

Table of Contents

The Thurn und Taxis family in the Czech Lands	3
A remarkable story of unusual fraternal togetherness	4
People called them THE BADGERS.....	5
The Fast Couriers	6
Citius – Longius – Altius.....	7
In the service of the Habsburgs	8
The great (marriage) strategist Maximilian	9
All across Europe	10
As the Imperial Postmaster General.....	12
The first Imperial Patent	14
The powerful and influential Aunt Margaret	16
Magnus parens Francesco Tasso.....	17
Elevation to the nobility.....	18
In a realm where the sun never sets	19
Monopoly of the Post.....	20
A double wedding in Vienna	23
Go, go, go, go, go, go, Postmaster.....	24
The modern age in motion	26
In the Lands of the Bohemian Crown	29
Disputes with the competition	29
Up the social ladder	30
Business is booming	32
Letters, letters and more letters	33
„Take a Seat“	35
For fun!.....	37
Services „with a wave of the hand“	37
The end of the Holy Roman Empire.....	38
„Das postalische Königgrätz“	39
If only Emperor Maximilian and Francesco Tasso had known.	40
And what about the Taxis and „taxi“?	41
Books consulted	43

Please note

The beige-coloured text
inserts are to show the
events in their historical
context.