in West Prussia during the war against Poland; and his grandson Heinrich was killed in 1656, also in the service of the Swedish Crown, in the war with the Russians. All three generations had close ties with the court and the court nobility, and King Gustavus II. Adolphus expressly created for them the county of Pernau in Estonia. In his capacity as general and governor, Heinrich, the last of the family in Sweden, became a member of the Swedish imperial council. In addition to this family, Count Hans Jacob von Thurn served Sweden as a colonel; he was a nephew of Heinrich Matthias and cousin of Franz Bernhard, and gave his life for the Swedish Crown in 1643 in his native Bohemia, near Hirschberg.

SCRIBE VERSES — A STEPCHILD OF RESEARCH IN CULTURAL HISTORY AND FOLKLORE

Bruno Schier

Aside from the general survey by Wilhelm Wattenbach, the verses by scribes in municipal books and chronicles have hardly ever been dealt with comprehensively. This is due to the bulk and variety of widely dispersed material which has been handed down. Using examples from old municipal registers from Friedland and Reichenberg, the author attempts a small contribution to this neglected branch of cultural history and folklore.

In form and content, the scribe verses are a mirror image of their particular age. In the 16th century they were usually written in Latin and were permeated by ideas taken from Humanistic literature. The 17th century displayed a predilection for newspapers in rhyme: even the dullest reports on grain prices or the composition of the council were presented in doggerel verse. The baroque spirit of the 18th century delighted in the playful use of rhyme effects, chronograms and acrostics.

Scholarly book knowledge and popular maxims may be considered the main sources of the scribe verses in the Friedland and Reichenberg municipal books. But only the scribe of the town of Friedland, Johann Friedrich Posselt (1680—1746) was able to achieve a lively new unity out of these sources. Only when more scribe verses are available, will it be possible to determine whether one can speak of a genuine scribe art and whether it is justified to regard scribe verses as part of the larger field of popular poetry.

RESULTS OF A COMMERCIAL JOURNEY THROUGH BOHEMIA AND SLOVAKIA IN THE YEARS 1755—56

Gustav Otruba

The author publishes the report of a commercial journey through various European countries in 1755—56 conducted in accordance with high-level orders;
singly out are those parts pertaining to the area of what is now Czechoslovakia.

The specific purpose of the tour was carefully to explore potential markets for newly established textile manufactories, studying dealers’ wishes with regard to quality, varieties and colours. Beyond this, the report cited for each locality the weights and measures used, the coins in circulation, and the costs of transporting merchandise. The author of the report paid careful attention to the most important communication routes and to proposals for their improvement.

Finally a practical evaluation is made of the experiences gathered by competitors.

INTELLECTUAL AND SOCIAL PREREQUISITES OF THE NATIONAL REVIVAL IN BOHEMIA BEFORE 1848

Rudolf Mattausch

Deals with the decline of the Czech language going back to the decisive turning point of the Battle of White Mountain (1620). At the same time, however, the author shows how the Czech language survived among the peasant population and the petty bourgeoisie, sustained by a religious and pietistic literature largely emanating from Germany (Halle, Freiberg and Berlin), where centers of the confessional and political emigration had been formed. Still, the disappearance of the Czech language could be foreseen toward the end of the 18th century — this despite the reorganization of the elementary school system under Empress Maria Theresa and the opposition of the Bohemian nobility to the centralistic inclinations of Joseph II. Only the efforts in the linguistic and historical fields (Palacký) which began with Herder and in the spirit of German Romanticism, and the assumption of a leading role by the bourgeois middle class brought a decisive change — which already before the revolutionary years of 1848 and 1849 had determined the revival of the Czech nation.

ON THE HISTORY OF THE BOHEMIAN JEWS IN THE AGE OF MODERN NATIONALISM

Christoph Stölzl

By virtue of its economic activity (in commerce and industry) the Jewish minority in Bohemia held a position in Bohemian society that was far greater than the relative weight of the Jewish population share. The preeminent goal of the Bohemian Jews prior to 1848 was civil emancipation and assimilation into the ruling (German) culture. With the development of the modern Czech national movement since the beginning of the 1840s, part of the Jewish intelligentsia was also fired by the national idea. A group of Czech Jews around David Kuh and Siegfried Kapper — small in number but influential in its publicistic