



Die Hochmeister des Deutschen Ordens 1190–2012, zweite, erweiterte und korrigierte Auflage, hrsg. v. Udo Arnold (Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens, Bd. 40, Veröffentlichungen der Internationalen Historischen Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens, Bd. 6), VDG Verlag, Weimar 2014, 377 + xiv S., 108 Abbildungen, ISBN: 978-3-89739-810-8.

This publication is the second edition of a biographical catalogue of the grand masters of the Teutonic Order from its beginnings as a hospitaller order (1190–1198) until modern times. The project is the initiative of Udo Arnold, the chairman of the Internationale Historische Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens, who, together with 20 other historians, began compiling the catalogue more than 17 years ago, in connection with the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the order (1190–1990). It was a very useful academic initiative which provided an overview of the history of the order through a study of the lives and activities of its leading members. Its huge popularity among an academic and non-academic public prompted Arnold to publish a second edition on the occasion of 70th birthday of the 65th grand master of the Order, Bruno Platter, to whom the volume is dedicated. The volume begins with a *tabula gratulatoria*, listing the members and associates of the Teutonic Order, as well as 249 notable individuals of various professions.

The original work included biographical articles on 64 superiors of the Order, together with a short description of the office of grand master and a brief discussion of the five superiors of the original hospitaller community (pp. 1–3 and 4–8). The new edition has been expanded to include Platter who has been the grand master of the order since 2000 (pp. 348–353)

Of the 20 authors of the original publication, seven have died, which is the main reason why the content of the second edition has undergone little change. There are only a few slight changes in four of the entries (apart from that on Platter). Arnold has revised his comments on the origins of Gerhard von Malberg, the sixth master of the Teutonic Order, claiming that he was not the son of Agnes von Malberg, but rather a *ministerialis* of her father, Rudolf (p. 22). Arnold also notes, following Simon Helms, that Grand Master Luther von Braunschweig was probably the author of the *Makkabäerbuch* (p. 66). Note 64, concerning Grand Master Arnold Wieland (1988–2000), has been expanded to include important information regarding his final years in office, emphasising his activity in the res-

toration of the Teutonic Order's properties in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, as well as the development of the institution of associates in the 1990s, following the democratic turn in Central Europe (pp. 346–348).

All of the biographical articles are similarly structured, discussing in turn the subject's life before entering the Teutonic Order, their career before becoming Grand Master, and their activity in that office. For obvious reasons, this template could not be applied to every notable person mentioned as a full biography without any gaps in the chronology could only be provided for persons living after the 16th century. Despite such limitations, however, the volume presents the lives and histories of a varied and diverse group of dignitaries who served the Teutonic Order throughout the 800 years of its existence, giving a prosopographical perspective on its history.

In some cases Arnold includes discussion of how the subjects were viewed and interpreted after their deaths, for example Hermann von Salza (pp. 14–16), Siegfried von Feuchtwangen (p. 51), Ulrich von Jungingen (p. 116), Walter von Cronberg (p. 169) and Heinrich von Bobenhausen (pp. 193–195). However, no such analysis is provided for Winrich von Kniprode, Heinrich von Plauen, Albrecht von Brandenburg-Ansbach, and Anton Viktor von Österreich. The last biographical entry concerns the current leader of the order, Bruno Platter, and forms one of the more significant expansions of the second edition, especially in its information on the charitable character of the order in the 21st century.

The other significant change relates to Ulrich von Jungingen, who was killed during the battle of Grunwald/Tannenberg/Žalgiris in 1410. Sven Ekdahl's entry has undergone a major expansion reflecting the great increase in publications concerning the battle following its 600th anniversary in 2010; this new material does not concern the biography of the master, but mainly relates to the second phase of the conflict between the Teutonic Order and the king of Poland and Duke of Lithuania in 1409–1410. Ekdahl does not enlarge on Jungingen's role as military leader, but does suggest that this topic would be worth pursuing in the future. It is noticeable that all of the publications mentioned regarding the 1409–1411 conflict are by Ekdahl himself, while large body of work concerning the battle, the second phase of the conflict and Jungingen's career as grand master goes unrecognised. While Ekdahl is clearly a specialist in this area, it would be well worth mentioning important works of other academics such as Roman Czaja, Rimvydas Petrauskas, Artūras Dubonis, Klaus Militzer, Sławomir Józwiak, Adam Szweda, Sobiesław Szybkowski, Marek Radoch, Józef Śliwiński, and Krzysztof Kwiatkowski¹ whose publications

¹ R. Czaja, *Gesellschaft und Landesherr im Ordensland Preußen zu Beginn des 15. Jahrhunderts*, *Zapiski Historyczne* 75 (2010), 4, pp. 19–30; R. Petrauskas, *Der Frieden im Zeitalter des*

shed new light on the political activities of Jungingen, his personal interactions with the monarchs and nobility at the time before his election as Grand Master, and finally on his role as military leader during the early stages of the war of 1409–1411.

Ekdahl's interpretation of Ulrich von Jungingen's election as grand marshal in 1404 as a acknowledgment and recognition of his administrative and organisational skills displayed as commander of Balga and *voigt* of Natangia (1396–1404) is doubtful. After all, the grand marshal's duties had an intrinsic military character which must have been especially significant in the autumn of 1404 when one of the important goals of the Order was subjecting the Samogitians to Teutonic Order's rule. Considering the events of 4–5 years before, the upper echelon of the order must have seen this as potentially involving wide scale military action.

Ekdahl's description of the battle of Grunwald/Tannenberg/Žalgiris presenting many of his own hypotheses as established facts. Most of his opinions, however, remain theories which, while probable, remain unproven, just like the alternative hypotheses of other scholars. Like most medieval military conflicts, the Battle of Grunwald/Tannenberg/Žalgiris is, and will remain, a fragmentary col-

Krieges. Formen friedlicher Kommunikation zwischen dem Deutschen Orden und dem Großfürstentum Litauen zu Beginn des 15. Jahrhunderts, Annaberger Annalen über Litauen und deutsch-litauische Beziehungen 12 (2004), pp. 28–42; A. Dubonis, *Lietuvių ir vokiečių tautos bendravimo bruožai XIV a. karo sukuryje*, *Lituanistica* 56 (2010), 1–4 (79–82), pp. 2–18; K. Militzer, *Das Problem der zwei Schwerter in der Schlacht bei Tannenberg*, in: *Rechtsverständnis und Konfliktbewältigung. Gerichtliche und außergerichtliche Strategien im Mittelalter*, hrsg. v. S. Esders, Köln 2007, pp. 379–389; S. Józwiak, *Negocjacje pokojowe w trakcie trwania pierwszej fazy wojny polsko-krzyżackiej (16 VIII – 8 X 1409 roku)*, *Roczniki Historyczne* 79 (2013), pp. 57–71; S. Józwiak, A. Szweda, *Przed „wielką wojną”. Polsko-krzyżacka rozgrywka dyplomatyczna w czerwcu-sierpniu 1409 roku*, *Roczniki Historyczne* 73 (2007), pp. 139–164; S. Józwiak, K. Kwiatkowski, A. Szweda, S. Szybkowski, *Wojna Polski i Litwy z zakonem krzyżackim w latach 1409–1411*, Malbork 2010; S. Szybkowski, *Krzyżacy i ich dobrzyńscy popiecznicy w latach 1405–1413. Z badań nad polsko-pruskimi związkami transgranicznymi na początku XV wieku*, *Komunikaty Mazursko-Warmińskie*, 2010, 3 (269), pp. 281–298; M. Radoch, *Wspieranie ubogich przez wielkich mistrzów krzyżackich w latach 1399–1409 (w świetle księgi podskarbiego malborskiego)*, *Komunikaty Mazursko-Warmińskie*, 2004, 1 (243), pp. 69–86; idem, *Tabliczki wotywnie wielkich mistrzów Zakonu Krzyżackiego Konrada i Ulryka von Jungingen dla kościołów w Prusach (w świetle księgi podskarbiego malborskiego z lat 1399–1409)*, in: *Mieszczanie, wasale, zakonnicy*, ed. Błażej Śliwiński (Studia z Dziejów Średniowiecza 10), Malbork 2004, pp. 163–171; idem, *Wydatki wielkich mistrzów krzyżackich na placówki szpitalne w Prusach w latach 1399–1409 (w świetle księgi podskarbiego malborskiego)*, *Komunikaty Mazursko-Warmińskie*, 2007, 1 (255), pp. 3–18; J. Śliwiński, *Kilka uwag do kontaktów opactwa pelplińskiego z Zakonem Krzyżackim za rządów Konrada i Ulryka von Jungingen (1393–1410)*, in: *Kopijnicy, szyprowie, tenutariusze*, ed. Błażej Śliwiński (Gdańskie Studia z Dziejów Średniowiecza 8), Gdańsk 2002, pp. 241–251; K. Kwiatkowski, *Okoliczności wypowiedzenia wojny królowi polskiemu Władysławowi II przez wielkiego mistrza zakonu niemieckiego Ulricha von Jungingen w sierpniu 1409 roku*, *Zapiski Historyczne* 74 (2009), 3, pp. 7–33.

lection of events and happenings, which, in the words of Hans-Henning Kortüm² will always remain *non liquet*, that is vague and unclear.

Apart from the modifications and revisions discussed above, *Die Hochmeister* also includes some minor bibliographical revisions in the form of references to new publications. Those articles which have now revised bibliographies are: (9) Poppo von Osternohe (p. 31) by Klaus Militzer; (11) Hartman von Heldrungen (p. 38) by Udo Arnold; (14) Gottfried von Hohenlohe (p. 49) by Klaus Militzer; (21) Heinrich Dusemer (p. 84) by Klaus Conrad; (33) Heinrich Reffle von Richtenberg (p. 150) by Lothar Dralle; (46) Leopold Wilhelm von Österreich (p. 227) by Bernhard Demel; (47) Karl Joseph von Österreich (p. 231) also by Demel; (53) Maximilian Franz von Österreich (p. 273) by Klaus Oldenhage, as well as the note concerning the superiors of the hospital in Acre (p. 8) by Arnold. The expanded bibliographies, however, are not connected to any changes in the content of the biographical articles. The edition also includes a list of the most important of the referenced publications (pp. 355–357), an index of personal names and place-names (pp. 358–375) a list of illustrations (p. 376) and a list of authors (p. 377).

The new edition will undoubtedly be welcomed by the public, and should be positively received by the community of scholars and popular readers alike.

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² H.-H. Kortüm, *Die Tannenberg Schlacht im Kontext der spätmittelalterlichen Kriegs- bzw. Schlachtgeschichte*, in: *Tannenberg – Grunwald – Žalgiris 1410. Krieg und Frieden im späten Mittelalter*, hrsg. v. W. Paravicini, R. Petrauskas, G. Vercamer (Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau. Quellen und Studien 26), Wiesbaden 2012, pp. 89–101, here pp. 98–101.