PAULINA TARADAJ

THE MEDALS AND A PLAQUE FOR EMERYK HUTTEN-CZAPSKI IN THE COLLECTION OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM IN CRACOW

Count Emeryk Hutten-Czapski (1828-1896) is regarded as one of the most eminent Polish collectors and numismatists. Among many tokens of the recognition of his outstanding achievements there are medals, of which two were issued in Emeryk Hutten-Czapski's lifetime. The first one was a medal awarded by the Imperial Russian Archaeological Society in Petersburg in 1876, for his catalogue of Russian coinage and a detailed description of one of the coins, the so-called *sievski czech*. Another medal was struck in 1896 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the academic work of the author of the monumental study of Polish coinage. Unfortunately, Hutten-Czapski died before he could receive it. The article also features one more medal from that period, namely the item commissioned in 1879 in commemoration of the silver anniversary of the wedding of Emeryk and Elżbieta Czapski. Another medal was struck several years after Czapski's death, whereas the donation of the collection to the Municipality of Cracow was honoured by an even more memorable item, i.e., a plaque designed by the renowned sculptor Konstanty Laszczka (1904). In 1978, three more medals dedicated to Czapski were struck on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the collector's birth.