

ABSTRACT

The main aim of the thesis is to present an analysis of the younger Bohemian branch of Sternberg dynasty. The author follows the life of Zdeněk Sternberg († 1900) in his role of an owner and a successful caretaker of the dominions of Radnice, Český Šternberk and Jemniště. Furthermore, the problematic of aristocratic marriages is reconstructed through studying the fates of his sons Alois († 1907) and Filip († 1924). This theme was supplemented by identifying those values which were of consequence when an adequate partner for a member of aristocracy was sought. The problematic is demonstrated on the situations of both Alois who spent all his life as a bachelor and his younger brother Filip who married and enjoyed a family life. The private world of three Zdeněk's daughters is also reconstructed. The examples of Zdenka Schnönborn († 1915) and Kunhuta Lobkowicz († 1916) offer an insight into their daily dealings within their new families while the youngest sister Karolína († 1930) spent her years unwed and childless. The particular style of aristocratic life is demonstrated on interests and entertainment which the aristocracy fostered (travelling, hunt, horsemanship, artistic interests, sport, games, reading, theatre etc.). The final part of the work focuses on disputes surrounding the issue of Sternberg inheritance after 1900.