Appendix of Documents

for

P. E. Strzelecki
Australian Explorer
APPENDIX

CONTAINING

Translation of Printed Letters from Strzelecki to Adyna Turno.

Print of Will of Strzelecki.

Obituary of Strzelecki from Times, 1873 (Photograph)

Memorandum of Strzelecki Family to Australian Government.

List of Books containing References to Strzelecki. (Not my list, but one submitted to me by M. Strzelecki)
APPENDIX

FIRST LETTER PUBLISHED

Would you believe it? Four of your letters were given to me at once—my happiness exceeded four times the emotion you felt upon receiving my letter of August 26th 1839. My happiness was so great that it would be surpassed only by seeing you and hearing you describe in a thousand different modulations the things you write about from London.

Your letters rejuvenate me, and again prove that, though I am forty two years old, I do not feel the years. So at last you have received a long letter which pictures my career to which I am working, a career which suits my likings. I would gladly exchange it for a different one, less lucrative, less fascinating, but one leading by the shortest route to the desired goal. I would work with twice the enthusiasm, I would study, even stay up late nights, I would fear neither poverty nor fatigue— if I were certain that the fight would increase my small fortune and insure our independence.

Often you have made me laugh by writing that you do not place great hopes in my mineralogy, that you do not think it can either bring wealth to a man, or become a source of obtaining a fortune. Well, my dear angel, you were right. Mineralogy does not bring wealth, still less lead to a fortune. But it gains a certain rank for its adherents, leads them to security, making them the conservators of institutions of natural history, directors of mines or of porcelain factories, perhaps professors of science or collectors of mineralogical specimens. In the last mentioned field the work is great but least profitable. That is my chosen field of work and up to the present time, the collecting of specimens in various countries and their sale to different institutions has not only permitted me to remain independent and cover all travelling expenses but has enabled me to put a little aside. M. Andre, who forwards your letters, notified me that he has deposited 20,000 florins to my account.

While collecting the specimens I travelled vast distances on foot over heretofore unknown mountain ranges.

I have devoted to this science many a day and night, and only you can appreciate what effort and study was necessary to accomplish the things I have done thus far. To explore unknown land, to make plans and astronomical observations through the length and breadth of it, to sketch it, to add to it the elevation above sea level of all the mountain peaks, to describe their mineralogical and geological character, to determine the deviation of the magnetic needle of the compass— this beautiful land which had never been explored by white men, this land whose geological map had white blanks, extends from 36 degrees to 39 degrees along the sea, from the East part of New Wales — it is magnificent: colonisation should flourish there. I have named it in honour of the Governor Sir George Gipps, Gippsland; to the lakes and the eight rivers therein I have
given the names of the most prominent people of New Wales.

The highest peak of the Australian Alps—-it towers over the entire continent—-which before my coming had not been surmounted by anyone, with its everlasting snows, the silence and dignity with which it is surrounded, I have reserved and consecrated as a reminder for future generations upon this continent, of a name dear and hallowed to every Pole, to every human, to every friend of freedom and honour—Kosciuszko. It is unnecessary to add that upon publication of the map of Gippsland, everyone accepted this name with applause. I am enclosing a newspaper clipping on the subject. It will give you pleasure. You are a Pole, heart and soul, and for that reason you are dearer to me; also I love my unhappy fatherland and am ready to sacrifice a lot more for her sake, with the exception of your love and your person. Everything pertaining to it reminds me only of bitterness and injustice and sorrow.

Among those sufferings which befell me, some were so great that they could bury and destroy hundreds of people who would be affected and touched by ridicule and slander. They are the more irritated today, for the lower they tried to force me down, the higher I rose. My soul rose anew after each stroke and lash, and had proved to be greater than their souls.

Published Sydney Morning Herald July 25 1936

The continuation appeared August 1st 1936.

These are the same as were published in the Kurjer Poznanski, and are all of the letters which have appeared. Others earlier and latter being withheld by the relatives of Adyna. So we have no means of knowing when the correspondence began or ended, or why.

For second article, see next page.
COUNT STRZELECKI.

An Explorer's Letters.

(By T. A. DE ROSKOWSKI.)

II.

In his second letter (November, 1840) Count Strzelecki refers to his perilous journey to Port Phillip, on which he started early in that year.

At last, you have been informed by my letters of the true state of affairs. You see that I do not carry on any explorations at the expense of the Governor, but cover all costs of the expedition through the sale of collected specimens. The English Governor, who had no opportunity thus far to profit by my humdrum discoveries except in Governor, had done everything possible to aid me in my explorations. If I could forward you a letter received from Sir John Franklin, famous for his discoveries in the north, the governor of Van Diemen's Land, you would be surprised to note that he had done everything possible to aid me in my explorations.

As soon as I notify him that the explorations of the sea coast are completed, he will provide me with means to have a suite at the Government House for my return to the capital.

Your years of travelling and exploring the Blue Mountains were justly founded. I went beyond them. In the land I discovered, and which I have now thoroughly explored, the English Press just as it has received considerable attention in one of the newspapers I have been able to read so far. I suffered greatly. I am constantly travelling without a horse, and for which I have paid 8000 florins. I am accompanied by two men and packhorses. I sleep on the ground with only the sky above me—I eat little, and only water, bacon, and occasionally bread. Travelling thus, I have gone into terra incognita. I was accompanied by two Aboriginals, and I have been in their company for more than four months. It seemed a trick of the devil that the difficulty of the terrain forced me to extend my travels beyond the region of the English Press.

For two months we were completely without supplies, forced to eat wild dogs which we caught; we threw them into the fire, and ate them after dark. We had no salt or bread. Soon our horses weakened and we were obliged to abandon them; my friends and men were forced to carry everything on their backs, and in a few days we were completely exhausted. I, on the other hand, needing little and having before the expedition a little weight on my back with a load of 45 lb on my back, did not suffer from fatigue and weakness.

After crossing the mountains, which I might have lost them, Providence permitted me to bring them all to Port Phillip (a port of Van Diemen's Land), but they resembled skeletons. I myself looked like a ghost, covered with rags. I cannot understand my system. I am much fatigued, and they are evidently peaceful, comfortable life does not suit me; you are right; I am not stout and robust, but rather delicate, but I have a heart for work and action. Love of work and love for you are the elements of my life.

The Aborigines were led by Kocsukscz (a native of Van Diemen's Land) to the highest peak of the continent—the first in the New World bearing a Polish name. I have not been able to find a Polish woman to have a flower from that mountain. Let it remind you ever of me!
BASS STRAITS ISLANDS.

In the third and last letter Count Strzelecki mentions his exploration of the islands in the Bass Straits, and the high cost of living in Australia.

Well, I am in Sydney, my darling beloved; everything pertaining to Van Diemen's Land is completed. Three months will sufficce for us to return to Europe. I should return to Europe. I shall fly to you. I shall see you, if God permits, in June, in Berlin, or in Dresden. Or Paris. The last mentioned place is farther north, but I would be rather difficult to appear in Berlin, and would be apt to cause some unpleasantness. Dresden will do, but Paris is the most convenient. I shall return to Paris in about 23 years. Upon reaching Europe I shall write you immediately, and we can select the country in which to hold me. My poor sister of the kinswoman of tin continually whether you love for all your words of tenderness and encouragement therein contained. We are both tried in our present circumstances. - Is anything. The worst that can happen according to our circumstances is, that upon being united, we shall have to sail near the shores which we consider.

"However, my return will clear up the situation. This is my last letter to you. I am enchanted with what you say of the kinwoman of your aunt and brother. I am always happy to know that you are pretty towards me. I shall write letters, your approval. You are pretty enough. The trip lasted only a few days. I shall reach the English seacoast: I am amazed speed. I often thought to plan a test in Europe. The problem of our future existence will be solved, so be brave."

"Since writing my last letter I have seen many new territories. I devoted two months to an exploration of the Bass Straits. I analysed many substances; I studied the ships. I was interested that I was unable to share every observation with you, that every thought born in my mind I could not communicate to you. Ah How often have I wanted to have you at my side, how often during my abstraction work."

"During the voyage there was always a sigh which ended my daydreams. Upon return, I found Sydney larger modern, more like European capital. Propertys. The characteristic of the English seacoast; if were to tell you everything they intend to do. The regular habit of going ashore and to sea. Many thousand miles from the metropolis, administrating to a division of land, that work progresses at an amazing speed."

Everything is very expensive, all comforts of life are very dear. I had to travel even by steamboat, so ridiculously love in the United States and in Europe. It is much higher. I am obliged to pay the price of all the price of all the free and expensive things. I am obliged to pay for the things I cannot eat. I shall write letters, your approval. I am obliged to pay for the things I cannot eat. I shall write letters, your approval."

"The first days of October I spent on the settlement—that is remarkable that the residence of mine in Europe was in 1819 should be so fresh, as if all happened yesterday. Think, dear, it was 23 years ago. I was 23 years old."

I exist. I cover you with tender kisses, my darling beloved. My only friend, Miss Aimée, take good care of your health, mine seems to have returned. Do not permit your return (exemplified) except you. I send you a thousand carresses, and hope that your reply will return. With many kisses and a thousand carresses, I feel much younger. Farewell my dear and sweet.
COUNT DE STREZELECKI.

The death of so remarkable a man as the late Sir Edward de Strezelecki—better known as Count de Strezelecki—demands more than a passing notice. The deceased was a native of Polish Prussia and it is stated came of a good family in that country. Some of his education was obtained at the High School at Edinburgh. In early life Count de Strezelecki devoted himself to travelling and exploring remote parts of the world with the view of perfecting his scientific knowledge, and, as he himself records, before the age of 20 he had visited and made explorations in North and South America, the West Indies, the South Sea Islands, the Javanese Islands, China, India, Egypt, New South Wales, and Van Diemen's Land. In the last-named island he met Sir John Franklin, who assisted him greatly in his explorations in Australia, and it is worthy of remark that Count de Strezelecki received from the Tasmanian public on leaving their shores in 1843 a very flattering address, in which they record in touching terms how much their country is indebted to his "scientific knowledge and inestimable exertions," and acknowledge "that example which has testified to them the reality and dignity of his calling; who exchanges the ordinary pursuits and pleasures of life for the patient and self-sacrificing investigation of the works of God." To this address was added a substantial subscription of 400/, and Count de Strezelecki, in giving vent to the "emotions of humble pride and pleasure with which he received the address and subscription," stated that the testimonial led him to determine on publishing his **Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land**, a description "comprehending the fruits of five years of continual labour during a tour of 7,000 miles on foot through those countries." This book, which became a standard work on Australia, the Count published in 1845, and dedicated to Sir John Franklin, then on the eve of his departure on his final and fatal voyage of discovery to the North Pole. The main object of Count de Strezelecki's visit to Australia was to examine its mineralogy. This investigation led him to the conclusion that portions of the country abounded in gold, and having informed Sir George Gipps, the then Governor, his report was transmitted to Lord John Russell, then Secretary of State for the Colonies; but as at that day the free whites in Australia were a mere handful compared with the convict population, Count de Strezelecki was requested not to make his discovery public. The fact of his having been the first to foretell the existence of gold was, however, acknowledged some few years ago at the International Congress, when, on the suggestion of Sir Roderick Murchison, a gold medal was awarded to the Count for the investigations and reports made by him on the subject. In the course of his explorations Count de Strezelecki also discovered and mapped that valuable tract of country now known as Gippsland, perhaps one of the most fertile districts in Australia. The publication of the **Physical Description of New South Wales** brought Count de Strezelecki to the notice of literary, scientific, and philanthropic society in London, and soon after having expressed a desire to become naturalized among us, Lord Ossington, then Mr. Samuel Jones-Lloyd, assisted him in procuring the necessary certificates from Her Majesty's Secretary of State entitling him henceforward to most of the rights and privileges of a British subject.

The autumn and winter of 1846-7 will long be remembered in these islands. The fact of the greater portion of the inhabitants of Ireland and of the western districts of Scotland had utterly failed. The "Corn Law" precluded the real introduction of a substitute, and the potato was consequently an absolutely prohibitory duty on Indian corn, and it so happened that this was the only meal which could be easily procured, as not only had potatoes failed, but wheat, barley, oats, and rape had been scarce crops all over Europe. With the view of alleviating this national calamity, the "British Relief Association" was organized, having for its committee of administration the leading merchants and bankers of the city of London, Mr. Jones-Lloyd, Baron Lionel de Rothschild, Mr. Thomas Daring, Mr. Thomas Hankey, Mr. Robert Hanbury, Mr. Charles Raven, and the late Messrs. Abel Smith, Samuel Gurney, and W. G. Pecquet were pre-
Lord Overstone was unanimously elected Lord Mayor.

It is recorded by Sir Charles Troreyan that the sympathy pervaded every class of society, from the very throne to the convict in the hulks. The subscriptions were placed in a red box in order to stave off the Famine. In response to the Committee's appeal, no less than £5,000,000 was raised, the amount received from all parts of the world, and the relief was speedily distributed for relief purposes even raised in every part of the country.

The first act of the Executive was to send a message to the Lord Mayor; the second to send active agents to tend the distribution of these supplies. Sir Francis was selected as one of these, and appointed the agents of the British, Sligo and Mayo, and his letters, which are given in the report of the committee, may at this day be read with interest. He stated that: "The distress by which I am surrounded. It has actually reached a point of extenuations that it becomes above the power of exact description. You may now believe anything which you hear and read, because what I actually declare is a fiction." To the alleviation of this great misery, Sir Francis set to work, and his exertions were at the cost of an attack of the terrible cholera which assailed him to the remainder of his days.

The satisfaction which he gave to the people was beyond measure. His exertions were not only to alleviate the suffering of the poor, but to introduce good habits into the community, such as teaching the people the necessity of a more substantial diet than bread alone, and inculcating the young with habits of cleanliness and industry. The result of his labours was that the cholera was successfully checked on the 19th November, 1847, when it was recorded that the last case had been reported.

On his return to London in 1849, Count Strzelecki found himself famous. Society received him with open arms. His cycle of acquaintances was very large. He lived, too, in great charity and benevolence, which was a source of great comfort to him, as it was a relief to him from his own cumber. He died, as was formerly recorded, at Spas, the residence of his uncle, Lord Herbert, being 77 years old.

PLAIDS - In the year ended 31st March 1845, the number of plaids on cards was 13,195,174.
We hereby certify that this is a true photograph of a portion of the original issue of The Times as printed and published on the 17th day of October in the year 1873. For The Times Publishing Co. Ltd.

W.H. Williams
Assistant Secretary.
This is the last Will and Testament of Edmund de Pizcaledi of 22 Carville Green, ...
whereunto God royal and eternal constancy in perpetuity or certain remains to construction and of such sums of money and sumptuous thinges
referre to them with trains and bonuses for the same and foothing in
dues, and of their execution and site of any extraordinary piece and real
estates and in present 21st year April following to own all my present or
manuscript estates and dies not in possession at present and estates
attested to me and of all rents of land that any future estate
should be restored to ministration and there on no account he should
allow a manumiss or tires or any other way Christian or Jewish
bearing my name to mark any last setting place other than the
observance and time respecting nothing a taking with a fit of time
over it itself granted by all in the most punctual and corrects.

Proved at Preston the 15th day of March 1693 to the
Endowment the value being 1000 pounds.

Andrew Wright.

Commercial House, Liverpool, 1693.
MEMORANDUM OF PETITION

TO

THE HONORABLE PARLIAMENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

and

GREAT BRITAIN, ET AL.,

Application of: Bolesław J. Strzelecki
as heir-at-law of
Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki
ABSTRACTS FROM HISTORY

"MOUNT KOŚCIUSZKO" — "The particular configuration of this eminence struck me so forcibly by the similarity it bears to a tumulus erected at Cracow over the tomb of the patriot Kościuszko, that although in a foreign country, on foreign ground, but a free people, who appreciate freedom and its votaries, I could not refrain from giving it the name of MOUNT KOŚCIUSZKO" — P. E. Strzelecki. — ("The History of Discovery of Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand", by: William Howitt, London 1865, p. 325, Vol. I. — N. Y. Public Library: B. H. C.)

"MODERN ENGLISH BIOGRAPHY" by Frederick Boase, London 1901, p. 806, Vol. III, N. Y. Lib., *R. A. G. H. "Strzelecki, Sir Paul, Edmund De, b. Polish Prussia 1796, educ. high sch. Edinb.: traveled in the East 1834-9, explored Great Darling Range, New South Wales at his own expense 1839-40; discovered large quantity of gold-bearing quartz in the Wellington district 200 miles west of Sydney 1839, but the discovery was kept secret by the government for 12 years; gave it the name of Gippsland, Victoria 1840: generally known as Count Strzelecki; one of the commrs. for the distribution of the Irish famine relief fund 1847-8. — C.B. 21 Nov. 1848; assisted in promoting emigration to Australia; went with Lord Lyons to Crimea 1855, member of Crimean army fund committee, F.R.S. June 1853; D.C.L. Oxf. 20 June 1860 — K.C.M.G. 30 June 1869; the Strzelecki range of hills in the district of the Western Port, Victoria, the Strzelecki creek in South Australia are named after him; also several species of Australian fauna and flora; author of "Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land" accompanied by a geological map sections, and diagrams and figures of the organic remains 1845, d. Saville Row, London 6 Oct. 1873."

To the Honorable
Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia
and Great Britain,

Application of: Bolesław J. Strzelecki
as heir-at-law of
Count Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki

Your petitioner hereby presents a summary of facts and arguments on
the basis of which this petition is drafted by the legal heirs of Count Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki.

The undersigned, Bolesław J. Strzelecki, resident of the City of New York,
State of New York, and a citizen of the United States of America, is a legal re-
presentative of the heirs of Count Paul, Edmund Strzelecki, deceased, who died in
London the 6th day of October, A. D. 1873, in his home at 23 Saville Row, London,
England. On the basis of authority vested in me by the aforementioned legal
heirs residing in Poland, the United States of America, and other parts of the
world I am filing this petition in their and my behalf to the Australian and
British Parliaments for a return of the remainder of the estate in land, all benefits
arising from mining rights, currency, securities, real and personal property,
wherever they may be, in whatever form, remaining in the hands of illegal ad-
ministrators. Various reclaimed possessions of the deceased, in whatever form,
will be divided among legal heirs who shall prove family relationship.

I.
A GENERAL OUTLINE OF LEGAL POINTS AND AMOUNTS
DEmanded.

When Count Paul, Edmund Strzelecki, organized his Exploratory Ex-
pedition to Australia, he was a citizen and patriot of Poland. This expedition
he organized at his own expense with the assistance of his relatives in Poland.
The administering family demands of the Commonwealth of Australia and
Great Britain, the return of the costs of exploration; expended for that purpose,
from the family estates, which are to be refunded by the 1st day of March A. D.
1936, in the sum of; Five Hundred and Sixty Thousands Dollars, ($560,000.00)

When Count Strzelecki discovered in the Australian Alps, in New South
Wales, the highest mountain peak, he gave it the Polish name of "Mt. Kościuszko"
and annointed this region as a Polish possession. Because at that instant Poland
was not legally existant, he could claim that territory on the legal strength of
"Priority Rights of Discoverer." The undersigned as a legal representative, de-
mands the return to the legal and rightful owners of the Region of Mount Koś-
ciuszko, viz., One Hundred (100) quadratic miles in New South Wales, before the
1st day of March, A. D. 1936, also the issuance of a free and clear title of owner-
ship, free from any liens and encumbrances.

On the same basis we demand the return of; "Strzelecki Province" in the
State of Victoria, which is the property of the legal heirs.

II.
DISCOVERY OF FIELDS AND GOLD MINES IN VARIOUS PARTS
OF AUSTRALASIA

In the year 1839, Count Strzelecki discovered in the districts of: Wellington,
Bathurst, and Hartley, stratas of gold, in large and small quantities. On the
26th day of October A. D. 1839, he officially notified the governor of New South
Wales, (Country contiguous to the newly discovered province), Mr. George Gipps
of this fact. Mr. George Gipps, as the official representative or delegate of the English Authorities, notified his superior in London (Colonial Office) of Count Paul Edmund Strzelecki's discovery. — Governor G. Gipps, then received instructions from London which prohibited the extracting of gold to Count Strzelecki, beside obligating him to keep secret the discovery of said bullion, in the aforementioned provinces. By that order Governor Gipps violated the international law of the right of discoverers.


On the strength of facts mentioned in the second article of this petition, the administration demands the full return, and without any obligation, the gold mines which are the properties of the administration, viz., Wellington, Bathurst, and Hartley, or the payment for same in the United States currency, the sum of:

One Billion, Three Hundred and Fifty Million Dollars; ($1,350,000,000.00 which mines represent to the administrators the aforementioned valuation. Its return we demand by the 1st day of March A. D. 1936.

III.

COUNT P. E. STRZELECKI IN HIS DISCOVERIES OF AUSTRALASIA NEVER EMPLOYED AN ENGLISH FLAG.

Count Strzelecki was a Pole, when he arrived at Australia; coming from the Province of Poznan, (which at that time was part of Prussia, as a consequence of the division of Poland), he was a legal subject of Prussia. He never employed the British Flag during his exploratory journeys, nor the flag of any Dominion of Great Britain. The provinces discovered by him in Australia at that time were no one's possessions, because they were unknown to any one. "Any man's land and no man's land." Basing this contention on International Law, Count Strzelecki discovering unknown provinces, automatically became their proprietor. When Great Britain subsequently granted him "Priority Rights of Discoverer," it actually had no right to it, because Count Strzelecki registered his discovery in the office of governor George Gipps, becoming the legal owner of these provinces, and mines of gold, silver, etc.

We are again calling your attention to the fact, that Count Strzelecki never changed his citizenship, nor was he ever the subject of Great Britain, nor any of the Australian States, when labouring in Australian explorations, in fact to the moment of his death, notwithstanding he was granted various titles carrying with them the same rights and privileges as were given to subjects of Great Britain.

Gold, silver and copper, which were extracted from the Australasian mines from the year 1851 to 1935, alone represent a valuation of approximately Six Billion Dollars ($6,000,000,000.00). On the strength of "Priority Rights" we would have a complete right to demand the return of all the gold, silver and other metal and bullion extracted from said Australian mines within that period of time. However, we exclusively reserve to ourselves the rights to mines at Wellington, Bathurst, an Hartley also to the "Province of Strzelecki," in the State of Victoria, and to the Region of Mount Kościuszko, New South Wales.
IV.

DAMAGES IN THE SUM OF $250,000,000.00 SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE ADMINISTRATORS

In view of the fact, that Governor George Gipps, as representative of the British Government, retained the secret of the discovery of gold in many localities of Australia, which were not at that time the possessions of Great Britain, nor the individual Colonial States of that part of the world, but were the property of Count Strzelecki. He, Count Paul, Edmund Strzelecki, as well as his legal heirs not being able to employ those mines have lost financially: Two Hundred Fifty Million Dollars, ($250,000,000.00); during which time the mines at Wellington, Bathhurst and Hartley were not used by the legal owners. Consequently the heirs demand the return in damages $250,000,000.00, more so, because his family financed the expedition to Australia.

V.

RETURN OF VARIOUS SUMS EXPENDED FOR LEGAL DEFENSE IN LONDON AND SECURITIES LEFT BY COUNT STRZELECKI

The treasurer of the State of New South Wales, combined with the treasurer of the Federal Government of Australia, should return to the heirs as damages for the collected rents during the occupation of Mount Kościuszko Region in the sum of: One Million and Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,500,000.00), payable by March 1st, A. D. 1936.

Further, the treasurer of New South Wales should produce evidence to the Supreme Court of New South Wales on what legal principles his state in the year 1896 took possession of Mount Kościuszko Region without authorization and permission of the heirs or legal representatives.

The treasuries of the Governments of the Commonwealth of Australia and that of Great Britain should return to the heirs the sum, of: One Million and Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,500,000.00), which sum was expended by the administrators of the heirs and families, for legal litigations in London, which lately issued adverse decisions to the heirs. Payment of this sum should be made by March 1st A. D. 1936.

Because the sum of Seventeen Million-pound sterling or approximately $85,000,000.00 remained, in currency, securities and other personal property, when Count P. E. Strzelecki died in London, therefore we demand the return of said sum in full including 3 per centum interest, payable to the administrators by May 1st, A. D. 1936.

VI.

WE DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE RENEWAL AND PERMISSION OF POLISH IMMIGRATION TO THE ESTATES REMAINING AFTER COUNT PAUL, E. STRZELECKI, KNOWN AS "STRZELECKI PROVINCE" IN VICTORIA

The plain wish of Count Strzelecki, was that "Strzelecki Province" in the State of Victoria should be populated by Polish Colonists and laborers. Therefore, we demand the immediate opening of immigration to that province in Australia for: twenty five thousand (25,000) Polish families yearly, beside the abolition of the existing immigration laws to those prospective immigrants.

The designation of an Australian-Polish Commission of Immigration, composed of six directors; three (3) Australians and three (3) Poles, legal representatives of the aforementioned countries. The Rules and Regulations of
said Commission with reference to the colonization of “Strzelecki Province,” will be drafted by the whole commission and will come into existence and effect by the 1st day of May, A. D. 1936, and all shall be confirmed by Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia and various States.

VII.

THE ORIGINAL NAMES GIVEN BY COUNT STRZELECKI SHOULD BE KEPT PERMANENTLY

All original names of rivers, lakes, mountains, provinces, etc., given by Count P. E. Strzelecki, during his exploratory journeys to Australasia, according to his works: “The Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen’s Land” (Standard Book-on Australia) and published at his own cost in 1845 A. D. in London; those names should always be kept and employed, in the Australian geographies, as well as universally, without any alterations or exceptions in the States or Countries.

VIII.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE FAMILIES AND THE HEIRS OF COUNT STRZELECKI IN AUSTRALIA

The heirs in the undersigned petitions reserve for themselves the freedom of settlement in Australia on the estate of the heirs, or other parts of Australia. They have the right to bring: One Thousand (1000) persons, members of the family (excluding from the member the 25,000 of the Polish colonists), with full rights of partition and colonization of the estates of “Strzelecki Province”. The immigration laws shall be abrogated for the said 1000 persons; however, all shall always be subject to Local, State and Federal laws. The families shall have the right of settlement beginning the 1st day of May A. D. 1936.

IX.

INVALIDATING OF THE FALSE TESTAMENT AND ALSO THE FORMER UNKNOWN TO THE ADMINISTRATORS COURT DECISION.

We consider as false and forged the testament, of the “last will of Count Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki,” dated the 3rd day of October 1873. Count Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki, was unconscious over two weeks before his death. The testament was written and forged by a certain John Lamb Sarwent, 63 William Street, London. — This testament was filed with the Probate Court on the 15th day of October 1873. Marked at Somerset House: Fos. OKL. 686, that testament we consider as illegal, false, and unauthorized, basing our assertions on the following points:

1.—Name — John Lamb Sarwent, was fictitious; in the years 1873 to 1876 no such person could be located in Great Britain.

2.—Witnesses named in the false testament, were not present when Count Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki subscribed the alleged testament. Two witnesses signed the testament several days after his death. These two witnesses, notwithstanding an extended search, could not be located in London or in Great Britain.

3.—Members of the Royal Family, even Her Majesty Queen Victoria herself demanded that the false testament be held invalid. This was also done by persons named in the testament, as: Baroness Herbert of Lea, of Wilton House, Salisbury, notwithstanding her receipt of substantial benefits under the terms of the testament.
4.—When, on the 20th day of April 1877 A.D. the Court of Appeals rendered a decision affirming Sarwent's rights, as the original executor and heir, Strzelecki's family was not notified of this, neither did it have its own representative, nor were they notified of the decision. The family was first notified of the decision on the 22nd day of February A.D. 1935, — the news being received through the medium of the United States Embassy at London. On the strength of the aforementioned points the administrators consider all decisions as invalid, praying that for all time the illegal testament filed on the 15th day of October A.D. 1873 be declared void.

X.

WE BEG OF THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND AUSTRALIA FOR THE RETURN OF THE FAMILY MEMENTOS OF COUNT STRZELECKI

We beg the people of Great Britain and Australia, and Ireland for the return of all family mementos remaining after the death of Count Paul, Edmund Strzelecki, which the false executor distributed before the family had the opportunity to arrive from Poland. These mementos consisted of various manuscripts, maps, books, sketches, souvenirs, drawings, surveying-instruments, household effects, and silverware, which were located at 23 Saville Row, London, and his palace in Australia, and which after the death of Count Strzelecki immediately disappeared. Today they may be found in various libraries and private museums. The family is willing to repay the holders of these mementos the sums paid for them.

XI.

WE PRAY THAT THE RESTING PLACE OF COUNT STRZELECKI BE REVEALED.

Notwithstanding various efforts of the family and its legal representatives, we were unsuccessful in locating the resting place or the grave, of the “great Australian discoverer,” as Count Strzelecki was called in Great Britain. We wrote innumerable letters to organizations, such as: Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and George, Order of Bath, Kings College of Arms of which Orders Count Strzelecki was a Member, also to the Right Hon. Lord Mayor of London Corporation and others, in order to obtain information as to the whereabouts of the remains of Count Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki, but to this day our efforts have not been crowned with success. The authorities refuse to give us any information where they had buried our illustrious ancestor, who had rendered such signal services for England, Australia, Scotland, and Ireland. The family positively demands the return of the corpse of Count Strzelecki for the purpose of transporting it to Poland.

(Note: Hundreds of official books of past century mention Count Paul, E. Strzelecki's labours which benefited Great Britain and Australia, list furnished on request).

XII.

WE PRAY THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND FOR THE RETURN OF THE FOUNDER'S GOLD MEDAL GIVEN TO COUNT STRZELECKI

We pray that the Royal Geographical Society of England return to the Administrators the “Founder's Gold Medal” which was received by Count Strzelecki from that Society on the 26th day of May 1846, from the Right Honorable Lord Colchester, President of that Society for discoveries in Australia. This memento represents a great value in our family.
WE ANNOUNCE TO THE ENTIRE WORLD THAT COUNT STRZELECKI WAS A CHRISTIAN AND NOT A PAGAN AS MAY BE IMPLIED FROM THE FRAUDULENT TESTAMENT

The tenor of the sixth paragraph of Sarwant's fraudulent testament implies that Count Strzelecki negatived a desire that there be erected on his grave "any Christian or Pagan mark." Such disrespectful conduct on the part of the executor merits punishment and if the Admiralty Court of Probate approved a similar clause in said fraudulent testament, then here in the name of the Strzelecki family and all legal heirs we announce to the whole civilized world that the Strzelecki family, according to Polish tradition and history, from the year A. D. 992 was Christian and will forever after remain so. Subsequent to the above date there never were any pagans in our family, nor has anything reached our ears of any anomaly.

Therefore, we consider that the authorities of the Supreme Court of Great Britain exceeded the laws of humanity and legal ethics in approbating the alleged testament containing the disgraceful clauses. We believe in the wisdom of the words written on the walls of the Court of Great Britain: "The True Administration of Justice is the Firmest Pillar of Good Government," which in this case should be accurately applied when it comes to moral and financial compensation of private persons, especially citizens of the United States. We must remember that during the famine and extreme distress in Ireland and Scotland, in the years A. D. 1846-1849, Count Paul, E. Strzelecki, was a Relief Administrator for Ireland and Scotland and as a great humanitarian he not only added to the Irish Catholic millions pound sterling, but endangered his health in contracting the "famine fever," during which time he represented the British Association in Dublin.

Reference:


The above two books were sent to the United States, by the Department of External Affairs of the Irish Free State, Dublin, on October 21st 1935, for the inspection and examination of heirs. Abstracts from those books could be submitted on demand.

APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE FAMILY AND LEGAL HEIRS

We demand that the Parliaments of Great Britain and Australia, agree upon the recognition of Mr. Bolesław J. Strzelecki of New York City, N. Y., grand-nephew of Paul, Edmund de Strzelecki, and grandson of Arthur Strzelecki, who in the years 1873 to 1877 represented the family of Strzelecki in London with Mr. Slupski, as the sole representative of the Strzelecki family residing in Poland, the United States, or in any other part of the world for the purpose of mutually completing this case, without recourse to an International Court.
XV.

DESIGNATION OF A LEGAL COMMISSION AND ITS FINANCING BY PARLIAMENT.

The Parliaments of Australia and Great Britain, will agree on the appointment from their mutual bodies of a Commission in a Probate Case of Count Strzelecki composed of three (3) persons. The Commission will be financed by these Parliaments to maximum of 25,000 pounds sterling, paid it by the treasuries of both Parliaments. Costs of Administration should be also paid from the above sum. Liquidation should be completed by the 1st day of January A. D. 1937, and a final report rendered.

XVI.

DESIGNATION OF HEADQUARTERS.

The headquarters of the Liquidators hereto shall be in the disinterested City of New York, New York, United States of America.

XVII.

ANSWER TO THIS PETITION EXPIRES APRIL 1ST 1936

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Boleslaw J. Strzelecki,
for the Strzelecki family and Heirs-at-law.

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK  s.s.
CITY OF NEW YORK

On the 26th day of October A.D. 1935, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Boleslaw J. Strzelecki, to me known to be the person sworn who signed the foregoing instrument, and who believes it to be true, except as to those matters stated to be upon information and belief and as to those matters he believes them to be true.

(Signed) Phillip Ganz,
Notary Public of New York State,
County of New York.
My Commission Expires March 30, 1937.

NON-OFFICIAL COPY.

Published at the expense of heirs-at-law for information of Honorable Members of the Australian and Great Britain Parliaments.

L. A. Woloszyn-Telezynski
Publicity Director
2291 Piquette Street
Detroit, Michigan
"The ambitious Explorer and naturalist Strzelecki received in Tasmania the warmest help and encouragement."


"That gold existed in Australia had already been foretold — it would be difficult to name the British colony in which its presence has not been proclaimed — and gold had indeed been actually been found in various other districts only a few months previously. Count Strzelecki declared in 1839 that the Australian Alps were auriferous."

Adjunct Tilby, in "The English People Overseas" London 1922, p.326

"Strzelecki, Count Paul Edward, was a Polish refugee, who emigrated to Australia in order to avoid the oppression of the Russians, arrived 1839, explored for several years at his own expense, the Great Dividing Range in the neighborhood of the Mount Macedon and made accurate survey of the various mountains peaks in 1839, attempted to reach Melbourne by short cut through the range, suffered great privations but finally succeeded, during his expedition he discovered gold, and announced his discovery to Sir George Gipps, who forwarded the information to the Secretary of the State of the Colonies in 1840, as follows: "Gold found, an auriferous quartz of iron, yielding a very small quantity of proportions of gold, sufficient to attest its presence." In the same year discovered gold at Wellington and send auriferous quartz to Berlin for analysis. Subsequently published his work: 'Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land', accompanied by maps, sections and specimens of rocks, the examination of which in London enabled Sir Robert Oxenden to state that the gold existed in Australia. Returned to Europe 1840 and died in London 1873."

George (Collins) Levey, in "Hutchinson Australian Encyclopaedia" London 1902, p.338

"Strzelecki, Count Paul, R. von, a distinguished Polish refugee; emigrated to Australia in consequence of disorders in his own country, and the rigorous measures adopted toward the Polacs by the Russian Government; was well known for his scientific pursuits, especially in Geology and Mineralogy. From examination of the rocks made soon after his arrival in New South Wales, he felt convinced of the existence of gold in the country. Presented his scientific researches with great vigor for five years and at the personal expense of 5,000 pounds sterling in 1839 in district of Wellington discovered gold bearing quartz, specimens of which he sent to Berlin for analysis, exhibited same to Dr. James Hcestrum and other gentlemen mentioned to the Governor-General Sir George Gipps the existence of gold-field in the Bathurst district; but was requested not to make the matter generally known, for fear of the serious consequences which, considering the condition and population of the colony were to be accelerated, by the fact being likely to arrest the activity of the prisoners and labourers."


"A Polish scientist, Strzelecki, found particles of gold in 1839, when on his way to Gippsland."

"Put it away or we all have our threat cut." (Governor Gipps to Strzelecki)

Robert P. Thompson, in

"We looked over all beauty and undeveloped wealth of Gippsland, which shall yet please God, in fulness of time, be one of the brightest jewels in the king of England crown, but with yea that saw not." - R.B. Strzelecki.

P.D. Bartertorpy, B.A. in the

"Count Strzelecki discovered the available tract of Gippsland the previous existence of which was yet even suspected."

Albert Colvert, in the

"Strzelecki was a geologist who came to Australia in 1835 to make researches in his own field of science; he was indeed, one of the first to discover traces of gold in this country. It is owing to him likewise that the highest mountain in Australia bear a Polish name, that of the celebrated patriot of his Country Reclusmin."

Ernest Scott, in the

"The name of the Count Strzelecki will remain honourably connected with Australia, by his exploration of Gippsland, but still more elaborate work of "Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land", which is a grand-storhouse of the geological and geographical statistics of these colonies, a work which has yet no equalled, on the same ground by no Englishman." p. 322

"DUNN HOUSIE" - "The particular configuration of this coastline struck me so for oddly by the similarity it bears to a tramline erected at Grewos over the tomb of the patriot Reclusmin, that although in a foreign country, on foreign ground, but a free people, who appreciate freedom and its virtues, I could not refrain from giving it the name of Mount Reclusmin." - P.B. Strzelecki. p. 325

William Hewitt, in the

"STRzelECKI, Sir Paul Edmund de, K.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., 1865- C.S.A. 1866- D.C.O. (kcm) 1866- F.R.G.S. 1868- (better known as Count de Strzelecki in the nobility of Poland) scientist and explorer, he in Polish Prussia in 1806, at Hilders and Adelaide After convincing travel about the world including N.Z. N.W.A. and E.A. he reached Sydney in 1837, and devoted years and considerable personal funds to the examination of the geology, flora and fauna of the Dividing Range and other parts of Australia. He found in 1839 traces of gold in pyrites near Bathlay, and in quartz in the Wellington district N.S.W., but at the request of Governor Gipps, he kept the discovery a secret (see W.J. Ransom and W.J. Ransom). About 1846, he discov. the Snowy Range, west of Cooma, named it as he regarded its highest peak Mount Reclusmin, after the polish patriot (subsequently it was ascertained there was a still higher mount, which is now known as Mount Kosciusko, and the original has been named Mount Wellington). He also explored and traversed Gippsland after his discovery and named the country after Governor Gipps (q.v.). He was awarded gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society. After two years spent in scientific researches in Tasmania, he returned to England in 1843, publ. his "Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land" (London 1845), and a supplement thereof entitled "Gold and Silver" (London 1856). He was knighted and otherwise honoured as in London 6 Oct. 1870." - Fred Johnstone, "AUSTRALIAN BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY" BY LONDON.
"Strzelecki, Sir Paul Edmund de, Polish Francis 1793 edn. high school/ing travelled in the East 1835-9, explored Great Darling Range, New South Wales at his own expense 1839-60; discovered large quantity of gold-bearing quartz in the Wellington district 200 miles west of Sydney 1839, etc.


"Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki" CB (1849) - DL - Oxford (1853) - FRS (1853) RGS (1869) Rumford Gold Medal of Royal Geographical Society London in 1866 (member of English Order) better known as Count Strzelecki, the well known scientist and explorer, was native of Poland and travelled abroad in order to escape the Russian yoke. On his way from China he called in at Sydney where he was introduced to the Governor of New South Wales, Sir George Gipps who persuaded him to undertake explorations of the interior of Australia. He died in Saville Row, London Oct. 6th 1872."


"This celebrated book ("A Few Observations on New South Wales & Van Diemen's Land") was a natural preliminary to the discovery of gold in Australia."


"The first report of the existence of silver in Australia comes in the letter written by Count Strzelecki towards the end of 1839, but small quantities of ore were discovered until 1852. Charles Heape found the still unexplored deposits at Broken Hill."


"The priority of the discovery undoubtedly belongs to Strzelecki"


PART OF REPORT OF COUNT STRZELSKI WHEN RELIEF ADMINISTRATOR FOR IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.

(1846-7)

"No person can describe the distress by which I was surrounded. It has actually reached such a degree of insupportable extremes that it became above the power of exaggeration and misrepresentation. You may now believe anything which you hear and read because what I actually see surpasses what I ever read of past and present calamities."

"Report of British Association for Relief of Extreme Distress in Ireland and Scotland"- London 1846, p. 20. (The only book in existence at Nat. Libr. of Ireland, Dublin, No. 1,461,09.

On this subject we have several very interesting abstract from other books.)

"If all the reference books you list contain statements that Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki in 1839 first discovered gold in New South Wales, Australia, there seems no reason to believe otherwise. You certainly have enough authority on which to base your information."

1877

"Australia's contribution to the world's gold supply, 282 to date is valued at over 650,000,000 pounds, or 83,000,000,000,000."

Frederick E. Kerley, Director
The New York World-Telegram Washington Information Bureau
dated March 27th 1935."
IN THE POLISH LITERATURE.

"Polska w Australii" (Poles in Australia) - A. Leszczewski, Warsaw 1925, article at "Praczad Emigracyjny"Feb. 2nd 1925 also "Nowy Swiat" May 7th 1925.

"Rozmowy Lat w Australii" (Ten Years in Australia) - Szymon Wlasiowski, Warsaw 1925, also "Nowy Swiat" May 7th 1925.

"Kazemienska Pamiętniki Edmund Strzelecki" - (In Memory of Edmund Strzelecki) - Sigismund Slagowski, Warsaw 1924, also "Nowy Swiat" May 7th 1925.

"Biuletyn Slowianski".

"KAZEMIENSKA PAMIETNIKI EDUMUND STRZElecki" Vol.IV.

"W.S WARSIAH J. STRZElecki" S. A. Leszczewski, Warsaw 1923, "Nowy Swiat" May 7th, 10th, 13th, 1925.

NEW OF ARTICLES FROM AMERICAN PRESS.

(1925-6).

"NEW YORK MIRROR" Feb.23 1925 p5 and 10 page (magazine section).


"THE NEW YORK AMERICAN" Mar 22 1926, "King Edward VIII Ruler of One-Quarter the World".

"THE NEW YORK AMERICAN" May 22 1926, "The Blinds on His Grip Tightened on the East".

"BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE" - Kenneth C. Johnson, May 21st 1926 (last column).

"THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE" - "Capital Cities of Australia" colored illustration article consisting of 50 page with photo of Count Jean Strzelecki of California on the peak of Mount Kosciusko.

"LONG ISLAND STAR" Dec 20, 1926 and June 10, 1926.

"TOOK SIGHT" N.Y. Oct. 20 1926 "Centennial Jubilee of Mount Kosciusko"

"OUR STREETS" "LOVE LETTERS" - Sydney Evening Herald 1926.

"THE BIOGRAPHY OF COUNT PAUL EDMUND DE STRZElecki" "Wielka" Holycoza, Mass. - Feb. 15,22,29 and May 8th 1926. J. Strzelecki (6 col.1)

ARTICLES IN THE POLISH PRESS.

(1925-6).

By: Boleslaw J. Strzelecki, N.Y.

"ZAKA JEST RZYZM DZIECKA POLSKA A AUSTRALIA?" (Geographical Difference Between Poland and Australia?) - "Dziala Wygadlo" Buffalo, N.Y. Nov. 12 1925.

"O HISTORiAC POLSKA DO AUSTRALIOJ" (For Polish Emigration to Australia) - "Monitor" Glowne, 2. Oct. 1925.


"CHUJ KOPIE ZOOGOSKIJ HARYWAIA 212 MUNT-RUSCHI" (Why Mount Kosciusko is Also Called Mt. Reaurn? ) - "Dziala Wygadlo" Chicago, 29th Nov. 1925.

"ZAKA CHDZIACZILE SIE SWIAT HILLABURGOSKI SPADL?" (Outlook of Billion Dollar Case) - "Prowdze" France, Feb.28 1926.

"W STRACIAH J. STRZElecki" (Count Strzelecki Case) "Nowy Swiat" N.Y. Oct. 25 1925.

"PODROZE J. STRZEleckiego W LAMACH 1924-1925" (Count Strzelecki Travels in The Years 1924-1925) "Dr. Wieslaw" Chicago Jan. 27 1925.
"LIST OF ARTICLES DO REDACJI "KOSMO SKŁADA" I POLONII W AMERYCE I AUSTRALII" (Open letter to Editor of "Kosmo Swiat" to the Poles in America and Australia) - "Kosmo Swiat" N.Y., Oct.6, 1956 (on the 32nd anniversary of Count Strzelecki, death, Oct.6, 1873)

"O SKŁADANIU W AUSTRALII I POLAND POLSKIH X POLSKIH DO POLSKICH OSZABOW TEJ WSPól (Our Colonization Rights in Australia and Claims to New South Wales of that Island) "Kosmo Swiat" N.Y., July 3rd, 1955. (on the eve of 100 Anniversary when Count Strzelecki explored Eastern United States and became Citizen of United States)

"DZIEŃ ROZDZIE SEO IN AUSTRALII" AND WHO IS A LOCAL OWNER OF THAT REGION (Gora Kosciuszkó w Australia i kto jest jej Władcem?) - W.Zwiazkow (Chicago Oct.6, 1955

"PRAWA POLSKIE DO KOLOJI W AUSTRALII" (Poland Rights to Australian Colonies) "Ogulisko Domowe" Detroit, Mich., Aug.29th, 1955.

"W PRAWIE ODJEDZ AS DESZENIEM POLSKICH" (Demand for Returning of Polish Colonies in Australia) "Sw.Polski" Detroit, Mich, July 12th, 1955.

"W SPRAWIE ODJEDZEN PO SLUNKIM PODSTEWIM POLSKIM" (Demand of Returning of Polish Colonies in Australia) "Sw.Polski" Detroit, Mich, July 24, 1955.

"LISTY MIŁOSNE, SERDZIESKOSC" (Count Strzelecki Love Letters) "Kosmo Swiat" N.Y., June 28, 29, 1956. (also published in English in "Sydney Herald" and others (1956)

"CELEN JERYK W JEDZENIU NIEDZIELNIM IX MR. SERDZIESKII NYL PILNIECHEN ZREZYGWIA SŁOONGA W AUSTRALII" (King George V Before His Death Acknowledged that Count Strzelecki was First Official Gold Discoverer in Australia) "Illustrowany Kurier Codzienny" Chicago, Feb. 17th, 1956.

"BRIEF HISTORY OF GOR. KOSECKI ROZGIOILO" Why Sir Edmund Strzelecki Named Highest Austria Peak Mount Kosciusko? "Franklin" News-57, Oct.16, 1956 and other articles on same, June 19th, 1956. (in English)

"HOUS SPANISH O 15 MILLION MATION" - (Inheritance Case Amounting to 15 Billion Dollars) ilustrwany Polonia" Luns, France Dr.125, 1956.

"WAKA O SPANIE O ROZGIOILO" (Right For Count Strzelecki Wealth) "Kurier Poznanski" Oct.27, Nov.9, 10, Dec.29 1956, Feb.10 1956 (full pages articles)

METHODS COLLECTED AND RESPECTED BY: B. J. Strzelecki, 11 W. 30th St. N.Y. (Copies of prototype could be obtained by application.)