

FIND IN THE PAINTING

CHRONICLE

a written history of a state,
a family or an institution.
The person who writes
a chronicle is a chronicler.

How did Matejko know what the battle that took place over 450 years earlier looked like? He obtained numerous pieces of information from the chronicles of Jan Długosz, even though the latter was born 5 years after the battle. Matejko studied the past by reading old books, watching old buildings and sculptures and looking for what was left from those times.

He created a so-called *Treasury* – a file where he kept his notes, sketches, pasted materials. Then, on their basis, he would create his enormous paintings. In his works, we can find a number of curiosities.

Find the objects listed and described below in the painting.

ЯН МАТЕЙКО
1838–1893

The Battle of Grunwald was painted by Jan Matejko. Matejko was born in Krakow, where he studied and later worked. He had two sisters and eight brothers. Read the citations and find little Jan among his siblings.



Jan Matejko painted *The Battle of Grunwald* in the 19th century. The battle itself took place in the 15th century, on 15 July 1410, and was one of the largest medieval battles. It was fought between the Teutonic Knights and the Polish-Lithuanian army. The Teutonic Order wanted to seize Polish lands under the pretext of disseminating Christianity.

LANCE OF ST MAURICE
given to King Bolesław Chrobry from the Holy Roman Emperor Otto III in 1000. This is a symbolical token of power of Polish kings. In the Middle Ages, it was held at the cathedral in Krakow – it was never used as a real weapon. Today, it can be seen in the treasury of the Krakow cathedral.



THE SCEPTRE OF KONRAD THE WHITE
despite taking part in the battle, the Duke lying under Vytautas' horse is equipped with a sceptre rather than a weapon, which Matejko modelled on a university staff.



THE CANDLESTICK
comes from the Krakow apartment of the artist and is decorated with a pattern of crosses. Can you find this pattern on the garments of one of the main figures in the centre of the painting? The candlestick can now be seen at Matejko's House in Krakow.



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WHITE & CASE

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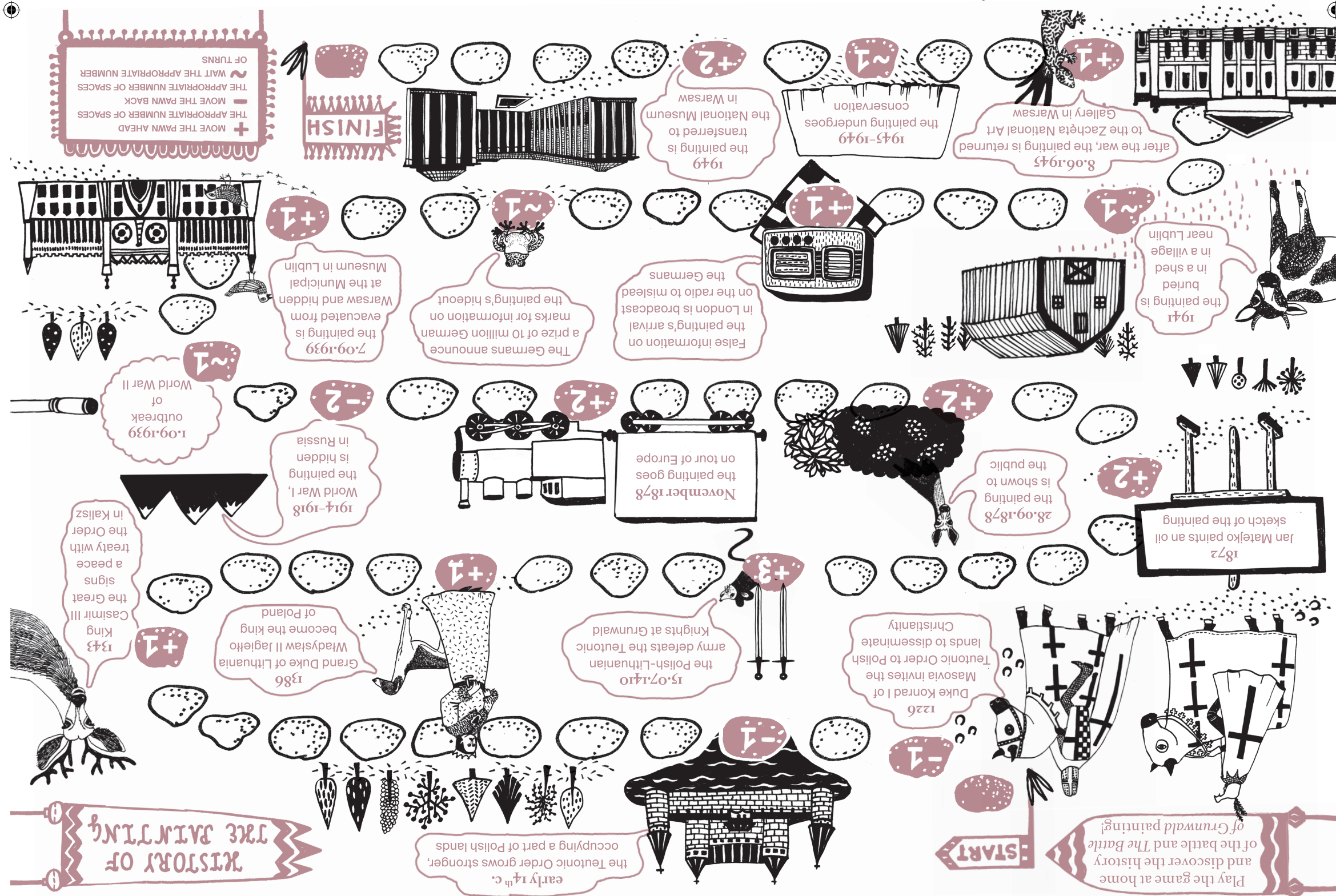
written by Sylwia Betcher
translated by Aleksandra Szkudlapska
graphic design Homework / Kasia Walentynowicz, Beata Dejnarowicz

[...] only later did they notice that little Jan's nose was smashed and crooked in the upper part, which left a mark forever, as it remained shapeless until the end of his life.

[...] a little knick-knack or gift from the elders was enough to please him; when Zieliński, the children's arithmetic tutor, was at the house and gave him apples, it made him happy, for he believed it was a badge.

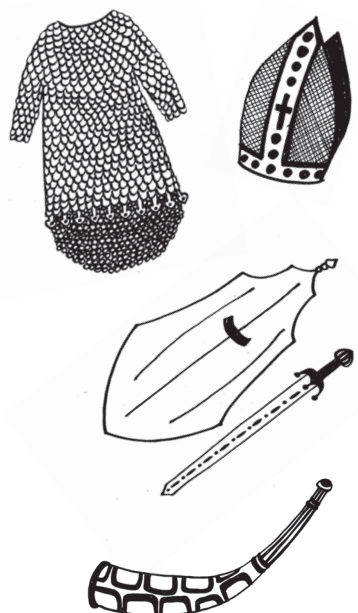
Jan Matejko, a frail, pale lad with an endearing and pleasant face.

MEMOIRS OF M. GORZKOWSKI,
AS CITED IN: M. SZYPOWSKA,
JAN MATEJKO WSZYSTKIM ZNANY,
WARSAW, 1985.



WHO IS WHO?

Take a look at some of the figures from Matejko's painting. Find them in the original, colour them in and fill in the missing objects, choosing one of the suggestions.



1. SAINT STANISLAUS
martyr, patron of Poland. According to the chronicles of Jan Długosz, some knights saw him in the sky during the battle.

2. GRAND DUKE OF LITHUANIA VYTAUTAS
Władysław Jagiełło's cousin who ruled Lithuania on his behalf.

3. ZAWISZA THE BLACK
the most famous Polish knight, who most likely owed the nickname *Black* to his dark complexion and hair.

4. ZBIGNIEW OLEŚNICKI
depicted as a jester, he saved the king from the attack of Leopold von Kökeritz, who is seen lying on the ground in front of the king.

5. WŁADYSŁAW II JAGIEŁŁO
he did not directly participate in the battle. The king stood on a hill, from where he commanded the armies.

6. KONRAD VII THE WHITE
duke from the Silesian line of the House of Piast. He fought on the side of the Teutonic Order. The nickname *White* was most likely associated with his fair hair.

7. JAN ŽIŽKA FROM TROCNÓV
Czech national hero, he fought alongside the Poles as a mercenary.

9. ULRICH VON JUNGINGEN
Grand Master of the Teutonic Order, who died during the Battle of Grunwald.

8. JAN DŁUGOSZ WIENIAWCZYK

father of the most famous Polish chronicler, also named Jan Długosz. It is from his work that Jan Matejko obtained information on the course of the battle. This figure is modelled after Jan Matejko.

HOW BIG IS IT? HOW MUCH DOES IT WEIGH?

WEIGHT OF THE PAINTING:
290 KG
How much does your family weigh? Calculate whether it is lighter or heavier than the painting and write the result below.

HEIGHT OF THE PAINTING:
987 CM
Only matched by the height of a giraffe.

AGE OF THE PAINTING:
..... YEARS
The painting dates to 1878 – calculate how old it is.

LENGTH OF THE PAINTING:
426 CM
Old tram cars were of a similar length.

