

Appendix B
Olimpia Szychowska Letter, 22 Dec 1929

TRANSLATION FROM POLISH

Lipinki, December 22, 1929

Dear Wicek [probably Wincenety Tejkowski] and other members of the family,

I was in Grudziadz in November visiting family and was shown a letter from America. Julian [Olimpia's brother?] asked me to guess who wrote the letter and I was surprised to find that it was you, Wicek (*Wicek is a nickname for Wincenety*). I was very happy to hear from you. I cried when I read that your mother [Rozalia Szychowska, married first to Leopold Jamrozy, later to Jan Tejkowski] passed away. Our mother passed away 11 years ago in February. I was wandering [wondering] why you did not write to Lipinki. I thought that you might all be dead. Several years ago your mother in her letter asked whether Julian and Anielka passed away and I wrote back right way telling her that this was not true. The letter did not reach her. Then this terrible World War broke out and we lost touch. I lost your address and could not write any more. Now I have to write several letters, one after another, when one is lost. Perhaps another will reach you. After all, not all letters can get lost.

Now I have to tell you about myself. My name is Olimpia. Wicek, I am not sure whether you can remember me. When you were leaving, [Wincenety immigrated from Lipinki in 1896] you were just a little boy. I did not get married. I've remained an old maid, but I don't regret this. I could not find myself a good husband and I did not want to marry a good for nothing guy.

Roman inherited the farm and I got some money. I have a house next to the old one with 3 rooms and a kitchen. I run a small farm and keep some chickens for eggs and meat. It is easier to live in Po land now. Only clothing is expensive, especially if one wants to dress nice.

What is Nastka, Roman, (*illegible name*), and John doing? [Probably Anastasia Jamrozy, Roman Jamrozy (not the Roman mentioned in the previous paragraph), possibly Julian Jamrozy, and Jan Tejkowski]. They probably don't remember Lipinki. Lipinki got bigger and looks nice now. There is a new railway station, so we don't have to go to (*illegible name*)[probably Ostrowite] anymore to travel by train. We can go directly to Grudziadz or Torun. I go to visit Julian in Grudziadz. It usually takes me about 2 hours to get there. Julian has two sons and a daughter. The oldest son graduated from high school and joined the army. The younger son and the daughter still attend high school. The girl is 16 years old.

I have described everything that I could. Please write back about your family. All the best for everyone,

Olimpia

My address:
Szychowska
Lipinki, (*two words illegible*), Poland

A note on the side of last page:
This a picture of Julian's youngest son

[Translated from the Polish by Krystyna K. Matusiak, May 2003. Annotations in brackets by Emil Tejkowski.]

[Original, manuscript letter written on letterhead with the heading: Szychowski
Attorney and Notary
Grudziadz, Mickiewicza 1
Telephone 512

(Translation my own. ejt)]