cury from Oberschönbach. It was a binding term of the agreement that neither mercury nor cinnabar was to be supplied to Venice.

The firm of Hochstetter from Augsburg in 1525 took over the monopoly for the sale of mercury from Idria, and, like his predecessors, signed an agreement with Tegler for its sale and distribution. As the Augsburg firm did not keep to the prices agreed upon, Tegler ignored the prohibition against the delivery of mercury and cinnabar to Venice. As a result, Archduke Ferdinand at the request of the Hochstetters closed the passes of his hereditary lands against the transport of Bohemian mercury.

In 1534 Hans Steber (Staiber), a member of a rich Nürnberg merchant family, appears as the owner of the monopoly for the sale of mercury from Oberschönbach. In 1534 he contracted a three-year agreement with the mines at Oberschönbach for the sale of their mercury. In 1535 Hans Steber negotiated again with the Idria mines in Villach with the object of renewing his contract. Whether an agreement was signed is not known.

According to production figures (about a third of the output at Idria) the mercury mines at Oberschönbach could not compete with those of Idria and Almaden. „Bohemian Quicksilver“ however proved to be a troublesome competitor in the mercury market in the first half of the 16th century because it kept prices down.

HISTORY OF THE ARCHIVAL MATERIAL SEIZED BY THE SWEDES IN NIKLORSBURG IN 1645 AND IN PRAGUE IN 1648

Emil Schieche

The archival material seized by the Swedes in Nikolsburg in 1645 consists largely of the correspondence of Cardinal Prince Franz von Dietrichstein. In 1648 material was removed from the registries of the Imperial Court Chancellery, the Court Chamber and the old Bohemian Court Chancellery in Prague. Kriegsrat Alexander von Erskin took an active part in both these actions. Some of the archival material was lodged in the Imperial Archives in Stockholm in 1653. A further section was kept by Erskin in Schwinge, the small castle he had built near Stade.

In 1717 Johann Anton Count von Nostitz, Imperial Ambassador in Stockholm from 1685—90, acquired archival material from Bohemia in Sweden for 1,000 ducats. This was incorporated into the Bohemian Crown Archives as an independent body of documents (130 numbered files and 45 numbered books). When the Bohemian Crown Archives were transferred to the Geheimes Hausarchiv in Vienna in 1750, only 26 numbered files and a few numbered books were left in Prague. In 1920 28 numbered files, some numbered books, together with the Dietrichstein correspondence were returned to Prague.
In 1684 the archival material lodged at Schwinge was auctioned by the sons of Alexander von Erskine, who died as a prisoner in Poland in 1656. An attempt to sell the archival material from Prague and Nikolsburg to Vienna was unsuccessful. Some of the material was taken over by the government archives in Stade, a further section was sold off cheaply. The material in Stade was sorted in the 1860s and transferred to the State archives in Hannover in 1870. Documents relating to the Imperial house and the Austrian crown lands were separated and sent to the Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv in Vienna in exchange for other material in 1874. What remained of the Erskine collection in the State archives in Hannover was transferred to the Lower Saxony State archives in Stade in 1961.

The appendix lists the archival material from Prague still held in the Swedish National Archives in Stockholm.

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL IN KRALOVICE NEAR PLASS**

*Klaus Merten*

The church at Kralovice, built during the years 1575—81 as a Protestant parish church by Florian Griesbeck von Griesbach, a royal Bohemian councillor, was the work of an unknown architect, probably of Italian origin. The church was connected with the family burial-place; the chancel and tower of the former Gothic church were incorporated into the new building. This church is remarkable in the history of Bohemian and Central European architecture. The nave is of unplastered brick and the building was the earliest example of a post-Gothic pilaster church with galleries in the Empire at that period. It was inspired by the pilaster churches of the late Gothic period as well as by the chapels built for castles during the decades prior to its inception. Massive columns were used on the façade, the earliest example of this feature in the sacred architecture of Central Europe. A contrast is provided by the traceried windows, Gothic in character, which dominate the side walls of the church from the outside. From the inside these windows are barely noticeable on account of the pilasters. A unique feature are the side-chapels below the galleries which are inaccessible from the interior, opening up toward the exterior.

The architect of the church may well have been Ulrich Austalis — scion of a family of architects from Lugano — who is said to have been patronized for a time by Florian Griesbeck von Griesbach. The church may also have been inspired by buildings in northern Italy.

No other churches have been modelled directly on the Kralovice parish church. Pilaster churches and the use of massive pillars for façades are only rarely found in the next decades. Nor do these isolated churches seem to have been inspired by Kralovice.