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Orla estate of Radzivills between 1585 and 1695

Summary

The main objective of the following doctoral thesis is to present the history of Orla estate in the period falling between 1585 and 1695 while being in the possession of Birże Radzivills. The dissertation raises multiple issues in order to provide a complex picture of Orla wealth within abovementioned years. The evolution of the property has been described starting from its beginning in the first half of the 16th century, throughout its rise in the first half of the next centennial, its destruction during Swedish Deluge and its slow reconstruction in the second half of the 17th century. The first chapter covers Orla estate till 1585 together with bringing closer the silhouettes of Birże Radzivills and providing the sketch of the history of Orla wealth during the lifetime of individual members of the house between 1585 and 1695. The second chapter raises the matter of a creation of Orla city, urban arrangement of localities included in Orla estate as well as their demography and administration. The next chapter reviews comprehensively the population of Orla estate together with religious issues and obligations. The last chapter applies to the economy of Orla estate with the distinction of its respective sectors. The determination of the role of Orla estate in Radzivills' latifundium constitutes the resume of the chapter.

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