A STYRIAN NOBLE FAMILY IN BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA

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This contribution deals with one of the noble families in Austria, inner Austria, and the lands of the Bohemian Crown which were especially prominent in the 16th and early 17th century. Ferdinand, youngest son of the influential privy councillor (Geheimer Rat) and treasurer-general of King Ferdinand I, Hanns Hoffman Freiherr zu Gruenpüchel und Strechau, settled — after having become president of the imperial court chamber in 1580 — in Moravia and Bohemia as an active Protestant. He was one of the great bibliophiles of his time and an early capitalist entrepreneur.

The author describes the matrimonial connections of this family with the most important families of the Habsburg patrimonial lands between 1460 and the extinction of this Bohemian-Moravian line in 1706. Detailed annotations indicate the relational connections with personalities of the Bohemian uprising, the Counter-Reformation, and the victorious leading stratum after the war. The grandson of the immigrant emigrated for religious reasons. The great-grandson secured the family's property holdings by returning, converting, and marrying into a family that was close to the Court.