia murzyńska’, accompanied by the bracketed gloss ‘owadożernik w P. Afryce’ [‘an insectivore in S. Africa’], may be traced to two well-known sources: Krzysztof Kluk’s *Zwierząt domowych i dzikich, osobliwie krajowych, historyi naturalney początki...* (1797) and a new edition of Orgelbrand’s *Encyklopedyja powszechna* (vol. 11, 1884: 190).<sup>36</sup> In the latter, the headword is defined as:

*emgalo* (*P. hacochoerus*),<sup>37</sup> the genus of the family of pigs, including disgusting, fast, and wild animals that have a fleshy excrescence in their jaw. They live on rootlets hollowed out with their snouts (...) They inhabit Africa. *P. aethiopicus* has long bristles forming a kind of mane. It poses a danger to humans due to its strength [M.P.].

To Paryski, the animal’s snout, along with its African habitat, apparently justified the use of ‘świnia murzyńska’ as an equivalent for *aadvark*. Since the encyclopedia provided no illustration, Paryski was unaware that it described *warthog* (‘guziec’), a completely different species, a drawing of which is shown below (Fig. 6).

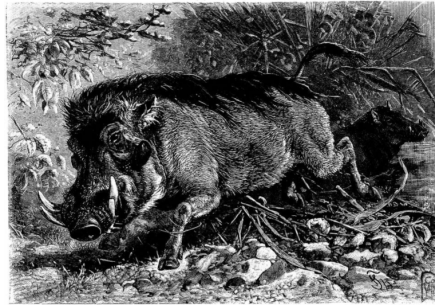


Figure 6: Warthog in Carl Vogt and Friedrich Specht’s *Natural history of animals* (1887–1888)

Good lexicographers, as has been indicated by Atkins and Rundell (2008: 130), “operate to a large extent on the basis of instinct, sound judgement, and accumulated expertise”. This cursory analysis highlights that these were by no means Paryski’s strengths. The implication is that he may have taken more poor decisions, providing more inadequate equivalents. Atkins (2008: 137) adds that “the lexicographer and the dictionary user play a game with strict rules (...). It is a game in which the dictionary compilers hold all the trump cards. But they must not break their own rules, even for a single word”. By admitting erroneous and non-existing equivalents, Paryski, to use Atkins’s droll metaphor, cheated at cards with a poker face.

---

*dictionary of the English and Polish languages* (1896); it is also known as ‘terebint’, ‘drzewo terpentynowe’, or ‘pistacja terpentynowa’ (<https://atlas.roslin.pl/plant/10054>).

<sup>36</sup> It is plausible that Paryski acquired Orgelbrand’s 13-volume encyclopedia for his own use. If he did, he must have learned the hard way that monolingual sources may be ineffective in a cross-linguistic project, because access to their alphabetically-ordered content is gained via the headword form, which is exactly the one element that remains unknown.

<sup>37</sup> This is a mistake: the correct Latin name was *Phacochoerus*.

## 4.2. Epilogue

After the suspension of the much-vaunted illustrated dictionary, Paryski was forced to elucidate the unforeseen turn of events to his subscribers. To satisfy their language needs, on the one hand, and to keep the subscription fees on the other, he decided to issue a pocket English-Polish and Polish-English dictionary (1899).<sup>38</sup> The note “From the publisher” printed in *Ameryka* of 19 August 1899 explains:

*The great illustrated dictionary* was not issued this month and will not be issued next month. Instead, during that time, we will complete the pocket *Polish-English dictionary* (which will include more words than Chodźko's) and will send it to all subscribers of the *Great dictionary* completely free of charge. After completing the pocket dictionary, we will continue to issue the *Great illustrated dictionary*, possibly in larger fascicles [M.P.].

It was followed by a longer note placed in *Ameryka* of 4 November 1899. Here, Paryski contends that the pocket dictionary was published “at the instigation of the general public” [M.P.] and this change benefitted the subscribers alone. He adds that the production of the illustrated dictionary

has already consumed \$7,000 in cash, whereas the subscribers paid only \$11.50. In due time, we sent letters to the subscribers, notifying them of the adjustment and suggesting that those dissatisfied with it request the money invested. What is most surprising in this case is that people who paid no money for the Dictionary demand further fascicles (...). Even though all the newspapers unanimously granted their support to the Dictionary, the public has remained entirely indifferent to it. We are not affected by the indifference, however. We offer our subscribers more than we have promised [M.P.].

In the light of what we already know, Paryski's argumentation is built on shaky logic. By accusing Polish immigrants of “indifference” towards the dictionary, he is attempting to burden them with the responsibility for the failure of the project.<sup>39</sup> In this way, he manipulates the facts to present his actions as a publisher in a favourable light. The subscribers had a full right to feel indignant at his decision to discontinue the illustrated dictionary. Neither was the pocket version by any means provided for free, as its cost had partially been covered by the subscription fees. Paryski's narrative illustrates his acute business acumen rather than his decency.

He persistently emphasizes that his pocket dictionary is impressive despite the unimpressive format. Let us try to verify this claim. Rykaczewski's / Chodźko's dictionary has 29,814 headwords in the Polish-English part and 26,261 in the English-Polish part. Paryski's dictionary, by contrast, includes 14,527 headwords in the Polish-English part,<sup>40</sup> but only 9,587 in the English-Polish part (Podhajecka 2016:

<sup>38</sup> The first two fascicles of the illustrated dictionary were offered for sale throughout the second half of 1899. The issue of *Ameryka* of 4 November 1899 was the first to notify the reader of the third fascicle.

<sup>39</sup> A review in *Ameryka* of 20 May 1899 declared that “the cost of publication has already been assured by the subscriptions that have poured in”.

<sup>40</sup> The Polish-English part, the first to be sent to the subscribers, was compiled to an extremely tight deadline, which explains why it displays so much internal inconsistency (Podhajecka 2016: 194–198).

107–108, 199). In other words, the coverage of Paryski's pocket dictionary stands at approximately half of Rykaczewski's / Chodźko's.<sup>41</sup> Rykaczewski, moreover, included thousands of examples of usage and their Polish or English translations, proving himself an accomplished lexicographer, while Paryski tended to focus on equivalents. Unsurprisingly, having conducted a detailed analysis of the pocket dictionary, Podhajecka (2016: 198) concludes:

The English and Polish wordlists are far from exhaustive, there is no grammatical information, contextual uses are rare, and a proportion of TL equivalents cannot be considered functional equivalents (...). The E–P part is more extensive than the P–E part. With infrequent exceptions, the latter resembles little more than a bilingual wordlist.

In this context, one may marvel at Paryski's sanguinity, which impelled him to promote a mammoth dictionary in spite of the signal insufficiency of both his lexicographical skills and, conceivably, his cross-linguistic knowledge. This notwithstanding, we should not be too harsh in our criticism. Firstly, despite being confident and resourceful, he was deprived of the aptitude and expertise – “an overall linguistic and cultural view of the languages” (Rey 1986: 95) – necessary in the lexicographer's workbench. Secondly, having eagerly embraced the principles of American capitalism, he concentrated on building his business in a highly competitive market by whatever tactics and ploys were to hand. What remains to be established is whether Paryski compiled the dictionaries himself or hired someone to do it on his behalf. Regrettably, ascertaining his authorship with any degree of credibility is next to impossible today.

## 5. Conclusions

Majewski's (2003: 37–38) view that Paryski “walked a careful line between educator and businessman” and his long career is “a complicated, carefully measured mix of opportunism and idealism that made the success story of Polish-American publishing” resonates with that of Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann (2015: 13), who argues that he was “torn between his idealism and the principles of American capitalism”.<sup>42</sup> The story of the great illustrated dictionary contributes to this dichotomy in subtle ways.

On the one hand, Paryski appears indeed to have been an idealist, or a Positivist, as Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann (2015: 40) sees him, who treated it as his mission to provide Polish Americans with a huge bilingual dictionary that would serve not only as a practical tool for sporadic look-ups, but would become a genuine “educational

<sup>41</sup> In an advertisement printed in *Ameryka* of 15 September 1900, Paryski's pocket dictionary is still claimed to include “far more words than Chodźko's and better explanations” [M.P.].

<sup>42</sup> Paryski's *Katechizm dla agenta oświatowego...* [*Catechism for the educational agent...*], a practical guide for his salesmen, includes a section modelled on the biblical Ten Commandments (Paryski [post-1902]: 123). It begins with the words: “I am the business of yours to which you shall be devoted truly and eagerly not only for material gains, but on the premise that, by distributing good books and newspapers among your brethren, you contribute to dissipating their spiritual darkness” [M.P.]. The agents were expected to dissipate the immigrants' “spiritual darkness” by providing them with books and *Ameryka-Echo* in order to instill in them the habit of reading on a regular basis. This shrewd strategy that Paryski masterminded killed two birds with one stone.



resource” cherished for years to come. The compilation of such a reference work was a serious challenge, particularly if compiled single-handedly; hence, preliminary enthusiasm soon gave way to fatigue and discouragement.

On the other hand, faced with typical compilation problems,<sup>43</sup> Paryski gave free rein to his opportunistic entrepreneurship. He wrote the entries without due care, jumping to hasty conclusions and recording Polish terms unattested in the literature, because the project he embarked upon surpassed his linguistic and lexicographical skills. This, of course, he could not reveal to his readers lest he lost his reputation, so he decided to compile a simple pocket dictionary, a project deemed feasible. Promoted as the best reference work for Polish Americans, it fell short of Rykaczewski's / Chodźko's dictionary it sought to oust from the market.

Antoni Paryski, the first author to undertake the compilation of an exhaustive bilingual dictionary for Polish Americans, managed to publish just three 16-page fascicles (1899). Half a century later, Ernest Lilien, a Polish journalist from Stevens Point, began to make an English-Polish dictionary (1944–1951) based on comparable materials and with roughly the same methods.<sup>44</sup> Before he died in 1951, he had succeeded in publishing 19 fascicles, i.e. a third of the first monoscopal part. Kazimierz Bulas, a Polish archeologist who emigrated to the United States in the year of Lilien's death, was another author to attempt the compilation of a modern dictionary for Polish and English. Thanks to Bulas's great effort and commitment, collaboration with American Slavists, and the financial support of the Kosciuszko Foundation, the dictionary titled the *Kosciuszko Foundation dictionary* (1959–1961) was published as the third and only successful project in the long lexicographical continuum.<sup>45</sup> In spite of possible scant similarity between the contents of these dictionaries, all the authors drew on landmarks of American lexicography: Paryski on *A standard dictionary*, Lilien on *Webster's new international dictionary* and *Funk and Wagnalls new standard dictionary* (Podhajecka 2016: 414), and Bulas and his collaborators on, among others, *Webster's new world dictionary of the American language* (Podhajecka 2023: 382).

## References

### Primary sources

- Aleksandrowicz J. et al. 1890–1902. *Encyklopedia rolnicza wydawana staraniem i nakładem Muzeum Przemysłu i Rolnictwa w Warszawie*. [vol. 1–11]. Warszawa: [publ. unknown].
- Bulas K., Whifield F. 1959. *The Kosciuszko Foundation dictionary: English-Polish*. [vol. 1]. The Hague: Mouton.

<sup>43</sup> These would include such questions as: Which headwords should one take and which leave behind? How might one explain source-language terms in the target language? Should all the lexicographical information be rendered or could some of it be skipped?

<sup>44</sup> Lilien drew on *Webster's new international dictionary of the English language* (1934) edited by Neilson et al. and, to a lesser extent, *New standard dictionary of the English language...* (1916), translating their English definitions into Polish (see Podhajecka 2016: 407–445).

<sup>45</sup> Worthy of mention at this juncture is also the three-volume *Unabridged Polish-English dictionary* (1997) compiled by Iwo C. Pogonowski, an oil industry engineer, an academic teacher, and a publicist. The quality of the dictionary remains unsettled. Chodakiewicz (2016), for

- Bulas K., Thomas L.L., Whitfield, F.J. 1961. *The Kosciuszko Foundation dictionary: Polish-English*. [vol. 2]. The Hague: Mouton.
- Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. [available at: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>].
- Diki. Słownik angielskiego. [available at: <https://www.diki.pl/>].
- Dyakowski, B. 1907. *Zwierzęta lądowe i morskie w różnych częściach świata*. Warszawa: skład główny w „Księgarni Polskiej”.
- Dziewicki M. 1910. *A miniature Polish-English and English-Polish dictionary*. Trebitsch, Moravia: J. Lorenz.
- Funk I.K. (ed.). 1894. *A standard dictionary of the English language, upon original plans, designed to give, in complete and accurate statement...* New York, London: Funk & Wagnalls.
- Funk and Wagnall's new standard dictionary of the English language upon original plans ... complete in one volume*. 1916. New York, London: Funk & Wagnalls.
- Kierst W., Callier O. 1896. *Pocket dictionary of the English and Polish languages ... in two parts*. [vol. 1–2]. Leipzig: Otto Holtzes Nachfolger.
- Kluk K. 1797–1802. *Zwierząt domowych i dzikich, osobliwie kraiovych, historyi naturalney początki i gospodarstwo...* [vol. 1–4]. Warszawa: w Drukarni Xięży Piiarów.
- Lilien E. 1944–1951. *Lilien's dictionary*. Part I: *English-Polish*. Buffalo: drukiem „Dziennika dla Wszystkich”; Stevens Point: Wydawnictwa Słownika Liliena.
- Linde S.B. 1807–1814. *Słownik języka polskiego*. [vol. 1–6]. Warszawa: u Autora.
- Neilson W.A. et al. (eds.). 1934. *Webster's new international dictionary of the English language*. Second edition. [vol. 1–2]. Springfield: Merriam-Webster.
- NKFD1 = Fisiak, J. (ed.). 2003. *The new Kosciuszko Foundation dictionary*. [vol. 1]. *English-Polish*, Adamska-Sałaciak, A. (ed.). [vol. 2]. *Polish-English*, Gąsiorowski, P. (ed.). New York: The Kosciuszko Foundation; Kraków: Universitas.
- Orgelbrand S. 1883–1884. *Encyklopedyja powszechna*. [vol. 1–13]. Warszawa: nakład, druk i własność S. Orgelbranda i Synów.
- Paryski A.A. 1899. *Wielki ilustrowany angielsko-polski i polsko-angielski słownik...* [fascicles 1–3]. Toledo: nakładem i drukiem autora.
- Paryski A.A. 1900. *Słownik polsko-angielski i angielsko-polski oraz nauka wymowy angielskiej*. [7th ed.]. Toledo: nakład, druk i własność A.A. Paryskiego.
- Pogonowski I.C. 1997. *Unabridged Polish-English dictionary*. [vol. 1–3]. New York: Hippocrene Books.
- [Rykczewski E.]. 1849–1851. *A complete English-Polish dictionary... Dokładny słownik polsko-angielski...* [vol. 1–2]. Berlin: B. Behr.
- Trotz M.A. 1744. *Nouveau dictionnaire françois, allemand et polonois...* [vol. 1–2]. Leipzig: Jean Frederic Gleditsch.
- Vogt C., Specht F. 1888. *The natural history of animals (class Mammalia – animals which suckle their young) in word and picture*. London: Blackie & Son.
- Webster's international dictionary of the English language, being the authentic edition of Webster's unabridged dictionary comprising the issues of 1864, 1879, and 1884*. 1898. Springfield: G. & C. Merriam.
- Whitney W.D. 1889–1891. *The century dictionary and cyclopedia*. [vol. 1–6]. New York: The Century.
- Worcester J. 1860. *A dictionary of the English language*. Boston: Hickling, Swan, and Brewer.
- Zdanowicz A. et al. 1861. *Słownik języka polskiego*. [vol. 1–2]. Wilno: własność Wydawcy.

---

instance, calls it “the crowning achievement”, whilst Kapolka (1999: 237) regards it as idiosyncratic. I would be inclined to agree with the latter. The reason Pogonowski published no English-Polish part is unknown.

## Secondary sources

- Atkins S. 2008. Theoretical lexicography and its relation to dictionary-making. – Fontenelle T. (ed.). *Practical lexicography: A reader*. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 31–50.
- Atkins B.T.S., Rundell, M. 2008. *The Oxford guide to practical lexicography*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bukowczyk J.J. 1987. *And my children did not know me: A history of Polish Americans*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- Bukowczyk J.J. 1996. *Polish Americans and their history: Community, culture, and politics*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.
- Chodakiewicz M.J. 2016. Professor Iwo Pogonowski, RIP. [available at: <https://www.iwp.edu/kosciuszko-chair-center-for-intermarium-studies/2016/07/27/professor-iwo-pogonowski-rip>, accessed 23 March 2023].
- Chojnacki W. 1991. *Bibliografia wydawnictw zwartych Polonii amerykańskiej, 1867–1900*. Warszawa, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN.
- Chojnacki Wł., Drzewieniecki W.M. 1978. Towards a bibliography of American Polonia. – *Polish American Studies* 35.1/2: 54–77.
- Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann A.D. 2008. Between Polish Positivism and American capitalism: The educational agents' experiment in the Polish-American community, 1889–1914. – *History of Education Quarterly* 48.4: 485–507.
- Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann A.D. (ed.). 2014. *Letters from readers in the Polish American press, 1902–1969. A corner for everybody*. [Transl. by T.L. Zawistowski and A.D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann]. Lanham, Boulder: Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group.
- Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann A.D. 2015. *The Polish Hearst: Ameryka-Echo and the public role of the immigrant press*. Urbana, Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Kantowicz E.R. 2005. Polish Americans. – Buenker J.D., Ratner L.A. (eds.). *Multiculturalism in the United States. A comparative guide to acculturation and ethnicity*. Westport, London: Greenwood Press: 325–342.
- Kapmarsi J.A. 1945. O pierwszym roku *Słownika Liliena*. – *Kurier Polski* of 7, 9 and 20 July 1945 [The Archives of the Polish Museum of America, Chicago].
- Kapolka G.T. 1999. [Review of *Unabridged Polish-English dictionary*, by I.C. Pogonowski. 1997] – *The Polish Review* 44.2: 235–237.
- Katamba F. 2015. *English words: Structure, history, usage*. London: Routledge.
- Landau S.I. 2001. *Dictionaries: The art and craft of lexicography*. [2nd ed.]. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Landau S.I. 2009. Major American dictionaries. – Cowie A.P. (ed.). *The Oxford history of English lexicography*. [vol. 1]. Oxford: Clarendon Press: 182–229.
- Majewski K. 2003. *Traitors and true Poles. Narrating a Polish-American identity 1880–1939*. Athens: Ohio University Press.
- Paryski A.A. [post-1902]. *Katechizm dla agenta oświatowego wydawnictwa Ameryki-Echa*. Toledo: Wydawnictwa Ameryki-Echa.
- Pienkos D.E. 2008. *Yesterday, today, tomorrow: The story of the Polish National Alliance*. Chicago: Alliance Printers and Publishers.
- Podhajecka M. 2016. *A history of Polish-English / English-Polish bilingual lexicography (1788–1947)*. Opole: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Opolskiego.
- Podhajecka M. 2021. *Lektorzy języka angielskiego w międzywojniu*. Kraków: Universitas.
- Podhajecka M. 2023. Największe XX-wieczne słowniki polsko-angielskie w perspektywie porównawczej: szkic z zakresu historii leksykografii. – *Stylistyka* 32: 375–404.
- Pula J.S. 1995. *Polish Americans: An ethnic community*. New York, London: Twayne Publishers.

- Rey A. 1986. Training lexicographers: Some problems. – Ilson R. (ed.) 1986. *Lexicography: An emerging international profession*. Manchester, London: Manchester University Press in association with the Fulbright Commission: 93–100.
- Rosiński W. 1945. *Antoni A. Paryski: Życie, prace, i czyny, 1865–1935*. Toledo: Ameryka-Echo.
- Scribner H. (ed.). 1910. *Memoirs of Lucas County and the city of Toledo. From the earliest historical times down to the present, including a genealogical and biographical record of representative families*. [vol. 1]. Madison: Western Historical Association.
- Zgusta L. 1984. Translational equivalence in the bilingual dictionary. – Hartmann R.R.K. (ed.). *LEXeter'83 Proceedings. Papers from the international conference on lexicography at Exeter, 9–12 September 1983*. Tübingen: Niemeyer: 147–154.