

THE NATIONAL QUESTION IN BOHEMIA, MORAVIA  
AND SILESIA AS MIRRORED IN VIENNESE  
PAMPHLETS OF THE YEAR 1848

*Gustav O t r u b a*

The first part deals with pamphlets representing the Bohemian and Czech standpoints, respectively. They are concerned with the achievement of equal status for Czech as an official language and in the schools, with the winning of a constitution for Bohemia, and with the union of the lands of the Bohemian Crown. Some pamphlets are devoted to the Frankfurt National Assembly, and a great number (mostly appearing in Vienna) to the Prague Whitsun rebellion and its bloody suppression by Windischgrätz.

A considerably smaller number of pamphlets of the Germans in Bohemia are available. Unquestionably, they displayed understanding for national equal rights for the Czechs, but already voices could be heard which feared suppression of the German minority. They demanded equal rights for all nations and advocated close ties between Germany and Austria.

In Moravia and Silesia the national question was expressed more in federalistic-separatistic terms. Moravia, which had always entertained close relations with Vienna, objected to a union with Bohemia and advocated an alliance between a free Austria and a free Germany.