Abstract

This thesis deals with the archduke of Austria, Charles Francis Joseph, in relation with the town of Brandýs nad Labem, and focuses on main moments of Charles’ stay in Brandýs. The primary aim is to discuss years 1908-1912, when the Archduke Charles stayed in Brandýs, then explain the circumstances of the purchase of the dominion Brandýs by the emperor Charles in 1917 and its subsequent confiscation after the downfall of the monarchy and define the emperor Charles relationship to the town of Brandýs nad Labem. Especially the purchase of the dominion and its confiscation in the era of the First Czechoslovak Republic hasn’t been closely investigated and processed. The work draws partly on professional literature and partly on unpublished sources of the State Regional Archive in Prague.

Archduke Charles lived in Brandýs since 1908 and soldier there by the 7th dragoon regiment. He was very popular there and spoke with Brandýs inhabitants only Czech. In 1911 he married Zita Bourbon-Parma, who followed him to Brandýs. In 1912 Charles and Zita left the city, the seventh dragoons were transferred to Galicia. After the death of Francis Joseph I. 1916 became Charles the Austrian emperor. In 1917 he bought the Brandýs dominion. After break-up of Austria-Hungary, the large estate Brandýs couldn’t escape the confiscation by the state, as well as other properties of the Habsburgs in the Czechoslovak Republic too. In the Brandýs castle was established the central office of the State Forestry Agency. Emperor Charles died in 1922 in exile at Madeira and 2004 he was beatified by Pope John Paul II. for his peace effort during the First World War.

Key words: Charles I., Austria-Hungary, Brandýs nad Labem