

THE ASSIMILATION OF THE INDEPENDENT SPEECH-AREA AT KÖLLEIN

Hans K u x

Through the feudal and ecclesiastical development the fate is examined of the German-Moravian independent speech-area at Köllein from the 14th Century onwards. In 1326 it belonged to the estate of Adam von Konitz, whose grandson sold the village of Köllein to Hecht von Schützendorf in 1376. After changing hands several times, it came into the possession of the town of Olmütz, along with other villages, for the price of 8500 Schock Prager Groschen. The ecclesiastical patronages of Köllein were transferred by Adam von Konitz to the Premonstratensian foundation at Olmütz, which retained them until its dissolution in 1784.

All the inhabitants of the village were farmers, and investigations of names in the registers between 1614 and 1619 show that the community was predominantly German. Proof of even earlier German habitation of Köllein is the German inscription on the church bell, dating from 1526, and also numerous German local-names, which were taken over by the later Czech inhabitants. One of the few names from the oldest land-register of 1606 which survived right up to the present time (1926), was the name Krumnikl, which appears there as Krump, but which in 1695 had already taken the form Krumnikel-Krumpnikl, a form which probably originally signified the individual peculiarity (deformation) of a villager called Nikolaus, and then with the close association of name and characteristic, was handed in as both family- and sur-name.