

**SZEFFER** Jakub (1783?-1830), goldsmith. He came from Żarki, the son of merchant Samson Wolfowicz Szyfer and Gotla née Manulewiczów/Manulewiczów.

In all probability, he learned his trade in his hometown, from whence he came to Częstochowa, and where he married on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1809 and set up a goldsmithing workshop.

He lived in Stara Częstochowa [Old Częstochowa], in house No. 95. Prior to his death, for a long time, he had been seriously ill. A later inventory, at the time, included numerous items of gold and silver jewellery, decorated with precious stones, pearls and corals.

He died on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1830, in Częstochowa, and was buried in the local cemetery, where his grave has been preserved.

Following Szeffer's death, an inventory of his property was compiled – including rings (507), gold chains, pins earrings, "small pins", beads, candlesticks (5) [and] sugar bowls. In addition, there were 19 "ordinary lanterns" and "steel blunt plates for paintings".

Szeffer was also involved in the production of devotional items. It was probably him, to whom, in August 1820, the Jasna Góra monastery paid fifty-one złoty "for the preparation of a silver lamp which, together, includes seven lamps".

Following his death, his wife Jette, and later his son Szymon, would run the workshop. Szymon was also a goldsmith.

His first wife was Tesla née Laks (1788?- 4<sup>th</sup> December 1819 Stara Częstochowa), the daughter of trader Samuel and Rochla née Izraelowicz. She died in house No.19. His second wife was Getta/Jetta. Following the death of her husband, she ran the workshop with the help of journeymen, among them being Mendel Silberstein.

A. Jaśkiewicz, *W warsztacie złotnika Jakuba Szeffera*, "Nad Wartą" 1965, No. 1, p. 5; A. Jaśkiewicz, *Złotnictwo wotywnie regionu częstochowsko-wieluńskiego. Studium z zakresu sztuki prowincjonalnej i ludowej XVII XIX* in "Rocznik Muzeum Okręgowego w Częstochowie", vol. 5, z. 1, pp. 99, 102.

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