It is no wonder, of course, that Bychkova does not cite the most recent monograph by K. Pietkiewicz on Grand Duke Alexander's reign.³ But how can one explain the absence of references to numerous standard works on the history of the GDL – those by F. I. Leontovich, M. F. Dovnar-Zapol'skii, F. Papée, L. Kolankowski, O. Halecki, K. Chodynicki, S. Kuczynski, W. Kamieniecki, J. Ochmanski, O. P. Backus, A. Khoroshkevich, and many others? It is quite deplorable that works by Lithuanian scholars have been neglected almost completely (except for some articles by E. Banionis and J. Jurginis published in Russian). The author would benefit also from the pioneer research of N. Iakovenko, if she used her monograph on the Ukrainian *szlachta* (1993).⁴

Lacking data on the GDL Bychkova tries to rely on Polish materials, i.e., to judge Lithuanian phenomena by Polish ones (even while discussing political ideas and concepts of the Lithuanian *szlachta*, see: pp. 129 – 133, 149 – 152): such an approach surely can not be taken seriously.

To sum up, the idea of comparing the political systems of these two neighbouring East European countries must be welcomed and deserves the whole support. However, this brave attempt to carry out such an ambitious project can hardly be considered successful.

Mikhail Krom

European University at St. Petersburg

Tado Kosciuškos sukilimo (1794) lietuviškieji raštai [Lithuanian texts from the Tadeusz Kościuszko Uprising (1794)]. Prepared for publication (with Introduction and Commentary) by Juozas Tumelis. *Historiae Lituaniae Fontes Minores, I*, Lithuanian Institute of History. Vilnius: Žara, 1997. Pp. 56, illus., facsim. ISBN 9986-34-010-1

The publication under review contains reprints of seven original or translated Lithuanian texts, making up a self-contained collection, relating to the Uprising of Tadeusz Kościuszko

³ Pietkiewicz K. Wielkie Księstwo Litewskie pod rządami Aleksandra Jagiellonczyka. Poznań, 1995.

⁴ Яковенко Н.М. Українська шляхта з кінця XIV до середини XVII ст. (Волинь і Центральна Україна). Kiev, 1993.

(Thaddeus Kosciuszko) of 1794: (1) the Resolution of the deputies of the Lithuanian Treasury on the requisition of the Palanga prefecture, a possession of Vilnius Bishop Ignotas Jokūbas Masalskis, putting it at the disposal of the State Treasury (23.04.1794) (p. 11); (2) the Appeal of the Lithuanian Supreme National Council concerning the defence of the motherland and joining the insurgent army (30.04.1794) (p. 12-13); (3) the Appeal of the Colonel of the Sixth Regiment of the GDL army Ksaveras Pranciškus Niesiolovskis (Niesiołowski) to the population of the Palanga prefecture for the support of the army and for joining the ranks of the insurgents (12.04.1794) (p. 14); (4) the Circular of the Supreme Lithuanian National Council concerning Kościuszko's Universal about the privileges to the families of rebel serfs, about the supervision of the proclamation of the rebel authorities' orders and about the oath of the defenders of the motherland (02.05.1794) (p. 15-18); (5) the translation of Mykolas Pranciškus Karpavičius' (Karpowicz) funeral sermon of 20 May 1794 (p. 19-38); (6) a rebel war song (p. 39) and (7) 'Piosenka Żmudska' (Samogitian song) by Antanas Klementas (Klement) (p. 40).

Unique copies of these texts are scattered in various archives and their separate reprints can be found in almost inaccessible publications, in which, as a rule, only their excerpts are presented in some updated transcription. In the publication under review the texts are given in the original form.

In the Introduction (p. 5-7) Juozas Tumelis characterizes the appearance of these texts in 1794 as a breakthrough in the use of the Lithuanian language in the public, social and political life of the country. The publication of the texts in their original authentic form facilitates further investigation of these documents in respect to the spread of political and social ideas, the history of language and culture, etc., in the late eighteenth century. The Commentary (p. 47-50) contains information about the location of the texts, their reprints and publications, the authors and signatories, and there are also the Name (p. 47-50) and Place-name (p. 51) Indexes.

This collection starts a new series of the Lithuanian Institute of History - *Historiae Lituaniae Fontes Minores*, the subject-matter of which will be small-scale historiographically significant texts (documents of major institutions, political pamphlets, letters, etc.).

Ramunė Šmigelskytė