

*A Sandomierz-dweller in Poznań.
The university,
literary circles and educational system
1923–1945*

Summary

1923. Czesław Latawiec, a promising graduate of the prestigious Collegium Gostomianum, leaves his hometown of Sandomierz to take up literary studies in a distant province – at the newly founded University of Poznań. A brilliant and independent-minded student, soon he gains recognition and becomes the president of the eminent student's association at the Philosophy Department – Koło Polonistów. Latawiec proves to be a talented organizer, active in Poznań literary circles. Even before taking his doctorate in 1930 he starts teaching Polish literature in Poznań secondary schools, Saint Mary Magdalene High School and Karol Marcinkowski High School among others. Well-respected and very popular with his students, Latawiec becomes a living legend.

The memoirs by dr Czesław Latawiec, an educator and a literary scholar, constitute a multifaceted and multiple picture of Poznań cultural life in the prewar and II World War period. The title *A Sandomierz-dweller in Poznań* alludes to the book *Sandomierz – moja młodość* [*Sandomierz – my youth*] (1976) by dr Latawiec, which is his memoirs of earlier times.

The present volume has been critically edited by prof. Ewa Rajewska as well as Bogusława Latawiec, a poet, dr Latawiec's daughter, who has also written the preface and contributed some personal poems on her father to the book.

The volume, illustrated with photos from the family archive and The Raczyński Library, closes with dr Latawiec's biographical entry and bibliography.