

THE POSITION OF TYZENHAUS ENTERPRISES IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 18TH CENTURY IN GRODNO

Положение предприятий Тызенгауза во второй половине XVIII века в Гродно

The purpose of the study is to review and evaluate the socio-economic development of Grodno enterprises in the second half of the 18th century.

In 1765, the King of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth appointed Antoni Tyzenhaus as the king's treasurer. Tyzenhaus began to develop industry in Grodno. This city was the economic and administrative-political center of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the second half of the 18th century.

In the late 1760s, Tyzenhaus began full-scale construction. He built factories, mills, breweries, creameries, mechanical workshops, dye houses for fabrics and leather. He opened textile stores and haberdashery shops. Infrastructure was built for workers: small wooden houses in Gorodnitsa, stone buildings in Lososno.

Manufactories appeared that did not require belonging to a workshop. Economic reforms were actively carried out based on the development of all industries. Grodno royal manufactories began their activities and the process of training serfs by foreign craftsmen. In 15 years, Gorodnitsa has turned into an industrial center due to the royal savings of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. 21 factories and 2 factory settlements were built in Lososno and Gorodnitsa. At the time of 1780, the total number of workers was 3,500.

New progressive technologies were introduced in farming and gardening. The first to appear were: "gold", silk, cloth, hosiery, linen factories and a dye house. Later, linen, lace, hat, carriage, card workshops, a factory of pins and needles, an armory, production of files, steel tools, iron products, a wax whitewash, a tannery were added.

The manufactories produced both essential and luxury goods: cloth, linen, silk, Persian carpets and canvas; hats, stockings and gold braid for officers; hairpins, needles, jewelry and Dutch lace for ladies; carriages and playing cards; clothing, dishes and metal products; beer, dyes and weapons.

In 1784, the industrial boom of Tyzenhaus' brainchild has come to an end. The reasons were: huge debts to foreign creditors, the half-empty treasury of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the use of imported raw materials, radicalism, disorganization, lack of clear plans and inconsistency of management, competition, enemy interference, unprofitability of the manufactories, the domination of serfdom and slave working conditions. Some of Tyzenhaus' workshops existed for more than 100 years.

The results of the study show that despite the unsuccessful attempt to create industry in Grodno, it played a significant role in the economic and cultural development of the city, not only in the XVIII century, but also in modern times.