

Saxe-Coburg-Koháry



Description of Arms :

Saxony

Principal Title : Prince von Saxe-Coburg-Koháry.

Creation : See text.

Subsidiary Titles :

Family Name : Wettin.

Family History : A member of the royal Saxony family - from the Coburg-Gotha branch - was received, with *indigenatio*, in Hungary in 1790. This was Ferdinand, brother of the duke and uncle of Albert, Prince Consort of Queen Victoria. An *indigenatio* was an official form of recognition that the holder had become a citizen of Hungary, with any rights that might confer. In any event, that of Ferdinand was cancelled on the grounds of non-residence.

However, in 1815, he married Antonia of Koháry von Csábrágh et Szitnya. She was from the great family of Koháry. They had played a dominant part in Hungarian affairs, acquiring considerable property and then, in 1815, were finally raised to the rank of Princes of Austria, together with an augmentation of their arms. The last male member of this clan died in 1826, leaving only Antonia.

In 1831, however, Ferdinand obtained permission to add his wife's name to his own, including the status of prince.

Their son, also Ferdinand, became King Consort of Portugal and then, on the death of his wife, Maria da Gloria, he was Regent for the last two years of his life. From them stem several kings of Portugal. Another son, Augustus, married into the French royal family and became the father of the first King of Bulgaria, another Ferdinand. Then a grand-daughter married the Prince of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen and they were the parents of the first King of Rumania. Finally a brother became King Leopold of the Belgians.

By virtue of an "unequal" marriage, one of the lines lost its rights in Germany, without affecting its status of prince in Hungary. Augustus stayed faithful to Hungary, where his descendants remained until 1945. They then moved to Austria but this branch of the Saxe-Coburgs is still represented in various parts of the world.

