

he bestowed on his hereditary kingdom of Bohemia, where he established the university of Prague, the first of German universities, but still more for the publication of the famous Golden Bull, which fixed the rules for the imperial election, finally giving the disputed vote to Bohemia.

Charles was succeeded by his son Wenzel, who became a confirmed drunkard and was deposed. His successor, Rupert of the Palatinate, had little power, and on his death there was a disputed election. Wenzel still claimed the throne, and strangely enough there were three rival claimants for the Empire at a time when there were three rival claimants for the Papacy. But Sigismund of Hungary, Wenzel's brother, soon became sole Emperor. He it was who summoned the Council of Constance and ended the Papal Schism. The execution of John Huss was followed by a long insurrection in Bohemia. With Sigismund the male line of the Luxemburgs came to an end. He was succeeded by his son-in-law, Albert II. of Austria, and from this time till the dissolution of the Empire in 1806, the crown never departed from the Hapsburg family. Albert has been called "the second founder of the house of Austria." He possessed Austria, Styria, Carniola and Tyrol, Bohemia and Hungary.

In the reign of his successor and nephew, Frederick III., Hungary and Bohemia obtained their independence for the time. These losses in the east were somewhat counterbalanced by the acquisition in the west of the bulk of the dominions of Charles the Bold, whose heiress Mary was married to Frederick's son Maximilian. Frederick was the last Emperor who was crowned at Rome. He had adopted as a device

WENZEL
1378-1400

RUPERT
1400-1410

SIGIS-
MUND
1410-1437

ALBERT
II.
1438-1439

FRED-
ERICK III.
1440-1493