

[ Pomerania], hence the compound noble surname of Janta-Polczyński. My own 5th great grandmother was Konstancja Żuroch-Czapiewska nee Janta-Polczyński (1746-1812) from Brusy in Pomerania. The author's relationship to Aleksander Janta would appear to be 5th cousins twice removed. The surname is derived from the participle jęty, from the verb jać [to begin, seize, take], pronounced in Kashubian as Janti, Germanized to Jante, and then Polonized to Janta. Among the Ontario Kashubs the surname was Anglicized to Yantha. The compound noble surname of Janta-Polczyński is now extinct in Poland but the legend Aleksander Janta-Polczyński, this larger-than-life man, will live on beyond our memories.

## NEW BOOK ABOUT KASZUBY (Kashubia)

by Keith A Kaszubik

The Summer 1999 catalog from the Polonia Bookstore in Chicago, Illinois offers a new book for purchase in regard to Kaszuby (Kashubia). Below is a summary of this book from their catalog. For more information please call the Polonia Bookstore at (773) 481-6968 or write to Polonia Bookstore Inc., 4738 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630 e-mail: books@polonia.com

Bilinski, Agnieszka & Wlodek  
Kaszuby (Kashubia)  
Oficyna Wydawnicza  
Parol, Krakow 1998,  
111 pages, \$40.00.  
(hard cover)  
ISBN: 8385331123

This beautifully published album is devoted entirely to Kashubia, one of the most picturesque, magical and culturally unique regions of Poland. This publication makes use of exquisite photographs that superbly capture the character of various gems of Kashubian nature, history and culture as well as provides commentaries in Polish, English and German.

## Why They Came to....

If you've ever wondered why your ancestors chose to settle in certain areas upon their arrival in North America, the following excerpt might give you some insight into why the peoples of Pomerania and Kashubia chose places such as Wisconsin. The excerpt is from *Two Worlds for our Children* by Myron Grunewald, © 1985, reprinted with the permission of his daughter.

Just a short look at 11 different factors will spell out the success of these states in attracting the Pomeranians.

1) the climate and landscape--the long cool winters, the glacial land with dotted lakes, marshes and the large waters of Lake Michigan--were similar, if not identical, to Pommern. As such, similar crops and farming methods could be used--wheat, sugar beets, cattle, sheep, hogs,

rye, oats, and garden vegetables similar to their own familiar varieties.

2) after 1 year residence the emigree could declare for citizenship.

3) the states had not yet acquired public debts so there was low taxation.

4) the current land acts had opened up the tracts of cheap land.

5) in 1852 Wisconsin had set up a Commissioner of Emigration with an office to distribute literature and assist in transportation to Wisconsin.

6) excellent water transportation existed in and to an area where labor was scarce and wages were high.

7) mineral wealth at which jobs were available--the same with timber and logging operations.

8) the completion of rail transportation. Chicago to Milwaukee and Watertown by 1856, to Stevens Point by 1871, and Merrill by 1880.

9) letters from families and friends. Assistance and companionship were thusly offered until they could move further west to unoccupied lands.

10) religious factors. There was an organized Catholic Diocese by 1843 and a Lutheran Synod by 1850.

11) the existence of several organizations of German Societies which could meet, greet, and help persons to locate for quicker assimilation.

For information about purchasing 'Two Worlds for our Children' and other booklets by Myron Gruenwald contact:

Gayle (Gruenwald) O'Connell; 1531 Golden Drive;  
Hubertus, WI 53033  
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Myron Gruenwald (1930-1998) was the founder and publisher of *Die Pommerchen Leute* intended for those persons who trace their ancestry to the Duchy of Pommern and contains ancestral data, maps and charts, historical research, and cultural information of the people of Pomerania. Since Myron's death the new address: Theodor Fettkenheur, PO Box 2843, Mesa, AZ 85214. E-mail fettkenheur@aol.com

(Note: the e-mail spelling is different)