Brigadier General WLADIMIR B. KRZYZANOWSKI Memorial Program



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"As a son of my beloved Poland and remembering Her misfortunes, did I fight for the ideals and freedom of America."

— KRZYZANOWSKI

On the Fiftieth Anniversary of His Death

This booklet is a contribution of the Publisher of NOWY SWIAT. The proceeds from the sale of it will be offered to the POLISH VETERANS towards a fund to erect a suitable tombstone on Gen. Krzyzanowski's grave.

NEW YORK CITY

JANUARY 31, 1937

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

January 8, 1937

Dear Major Anuskiewicz:

It is fitting that the memory of Brigadier General Wladimir B. Krzyzanowski should be commemorated with exercises on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. He was one of those valiant patriots of Polish blood who carried on the earlier tradition which men of Polish origin established in the service of American freedom. It gives me great pleasure to associate myself with those who plan to pay tribute to so intrepid a spirit.

Very sincerely yours,

funtilin I Sursenela

Gaior R. T. Anuskiowicz

Major B. T. Anuskiewicz, Chairman, General Krzyzanowski Memorial Committee.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WLADIMIR B. KRZYZANOWSKI



Official photograph taken during the Civil War. N. Y. Historical Society.

COMMANDER « SECOND BRIGADE « THIRD DIVISION XX. CORPS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

A MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF POLAND TO THE U.S. HIS EXCY, COUNT JERZY POTOCKI

AMBASADA RZECZYPOSPÓLITEJ POLSKIEJ W WASZYNGTONIE

> POLISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON 1640-16TH STREET, N. W.

January 19, 1937.

Dear Sir.

The memory of Brigadier General Wlodzimierz B. Krzyzanowski is another living link in the history of the two great Republics.

Descendant of those heroic warriors who fought for the cause of freedom and democracy, General Krzyzanowski had brought here his great ideals.

Cherishing in his heart the dreams of the greatness of his father's land and the spirit of sacrifice for the right cause, the brave General had served with courage and faith his adopted country, attaining here the highest distinctions and thus setting a noble example for millions of his brothers living in this country.

Today's commemoration of this great hero will strengthen again the friendship between our two nations.

Yours sincerely,

Jerzy Potocki Ambassador of Poland,

Major B.T. Anuskiewicz, Chairman, General Krzyzanowski Memoral Committee.

DEDICATION





n each generation of men there rise a few personages whose deeds and ideals make them loom like the giant red-woods in the fastness of a California forest. Just as the giant redwoods grow to their stature only through the centuries so with men. The fleeting years rolling into decades and centuries, finally ner generation of men the proper perception of the greatness of

give another generation of men the proper perception of the greatness of men in the past.

Such a man was Brigadier-General Wladimir B. Krzyzanowski.

Fifty years ago today His noble heart was stilled forever. Just a handful of friends knew of the genuine attributes and the splendid character of this Pole, who as an adopted son of America, fought inspiringly for the ideals that She represented.

Today we see the man in His true light. We learn that His magnanimity was only exceeded by His kindness, His modesty by His valor and His staunchness, by His leadership. We also learn that His life was guided by the flaming torch of Freedom, having come across the seas from a harrowed land, a fugitive because He had tried to enflame a few glowing embers in the ashes of the Fires of Liberty that had once burned so brightly in Poland.

Then when a discordant note tolled from the cracked Liberty Bell and the peoples of America were thrown into bitter conflict, testing whether the principles of Democracy born through so much labor were to endure, General Wladimir Krzyzanowski was among the first to stand in staunch defense of America's Fledgling of Freedom, who was just about to try its wings in soaring flight.

Therefore, our Memorial Exercises on the fiftieth anniversary of the death of General Wladimir Krzyzanowski are only a small but sincere gesture of tribute of our generation. It is hoped that fifty years from now at the centennial commemoration the generation of men, yet to be born, will find our simple services, in memory of this great man, acting as an inspiration for a truly great memorial.

Benjaming J. Christewicz

MAJOR BENJAMIN T. ANUSKIEWICZ

Chairman

GENERAL WLADIMIR B. KRZYZANOWSKI HIS LIFE AND DEEDS

BY HENRY ARCHACKI



n the year 1824, the people of Poland, with willing hands but heavy hearts were finishing the Kosciuszko Mound on the out-skirts of Krakow. An air of quiet mourning had lain over the land like a heavy shroud for Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Poland's great hero in the quest of Liberty, had died only a few short years ago.

In this atmosphere of stifled sobs and tear-laden eyes was born a son to Stanislaw Krzyzanowski and his wife Ludwika Pongowski in Roznowo, Poland, then under German regime. The date was indelibly imprinted in the memory of the mother, as July 9, 1824. The names at christening were that of Wladimir Bonaventura.

Life for the little family group was not easy. The German occupation of the territory had hampered the natural liberty-loving Poles. All inhabitans were treated with disdain and suspicion. The Polish language was not allowed to be used. A thousand and one forms of subjecting the people to a niggardly servitude were practiced.

BOYHOOD AND STUDENT DAYS.

Thus grew to boyhood the young Wladimir Krzyzanowski. Already he had begun to understand the furtive glances at the windows by his parents; already he understood why the language of his parents and forbears must be spoken in whispers; already in his youthful breast there was kindled the urge and desire to right such conditions of intolerance.

The kindled flame grew and spread until it was a raging fire and now young Krzyzanowski, a student, banded together with other students in whose hearts kindred fires burned. The oppressive yoke, the heavy fisted hand of mail must be raised. With the impulsiveness and energy of youth. the students began to make trouble for the then ruling authorities. Experienced gendarmes and spies were sent out to break up the menacing movement. Young Krzyzanowski, whose powerful physique and commanding mein made him a natural leader, was singled out as a conspirator against the German government. However, the grapevine of that period conveyed the news to young Wladimir that he was a hunted man. Faced with a long prison sentence, if caught, which undoubtedly he would have been, due to the thoroughness of the German police and spy system, Wladimir Krzyzanowski made the decision of coming to America, the land of legend and unheard of freedom.

EARLY YEARS IN AMERICA.

After a long and perilous voyage, the 22 year old Wladimir glimpsed for the first time the shore line of that wondrous land - the land that he was to adopt - the land that he was to help save from being torn

The America of 1846 was a bustling thriving country, yet the pioneer spirit of the individual still played an important part. Freedom was to be had, but a livelihood was something you got for yourself. Hampered by the language and general strangeness of conditions, young Wladimir set about with a determination of purpose which later marked his military campaigns.

At the age of 22 he buckled down to the task of mastering the language and not only that, but to acquire an American education. Needless to say, many a man confronted by the difficulties that faced Krzyzanowski would have given up, It is a real indication of the man's character that not only did he master the language but went on to study and graduated as an engineer.

Many miles of budding railroad lines of that period were charted by Krzyzanowski in the middle west. His engineering knowledge stood him in good stead during the war.

THE CIVIL WAR,

The dull and ominous rumblings of a conflict that seemed inevitable broke with volcanic force and from the gaping wound belched forth the hideous form of Civil War.

On December 20th, 1860, South Carolina was the first state to secede from the Union. On April 12th, 1861, the Confederates opened fire on Fort Sumter in South Carolina thus starting the armed hostilities that were to shake the world. On April 11th, 1861, (the day before) Wladimir Krzyzanowski enlisted as a private into company B. of the Turner Rifles in Washington, D. C.

His keen sense of justice against any form of servitude or oppression quickly made Krzyzanowski ally himself with the Union against the South with its slavery. His organizing ability which had manifested itself during his student days, once again asserted itself and before many weeks Krzyza-

nowski had a company of militia formed.

Aiding materially in the defense of Washington during the early attacks of the Confederates Krzyzanowski was rapidly advanced to the rank of major.

THE 58TH REGIMENT OF NEW YORK.

On August 20th, 1861, Krzyzanowski stepped into the office of the Secretary of War, Simon Cameron and offered his services to the Union forces. Secretary of War Cameron, looked at the towering six feet and 190 pounds of manhood before him, Krzyzanowski being 36 years old at that time, and gazing into the sincere grey eyes of the Pole did not hesitate for a moment to accept such a volunteer.

The War Department then gave Colonel Wladimir Krzyzanowski authority to recruit a regiment of Infantry which he designated as the United States Rifles. Quoting from the War Department records we learn that:

"Colonel Julian Allen had received authority July 22nd. 1861, also from the War Department to recruit a regiment which was known as the Polish Legion.

"Later the Polish Legion and Gallatin Rifles, were merged into the Morgan Rifles, under Colonel Lutz; October 19, 1861, the 58th Regiment was organized in New York City, by State authorities through the consolidation of the incomplete Morgan and United States Rifles. Colonel Wladimir Krzyzanowski was appointed Colonel of Regiment. The companies were mustered into the service for three years. It was composed of Danes, Frenchmen, Germans, Poles and Russians who were recruited principally in New York City."

The Regiment left the State November 7th, 1861, and served in the Army of the Potomac up till June 26th, 1862.

THE BATTLE OF CROSS KEYS.

On June 2nd, 1862, the Regiment got its first baptism of fire. Here Col. Krzyzanowski distinguished himself by heroically massing his men and leading them in the face of fire. The following exerpts from the report of Brigadier General Henry Bohlen, commanding the brigade at the Battle of Cross Keys, best illustrates the bravery of the 58th Regiment:

"Meanwhile, as is shown in the report of Col. Krzyzanowski, the Fiftheighth marched gallantly ahead, supported by a section of Captain Schirmer's battery, which disabled the enemy's pieces placed on a hill on the right of the regiment. The Fifth-eighth met the enemy and drove him back at the point of the bayonet."

At the end of his report Brig. Gen. Bohlen again commented:

"From the report of Captain Schirmer, whose guns were supported by the Fifth-eighth Regiment, this regiment behaved with great gallantry under the command of Col. Krzyzanowski."

Col. Krzyzanowski in his own reports to Gen. H. Bohlen writes in a simple and concise hand of the heroic feat of his men:



"After the arrival of my regiment near the field of battle to the left of the battery of the First Brigade, I received your orders to move to the right, when Brigadier-General Stahel asked me to come up to his assistance. At once I formed my regiment into line, being in column by division, and advanced to the place indicated by General Stahel. I was at that time in the middle of a large rye field. Upon a hill I perceived a battery opening fire toward our right. Directly after this Capt. Schirmer came up and seeing the battery he told me if I would protect him with my regiment he would bring up a couple of guns and open fire upon the enemy's battery. He did so, and soon silenced the latter. Capt. Schirmer now withdrew his guns and soon the whole regiment was engaged. Keeping up a constant fire, which told greatly among the enemy's lines, I now gave the command to charge bayonets, and succeeded in driving him back about a hundred yards."

BULL RUN

Starting August 16th, 1862, Colonel Krzyzanowski and the 58th Regiment became part of the Army of Virginia. The Regiment saw action at Fox Ford, Sulphur Springs, Waterloo Springs, Croveton, Virginia and the famous historic Battle of Bull Run.

During the Battle of Bull Run in which the Union forces were defeated, somewhat disastrously. Col. Krzyzanowski and his regiment offered a resistance, which historically has not passed unnoticed.

In his own long report on this battle, Col. Krzyzanowski vividly describes the movements of his regiments and true to the character of the man was unstinting in his praise for his men, which can be judged from the following excerpt:

"The gallant conduct of First Lieutenant Wertheimer of this regiment, deserves to be noticed, who, while the enemy's batteries were pouring a perfect hail of lead into our lines, nobly grasped a guide flag and cheered the men to follow him. Lieut.-Col. Ashley of this regiment, Capt. Wahle, Capt. Ernewein and Adjutant Brandt on this day behaved very bravely.

The 58th Regiment was more fortunate in regards to the loss of officers, but suffered intensely in the ranks. All the officers deserved credit for their behavior on that day. I have also to mention the gallant conduct of First Lieutenant Chesebrough, of General Schenck's staff, whom I met on the battlefield, and who assisted me for some time. I was unfortunate enough on that day to lose my horse, which was shot under me."

On September 12, 1862, Col. Krzyzanowski and his regiment became part of the Army of the Potomac again. After the Battle of Bull Run there was a lull in the fighting on both sides as each prepared for what now appeared to be a major struggle.

BRIGADIER GENERAL.

November 29, 1862, Col. Krzyzanowski was appointed Brigadier-General of the New York Volunteers. This appointment expired on March 4, 1863, for an unexplainable reason and he was reverted back to Colonel.

Although having the rank of Colonel he actually was commanding five regiments, equivalent to a brigade which only a brigadier-general commands. These regiments were the 58th—New York, 119th—New York, 26th—Wisconsin, 82nd—Ohio and 75th—Pensylvania. His regiments saw action again at Chancellorsville on May 1st, 1863. Here again Col. Krzyzanowski and his men were the only ones that stopped Gen. Stonewall Jackson.

CITATION.

His regiment also saw heroic action in the Battle of Gettysburg, and it was during this battle that Col. Krzyzanowski received his highest praise coming from Major General O. O. Howard who wrote in his citation the following:

"Were I to accord praise to individuals, I would hardly know where to begin or where to end. I noticed Generals Schurz and Steinwehr; Colonel Krzyzanowski commanding second Brigade.

"I commend them for bravery, faithfulness and efficiency in the discharge of duty."

SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN.

Following the Gettysburg campaign Colonel Krzyzanowski and his men were transferred to Tennessee, where they were occupied in the Chattanooga and Rossville campaign.

While in the South even the enemy grew to admire and like Colonel Krzyzanowski. It is told that while occupying Bridgeport, Tennessee, Col. Krzyzanowski was practically dictator of life and death over the townspeople, nevertheless, his kindly and humane attitude made him appear to be more of a friend than an enemy.

During the rest of the war Col. Krzyzanowski and his men held portions of conquered territory, and on October 1st, 1865, at the close of the war, were honorably discharged and mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee.

General Krzyzanowski finally was mustered out as Brigadier-General of the United States Volunteers, on March 13th, 1865.

The high esteem and love that General Krzyzanowski's men had for him can best be exemplified by a token of admiration tendered the general in the form of a beautiful sword with the inscription: "From the officers and soldiers of the 2nd Brigade 3rd Division, 2nd Corps in tribute to their beloved Commander."

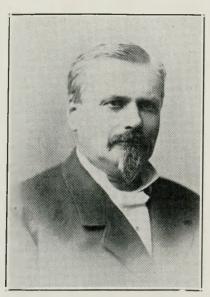
POST WAR DAYS.

Gen. Krzyzanowski's service of fifty five months in the Civil War was not to go unrewarded. In 1865, shortly after America had purchased Alaska, Gen. Krzyzanowski was sent there in governmental capacity to start and promulgate the first United States supervision of the territory.

From the snow-capped peaks of Alaska, Gen. Krzyzanowski went down to Panama, also in governmental capacity.

The restless spirit that prompted Gen. Krzyzanowski to leave his native Poland was in evidence practically to his last days when he served as a special agent of the Treasury Department,

Just as the stalwart general was turning his 62nd birthday, a complication brought about by his war years and hard early life, began to ravage the huge muscular frame and his steel grey eyes became dimmed in their luster.



GEN. KRZYZANOWSKI shortly before his death.

HIS DEATH.

Six months later the broad shoulders became stooped and bowed, and on January 31st, 1887, at 3:10 A. M. General Wladimir Bonaventura Krzyzanowski breathed his last.

The death certificate stated that he had lived sixty-two years six months and twenty-three days. He died at the home of his adopted daughter Mrs. Mair, 870 Lexington Ave. (The building since then has been torn down and a modern apartment stands there today). The death was attributed to two causes by attending physician Dr. Alfred Meyer, namely: Uraemia from chronic Brights disease and chronic thickening of the right pleuron.

BURIAL.

February 2, 1887, a large body of comrades from the Steinwehr Post, many friends and dignitaries of state, accompanied the mortal remains of General Wladimir Krzyzanowski to his last resting place.

Overlooking the wan and wintry countryside of the Southwestern edge of the Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, the funeral procession halted and huddled about a fresh turned mound of earth. Here General Carl Schurz, Major general over General Krzyzanowski during the war, and now United States Senator and the Secretary of the Treasury, spoke the final words of eulogy and the words of praise that fell from his lips warmed the chill countryside.

Later the Steinwehr Post of the G. A. R. raised a modest monument in memory of their general and comrade which stands there to this day.

FIFTY YEARS LATER.

Although the earth closed over the mortal remains of Gen. Wladimir Krzyzanowski, yet his life and deeds were soon to become an integral part of the history of America and on this day of January 31st, 1937, fifty years after his death, we are only forging one more link in the chain that binds together the hearts of Poland and the United States — a chain that was so laboriously welded together by the white hot flame of Liberty, burning in the breasts of Washington, Kosciuszko and Pulaski.

NASZE POMNIKI

Każdy naród posiada pomniki, które zawarty w sobie jego cierpienia i radości, jak w jednem ognisku, ześrodkowijąc przeżycia całych pokoleń. Takiemi pomnikami są ruiny, pola bitewne, grody, ulice, na tych ulicach domy, na których widok serca biją goręcej i tzy nabiegają do oczu. Są to świątynie historji, których Polska posiada tak wiele.

Józef Pilsudski.

Posiada je nie tylko w rubieżach swoich ale i na obczyźnie. Gdziekolwiek prowadzą szlaki polskiego wychodźtwa politycznego tam drogi znaczone są pomnikami męstwa i poświęcenia wielkiego. Na drogach wielkiego Napoleona, w Pirenejach i na St. Domingo, w Alpach i na rozłożnych bezdrożach Rosji, oręż polski i polskie serce pisały dzieje nasze.

Pod Saratogą i Savannah, w West Point i Gettysburg'u... gdziekolwiek ochotnicy polscy walczyli, samą ofiarą krwi, trwalszą nad śpiż i marmur pozostawili statuę męstwa. A... pod płotem na cmentarzu Greenwood w Brooklynie skromny kamień znaczy grób jednego z wielu — generała Włodzimierza Krzyżanowskiego.

Pomnik to nasz, pomnik Polski, świadectwo chlubne naszego udziału w historji Stanów Zjednoczonych. To nie ruiny, nie pola bitewne, nie nazwa ulicy, nie pomnik śpiżowy, ale serce i pamięć wychodźtwa, która po ciszy pół wieku z czcią nabożną wymawia imię jego.

Dziś odbywa się w Washington Irving High School akademja żałobna z okazji półwiekowej rocznicy jego śmierci. Jego i wielu bezimiennych żołnierzy wolności. Urządzają ją byli żołnierze armji amerykańskiej i polskiej, w uznaniu zasług żołnierskich.

Jeśli patrzeć chcemy na dzieje nasze, Polski i Stanów Zjednoczonych, z punktu widzenia który zająć można tylko wizją, musimy sobie wyobrazić, iż na estradzie zasiada duch Krzyżanowskiego, posiadający władzę mówienia i widzenia.

Cóż powiedziałby oglądając Polaków w khaki, w mundurach amerykańskich i w szarych mundurach polskich?

Jakim językiem opowiadałby im o swoich cierpieniach, o wygnaniu, ucieczce, trudach wojennych, życiu w niedostatku i śmierci w nędzy?

I cóż powiedzielibyśmy mu my, gdyby rozgowor taki był możliwy?

He w tem spotkaniu naszem z nim jest historii i epopei?

Ile treści bogatej i bodźców potężnych?

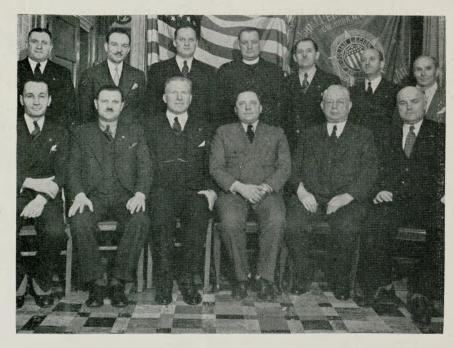
Ile natchnienia i uczuć głębokich?

Ile prawdy nam nie zawsze świadomej i ile nauki.

Jest ponad codziennością szarą siła moralna, siła wielka, która majestatem swym naszą małość i grzechy nasze przykrywa.

Jest nią jeszcze — przeszłość, pomniki przeszłości, do których wracamy po światło i ciepło, jak do znicza wiecznego.

GEN. KRZYZANOWSKI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE



Seated from left to right: J. Witek; Lieut. L. C. Kajko: Commander Charles Hann, Jr.; Major B. T. Anuskiewicz; Dr. A. V. Piskorski; Capt. Joseph Dabrowski; Standing: Joseph Bunster; Henry Archacki; J. F. Czechlewski; Rev. F. F. Burant; K. Kulesza; R. Skowronski; and A. Bitowski.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chairmen Lieut. Lucian Kajko Joseph Witek

Secretary Captain Joseph B. Dabrowski

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Commander Charles Hann, Jr.
N. Y. County American Legion
Lieut. Matthew Szekowski
Vice-Pres. Pulaski Military Club

East Side Post A. I
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Disabled Amer. Vet
R. F. Skowronski
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HONORARY COMMITTEE

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PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 1937.

11:45 A. M.

High Mass at St. Stanislaus B. M. - Rev. Felix F. Burant.

12:45 P. M.

Luncheon: Polish National Home, 19-23 St. Marks Pl., New York.

2:00 P. M.

Departure by motor convoy under escort to the Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y.

3:00 P. M.

Services at Greenwood Cemetery at the grave of General Krzyzanowski.

- Address by Hon. Raymond V. Ingersoll, President Borough of Brooklyn.
- Address and placing of wreath by Dr. Sylvester Gruszka,
 Consul General of Poland.
- Lieut. Lucian Kajko, National Com. Polish Army Veterans Association; Lieut. Vincent Karwacki, State Com. Polish Legion of American Veterans; Dept. of New York, Lieut. Matthew Szekowski, Vice-Pres. Pulaski Mil. Club;

Frank Walicki, Commander Dombrowski Post, American Legion.

3. Placing of wreath by the executive Committee:

- 4. Placing of wreath by Ens. Nathaniel Spear, Jr., Chairman Foreign Relations Committee, The American Legion.
- 5. Placing of wreath by the Councilmen representing City of Buffalo, N. Y.
- 6. Prayer: Rev. Lieut. Felix F. Burant, Chaplain Brooklyn Chapter
 Reserve Officers Association.
- 7. Firing Squad: 18th U. S. Infantry, Ft. Hamilton, N. Y.
- 8. Taps Trumpeter, 18th U. S. Infantry.

Comrade R. F. Skowronski, past commander P. L. A. V. Dept. N. Y. in charge of ceremonies. Troop Boy Scouts of America — Troop 370.

Program for the Evening

(Starting 7:30 P. M,)

WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

New York City.

Chairman: Maj. Benjamin T. Anuskiewicz, Chemical Warfare Reserve, U. S. A.



- 1. Massing of Colors.
- 2. The National Anthems: 18th Infantry Band.
- 3. Invocation: Rev. Felix F. Burant.
- Taps: for all who gave their lives during the war 1861—1865.
 Trumpeter 18th U. S. Infantry.
- 5. Address: Dr. Abdon V. Piskorski, United Spanish Am. War. Vet.
- 6. Address: Peter Yolles, Managing Editor Polish Morning World.
- 7. Patriotic Selections: 18th U. S., Infantry Band.
- 8. Address: Col. Andrew B. Humphrey, Veteran of the Civil War 1861—1865.
- 9. Battle Hymn of the Republic: Polish Singing Societies, Echo and Harmonia.
- Address: Brig. Gen. Walter A. De Lamater, representing the Governor of N. Y., the Hon. Herbert Lehman.
- 11. Address: Dr. Julius Szygowski, Polish Consul.
- 12. Band Selections.
- 13. Address: Col, Jos. E. Barzynski, Quartermaster Corps U. S. A.
- 14. Closing: Lieut. Lucius Kajko, Nat'l Com. Pol. Army Vet. Ass'n.
- 15. America: 18th U. S. Inf. Band. Band leader Simon Tresing.

BORN JULY 9, 1824



Sketched at the grave by Henry Archacki

DIED JANUARY 31, 1887

This booklet is a contribution of the Publisher of NOWY SWIAT. The proceeds from the sale of it will be offered to the POLISH VETERANS towards a fund to erect a suitable tombstone on Gen. Krzyzanowski's grave.