

## SUMMARIES

### IN THE WAKE OF THE CATASTROPHE OF THE ESTATES IN BOHEMIA

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Making use of archival sources that had not been researched until now, this study draws a picture of the engagement between Albrecht Johann Smiřický and Amelie Elisabeth of Hanau. The search for a bride for the heir-apparent of one of Bohemia's wealthiest landowning families in the early seventeenth century, the engagement and Smiřický's preparations for the wedding in the midst of a revolution are all carefully documented, as are also his sudden death in November 1618 and the quarrel about the inheritance which began immediately after his funeral. The fact that not only several noble families in both Hanau and Bohemia, but also the archbishop of Cologne and the Emperor himself were involved in the ensuing quarrel makes this an interesting piece of research into social history. It brings about many new insights, particularly about close links between Bohemia and the surrounding countries of Central and Western Europe.