

## SOCIAL-LEGAL TERMINOLOGY REGARDING THE SOCIAL CLASS STRUCTURE OF THE MEHEDENTIAN MOȘNENI IN THE WORK OF ION IONESCU DE LA BRAD

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**Summary:** *The information selected by Ion Ionescu de la Brad is relevant to the as yet unwritten social history of the Romanians, especially in detailing some scientific issues that clearly differentiate the landed gentry as a social class: the share of landlords owned by landlords, the ranking of landlord categories, the condition of the landed gentry, the social-political condition of the landed elite, etc...*

*Ion Ionescu de la Brad's conclusion, after an inventory of the landed villages in Mehedinți, was that, in 1864 (a year of fundamental changes in Romanian society), the landlords and landed estates in this part of the country still represented only about 25%<sup>1</sup> of what they had been previously. Nevertheless, the "moșnenia" was a dignified social-historical state, of social freedoms, for which the emancipation and the vitality of the Romanian nation were being fought for. It is still alive today in the public consciousness, especially in the mountain counties of Mehedinți, Gorj, Valcea, etc..*

**Keywords:** moșnean, moșnenie, "landlord", squalor, indivision

In the social dynamics of the Middle Ages, as the differences between the social classes deepened and the landed estates of the nobles, lordships and monasteries were created at the expense of the freeholders landed estate, the area of the latter landed estate shrank, reaching, however, an appreciable extent until the great social reforms during the reign of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, who restored the social classes of the previous centuries.

The map of the spread of landed estates drawn up on 19th century statistical sources (1831, 1838, 1855, 1864/1899, 1912) shows their share in relation to the land ownership of the other two main landholders, the landlords and the monasteries. While in Oltenia the landowners accounted for 32% of the population in 1899, in Muntenia they accounted for only 13%. In Oltenia, the landed estate extended geographically over the Getic Platform, the Subcarpathians and the

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<sup>1</sup> Ion Ionescu's assessment was confirmed as accurate by the statistics of 1899-1900, when the largest landed estates, in relation to the area, were in the mountain and hill counties; Gorj – 52,51%, Muscel – 51,13%, Vâlcea – 36,33%, Olt – 25,86%, Argeș – 25,34%, Mehedinți – 24,88%, Prahova – 19,56% și Buzău – 17,57%. Sub un procentaj mediu pe țară erau județele Dolj – 10,89%, Dâmbovița – 7,97%, Romanați – 7,76%, Râmnicu Sărat – 5,26%, Teleorman – 3,53%, Vlașca – 2,55%, Ialomița – 2,49%, Ilfov – 0,14% și Brăila – 0,02% - Cf. Dinică Ciobotea, *op. cit.*, p. 67, 75, 102-112

mountainous area, descending towards the south of the country through two "spurs" of landed villages in the Blahnița area and in Romanați county, as far as near the Danube<sup>2</sup>. The "Moşnenimea" (the freeholders), a social class well defined in society, with a particular lifestyle and social status, long undeciphered by historians, appears in all its demographic, geographical, economic and cultural-spiritual scope for the first time in an extraordinary work, not scientifically explored, by Ion Ionescu de la Brad, *Romanian Agriculture in Mehedinți County*, Bucharest, 1868. The book encompasses the immediate contemporaneity of Alexandru Ioan Cuza's reign through people, behaviour, individual and collective creations, accumulations and restitutions, prefactions and transformations. The author, an internationally renowned scholar in several fields, has documented his travels through the villages of Mehedinti, recording the realities of a society which, through Cuza Voda's reforms, was set on the path to modernisation. The idea behind the monograph on agriculture in Mehedinți County was that it was only possible to "improve agriculture" after the reform of 1864 once we knew "what was good and bad, useful and harmful, and then, choosing the good and useful from the bad and harmful, to stop some and discard others, replacing them with methods discovered by science and approved by experience"...

The social complexity encountered in Mehedinți, explained by the social stratification of the villages, climatic, pedological, technical conditions, etc., he described around the problem of land ownership. He last set out its structure in its feudal forms: 59 state properties (45 secularised from unenclosed monasteries, 7 from enclosed monasteries, 7 of its own, 1 Severin city estate), 8608 joint ownership properties (devălmaşe) and 265 private properties. With the reform of 1864, 25381 of the serfs („clăcași”) were granted 144,307 pogoane. According to his calculations, "10,881 estates in Mehedinți county were not yet measured by surveyors", only 265 had topographical plans (hotărnicii) by 1859<sup>3</sup>. Most of the properties were in "the mountain region, i.e. in the plains of Cloșani, Ocolu, Motru de Sus and Motru de Jos". "Large landowners were most numerous in the Dumbrava, Câmpul and Blahniță nets; 2214 in the whole county.

Among the categories of landowners, Ion Ionescu de la Brad mentioned at county level the mazili landowners in the number of 685 families, the „boyars

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2 Textul în limba română în „Mehedinți-Istorie, cultură și spiritualitate, 14, Drobeta Turnu Severin, 2022. Dinică Ciobotea, *History of the Moşneni I (1812-1912)*, Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 1999, passim.

3 Ion Ionescu [de la Brad], *op. cit.*, p. 39, 137. Landowners were categorized as large (over 300 pogoane), medium (over 11 pogoane up to 300) and small (former clăcași, 1-11 pogoane; devalmași landowners 1-2 pogoane upwards).

landowners of the lineage” and „sons of the lineage” 331 families, the postelniceii (a special category of small boyars) 17 families and the asidoții (a special category of those exempted from taxes) 71 families<sup>4</sup>.

Ion Ionescu's work, however, excels as "a work of unparalleled richness" when the localities of the county are presented.

The villages in Mehedinți county for which Ion Ionescu de la Brad recorded their landed social structure, as well as the state of landed status in 1865-1868, were:

#### Cloșani Plain

*Titirlești* - "a country estate where about 20 families of Romanian shepherds from Transylvania came and settled" ...; p. 394;

*Mărășești* - "a large village inhabited by the "răzeși" who, having been bored with the short-lived possession of their property, rose up in droves and decided to die rather than let their estate be taken away" ... p. 395;

*Obârșia* - "it is inhabited like Mărășești by Russians" ... p. 396;

*The Cloșanii* - "The village is inhabited by the răzeși (yeomen) who have a very large estate and who number 14 large owners and 180 small owners, of whom more than a hundred have a land income of no more than one hundred lei, and the smallest have up to 11 lei! The property is divided, as in all the villages of the landlords, and is counted in drams and half drams. A dram in some places is smaller than a stânjen (fathom) and in others larger. The larger owners are divided, and the smaller ones [in] devilment" ... p. 397;

*Orzești* - "scraping village with houses built in the middle of plum orchards" ... p. 399;

*The Valenii* - "they are inhabited by răzeși (yeomen) who have neither mountains nor forests, but have many cattle" ..., p. 399;

*Padeșul* - "it's a village of "răzeși" (yeomen)" ... p. 400;

*Negoiești* - "is a big village of "răzeși" (yeomen)" ... p. 400;

*Ponoarele* - "a Raška commune made up of 8 villages" ...; "Of these Masneni, Giureștii, Siliștenii and Sipolenii also had 35 clăcași (serfs)". p. 402;

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<sup>4</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 179-180

*Buşeşti* - "a village of the "grapes"" ... p. 404;

*Cerna-vârfu*- "among the landowners here is Constantin Bălteanu (Găină)" ... p. 406;

*Isverna* - "a large commune of old people" ... p.406;

*Gornovitsa* - "a commune inhabited by old people" ... p. 407;

*Prejna* - "The Prejna people form a group with those from *Gornoviţa, Costeşti, Gornenţi, Balta, Cerna-Vârfu and Isverna*" ... p.408;

*Costeşti* - "is inhabited by the people of Costeşti. The estate is large, but the arable land is few and the population numerous" p. 408; "A certain Ion Turturea" ... p. 408-409;

*Gorninţii* - "are inhabited by more than 150 families of moşneni (freeholders)" p. 409;

*Cireşu* - "a commune with *Negruşa and Săpuneştii* of 164 families of moşneni (freeholders)"; "the freeholders lease the state-owned hill of Ilovăţu"; "The freeholders (moşnenii) wish to buy the hill on which they feed and to be granted land like the former serfs (clăcaşii) were". p. 411;

*Bahna* - "part of the freeholders landowners (moşneni) and part of the State. The freeholders are living in Bahna from the bridge upwards owning half of the village, also they are living in the village of *Moiseştii*, and the serfs (clăcaşii) are from the bridge downwards in the other half" ..., p. 411;

*Marga* - "is inhabited by the freeholders (moşneni), who form a commune with their villages *Marga, Călineştii, Şiroca*". p. 412;

*Godeanu* - "inhabited by the freeholder landlords (moşneni)" - p. 412

"*Balta* like *Sfode*, both forming a commune, is inhabited by freeholders (moşneni), 8 of whom have had even 50 serfs (clăcaşi). The most important freeholder (moşnean) farmer of the Cloşani plain is Constantin Bălteanu, known as Găină". ... "In the Cloşani Plain there are also other prominent freeholders (moşneni) farmers, such as Ion Hârgotă at Negoieşti, Nicolae Tibru at Târniţa, H. Marghiloman and Gheorghiu Popescu at Cloşani, Ion Haidan at Târniţa, Dinu Zaharia at Balta and Costache Săvoiu at Lăturoasa". p. 413 ... "C. Bălteanu has his estate and house at Balta, at Cireşu, at Cerna-vârfu and at Slătinic. These estates are part inheritance

and part purchase, part belts and part borders, i.e., part with the estate in joint ownership (devălmășie) and part with the estate unmixed with others". p. 414;

*Bala de Sus* - "inhabited by old people who were very tight in their places and especially those from Lăturoasa" ... p. 417;

*Rudina* - "shares a common area with *Bereștii, Dâlma and Runcușioru*, all villages inhabited by freeholders (moșneni), the most famous of whom is the priest Gheorghe Rudinaru" p. 417;

*Dâlbocița* - "inhabited by freeholders (moșneni) landowners"; "Constantin Niculicescu is the one with the highest income of all, he is also the mayor of the commune". p. 420;

Motru de Sus Farm

*Vidimireștii* - "commune with *Ohaba and Popeștii* and the trustee are inhabited by freeholders (moșneni) landowners who have a land income of 24, 034 lei, of 39 proper sole owners freeholders (moșneni) and 181 joint owners (devălmași)". p. 426;

*Pestenuta*, "unique commune, inhabited by 50 families of freeholders (moșneni)" .. p. 427;

*Șovarna de Jos* - had "15 separated sole owners freeholders (moșneni) and 125 joint owners (devălmași)" p. 428;

*Șovarna de Sus* - "inhabited by freeholders (moșneni) of which 20 are separated sole owners and 252 are joint owners (devălmași)" p. 429;

*Iupca* - "The commune of Jupca is made up of 6 hamlets inhabited by 22 separated sole owners freeholders (moșneni), 72 joint owners (devălmași) and a few serfs (clăcași)" ... p. 429;

*Bala de Jos* - "inhabited by 7 separated sole owners freeholders (moșneni) and 206 joint owners (devălmași)" ... 429;

*Crainicii* - "is a commune inhabited by 15 separated sole proprietors freeholders (moșneni) and 152 joint owners (devălmași). The farmers here have only 1, 2 and 3 acre of land, most of them have 2 acres of land, in which they cannot feed themselves. Even the largest of them, Ioniță Burnazi, who is registered in the rolls with 1575 lei land income, has only 10 acres of ploughing" - p. 429-430;

*Comăneşti* - "Here are also freeholders (moşneni) and serfs (clăcaşi) of the State and most of Glogovean's". p. 430;

*Glogova* - "In the commune of Glogova of 430 families there are 25 freeholders (moşneni) mixed with serfs (clăcaşi)" ... "in Ludo, Glogova and Iormăneşti there are 361 [serfs=clăcaşi] of which 346 belong to Mr. Costache Glogoveanu and 15 to the freeholders" ... p. 430

*Retezu* - "The village is inhabited by 181 freeholders (moşneni) and a few serfs (clăcaşi) farmers" ... What the the freeholders (moşneni) had "was taken from them by the freeholders from the neighboring village, which is why for many years there has been a lawsuit and enmity between them. They went to court and spent what the estate in question was not worth"... "The freeholders (moşnenii), especially those who are sole proprietors, are celebrated among themselves and by others calling themselves Boieru (Boyar) Ion, Boieru Gheorghe, Boieru Vasile. The word "boier" is used a lot here and replaces the word "cucoane", which is given to the older boyars. Boier is used in Mehedinţi instead of arhon, but when it is said arhon must be accompanied by the word arhontie, while the word boier precedes the name of baptism and shows a nobility of birth, personally; example arhon postelnicu boieru Costea" p. 438-439;

*Pesceana* - "a commune inhabited by 18 sole owners freeholders and 198 joint owners" ... "The wealthiest of the landowners has only 4 ploughshares" ... p. 439;

*Cotuna* - a commune "made up of the villages of *C. de Sus, Valea Perilor and C. de Jos or Steicu*, is partly owned by the State and partly by the brothers Clineanul, D. Steiceanul and 18 inhabitants". ... p. 440;

*Lupoia* - commune "made up of the villages of *Lupoia, Valea Mănăstirii and Râpa* and inhabited by large and small freeholders landowners; large like Mr. Costache Săvoiu, large landowner". "The farmers „eat” each other, those [are] beyond Motru with those beneath" because of the change in the course of the Motru. At *Valea Mănăstirii*, there is a freeholder (moşnean), named Manolo Monastireanu.

*Zăgujanii* - "they are in common with *Râpa, Copăcioaia, Stroeşti and Peşteana*, all inhabited by large landowning freeholders (moşneni) and their serfs (clăcaşii), 145 classified and 31 remaining and unclassified and propertyless". Freeholder Ioniţă Hârgota is also the mayor and holds over 100 fathom (stânjani). p. 443;

*Florești* - commune made up of the villages *Călienii, Floreștii, Gârduia, Moșnenii, Bâșiții, Copăcioasa*, are inhabited by half of 15 particular moșneni and 90 joint owners (devălmași) and half of their serfs (clăcași) in the number of 95 land receivers. In 90 moșneni there are 45 with income from 7,5 to 50 lei and only 6 with income of more than 100 lei, the rest are written at 100 lei income per year" ... the territorial property has become very fragmented, crowded, which is the general case of the moșneni of Mehedinți county, where they make up almost a third of the contributing population". p. 445-446;

*Broștenii* - "they share with *Orbenii* ... and they are joined with them, *Boca and Condulenii* and are inhabited by 160 distinguished and joint owners landowners and 77 serfs (clăcași). These farmers have no more than 51.5 bushels of autumn wheat and 495 bushels of corn. Of these, less the 100 pogoans worked by those who are more hardened, the remainder is divided among the others who have only one, two or three pogoans of grain". p. 447;

"*Rosisuta* is shared with *Lupoiaia* and both are the property of 206 landowners, 56 of whom are distinguished and 150 of whom are devălmași". p. 446; "Many landowners go to feed themselves on neighbouring estates and leave with the scythe to the plains where they stay only one month and then come back with the money". ... p. 448;

*Runcurelu* - "inhabited by old people" .... p. 449;

*Mătăсарu de Sus și de Jos* - "The people from here are 61 special and 370 devălmași". p. 449;

*Miculeștii* are shared with *Stiucanii and Cioranii*. "In *Miculești* and *Stiucani* there are Masneni and clăcași, and in *Ciorani* there are only clăcași". The mayor was Constantin Cărlăunția, a Meskanian from *Miculești*, with 15 pogoane of land. "The most important Moșneanul here is Grigorie Miculescu. He has 400 stj. at *Ciorani* and 400 at *Stiucani*, that is 800 stj." p. 452;

"*Cojmăneștii* is a commune inhabited by 111 Masneni and 28 clăcași" p. 452;

*Slivileștii* - "have 114 communal contributors and belong to 63 landowners of which 11 are separated and 52 are joint owners (devălmași)" ... p. 453;

*Drăgoteștii de Sus*, commune with the village of *Buhorila*. "In the commune there are 50 distinguished landowners, 110 devălmași and 14 clăcași" p. 453;

*Drăgoteştii de Jos*, with 39 distinguished landowners and 139 devălmaşi and 17 clăcaşi, having only 120 communal contributors" p. 454;

*Negomiru* "belongs to the distinguished landowners and 130 landowners"; *Usoaia* of 2 landowners" p. 454;

"*Corobăile* makes up a commune with *Trestioara* in which live 102 distinguished landowners, 20 devălmaşi and 40 clăcaşi"; p. 455;

*Şura*, is in common with *Şiacu* "and is inhabited by landowners". Ion Georgescu from Moşne is mayor, with 300 pogoane with 6 clăcaşi, p. 455;

*Covrigi*, commune with *Costenii*: "24 distinguished landowners, 162 devălmaşi and 73 clăcaşi" - p. 456. Manolache Maglutescu from Moşne had 3 pogoane and 7 children. p. 456;

*Strâmta* shares a common with *Larga* "and is inhabited by 43 landowners separated by their paths, 42 devălmaşi and 55 clăcaşi" p. 457;

*Horăştii*, common with *Gura Văii*, *Duculeştii* and *Bazăvenii*. In the commune there are 34 distinguished landowners, 56 devălmaşi and 25 clăcaşi, including 1 of Gr. Miculescu ... p. 457;

*Samarineştii*, shared with *Poienii Valley* and *Church Valley*. "All of these villages are owned by 39 distinguished landowners and 100 devălmaşi ... Among these landowners are also 66 classified clăcaşi plus 10 of Sandu Corlanu and Florea Benguleasca unclassified. p. 458;

Motru de Jos Farm

*Jirov* -community with *Croica*, *Mărul Roşu* and *Urzeşti* "inhabited by ruler, landowners and large landowners". p. 463-464;

*Gârbovătu* and *Pârvuleştii* "belong to the landowners of which 5 are great landowners and large landowners" p. 464;

*Imoasa* - commune with *Bârzescu* and is inhabited by landowners of which 4 large landowners, 86 devălmaşi and 48 former clăcaşi". p. 469 ... "for the landowners do a little ploughing and a lot of plumming" ... "but what does the farmer do?" He walks around naked, barefoot, and girded with a curma, and says that he is a landowner, that he is of noble lineage, that he comes from a large family, that he walks around with his guts gnawing from hunger, rejoicing when he hears someone



call him a certain landlord. The plums cheer him up, the plums make him not work". p. 470;

*Lupșa de Sus and Lupșa de Jos* - "both inhabited by 170 old people and 50 of their former clăcași". "Moșnenii complain of the earth's narrowness" p. 471;

*Ercea* "is inhabited by landowners, 4 large and 49 small" .. p. 472;

*Cuturuia [=Cotoroia] de Jos* - "they are landowners" p. 472;

*Voloiacu*, a commune united with *Lacu* and situated in the *Valea Bună*, "is inhabited by large and small landowners" p. 472;

*Degerați de Sus and de Jos* "form a commune inhabited by landowners and ruler" p. 473;

*Cremenea de Jos* - "a few owners and small" p. 475;

*Tâmna* - "22 large and small owners" p. 475;

*Rea Valley* "being of great and small landowners" p. 476;

*Miluta* "united with *Menții din Față* is inhabited by lords and ruler" p. 476;

*Menții din Dos* "have 91 landowners, 12 of them are large landowners and the others are devalmatis and 30 are former clăcași" "The luxury of the landowner here is to have a beautiful, high and covered gate to his house". But dirt in the garden and in the house. p. 476;

*Cârceni* - "In Cârceni there are landowners and E. Scafisiu" ... p. 477;

*Butoiești* - "belongs to 18 landowners, 2 large landowners and the State and are inhabited by 133 former clăcași". p. 477;

*Stângăceaua de Sus* - the Masneni, p. 478;

*Socolești* "is inhabited by 50 landowners and a few large landowners and 107 former clăcași" p. 479;

Dumbrava Farm

*Secu*, "a commune united with *Șumandra and Smadovița*, is inhabited by 57 landowners and 149 former landowners" p. 482. An example is given of the priest Glogoviceanu (Glogogeanu, -n D. C.), an old octogenarian in full vigour, with 9 children, to whom he gave 25 stj. of land, reserving a piece for himself.

*Țiuleni*, "a small commune of a few landowners and 76 landed ruler" p. 483;

*Greceștii* - commune with 144 farmers and 28 former clăcași" p. 484; Church built by a farmer, who gave him 700 pogoane of land. p. 484;

*Botoșești*; "2 large landowners, 17 landowners and 79 ruler" p. 484;

*Busu* - "shares a commune with *Gropanele ... and Grădiștea ...* inhabited by landowners and ruler". "In Busu there are 53 landowners and one large landowner whose estate is larger than that of all the landowners" p. 488;

*Stăncești* - "are inhabited by 26 landowners and 49 former clăcași" p. 489;

*Marcu's Valley* "inhabited by 43 moşneni and 48 clăcași moved and displaced from their places" p. 494;

*Bâlțașii de Jos*, "Here are 170 old men" ... "they have no forest" ... in one winter they cleared 100 bushels of forest" ... p. 495;

*The Upper Baltians* "are inhabited by old men and 60 rump people" ... p. 495

*Valea Ursului*, "a small commune inhabited by 60 landowners" and their former "clăcași" numbering 21 p. 498;

*Pavăț* - "inhabited by 23 landowners and 5 owners" ... p. 499;

*Adunații Teiului*, a commune "inhabited by 74 landowners and their clăcași who did not even own their own place" - p. 499;

Field mesh

*The Ulmulețul* "inhabited by the landowners and 42 former clăcași of Messrs Pleniceanu and Miculescu" p. 507;

*Cearângu* "makes common with Drincea of 171 emancipated clăcași contributors. The property belongs to Prince B. Știrbei and other landowners" .... - p. 522;

Blahnița net

*Balta Verde* - "common ... with 121 former landlords of the landowners, the owners of the estate" .... p. 527; "One landowner, however, D. Fortuna, gave land to the villagers and water to water the cattle" .. p. 528;

*Țigănașu* - a commune "inhabited by 117 former ruler of the landowners of the estate" - p. 533;

*Burila Mare*, commune with *Izvorul Frumos*, "having 193 contributors, of which 70 large or small landowners and 207 clăcași" ... p. 536;

*The Mosni Battalions* - p. 535;

*Jianu Mare*, "property of large and small landowners, 197 landed landowners" p. 537;

*Flămânda* - "The estate is owned by 40 landowners" p. 537;

*Porona* "is the property of 75 landowners who have given land to 173 landowners" - p. 542 "The landowners here are arguing over land: some have more, others less". They have enclosed approx. 300 stj. of the domain of the State neighbouring Stignița.

*Izvorălu de Sus*, "Among the landowners there are some who in time have become clăcași" - p. 543;

The netting

"*The Schela Cladova* is property, part of the State and part of the landowners" - p. 546;

*The spring of Bârzii*, "belongs to the landowners who have estates in the other villages, in *Halânga* p. 553;

*The Dudași* (above *Cerneți*) "are the property of the landowners and of Grigore Severineanu" - p. 555;

*Hinova* - "is the property of the landowners who together had, in 1863, a land income of 13,000 lei" p. 563;

*The Valley of the Thieves and the Spring of Anesti*, "are the property of 110 landowners" p. 563; landowners work on other estates.

*Igiroasa* is shared with *Arvătești* and a *Creminea* slum beyond *Husnicioara*. "In *Igiroasa* there are from below landowners and from above rump farmers" around the "country house" of C. Popescu (buyer). p. 565;

*Fântâna Domnească* is shared with *Mijarea* and *Dragoteștii* and is owned by 230 large and small landowners" - p. 567;

*Gutu* is shared with *Gârnița* and *Ghelvegioaia*, "the other villages inhabited by landowners and a few large landowners" - p. 567-568;

*Zegaia* "belongs to 180 landowners and one large landowner" p. 569;

*The Peri* - landlords "200 in number are very strapped for land, having lost a piece about 700 stj." -; Gentiles: Calamfiru, Orzeştii, Cuculeştii, Frumuşenii, Lupuleştii.

*Petra Valley* - 110 Musnensian contributors - p. 569;

*Siliştenii* – The landlords here being few, they have land with a lot of fertility”... p. 570

*Husnicioara* commune consisting of the villages of *Husnicioara*, *Priboieşti*, *Celnata*, *Dumbrăviţa*, *Negreşti*, *Tigani* lui *Opreanu*. "Here there are landowners and small landowners and large landowners" - p. 571. Constantin Lupuianu, from Moşneanul, with 10 stj. of land - p. 572;

*Govodarva* - united with *Valea Rea*, "making a commune of landlords and ruler of 170 contributors" ... p. 573; "At Govodarva the landlords multiply a lot, from 16 families to 100.

*Severineştii* "inhabited by landowners, large landowners and former landlords" - p. 574;

*Jigniţa and Roşia* in Căzăneşti commune "are the property of the landowners" - p. 574;

*Gârboviţa* - "a commune with 95 Masnian contributors and a few larger ones" p. 576;

*Crăgoieştii* are in common with *Presnenii*, then *Budăneştii* and *Băseştii* - "the state of the landowners of these mountain villages" - p. 581.

*Bâlvăneşti* is a commune with *Călineştii* "and both villages are inhabited by 104 commoners" - p.584;

*Bobaiţa* - "The village is divided into 3 slums inhabited by landowners among whom there are only 2 large landowners" - p. 584;

*Pitulaşi* - a village with 3 slums: one with 13 clăcaşi of Bădiţa, another with 23 clăcaşi of T. Retezanu and the village of Pitulaşi have lords - p. 585; C. Cristescu, a lawyer from Cerneţi, tried to make the 22 ruler of the Masneni.

*The Coliba people* - "are the landlords" - p. 585;

*Valea Boierească* - forms a commune with *Lazu*. In *Lazu* has the parental house and 10 stj. of estate of Pandele Ghenca called *Colibăşanu*", a landowner, today

(1868- n. D. C.) "one of the biggest owners and lessees in Mehedinți county" - p. 586;

*Poroina* - "a village of landowners" "of 7 landowners and 7 large landowners" p. 587;

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The information, both statistical and field, clarifies, in particular, the position and role of the Mehedentians. From this perspective, his work becomes a valuable historical source, which is also confirmed by other documentary sources officially drawn up by the Romanian State after 1868, such as those of 1882, 1899, 1908 and 1912. At the same time, Ion Ionescu introduces in his language new names, less common in documents, such as "regular landowners", "separated landowners", "special landowners", "large and small special landowners", "large landowners" - for those who had left undivided ownership - , "those who had become landowners", or the title by which landowners were distinguished in society, that of "boier".

Translation: Ion-Leone Gavrilă-Ciobotea.