

JAKOB AND ANTON VEITH

Erich Schmid

Within a period of a few years at the end of the 18th century, Jakob Veith became an industrial magnate and large landed proprietor. His son Anton, however, was more drawn to art and science than to economic matters. His Liboch castle became a meeting place for artists and scholars. He was one of those German Bohemians who, under Herder's influence, were enthusiastic about old Bohemian history and the world of the Slavic sagas. He wanted to create a "Bohemian Hall of Fame", modelled after the Walhalla near Regensburg. Ludwig von Schwantaler delivered eight monumental bronze statues, but Anton Veith died and his heirs stopped the construction of the hall of fame. The works of art are now in the National Museum in Prague.