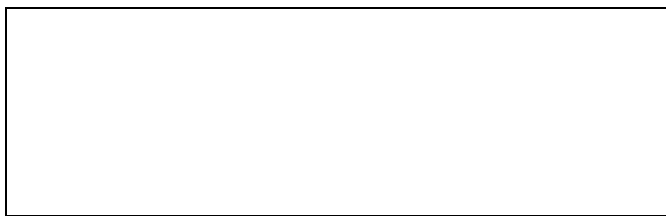


Collalto

Description of Arms :



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Principal Title : Prince of Collalto.

Creation : Austria, 1822.

Subsidiary Titles : Count of Treviso (996), Count of Collalto, etc ...

Family Name : von Collalto und San Salvatore.

Family History : It may come as a surprise to see such an Italian-sounding title preceeded by "von". It came about as follows :

This very ancient family goes back to the region, near Venice, and has born the title of Count of Treviso since 966. There are very few continuously-held titles as old as this. In 1191, the family was invested with the castles of Collalto and San Salvatore, near Venice, by the Emperor Henry VI. Readers of our introduction will readily understand the importance of the award of the estates. In 1309, they had also become Patricians of Venice, a title that may sound little more than quaint, today, but was of considerable significance at that period.

As the history of Southern Italy is closely bound up with that of Spain, that of Northern Italy is much influenced by Austira and the Holy Roman Empire. In any event, in 1623, the Collalto family acquired the lordship of Pirnitz, in Moravia, and were registered as citizens of Bohemia in 1707 and again in 1781. In this latter year, they were elevated to the rank of Austrian count, under the name of von Collalto. By now, they had almost entirely ceased to be Italian.

In the year 1822, the rank of prince (Austrian) was accorded with the style of *Hochgeboren*, Highness, and this was followed, in 1861, with hereditary membership of the Austrian House of Lords. Finally, in 1905, the style of *Durchlaucht* - Serene Highness - was granted.

The head of the family is now recorded as living in Vienna but traces of the old heritage remain, his forenames are strictly Italian.

Collalto

