SUMMARIES

BOHEMIAN WILLS OF THE HUSSITE ERA Thomas Krzenck

The author's research project, based on a hitherto neglected body of medieval Czech sources, concentrates on war and everyday town life in Hussite Bohemia. In this field of research, the author evaluates municipal wills, which have been preserved in relatively large numbers in the area of research as a major source for the preoccupation with collective attitudes toward death. The author analyzes the rules regarding the structure of these transactions and shows that the overwhelming majority of testators permitted their last wills to be drawn up because of severe illness. Members of the urban middle- and upper class dominated among the testators. As to the dominant groups of beneficiaries, they were charitable institutions, close relatives of the testator, and other persons close to him who received bequests. The reflection of the political upheaval in Hussite Bohemia is shown in occasional references to wartime events, a longing for communion sub utraque specie, and the wills of the Kuttenberg exiles.