## Table of Contents

rielace — i
On the armed revolt of the Polish katorzhniks on the Baikal Route 150 years ago (Wiktoria Śliwowska) — 9
"On the eighth day, the weather was good"— introduction — 11
*
I. THE UPRISING OF 1866
"On the Baikal Route"—
katorga labour and the insurgents' conspiracy — 18
"The government called it a revolt"— the first clashes and the takeover of the territory — 3
"Cuns were at work"— fighting by the Bistraya and Mishikha Rivers — 48
"Wading in the taiga"— a flight towards China — 67
"What can the accused say in his defence?"— inquiry, trial, and conviction — 76
"The morning of 27 November was exceptionally freezing and humid"— the four before a firing squad — 88
"We have received news on the death of good sons of Poland"—reactions of compatriots $-91$
"They managed to slaughter sixty sheep"— material damage along the insurgents' path — 96
"Until absolutely loyal"— the tangled fortunes of the rebels — 104

"The last category"—
the executed, fallen, dead from wounds, or missing — 114



## II. TRACES OF THE PAST AND MEMORY OF THE EVENTS

"Diary excerpts"—
the uprising in the eyes of the participants
and witnesses — 120

"Farewell, my beloved country"—
goodbye letters from the executed — 129

"In this splinter of Rzeczpospolita" poems — 139

"On the insurgents' path"—
along Lake Baikal and over the Khamar-Daban
Mountains — 143

"Katorzhnik's gold"—
a 1866 tale of an insurgent's treasure — 148



What should we say about the 1866 uprising? in lieu of an ending — 155



Bibliography — 159 Index of names — 165