

THE SWEDISH COUNTS OF THURN

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The family of Count Heinrich Matthias von Thurn knew only three generations in Sweden. Heinrich Matthias himself died as a prominent Swedish nobleman in 1640; his son Franz Bernhard fell in 1628, serving the Swedish Crown

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.