F.M. KAMENSKIY IS ONE OF THE GALAXY OF FAMOUS SCIENTISTS OF ODESSA UNIVERSITY

Kovalenko S.G., Nemertsalov V.V.

Mechnikov Odessa National University, Odessa, Ukraine

Among famous scientists, who devoted their lives to Botany, there were many people, who worked at the New Russia' University. One of them was F.M. Kamenskiy, (по-русски, Каменский Франц Михайлович) Franciszek Dionizy Kamieński; as he was named in Poland.

F.M. Kamenskiy was born on the 27 of September 1851 in Lublin. Since 1815 Lublin was located in the Congress Poland under Russian Empire rule. Franciszek Kamieński graduated Warszawa Real High School and then as a student was at the lectures by A. de Bari (Strasburg, Imperial Germany 1871-1918) and F. Kohn (Breslau of Wroclaw, German Empire). He became a Philosophy doctor in Strasburg with dissertation "Zur vergeleichenden Anatomie der Primmeln". In 1877-1883 Kamenskiy worked as an assistant professor in Lvov' University, Polytechnic Academy, Veterinary Institute (Austro-Hungarian Empire). In 1882 he came back to Russian Empire and passed a magisterial examination in New Russia' University. A year later he defend the dissertation. In 1886 in Saint-Petersburg he became a doctor of botany after defending the thesis "Comparative investigation of development and structure of *Utricularia*". That year he became first assistant professor and then from October 1888 – professor of New Russia' University. He was an easily carried, many-sided and in the same time very careful investigator. In 1887-1888 he studied the flora of Crimea's South Shore and then in 1889 was send by University to Kew Garden and other foreign botanical institutions for describing and working up the collections of *Utricularia*. Then he visited islands Ceylon and Java. Many years he devoted to describing this genus. But F.M. with large complication did the conclusion because he was assured that scientific facts had to be verified repeatedly. For example remember his work in monograph about *Utricularia* can be remembered. Famous scientist in plant system K. Engler proposed him to write about it. Kamenskiy gathered material but did not write about it during approximately ten years. Engler lost all patience and was compelled

to demand the materials through the German embassy. Kamieński had described and authored many taxons and species of Utricularia (Pleiochasia (Kamienski) Barnhart 1916, Utricularia sect. Macroceros Kamienski 1891, Utricularia sect. Nigrescentes Kamienski 1973, Utricularia sect. Parcifolia Kamienski 1891, Utricularia sect. Pleiochasia Kamienski 1891, Biovularia Kamieński (1890) *Biovularia cymbantha* Kamieński (1902), *B. minima* (Warm.) Kamieński (1890), *B. olivacea* (C.Wright) Kamieński (1890), *Utricularia angolensis* Kamieński (1902), *U. baumii* Kamieński (1902), *U. delicata* Kamieński (1902), *U. dregei* Kamieński (1902), *U. elevata* Kamieński (1902), *U. engleri* Kamieński (1902), *U. incerta* Kamieński (1902), *U. muelleri* Kamienski (1894), *U. muelleri* Kamieński (1894), *U. quinqueradiata* Kamieński (1894), *U. rehmannii* Kamieński (1902), *U. schinzii* Kamieński (1902), *U. sprengelii* Kamieński (1902), *U. treubii* Kamieński, *U. warmingii* Kamieński (1894)). The section *Kamenskia* (P. Taylor, 1986) *(*consist of two species *Utricularia mangshanensis* G. W. Hu & *Utricularia peranomala* P. Taylor) in the genus *Utricularia* and the species *U. kamenskii* F. Muell. (1893) are named in his honor.

F.M.Kamenskiy was the chief of New Russia' University botanical department from 1893 to 1912. He read the lectures to the students and carried out interesting investigations. With de Bari he wrote the history of development of Chara algae. He first paid attention to such phenomenon as mycorrhiza when he described anatomy structure of *Monotropa hipopitys* L. (*Hypopitis monotropa* Grantz., *Monotropaceae*) (*Les organes végétatifs de Monotropa hypopitys L.* (*Mémoires de la Société nat. des Sciences naturelles et mathém. de Cherbourg*, 1882)). So he became a discoverer, as it was pointed later, of the phenomena which is widely spread in plant world. In several publication he advocated natural history, practical and theoretical botany and theory of Evolution. He investigated flora of Poland, South Shore of Crimea, environs of Odessa, etc.

In 1906 Krakow Academy asked him wrote and edited monograph of Polish Flora. Unfortunately he wasn't able to finished that work but he described some new species for the territory of Poland among them *Elodea canadensis*, *Matricaria discoidea* DC, *Impatiens parviflora* DC, *Xanthium spinosum* L., *Utricularia ochroleuca* R. Hartm. In Crimea he gathered collection of brakes and mosses. The last one was used by his follow A. Sapegin in his work "Mosses of mountain Crimea". He also described the fungus *Metshnikowia artemiaiae* from Odessa estuaries, which was a parasite of *Artemia salina*.

From 1895 to the end of his life he was the director of New Russian University's Botanical Garden. Beginning of his work here was perfect. More than 1000 specimens of greenhouse plants were defined and received the labels, new collections were formed. In 1896 he began building arboretum and of new plant system district, districts of morphology and biology, alpinarium, collections of local flora and useful plants etc. Living plants and seeds were brought from botanical gardens of Russia (Moscow, Saint-Petersburg) and from abroad (Berlin, Dresden, Paris, Singapore etc.). Firstly F.M. observed acclimatization of *Opuntia camanchica.* He dead in 1912 in Warsaw.

He was a bright, unordinary, many-sided investigator, whose carefulness permitted him not only to open such element of plant life as micorrhiza, but deeply investigate different parts of plant world. Some of his collections are in herbarium of Mechnikov Odessa National University (MSUD). A lot of his students and follows became famous and great biologists, among them P. Zhukovskiu, A. Krishtofovich, D. Zabolotnij, A. Sapegin and many others.