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SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE SOUTH-WESTERN PROVINCES POPULATION IN THE MID-19TH CENTURY

Abstract.

The article examines the South-Western provinces (Right-Bank Ukraine) population social structure features in the middle of the 19th century, the dynamics of its changes over half a century since the region became part of the Russian Empire by statistics data.

Keywords: *Russian Empire, Right-Bank Ukraine, nobles, clergy, merchants, burghers, free rural inhabitants, obligated peasants.*

The social division of the Russian Empire population according to formal legal characteristics was of a class-estate nature. The main social categories belonged to nobles, clergy, “urban inhabitants” (burghers) and “rural inhabitants” (in Russian law, these estates were denoted by the terms “dvoryane”, “dushovenstvo”, “gorodskiye obyvateli”, and “sel'skiye obyvateli”) [7]. The first two were privileged, did not pay taxes, did not serve in the army under duress, and were not subjected to corporal punishment. Others were considered “tax classes” and carried the burden of maintaining the social organism. In particular, the nobles were divided into hereditary and personal, which determined the features of their position in the corporation; the clergy was divided by religion, place in the church hierarchy, positioning to the secular world; the estate of “urban inhabitants” included honourable citizens, merchants of various categories, burghers, artisans, etc. The “rural inhabitants” were divided into some dozen categories of peasants.

Consider the social and legal features of the main estates of the Russian Empire in the middle of the 19th century, focusing on those that were represented in the society of the South-Western provinces (the common name of the three historical lands of Right-Bank Ukraine – the Kyiv, Podillia and Volyn, the former voivodships of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth until 1793).

Nobles

The highest class-estate in the Russian Empire was nobles, whose social status was fixed in the numerous privileges enshrined in the laws [7, art. 15 – 243, p. 3 – 56; art. 613 – 1207, p. 128 – 246].

The main noble rights and privileges were as follows:

- A nobleman could be deprived of estate, personal and property rights only by a court decision. He could only sue equals.
- The guilty of a criminal offense, a nobleman could be legally deprived of his civilian dignity and life only by the decision of the Senate, approved personally

by the Emperor. Noble was not subject to corporal punishment.

- The noblemen only enjoyed full freedom, could freely accept or leave the state service, to enter the service of other European rulers, but not enemies of the Empire, to travel abroad. Only the hereditary noblemen had the right to own the serfs or to be owners of the land estates. The nobleman owner of the serfs had the right: to use the compulsory labour of his peasants, without violating the established number of corvée days and without driving the peasants to begging; lend the labour of serfs of his peasants to other nobility under the conditions established by law; resettle his serfs to other lands; sell or alienate peasants with the land on which they live, or with the condition of their resettlement to another land; to judge the peasants between them, to consider the civil misconduct of the peasants in relation to the landowner. The continuations of these rights were certain duties of the nobleman in relation to his serfs: to take care of the food and welfare of the peasants and their families; to be responsible for bringing state taxes of the peasants, fulfilling monetary and natural state duties by them; to stand up for peasants in civil and criminal cases in court.

- Everything grown and produced in the estates of the nobleman, he had the right to sell in bulk. The hereditary noblemen could also establish towns with trades and fairs on his land (so called “mistechno” in Ukraine).

- The noblemen were allowed to own factories, workshops on their land, sell industrial goods, buy and sell houses in cities, establish all kinds of production there, use city law if they agreed to obey it.

- The nobleman ownership spread not only to the surface of his land, but also to the waters and bowels of the earth with everything that was there, to the forests within their possessions with their free use. His houses in villages were freed from military standing, and the nobleman himself was free from taxes.

- Each nobleman, if he was not in the civil service or in elected positions in the province, had the right to join the Merchant Guild if desired, with appropriate

fees and city duties. Personal noblemen were allowed, without recording to guilds, to open their private production in the rank of workshops.

- The nobles had permission to gather in the province where they lived, and to form the Assembly of the Nobility in which every nobleman had the right to vote. At this meeting, hereditary nobles chose their leader, bona fide judges, assessors, district judges, district court officials and heads of provincial court chambers. However, the Assembly of the Nobility was not allowed to transmit submissions and complaints through its deputies to the Senate and the Emperor, but only through the governor. In practice, not all of the provincial nobles were endowed with equal rights in corporate governance. The personal nobility did not have corporate self-government and did not have the right to participate in the self-government of the hereditary nobility. Upon completion of the South-Western Territory entry into the Russian Empire under the 5-th revision of 1795 on the Right-Bank Ukraine there were 135,406 representatives of the Polish gentry (45,425 the Kyiv prov., 51,520 the Podillia, 35,461 the Volyn), 7.79% of population, but only 8.22% nobles owned the land, the rest were tenants or served with noble landowners [6, p. 583 – 584, Table 1].

After the suppression of the Polish uprising of 1830-1831, by the Decree of October 19, 1831 and a number of other normative acts, measures were taken to verify the entire composition of the Polish gentry of Right-Bank Ukraine, to consider and substantiate the rights of belonging to the nobility of each family and to create here the same nobility as and in the intra-Russian provinces. To consider cases in the districts, special commissions were created, controlled by the central commissions of provincial cities. All representatives of the gentry were divided into three categories: 1. Nobles approved in this status by the Nobility Assemblies, or no one approved, but the owners of the inhabited noble estates with peasants without land, or serfs. They were

exempted from taxation and military service. 2. Nobles approved by the Assembly of the Nobility, not owners of noble estates with peasants. For them, aristocratic privileges were temporarily preserved pending consideration of all evidence of their nobility origin. 3. Noblemen not approved by the Nobility Assembly and not the owners of estates settled by peasants were immediately taxed and transferred to the category of one-dwellers or citizens who had the right to do military service not personally, but with payment of 1000 rubles for each subsequent recruitment. The consideration of their cases was terminated forever. In 1833 72,144 people from the Polish gentry were deprived of their nobility. From 1840 to 1845, the Kyiv Central Commission considered 1,051 cases of applicants for noble rights. Of these, the evidence was recognized as correct in 130 cases (425 people), incorrect in 1295 cases (7,282 people). The final decision on them was transferred to the interim Department of Heraldry 2,165 people were expelled from the nobility and enrolled in tax classes. At the same time, 73 people were recognized as noblemen in the Volyn, 51,055 were expelled from the nobility, in the Podillia, respectively, 83 and 42,784 [10, p. 209, 213, 214 – 219, 224, 225]. According to D. Bovoua, in the period of 1831 – 1850 in the South-Western provinces of noble rights were deprived about 340,000 representatives of the Polish gentry, landless or small-landers [2, p. 559]. By mid-1840s in the Kyiv province there were 65,120 noblemen (3.77% of the total population), including 7,883 hereditary, 11,644 personal, and 45,594 of the 2nd category; the Podillia nobility consisted of 25,465 people, which comprised 1.61% of all the province inhabitants (including hereditary 23,246 and personal 2,219); the amount of the Volyn nobles were 33,991, or 2.36% of the province population (30,311 hereditary and 3,680 personal) (Table 1) [calculated by: 11, Table 2; 12, Tables 5 – 6; 13, Table 3]. The total number of nobility in the region 50 years after

Table - 1

The main social groups of the South-Western provinces of the Russian Empire (Right-Bank Ukraine) 1845 – 1848

Categories and groups / provinces	The Kyiv		The Podillia		The Volyn		Generally		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	quantity	%	quantity	%	quantity	%	quantity	%	
<i>Nobles:</i>	65,120	3.77	25,465	1.61	33,991	2.36	124,576	2.62	
- hereditary	7,883	0.46	23,246	1.46	30,311	2.11	61,440	1.29	
- personal	11,644	0.67	2,219	0.14	3,680	0.26	17,543	0.37	
- 2nd grade	45,594	2.64	-	-	-	-	45,594	0.96	
Officials and clerks	2,345	0.14	1,837	0.12	2,842	0.20	7,054	0.15	
<i>Clergy:</i>	12,859	0.74	17,551	1.10	12,324	0.86	42,734	0.90	
<i>Urban inhabitants:</i>	224,586	12.99	201,478	12.67	212,185	14.75	638,249	13.42	
Honourable citizens	226	0.01	10	0.01	17	0.01	253	0.01	
Citizens from the Polish gentry	4,488	0.26	8,339	0.52	-	-	12,827	0.27	
Merchants	9,370	0.54	2,877	0.18	3,781	0.26	16,028	0.34	
Burghers	210,502	12.18	190,252	11.96	208,387	14.49	609,141	12.80	
<i>Rural inhabitants:</i>	1,402,386	81.12	1,177,427	74.03	1,137,522	79.08	3,717,335	78.13	
Free rural inhabitants	302,429	17.49	259,924	16.34	250,214	17.39	812,567	17.08	
Obligated peasants	1,099,957	63.62	917,503	60.79	887,308	61.68	2,904,768	61.05	
<i>Other groups</i>	30,979	1.79	66,609	4.19	14,592	1.01	112,180	2.36	
Generally	1,728,835	100	1,590,367	100	1,438,456	100	4,757,658	100	

it's entry into the Russian Empire was 124,576 or 2.62% of all inhabitants, so in proportion it was 3 times less than in 1795 (see above). On the eve of the abolition of serfdom, according to the 10th revision of 1858, there were 155,877 nobles or 2.99% of the population in the Right-Bank Ukraine, but even in this form it was almost 2 times more than average the European part of the Russian Empire [calculated by: 9, p. 292 – 293, 295 – 296].

Clergy

Another privileged class-estate of the then society was the clergy. After the abolition of Peter I of the institute of Patriarchy and the creation of the Holy Synod for the management of spiritual affairs in the Russian Empire on the basis of the Spiritual Rules, the structure of the hierarchy of the Orthodox clergy, its rights and privileges were formalized as follows. Metropolitan was considered the first among the Russian clergy, followed by archbishops, bishops, who were called “arkhiereys”. They formed a higher clergy and had to adhere for celibacy. The “black clergy” (archimandrites, abbots, monks) were also celibate. The join to the Orthodox monastery was provided for the prior permission of the local diocesan bishop. The monks received men from 30 years old, women from 40 years old, and officials with the permission of their superiors. The Catholics were allowed to join monks from the age of 22 with the permission of the Minister of the Interior. The “white clergy” consisted of archpriest, priests, deacons, church servants. The proto-priests, the priests and the deacons were to be married to receiving a dignity, not on the widow, but on the girl. In the event of the death of his wife, the priest could remain a widower or adopt a schema and attain the highest ranks in the spiritual hierarchy. Those who wished to marry again had to be cut off from the clerical social class and passed to the civil status. The rights of the white clergy were acquired by consecration in the rank of priest. In marriage, the status of clergy could be transferred from husband to wife if she was not a noblewoman. The widows of priests of noble origin enjoyed the rights of the personal nobility, and if they had the clergy origin, the rights of honorary citizens. Children of priests and clergymen, not from noblemen, were ranked as personal honorary citizens. The right to dismiss from recruitment concerned priests of all faiths, they were not subject to taxes, and in criminal offenses were exempted from corporal punishment. In addition, they were allowed to buy land as personal property. Empress Catherine II confiscated the monastic possessions and peasants in favour of the state, leaving the required number of servants in the monasteries, and appointed a monastic annual maintenance. Emperor Pavel I began to award orders to representatives of the clergy for conscientious performance of official duties, which made it possible for the Cavaliers to rank among the nobility [7, art. 244 – 422, p. 57 – 86]. In accordance with the normative documents of 1842 - 1843 on the Right-Bank Ukraine, the staff of rural wards was correlated with the number of laity, and the parishes themselves were divided into seven classes: 1) 2,000 - 3,000 parishioners; 2) 1,500 - 2,000; 3) 1,000 - 1,500; 4) 700 - 1,000; 5) 400 - 700; 6) 300-400; 7) 100 to 300 believers. All the

clergy were on state salary. The archpriest of the city cathedral received 224 rubles a year state wages, other priests for 160 rub., deacons for 96 rub., deacons-minor for 64 rub., church servants 32 rub. Rural parishes received money from the state in the amount of: 1st class 508 rub., 2nd class 478 rub., 3rd class 272 rub., 4th class 222 rub., 5th class 202 rub., 6th class 136 rub., 7th class 116 rub.. For a year in the Kyiv province it was 205,162 rub. [10, p. 191 – 206]. As the result of all changes, the number of Orthodox clergy in the Kyiv province by the mid-1840's was 12,859 (0.74% of the population), 17,551 in the Podillia (1.10%), 12,324 (0.86%) in the Volyn, ore 42,734 (0.90%) in total (Table 1). It was 1.56 times less in proportion to the mass of inhabitants, than in 1795 [calculated by: 6, Table 1]. At the end of the 1850s, the number of clergy grew in proportion to population growth: Kyiv province 18,517 (0.95%), the Podillia 17,588 (1.00%), the Volyn 18,086 (1.18%), while the average (1.04%) was some higher the level of the mid-1840s, but equal to the common indicator for the European part of the Russian Empire (1.02% of the population) [calculated by: 9, p. 292 – 293, 297 – 299].

Citizenship and urban inhabitants

This status was assigned to everyone who lived in cities on a permanent basis, was engaged in trade, crafts and other types of urban activities. City inhabitants, according to types and characteristics of status, were divided into honorary citizens, merchants, burghers, artisan and townspeople. Each of these groups had special rights.

Honorary citizens. By the Manifesto of April 10, 1832, a special group of “honorary citizens” was separated from the city inhabitants, intermediate between nobles and burghers. Representatives of this group were given such privileges as exemption from payment of the main state tax, recruitment and corporal punishment, the right to participate in city elections on the basis of property qualifications and to be elected to municipal elective positions not lower than those for which merchants of 1st and 2nd guilds could be elected. Honorary citizenship rights were acquired either personally or with the right of inheritance. A man could transfer hereditary honorary citizenship to his wife and legitimate children if they belonged to free social groups, not serfs, for example. The wife could not transfer her honorary citizenship to a man from another social status and to his children. Students or candidates of one of the Russian universities could apply for honorary citizenship on an individual basis. Free artists who completed a full course of study at the Academy of Arts and received an approved diploma, actors of the Imperial Theatres after 15 years of impeccable service could also apply for the title of honorary citizen. Honorary citizenship could be granted to foreign scientists and artists, trade capitalists, and owners of large factories and plants in view of the expected benefits from them to the state on the submission of the relevant ministry. This status of honorary citizens was also granted to the legitimate children of personal noblemen, children of priests and church ministers, provided they received a higher professional education. Persons of merchant status were granted hereditary honorary citizenship on the

terms of being awarded one of the Russian orders, staying in the merchant rank for 10 years in the 1st or 20 years in the 2nd guild with the regular payment of all payments, without declaring their financial incapacity or damage to their honest name by a court verdict [7, art. 575 – 612, p. 117 – 127]. There could not have been many honorary citizens, if only for fiscal reasons. So, in the mid-1840s in the Kyiv province there were only 226, in the Podillia 10, in the Volyn 17 (0.01% of the population) (Table 1). By the end of the 1850s, there were already 494 of them in the Kiev province, 69 in the Podillya, but 4,089 in the Volyn, which amounted to 0.09% of the South-Western provinces inhabitants [calculated by: 9, p. 270]. The Volynian phenomenon can be explained by the massive including of declassified representatives of the local Polish gentry to citizens (see below “Citizens from the Polish gentry”). In several years we can observe another situation: 2,255 honorary citizens in the Kyiv prov., 204 in the Podillya, and 133 in the Volyn or in total 0.05% of the regional population [calculated by: 8, p. 46].

“Citizens from the Polish gentry” is a temporary product of the noble reform in the Right-Bank Ukraine, which have been noticeable in local cities since 1834. This social group included representatives of the former Polish gentry who did not own land, were not recognized by the Nobility Assembly and the Department of Heraldry as nobles, but lived in cities. A small part of these former Polish nobles, officially registered on October 19, 1831 as artists, teachers, doctors and lawyers, became honorary citizens [4, p. 230 - 232]. In 1845 - 1846 in the Kyiv and Podillia provinces, this category of citizens were from 0.3 to 0.6% of the population (4,488 and 8,339 people, respectively) (Table 1). According to the 9th revision of 1851, such citizens in the Kyiv prov. accrued 3,081, in the Volyn 3,964, and 9,786 in the Podillia [3, Appendix 1, p. 239]. In later statistical collections, this group of people is no longer present.

Merchants constituted the most respected group of city inhabitants, divided into three guilds. Every free person could register in a guild, regardless of gender and occupation, by declaring his legal capital not less 50,000 rubles or more, and the amount of the declared capital was not specifically checked. Merchants were exempted from recruitment; instead, they paid monetary contributions to the state. In addition to general trade rights, each guild had its own special privileges. Thus, merchants of the 1st guild were allowed to trade all goods of domestic and foreign production everywhere, to have their own river and sea vessels, warehouses for wholesale trade, factories, except for distilleries, to deal with the transfer of capital to Russian and foreign cities and other banking affairs. In addition, merchants of the 1st guild could conduct retail trade, participate in various enterprises, maintain an unlimited number of workers, and join the artisan guild. Merchants of the 1st guild, whose conscientious work for 12 years brought universal benefit, were awarded the title of the Commerce Advisor, equal to the VIII class of the civil service, which gave the right to personal nobility, were awarded orders. Those who had been in the 1st guild for more than 12 years could request that their

children enter the civil service on an equal basis with the children of senior officers and study in colleges and universities without losing their merchant status. The merchant of the 2nd guild declared capital not less than 20,000 rubles and were allowed all kinds of trade, both wholesale and retail, under some restrictions. In particular, at the customs office, it was possible to declare goods worth not more than 50,000 rubles, brought by one vessel or by one land transport. During the year, foreign trade could not exceed 300,000 rubles. They could enter government contracts, enter into contracts and broker agreements worth up to 50,000 rubles. The 1st and 2nd guilds (so called “first class” traders) were exempted from corporal punishment. They were allowed to wear swords or sabers, provincial uniforms, and visit the Emperor court. To perpetuate the memory, the “Velvet Book” of outstanding merchant families was created in imitation of the “Velvet Book” of noble families. Merchants of the 3rd guild had to declare a capital of at least 8,000 rubles. They were allowed retail trade in those cities and regions to which they were assigned, all kinds of local and purchased goods from Russian merchants. They had the right to maintain ships and use them for sea transport, but at the expense of merchants who had permission for foreign trade, as well as for river transport without any restrictions. The merchants of the 3rd guild, when concluding contracts and other transactions, were not supposed to go beyond the limit of 20,000 rubles. Their factories did not have to use large premises and machines, and the number of workers could not exceed 32 persons. In each city or village, such a merchant could have no more than three trade shops. The main duties of the merchant were: to pay 4% tax on the minimum capital for participation in the guild (for the first two guilds), and an additional 10% were deducted from each tax rouble for the repair of water and land roads; allocate 0.25% of the capital for the needs of the district and the city. The merchants had to elect their representatives to the local government every three years at their discretion. Merchants of the 1st guild were supposed to take on the duties of the city chairmen and judges of chambers, conscientious courts, public service orders, trade deputies and directors of banks and their offices, church elders. Merchants of the 2nd guild, in addition to the designated positions, were supposed to accept the post of burgo-master, members of six-member dumas and deputies in different places [1, p. 535 – 538; 4, p. 13 – 14]. According to data for 1795, 2,301 merchants lived in the Right-Bank Ukraine (717 in the Kiev prov., 1,135 in the Podillia and 449 in the Volyn), which amounted to 0.14% of the total population [calculated by: 6, p. 587, Table 1]. After half a century, there were 9,370 merchants in the Kyiv prov. (0.54%), in the Podillia 2,877 (0.18%) in the Volyn 3,781 (0.26%) or 16,028 (0.34%) of the total population (Table 1). The 10-th revision data (1858) showed 18,982 (0.97%) merchants in the Kiev prov., 15,413 (0.88%) in the Podillia and 10,589 (0.69%) in the Volyn. For the region as a whole, merchants accounted for 44,984 or 0.86% of the total population, while this indicator for the European part of the Russian Empire was 0.67% [calculated by: 9, p. 270, 293].

Burghers or “True urban inhabitants”. The burgher passed on his status affiliation to his wife and children; it was impossible to deprive him of good fame, property or life without a trial. He was subject to consideration in the city court, had the right to freely dispose of his property. A burgher without special permission had the right to do all sorts of production, except distilling, to conduct retail trade, but only in his city. A variety of burghers were townspeople. This category included all free people and even serfs registered in suburbs or small towns called “mistechko” in the Right-Bank Ukraine. They had the right to create households at their place of residence, engage in small-scale production there, maintain their own retail store at home, open taverns, commercial baths, guest yards, enter into government contracts and ransom within their own taxed capital. Another category of the urban population was the members of the craft guilds, in which any person could enrol, who, according to the city charter, could be attributed to the burgher class and who had a desire to engage in crafts. Craftsmen's guilds could declare capital, join trade guilds, and enjoy their privileges. According to the Crafts Charter, each guild of artisans had its own sign, treasury and seal, a place for meetings. The guild administration had its own broker, head, elders and senior officers, whose duties were the constant care of the of crafts condition, the perfection of the skills of guild's artisans, and the resolution of professional conflicts. The artisan chairman took part in the city self-government and the six-member Duma [7, art. 423 – 574, p. 87 – 116]. In the Right-Bank Ukraine of 1795, burghers accounted for 5.78% of the population. By the middle of the 1840s there were: 210,502 (12.18%) in the Kyiv prov., 190,252 (11.96%) in the Podillia and 208,387 (14.49%) in the Volyn with the regional average indicator in 12.80%, or 2.2 times more, then in the beginning of South-Western provinces history like a part of Russian Empire (Table 1). In 1858 the amount of burghers in the Kyiv prov. was 244,205 (12.56%), in the Podillia 187,827 (10.74%), in the Volyn 174,988 (11.45%), and average meaning 11.63%. At the same time, the similar indicator for the European part of the Russian Empire was 7.25% [calculated by: 6, Table 1; 9, p. 270 – 271, 292].

Rural inhabitants

By the middle of the 19th century, Russian legislation identified several categories within the estate of rural inhabitants: 1. Settled on Emperor family lands - appanage peasants. 2. Settled on the lands of the Emperor court - court peasants. 3. Settled on state lands - state peasants. 4. Living on their own lands, to which were attributed groups of one-dwellers, “free people”, one-dwellers of the Western provinces, free farmers, colonists on their own lands, Malorossian Cossacks and some others. 5. Settled on the land of the private owners, the most numerous group among which were the landlord's serfs. In total, the legislator at different times identified up to 46 social groups of rural inhabitants within these categories. Some groups, for example, one-dwellers of the Western provinces, depending on the legal relationship of the land ownership, were included into several categories, except for appanage and court peasants [7, art. 613 – 1207, p. 128 – 246; 9, p.

263 – 264]. In parallel, other criteria for the differentiation of the rural population were used: “free rural inhabitants” and “obligated peasants”.

“Free rural inhabitants” – this term referred to all not serfs peasants. In the South-Western provinces they were divided into 15 subgroups established by the State Chamber in the rules of the 8th revision 1834: peasants “starostynski” who once lived on the crown lands of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth; “economic”, previously owned by Orthodox monasteries; “poiezuitski”, previously owned by the Catholic Church; confiscated from Polish aristocracy rebels; previously owned by city magistrates; “ranged” formerly belonged to military commandants; Cossacks; one-dwellers on the state land, free farmers, including those who were freed by court order; Jewish farmers and some others. In 1840, most of them began to be called “state peasants”, managed by the Ministry of State Property [10, p. 237 – 239]. On the end of the 18th century “state”, “starostynski” and “ranged” peasants were 45,252 (7.69%) in the Kyiv prov., 31,372 (5.41%) in the Podillia, 15,919 (2.80%) in the Volyn, or 5.33% by the region average [calculated by: 6, p. 588, Table 1]. In the mid-1840s in the Kyiv province this category of peasant with military settlers was 302,429 (17.49%), in the Podillia 259,924 (16.34%), in the Volyn 250,214 (17.39%), which made up 17.08% of total population by three provinces (Table 1). Several years before the abolition of serfdom, “free rural inhabitants” were distributed among the provinces in the following way: 338,535 (17.41%) the Kyiv, 313,801 (17.95%) the Podillia, 349,409 (22.86%) the Volyn, and generally 18.97% [calculated by: 9, p. 272 – 274].

“Obligated peasants” – category of peasants who were obliged to work out corvee to the landowners (serfs). As to the Right-Bank Ukraine serfs, the 5th revision (1795) data numbered 450,757 (76.56%) in the Kyiv prov., 450,810 (77.67%) in the Podillia, 460,289 (80.97%) in the Volyn and average 78.38% [calculated by: 6, p. 587 – 588, Table 1]. I.I. Fundukley, the Kyiv province civil governor 1839 – 1852, one of the first drew attention to the slower growth of the landlord peasantry, even a decrease in number by almost 155,000 men in the Kiev province in 1845 compared with the data of the 8th revision of 1834, explaining this, in particular, by the liberation of the peasants by the landlords, confiscation from the Polish nobility in favour of the state, peasants drove to neighbouring steppe provinces, etc. The greatest reduction in the number of serfs was observed in Skvirskiy, Lipovetskiy and the Uman districts [10, p. 232 – 235]. Generally, by 1845 - 1848, in the Kyiv province there were 1,099,957 serfs (63.62%), in the Podillia 917,503 (60.79%), and in the Volyn 887,308 (61.68%), average 61.05% population (Table 1). According to the 10th revision data (1858), in the Kyiv province there were 1,121,062 serfs, in the Podillia 1,041,051, in the Volyn 864,160 (respectively 1, 2 and 3rd place in the Russian Empire). For each landowner in the Kyiv province there were 354 obligated peasants (2nd place), 328 “souls” in the Podillia (3rd place), and in the Volyn 181 serfs (5th place). In relation to the total population there were in Podillia 59.6% of the serfs (7th place), in the Kyiv

province 57.7% (10th place), in Volyn 56.5% (14th place) [5, p. 69 – 70, 79 – 80, 85, 87].

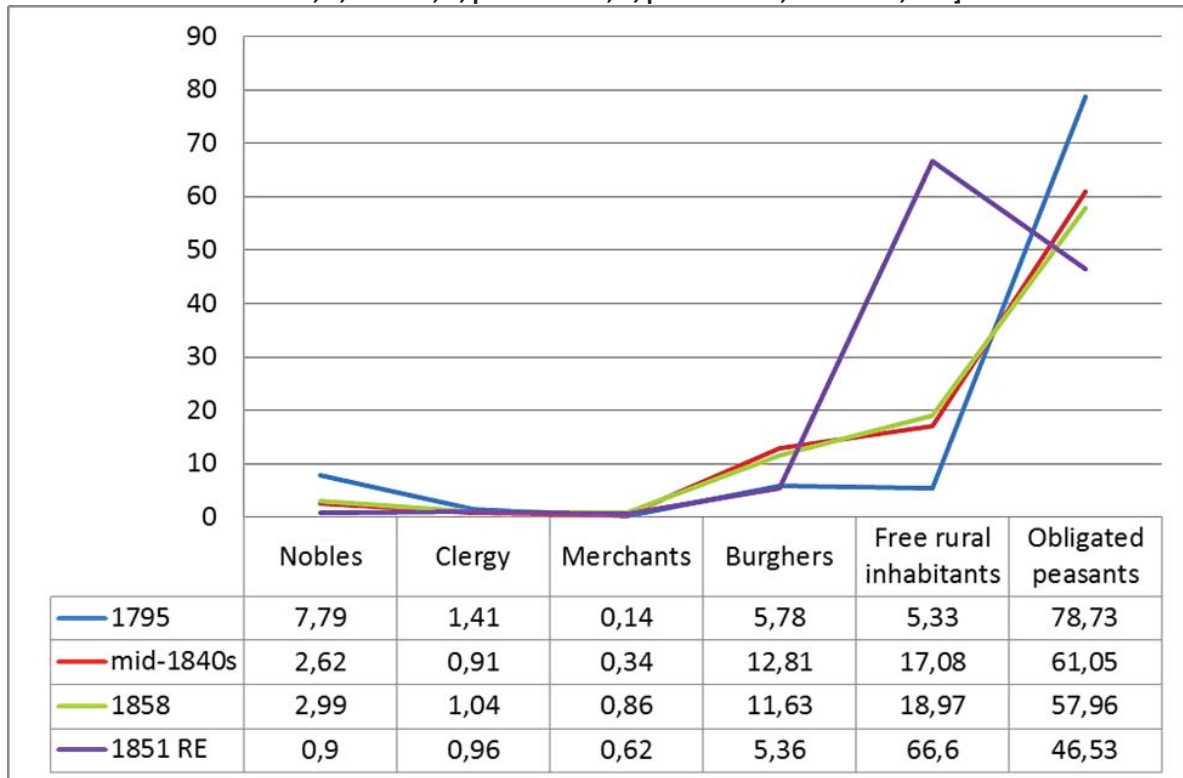
So, by the middle of the 19th century, two main parametric characteristics of Right-Bank Ukraine social organization (nobles and clergy) were adapted to the average standards of the Russian Empire, as they emerge from the results of the 9th nation-wide revision of 1851 (Figure 1). Compared to 1795, the number of

burgers and free peasants has increased markedly. At the same time, there were significantly fewer of them than in the whole Empire. On the contrary, there were almost 11 – 15% more serfs than the national average, even if those regions where serfdom did not exist at all were excluded from the population counts. In this form, the system existed until the abolition of serfdom in the early 1860s.

Figure - 1

Dynamics of the Right-Bank Ukraine social structure changes 1795 - 1858 in comparison with the average indicators in the Russian Empire according to the 9th revision (1851 RE) [calculated by:

Table 1; 6, Table 1; 9, p. 267 – 275; 3, p. 176 – 178, 182 – 200, 209]



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