

THE END OF THE TABORITES AND THE TANGIBLE DIALECTICS OF THE BOHEMIAN REFORMATION

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In connection with Amedeo Molnár's study of the Taborite Friedrich von Strážnice [see *Bohemia* 28/1 (1987): 173–75], the author sketches here the picture of a Hussite leader who had gained the chance to build an enduring hegemony of the Hussite majority in Bohemia during the phase of consolidation which followed the battle at Lipany. This hegemony would have gained the Taborites a suitable place in post-Hussite Bohemia as well as helped the Roman Catholic minority, in view of their association with the victorious Hussites, move further and further away from Rome. The chance was lost because the two Hussite parties were unable to agree on a joint candidate to succeed King Sigismund. While the Podiebrad party wanted a Bohemian Hussite ruler, those in the Taborite camp pursued an already illusory Polish alternative. According to the author, not the military, but the political factor decided the downfall of the Taborites.