

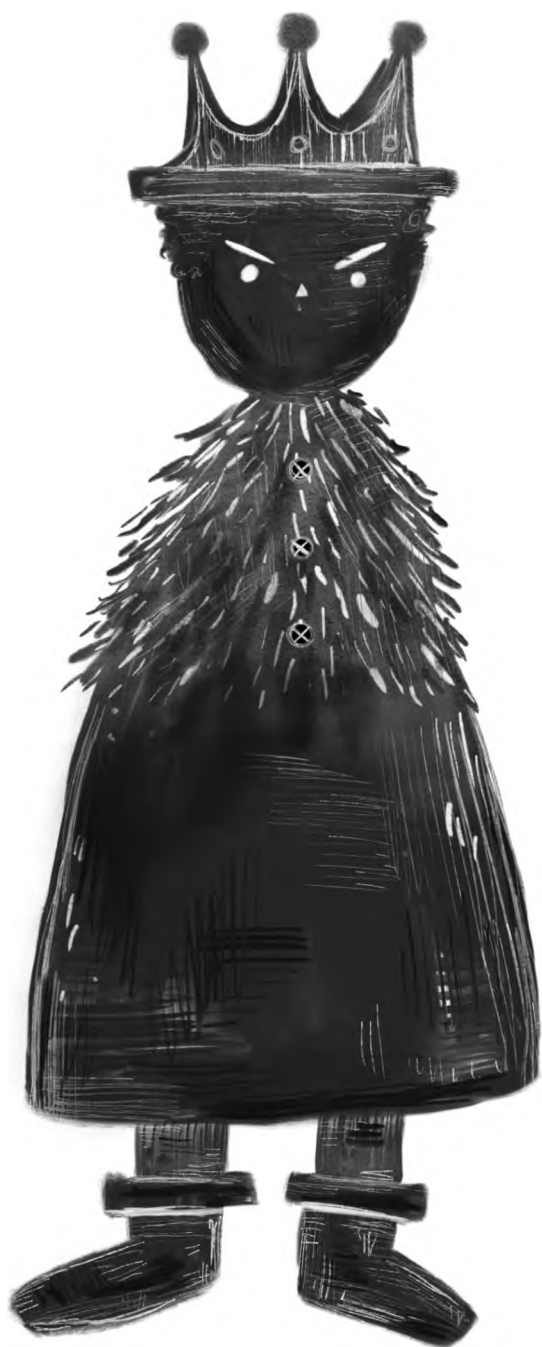
Kapušanský hrad

Kapušany castle was built in a village Kapušany near a town Prešov in the 13th century. It's mentioned in chronicles under a different names like: Tobol, Bogloch or Maglovec.

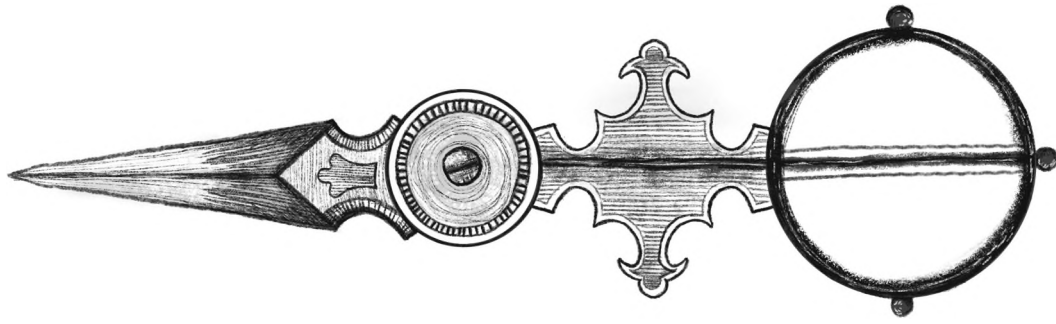




Kapušany castle used to be a home of two brothers – John and Gregor Kapyovci. The brothers lived there in gaiety and luxury. At that time their king was an equitable Matthias – Matthias who never harms anyone without a reason. And he even generously rewards everyone who acts well. But he got angry at the two brothers. Of course, he must have had a very good reason for that. He even thought of destroying their castle. He sent there the valiantist fighter – the duke Imrich Zápoľský.



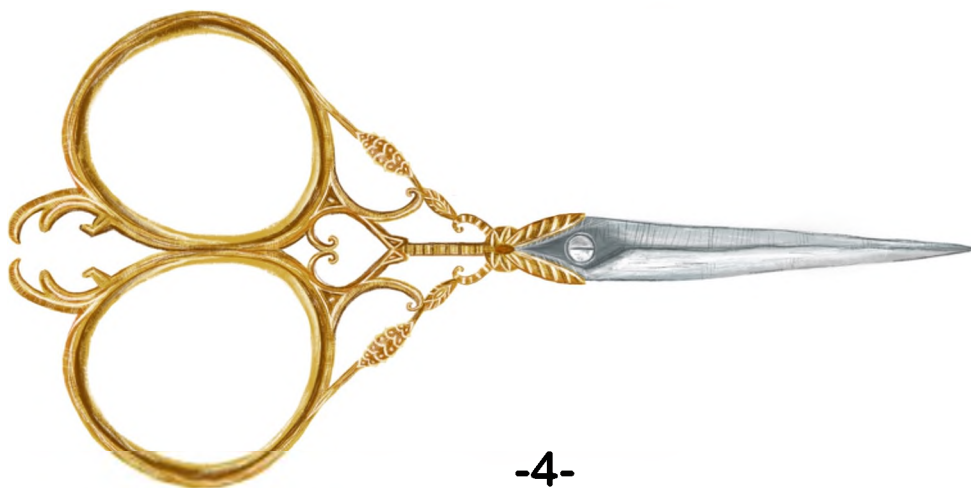
Matthias told him: “Do not leave a stone on another stone!” Imrich Zápoľský then went to Kapušany castle with a whole army. Every surrounding magnate supported him. Two brothers were standing on the guards’ tower and were looking at the big army which was approaching them. “What are we going to do now?” asked John. “I don’t know... I don’t know, my brother...” answered desperate Gregor. Both of them again looked at the huge army. “Its terrible, its horrible!” they sighed and then they went to their rooms. “They are going to beat us, destroy us and our castle!”



“But I have an idea,” said Gregor.

“Yes, we are weak, but we may send some of our treasures to Matthias. I listened that he’s low on money. Maybe we will propitiate him.”

“Your idea sounds quite good,” agreed John. Then they just went to John’s wife and requested her to sew a big sachet for gems. And the wife did it. But the brothers thought that the sachet was too big. They cut from it a little piece, then another and another. But then they saw that the the sachet is too small and they didn’t have a lot of time.



“We can’t send this small satchel to Matthias on a horse! It would be a big shame!” said wife.

“We will help even this shame!” said Gregor. “

Down in the village one farmer has a very small horse, a bit bigger than a goat. I think that it’s cheaper to provide for a small horse rather than to give a big satchel full of gems.”

Almost one hour later the small horse was in the castle. It was really a miracle of nature. Small, but skillful, hardly bigger than a two years old goat.

“Wonderful, it’s wonderful!” said both of the brothers.



They poured the gems and gold into the sachet and then they tied it up on the horse's back.

"And now it is already your job to persuade our king," said both brothers to their best servants.

When the servants arrived to the king, Matthias was devastated and in a really bad mood for a bargain. The reason for it was that his beloved son was at the brink of a death.

"So, what do the malcontent want from me?" he said nervously.

The servants poured the gems from the sachet and one from them said: "Gregor and John Kapyovci venture to very respectfully request your majesty, whether you may deign save them of destruction and death."

This has only made the king's mood worse. The king contemptuously looked at the treasure and angrily shouted:



**“Tell your lords that I don’t need any gold
nor any treasures, but I need obedience.
And now go away with your rattles!”**



“Well, seems like we’re in a big trouble,” realised the servants.

They sadly went through the yard to king’s road. They were just in front of a group of people. Who mourned the king’s sick son. They said that the son won’t get through another day. An idea striked the servants.

“Maybe the little horse would make the young prince feel better.”

They went to a room where the king’s only child layed. Child’s doctors were unsure of the idea... but they let the servants give the small horse to king’s son nevertheless. When the son saw the horse, he miraculously recovered. He was sick due to sadness but when he saw the small horse a new joy sparked in him.

And the king?



Of course, he was happy that his son recovered.

“Thank you so much! I’ll keep the horse for my son. And tell your lords that I do not need their treasure, but I thank them for the horse. So I revoke major Zápol’a from their castle. May they live in peace and may they be more obedient.”

And just then sent his envoy to the castle with order that major Zápol’a has to immediately return.

And then? The king and Kapyovci were happy. We don’t know more about the horse, only one thing- the king later loved the horse more than his own son.

In the end, as you can see, it was greed that saved the brothers.



Owners and history of the castle:

In the 1300 it belonged to the Maglod family. The next owner was a Henrich Tarcaj who was a partisan of Matúš Čák and participated in the rebellion against the king. So in 1312 Charles Robert attacked the castle, defeated them and totally destroyed the castle. Even in 1372 the castle is mentioned as a ruin.

Until in the years 1410-1412 could Andrej Kapušany with an approval of Sigismund of Luxembourg build a new guarded object. In 1468 the castle was attacked on the king Matthias's request by the army of Imrich Zápoľský and the townspeople of Prešov, Bardejov and Košice. As a punishment for supporting Jan Jiskra and his followers.



In 1685 it was conquered by the Thököly's followers and shortly after occupied by the emperor's general Schultz. In 1709 the castle was looted and set on fire by the commander of Rákóczi Rebellion Telekesi. It was renovated by a widdow of Gabriel Kapušany in 1712. Three years later it was definitely demolished due to the decision of the Hungarian Congress. Because she protested against the order, she had to set it on fire herself.



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Text & translation of the general information about the castle: Dorota Reguliová

Illustrations: Dorota Reguliová

