

SUMMARY

Prelate Antanas Kaributas Skinderis from Požerė

/LAUKUVA II

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The biography of priest Antanas Skinderis, a personality of non-traditional thinking that lived during the period of changes and didn't attract the attention of investigators so far was chosen as an object of this research.

Antanas Skinderis was born in the Stumbrai Village, Vieکشniai District, Mažeikiai County on the 25th of March 1869. On the 29th of October he was consecrated. For about thirty years he was a priest in the parish of Stulgiai where a new masonry church was built under his care, later he worked in Lauko Soda, in Kražiai, Požerė where he died in 1948.

Antanas Skinderis was prominent in various fields: he took care of the church building affairs in the Bishopric in Samogitia, he established various new societies, charity funds, was a skilful farmer and business manager, took interest in fishing. The priest also took care of cultural heritage, priests' education affairs. A. Skinderis left his contribution in literature: he translated and prepared several spiritual-theological works, issued a few minor brochures (mostly on medical problems), cooperated in the periodic press, even tried to write poems. The priest was famous as a herbalist. He originated his family roots from the dukes; he established the order of "Jotvingiai" (Ordo equestris ferreae Jaczvingorum cruces) in Lithuania. Skinderis was a brave, novatory idealist.

Generalising the activities of A. Skinderis, his sociopsychological picture, one should note that he was not an ordinary personality. By his ideas, large scales and activities, Skinderis surpassed his life time, destroyed the stubborn norms. His belief, his devotion to God and people's welfare by all his works is the main features characterizing the life of Antanas Skinderis, a Samogitian priest.