

EDITOR'S NOTE

We present our Readers with another issue “Terminus” – part of our miscellanea series. This volume begins with Anna Czarnowus’ *Litanic Tradition in Of* on that is so fayr and bright *and the Harley Ms Five Joys of Mary*, concerning middle English litanic lyric. With the example of the first of the title pieces, a macaronic poem “woven” around litanic invocations, the author presents various manners of adapting the Latin Litany of the Saints in middle English texts. The other poem analysed shows the significant impact of the Byzantine Great Akathist to Holy Mary, which may be considered a Greek “litany.”

Jakub Koryl’s paper, *Tradition and Understanding. Hermeneutical Epistemology in Hyperaspistes I of Erasmus* aims at defining the place of the Netherlandish scholar in the history of hermeneutics. It analyses chiefly the notions of tradition, authority, understanding, explanation and *sensus communis* in the writings of Erasmus, particularly in those texts that polemically opposed Martin Luther, that is, *De libero arbitrio* and especially the first part of *Hyperaspistes diatribae adversus Lutherum*.

The next paper is Ałła Brzozowska’s *Edition of the first speech of Erazm Ciołek (1474–1522) delivered in Rome before Pope Alexander VI*, prefaced with an extensive historical and analytical introduction. This Latin oration given in 1501 is an important document substantiating the history of early modern Lithuanian diplomacy: Erazm Ciołek, a bishop to-be, as a delegate of the Grand Duke of Lithuania, Alexander Jagiellon, is to pay tribute to the Pope and at the same time begin negotiations pertaining to establishing a religious union

between the papacy and the Orthodox Church in the Great Duchy of Lithuania. The stylistic analysis of the speech shows the young humanist's fluency in using classic rhetoric in order to achieve the mission's objective as well as to gain his own position as a diplomat.

The issue ends with Weronika Czaja's review of *Kolęda moskiewska* (*The Moscow Carroll*), written by Paweł Palczowski in the times of Dimitriads (i.e. Polish military interventions in Muscovy in the 17th century), edited and prepared for publication by Grzegorz Franczak.

We wish you fruitful reading.

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