

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CATALONIA IN THE ^{eve of the} XIX CENTURY

The fight for the industrialization of Catalonia.

~~There~~ It is well known the extraordinary development of Catalonia in the XIX (nineteenth) Century ~~which~~ has been described as an endless chain of successes, only paralyzed, by the incompetence of the politicians of the Central Government and the fancies of the men who favoured ~~the~~ free-^{trade} ~~exchange~~ theories. Both of them played with the prosperity of Catalonia, forgetting the economic realities of the country and Spain.

It ~~was~~ then, ^{that} ~~which~~ acquiring new techniques and ~~applying~~ ^{application of the most modern} the latest resources of energy to ^{the factories,} ~~industry,~~ Catalonia makes ^{the biggest progress in Catalonia} one of its biggest progress. But this progress was neither constant, not uniform, and so it could not reach the triple ^{ai} finality that today characterizes ^{ai} ~~in~~ more industrialized nations: First, the growth of a powerful mining and metalurgical industry. Secondly, the development of a strong textile industry. Third, the organization of the production towards free-^{trade} ~~exchange~~ and competition in foreign markets without monopolies or importation or exportation tariffs.

All of the preceding does not take away, but adds merit to the effort made by Catalonia businessmen of the Century. Investigating the original documents about the ^{ai} process of the industrialization of Catalonia, it is easy to realize the ^{contrast} ~~disproportion~~ between the ^{poor economic possibilities of Spain} ~~lesser~~ Spanish possibilities because of its soil and the importance of the projects that were carried out. ^{in Catalonia} ~~in Catalonia~~, ~~it~~ is totally false ~~xxx whatever~~

Thus, any theory ^{which states} ~~stating~~ that Catalonians were unable to put into practice the Capitalistic principles of the last Century.

If the effort of the Catalonian businessmen, with rare exceptions, only created the small ^{ai} ~~textil~~ factory and little shop so typical at the end of that century, it was mainly because of ^{the} ~~almost inexistent~~ mineral wealth of Catalonia ~~soil~~, as history proves.

^{was almost non-existent.}

decline
The industrial ~~decadence~~ after the war of Independence.

The XIX century starts under the best ~~pressages~~ ^{auspices.} After the first two wars of the Revolution, the Peace Treaty of Amiens brought back ~~the~~ calm to the people ^{of Western} in the Occident of Europe. As a result of the opening ^{re-} ~~back~~ of the ~~com-erce~~ ^{trade} with America, once the English Blockade ^{was over,} ~~ended,~~ and the importation of a great number of silk-spinners and looms ^{jennies} ~~spindles~~, there were hopes for a ^{great} ~~good~~ development of the textil industry. This industrial enthusiasm, in a moment when prices were at ~~a~~ maximum, put into action ~~great~~ ^{such} plans, as the building in Barcelona of the first steam engine for ~~the~~ ^{the} industry. It was designed and built by Francesc Santpons, professor of mechanical engineering at the Lliga of Barcelona, and Jacint Ramon, a ^{artist} ~~factory~~ owner, ~~in the field of cotton.~~ Both of them were up to date with the rest of Europe in their technical ~~xxxxxxxx~~ ^{on a level} knowledge. It is ~~also~~ ^{of} interest ~~to be~~ known, ^{that Simo Pla was given a royal patent} ~~the privilege given to Simo Pla~~ ~~who~~ experimented with a steam engine in 1790. That was the s.e. of Watt. The commercial almanacs of the time, just before the Napoleonic invasion, show the results of half century of ^a ~~never~~ ^{un} ~~ceasing~~ ^{ceasing} efforts.)

In 1805 more than 10.000 (Tenthousand) people were employed in the different spinning, weaving and cotton printing factories, ^{of which there a bit} ~~that were in the number~~ of 150. Next in importance, ^{there} were the 285 workshops specialized in silk-stokings. Silk and wool weaving held a secondary place, ~~exception made~~ of Mr. Amat, Catala, and Brother's Bringer factories. Not far from Barcelona, Mataro had some important ~~silk~~ ^{stokings} and calicos factories. Sabadell and Tarrasa specialized ⁱⁿ wool, and Igualada and Valls, in the process of tanning. Up in the inland ~~walleys~~ ^{at} ~~Olot~~ ^{at} with 30 spinning and ~~stokings~~ ^{stokings} factories, was on its way to industrialization. ~~It is to be remarked,~~ ^{the} the growing importance of ^{the} ~~cork~~ ^{industry} handling in the Low Ampurdan. ~~is also to be noted.~~

The War of Independence ~~xxxxxx~~ produced a very deep crisis. British and French Armies fought on Spanish soil.

Both introduced their products in ^{in the} the country, ~~Frederic~~ ^{napsaks of the soldiers} ~~Rahola i Tremols and Josep M. Fontana are also of this~~ ~~opinion.~~ In those moments of confusion the number of

honest merchants was much smaller than the number of merchant smugglers. ^{all these} If we add to ~~that~~ the war ruins and destruction, the fact that the main catalonian harbours were in French hands and ^{that had been} the uprising of the American Spanish Colonies, first against the Spanish Napoleonic Government, ^{revelled} and later against the Spanish Government itself, ^{Spain.} We can understand the depression into which the healthy economy of Catalonia of the XVIII century ~~was~~ ^{had} sunk.

^{and devastation of the War, and} Recovery was a hard task. First of all the American market that generally ^{had} ~~would~~ take about two thirds of the ~~total~~ ^{total} output was lost. Besides ^{there,} the international economic ^{hand} ~~situation~~ ^{one of depression} was in a downfall, characterized by a very big decrease ⁱⁿ ~~on~~ trade and business. ^{activities so much for the} That for the international side, In Spain the monarchy was so weak, that catalonian business men felt that they could not, in any ^{way,} ~~manner~~ have confidence in the near future.

When the absolutist period of 1815-1820 ^{liberal} was followed by a period of constitutionalism, ^{government,} and while the European markets ^{improving} were partially recuperated, the industries of ^{Catalonia recovered.} the country made ~~also~~ a recovery. ^{Proves of this recovery} are found in the ^{increased} ~~greater~~ activity of the JUNTA DE COMERCIO (Junta of commerce), in the ^{first industrial exhibition} fair of catalonian products ^{held} at Barcelona during 1822, in the increasing number of factories and the ^{representation} ~~report~~ made by ^{celebrated economist} Eudald Jaumendreu to the Cortes of Madrid ~~Madrilenes~~ in defense of Protectionism.

But this ^{outburst} ~~break~~ of optimism was not going to last for a long time. ^{Aribau contemplates catalonian economic and political} Aribau thinks that ^{the new recession} the cause of it was the loss of the Latin American Colonies, the increasing number of smugglers, the yellow fever, the war and the ^{heavy} big taxes put on ^{trade} commerce and industry. ^{But in fact} Really the hardest blow was given by the second french occupation ~~how long~~ of the country. The arrival of the ^{slender} ~~Cien mil hijos~~ ^{Thousand Sons of} San Luis, ^{has} brought the same consequences ^{as} ~~than~~ the ~~xxx~~ previous invasion: four years, from 1823 to 1827 of foreign intervention, of smuggling, and ^{flooding} ~~inundation~~ of the Spanish market by French textil manufactures. And so Aribau ^{his article written} writes in the last mentioned article, written in 1824: "The ^{majority} ~~major~~ part of the factories are closed, the looms are covered with dust; the workers are begging in the streets."

^{recovery}
The slight industrial ~~recuperation~~ of 1827 to 1834

1827^x stands as a ^{land} mark in the ^{the economic development and history} Catalonian economy.

^{of Catalonia.} It was the year of maximum depression. But from this year on, ^{rising} with a more normal situation, the prices start ^{leveling off}, ^{and the downward trend of business} ^{actively prevailing} ^{existing from 1812}, starts to ease off. ^{This is the stand that the industry} ^{has in those moments to} ^{transfer} start a big recovery.

A lot of facts demonstrate that the path ^{lost} in 1808 was found again in 1827. Everywhere in Catalonia new manufacturing proceedings are put into practice. ^{land system} ^{the} ^{most active and} ^{smartest} ^{travels off abroad} ^{sses} youth leaves the country. They go to England and France to learn ^{everything modern and} ~~everything~~ that can be ~~useful~~ and new, and can be applied to Catalonian industry with success. ^{the progress of}

^{we can refer to} ^{at the same time} ^{inaugurated} ^{such} ^{several merchants} ^{rich} ^{who} ^{which was a} ^{highly protective tariff} ^{protection} ^{whose} ^{which was a} ^{highly protective tariff} ^{protective tariff of October 1825}, that affected ~~the~~ threads of number only inferior to 80. If the minister took this measure it was because he saw in ^{Catalonia there existed} the country a true manufacturing organization, that he could help and sustain with this authority.

This manufacturers organization really existed; it was the old "Comision of Spinning, Weaving and Cotton printing" that had come to life again in ^{on} ~~the~~ 1826. This almost clandestine organization ~~had~~ been growing under the protection, of both the Junta of Commerce and the Company of Cotton Spinners, ^{established} ^{founded in the reign of Charles II} threads. Influenced ~~with~~ ^{political} by the bourgeois restless desire for technical knowledge and liberalism, from 1826 on, ^{The Commission} ^{supported} always defended the interests of Catalonian industry.

Also, ~~it is also~~ to be considered ^{is} ^{investment} the injection of new capitals in the Catalonian industry as a result of the ^{transfer} ^{capital from businesses in} ^{now} liqui-
dation of some businesses of the (lost Spanish colonies of America, ^{it} lately there has been a investigation ~~carried on~~ on the case of the Basc brothers, Lino y Chavari, who came to Barcelona around 1819 and ^{made} the city, the center of thier important commercial and financial transactions with the New World, Spain and England. Their capital was mainly invested

^{to} ^{Spain} ^{itself} ^{for} ^{example}

in the soap and textil industry. Soon, between 1827 and 1829, more money was invested on Catalonian industry, now from Cuban ~~capital~~ ^{that of} for instance Mr. Xifre and Guell. In that island, the last Colony of the Spanish Crown, the biggest interests on the ~~negro~~ ^{slave} trade, sugar, tobacco and ~~skin~~ tanning ~~commerce~~ trade were in catalonian hands.

Because of all those circumstances there is, between 1829 and 1833 an evident expansion of the industry ~~in~~ throughout the country. We know of it in first place by ~~the~~ ^{the list} relation of ~~contributors to the expenditures of the Commission of factories.~~ ^{contributions of the expenses} Figures ~~show~~ ^{show} those facts; the existence in Barcelona of 90 cotton spinning factories, 199 cotton weaving factories, and 56 cotton printing factories, ~~out of them~~ ^{7 of these} 16, 46 and 2 respectively were really modern industrial units.

In second ~~place~~ ^{we}, there is the ~~trial~~ ^{attempt} of Pere Antoni Viguier to apply hydraulic energy as a power resource, ~~in third place,~~ ^{Lastly, there is} the permit ~~for~~ ^{given} for the building of Josep Bonaplata's factory, permit given ~~in~~ by R.O. of December 20, 1831. "El Vapor" (Steam engine) was ~~put on fonctionment~~ ^{started its work} in 1833. The Bonaplata were originally from Sallent, and had been ~~working~~ ^{work} in England, where they had bought patents of some spinning and weaving machines and where they had also acquired a deep knowledge as to the use of steam as a power resource.

~~thereplans~~ Their plans were to build a factory where the three forces of the new industrial world would meet: the metalurgy, ~~the~~ ^{the} textil and steam ~~being in a~~ ^{would be in it in a} very strong collaboration.

In Madrid Gaspar de Remisa cooperated with them, and in Barcelona important factory heads, ~~as~~ ^{chief} Joan Rull, Josep Giralt, Miquel Vilaregut and Valentí Esparó, who became the ~~new factory head,~~ and whose name does not show up in any of the habitual historic news, founded the ~~society~~ ^{firm} "Bonaplata, Vilaregut, Rull and Co" (September 30, 1831), ~~done~~ ^{which had a} with a capital of 150.000 catalonian pounds, the equivalent to 1.600.000 reales. The contract was for five years, but the ~~society~~ ^{firm} was dissolved ~~when~~ ^{after} the revolutionary storm of 1835. However "El Vapor" sets in 1832 the starting point for the resurgence ~~of~~ ^{the factory} of Catalonian industry.

the
right
high
men

So created

THE efforts ~~forxxxxxx~~ towards a solid industrial structure

The crisis that had appeared in Catalonia after the War of Independence, ~~had~~ ^{overcome} been superated and the crisis experienced by the world of business in 1834 did not stop the ^{enterprises} initiatives of Catalonian industrialists, who risked their capitals ~~on~~ ^{good} any good business. ~~By~~ ^{Thus, they} By doing so they created the possibilities ^{up off} of a come back at the moment when circumstances would be ^{right} right. This period, up to the crisis of 1854 is very important for the study of the ^{subsequent} posterior economic ~~development~~ ^{issue} development. ~~On its balance~~ ^{issue} depended the future structure of the country. Up to today, the knowledge of this period has been rather superficial and contradictory.

So its study is of great importance.

^{communally} ~~Since~~ the middle of the XVIII century Catalonia had been awakened ^{by} by the textil industry. During ~~this~~ epochs of big depressions, wars and invasions, spinning and weaving had remained alive, mainly, because they were the kind of activity that could be ^{carry on} defended by the work of the family ^{or} artisans. Only this way ⁱⁿ it is possible to understand the reason that ^{kept} ~~the~~ the textil industry ^{and then gave it a good start} be alive, with sign of vitality, when the economy as a whole started its recuperation. The business men of ^{the textil industry} this branch expanded firmly and slowly, never minding the ^{recession} downfalls, including the ones ~~produced by~~ caused by the Carlist War of the Seven Years and Espartero's regency (Year 1830- 1844 when prices went down again). It would be difficult to measure this expansion or to look for its causes. It is possible that ^{it has} ~~there is a~~ relation with the supplies ^{at} to the liberal Army and with the increase of the orders from America. ^{the new republic} To ^{prove} ratify ~~the~~ these facts we find a shortage of figures, ^{with} and some competent authors point out ~~more~~ later dates, as 1882 as the beginning of the mass exportation of textil products to Cuba and Puerto Rico. ^{contemporary statistic} The only important figure is the reduction of labor force from 31.000 in 1840 to 18.000 workers in the spinning industry ten years later. Meanwhile the number of workers of the weaving industry increased ^{by} 10.2000 workers. Altogether

the industry lost about 2.000 workers. This change in the structure of ^{labor, workers have} work, had some years ~~after~~ later bad consequences in the Selfactina affair.. Selfactinas was the name ^{given to} of the automatic weaving ^{looms,} machines, introduced in the country about 1844. The 28 factories that used those new ^{looms.} machines, saw ~~it~~ ^{to more than} their number increased in 32 factories ^{more} that used them by 1854, when the ~~laborer~~ workers ~~movement against or anti-~~ machine ^{o loddin} started. ^{anti-machine movement started, loddin}

The era of modern equipment in ^{stronger} factories starts in 1841 and gets ^{came} reaffirmed in the following years of boom and ~~of~~ prosperity, that ~~had~~ ^{were} to characterize the second half of the XIX century. ^{built} During this period of boom are ~~found~~ the factories that ~~had~~ to be the pride of the Catalonia of the last Century. ^{were built during this period of boom}

~~Period from 1830-1854.~~ The battle for a ~~with~~ wool and metallurgical

While the battle of cotton had been won ~~xxxx xxxxxxxx~~ ^{industry} by Catalonia, the battle for the wool industry was just starting. The facts of this battle are not properly known because of the lack of good historians ~~xxxxxxx~~ to investigate it. The battle is more important than ~~what~~ it appears to be, because ~~if~~ the calico industry had developed in Catalonia without any competence ^{while} from the rest of Spain, the industry of wool had already a traditional structure in other parts of Spain. ^{backward the}

The famous statistics of Canga Arguëlles shows ^{or} how ~~for~~ ^{the} Catalanian wool industry was compared to the rest of Spain. Really ~~it~~ did not play a very important part at the beginning of the last century with only 680 workshops and 3.500 ~~wor-~~kers, if we compare it we the 5.350 workshops existing in Aragon, with a labor force of 12.000 persons.

It was a very long and difficult task to center and concentrate the Spanish wool industry in the ^{towns} cities of Tarrasa and Sabadell.

The task begun during the period we are now studying, thanks to the existence of ^{the} mechanical loom to ^{weave} weave wool and steam engines to ^{drive} move them. Sabadell had its first steams-engine ⁱⁿ during 1838 and Tarrasa, ~~a little delayed~~, had its first

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ chimney in 1843. The proximity of the harbour of Barcelona, the abundance of water for the washing of ~~the~~ wool and the ^{creation of} ~~obtention of~~ hydraulic power (mainly in Sabadell) and a decided sense of business made possible the concentration in Catalonia of the older Spanish ~~workshops~~ manufactures, ^{hitherto} ~~carried~~ ^{on elsewhere,} ~~resist~~ ^{hitherto} ~~all events,~~ ^{quickly} so that when in Sabadell the ~~corporations~~ ^{factories} were desolved, the "Gremio of Fabricantes" remained. Its members were the men ^{who had} ~~that had~~ started a factory ^{system} with modern machinery, and not the old artisans of the XVIII century. They were men ^{like} ~~and~~ Capdevilla, Formosa, Font, Gorina, Manent, Roca Rius, the men who in 1847 would ask for the abolition of the protectionist tariffs and for the free importation of saxon wool into Spain, due ^{to the fact that,} ~~that~~ the worst quality of Spanish wool ^{made} ~~impossible~~ any competence with England's manufactures of

By ^{this time} ~~then~~ the wool industry had already the same importance ~~as~~ ^{than} cotton. ^{industry.} In Sabadell for instance there were 23 wool-weaving factories, and 28 cotton ~~factories~~ weaving factories.

The silk industry had ~~acquired~~ ^{ind} some importance in the XVIII century, but did not follow wool and cotton in their industrialization. In 1842 the silk manufacturers of Barcelona, Manresa and Reus, ^{alive} those were the three towns where the silk industry had remained with some live, ~~made~~ ^{protested} a protest in the Spanish Cortes ^{became stagnation} ~~for the paralization~~ of their businesses (1.000 silk-loom and 1.000 looms for a mixture of silk and cotton.) ^{that} ~~They~~ attributed ^{that} ~~to~~ the ^{low} ~~small~~ protectionist tariffs. ^{this stagnation}

The ^{decline} ~~decadence~~ of the silk industry seems to be radiated in the exports ^{material} of the raw product to France and in the lack of good specialized technicians ^{designers} and artists. That made impossible the competition with Lyon, where the articles produced were far superior to those ^{produced} in Catalonia.

The metalurgical field, so ^{closely} ~~highly~~ related to the mining field is another of the ^{important} ~~important~~ industrial fields of the nineteenth century. Both have to be studied, without forgetting the development of the textil industry.

It is frequently believed that ~~in the nineteenth century~~ the

metalurgical industry was born in the country as a result of the ^{needs of the} growing cotton industry. ^{Catalonia} ~~we are induced to believe that~~ ^{by the captains of industry desired to develop at the same time textile and textile machinery, mining and the coal and the metalurgical industry.} in the moments ~~when the economical structure of the country was being decided, and those are the years we are now studying, the men of vanguard~~ ^{the captains of industry} included under the same look the textile fibre and the machine, as well as the coal that had to move it through the steam and the minerals, mainly copper and iron ~~that had to move it through the steam and the minerals, mainly copper and iron~~ from which the machine was to be built.

The idea was not their own, ^{but} it was impossible for them to forget ~~England's~~ ^{the} example. There industrial progress demanded coordinated and simultaneous efforts in the fields of coal, iron, machinery and textiles ~~fibres~~. If those men only got small results- the type that Prof. Alberto del Castillo has ^{dealt with} recollected in his history of the "La Maquinista" - we can not charge it to a certain type of mentality, that only knew ^{the world of} and depended upon cotton manufactures, but to the impossibility ^{of} to overcome ^{various} and ^{unfavorable} circumstances.

First of all Catalonian soil did not have the elements that industrial progress needed: Coal and iron. However ^{prospecting} ~~mining~~ activity was enormous, ^{in order to find mineral resources} ~~Figures~~ ^{statistics} show that the number of ^{firm} ~~factories~~ ^{companies} created to localize and explore minerals ~~were~~ were in the number of 56 in 1851. If we compare the amounts invested ⁱⁿ the textile industry and ⁱⁿ mining, it is easy to realize that in the ~~first one~~ ^{first} 114.000.000 reales were invested in 150 factories. In the ^{second} ~~mining~~ ^{mining}, 27.150.000 reales were invested ^{on} ~~the~~ 20 ^{companies} ~~societies~~ (out of the 56 known). That gives an average of ~~27.150.000~~ 1.370.000 reales ^{per} ~~for~~ ^{each} mining ^{company}, a society, against only 746.000 reales in each textile factory.

In the metalurgical branch, eleven ^{companies} ~~societies~~ were founded, with an average capital a 1.623.000 reales each.

The result was poor, and excepting the coal layer ^e found in San Joan de les Abadesses, exploited by the "El Veterano Cabeza de Hierro" Company, the rest of the prospecting gave poor ~~sadning~~ results.

What ^{this} meant was the dependence of Catalonian metalurgy ^{the coal of England} ¹⁰ ^{and the iron of Asturias, in the north coast of the Peninsula.} ^{weaken'd} on foreign coal and iron. It also ~~exposed~~ the liberty ~~and~~ of action and future of the ~~country~~ ^{total economy of Catalonia.} with both iron and coal or only one of them, Catalonia would have completed its economy, encouraging shipping and ~~banking~~ ^{in this way} and ~~that way~~ ^{escaping} the very dangerous step towards ^{a economy based only on a} a ~~textil~~ ^{textile} exclusivism. ^{In spite of this circumstance,} ^{tendency} existing as they were ~~all~~ these circumstances ^{the} men of the metalurgy, ^{at industry,} did more than ~~it~~ could be hoped. The birth of the industry is known in its ~~general~~ ^{general} lines through the monography by Prof. Alberto del Castillo about ~~the~~ ^{the factory} "La maquinista Terrestre." After the failure of ~~the~~ ^{the} Vapor" in 1835, caused by a popular movement, ^{not, the individuals who} the men ^{engaged} that had been working on the project, continued its work, but separately. The Bonaplata Brothers, inaugurated a workshop in an old convent in Santa Barbara (~~xxxxx~~ 1839), while Valenti Esparro remained ~~against~~ ^{all} events in the building of ~~Tallers Street~~, where he specialized on textil machinery repairs.

~~xxxxxx~~ Two more facts have to be added to this activity, ^{first} the inauguration of the "El Nuevo vulcano" placed on the sea shore of ~~the~~ ^{the} Barceloneta, and where in the same year was launched the "Delfin", first steam ship to be built in Spain. Second the constitution and birth of ^{from} the "Pablo Llobera and Company", that took place ^{on} June 1, 1839 with the participation of two businessmen (~~xxxxxx~~ Manuel de Larena and Maria Serra), three factory heads (Nicolau Tous y Soler, Jaume Ricart and Joan M. Raspaud) and a business man in the field of iron, Pau Llobera, who was ^{chosen} ~~elected~~ to be the manager of the company. The starting capital was of ~~20.000~~ ^{100.000.000} duros. This factory became the ^{4.000.000 of private sold stock.} center of the metalurgical industry of Barcelona in the XIX Century, when enlarged by the capitals ^{broad} ~~supported~~ by Celedoni Ascibar and Joan Guell i Ferrer, ^{began manufacturing} ~~started~~ ^{producing} in a new building in San Pablo Street, just on the ~~states~~ of the old San Agustin Convent. From then on the ~~society~~ ^{company} takes the name of "Compañia Barcelonesa

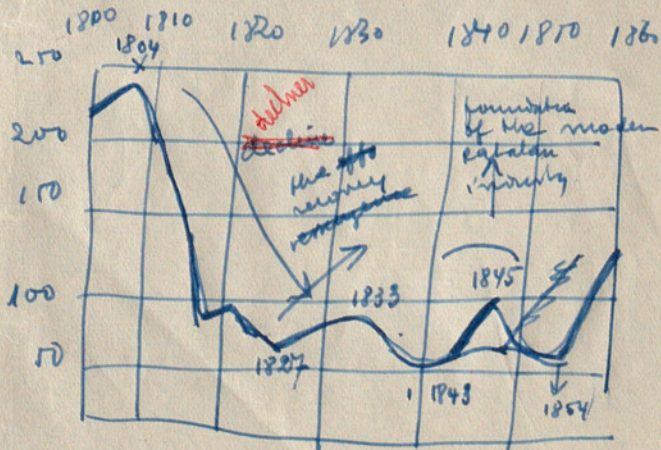
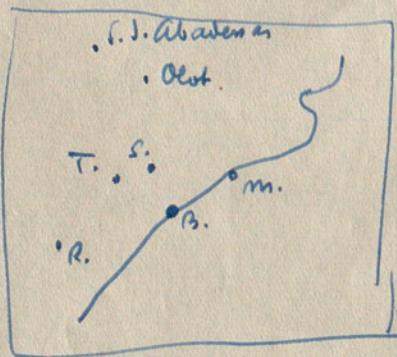
de Fundicion y Construcccion de "aquinas", commonly known as "La Barcelonesa", the soul of which was Nicolau Tous ~~1842~~.

The society develops during the period 1843 to 1853, and ~~takes~~ ^{try from} profits of the first ^{attempt to build a railway in Catalonia} trial for the building of the first ~~spanish~~ ^{spanish} railway, inaugurated in 1848, ~~from Barcelona to Mataró~~ a catalonian railway and ~~by~~ ^{kind} the general wave of industrialization ~~in Catalonia~~ ^{kind} in the textil factories.

Meanwhile other factories were acquiring importance: The workshop of Valenti Esparo, was ~~important~~ ^{important for} in the melting of metals, and the factories "El Nuevo Vulcano" were famous for ~~disprojects~~ ^{war} of naval constructions and iron pig production. Mainly through the help of Manuel Girona, who was the ~~head~~ ^{head} of the "Navegacion and Industry" ~~society~~ ^{company}, founded June 2, 1841, and legalized June 23, 1842. In this last society were ~~flowed~~ ^{flowed} the capitals of the Brother's Girona, Joaquim Castañer, Josep Vilardaga, Clave and Cia., Joan Reinald, Ignasi Villaverdia and Francesc Brocha.

The "El Nuevo Vulcano" built the boilers for the steam ship "El Remolcador", that ~~constituted~~ ^{caused} **ARROUSED** the admiration of the people of the city during its trials in May 1849:

And so the faith of those three metalurgical groups, overcame all the adversities of those twenty years, so decisive. Without raw materials ^{within} at their reach, lacking good specialists and technicians, these men built an industry that completed, yet too incompletely, the economic ~~awakening~~ ^{awakening} of Catalonia in the middle of the Nineteenth Century.



100 = 1800-1860 as a hundred

feeling in the frontier zones, above all in Cataluña, where the
annexary ^{reactionist} policies of the ~~Comité de Salud Publica~~ (Committee of Public
Safety) had clashed in 1795 with the obvious will of the peasants to
fight "to the death" against the Revolution. Vigo wrote that the action
of those armed peasants, commanded by their priests, scatted in "fierce
fanatical bands" --according to the statements of General Doppet-- were
~~forerunners~~ forerunners to the formation of the ^{somatenes, the Home Guard,} ~~(armed city defence Corps~~
^{of the Napoleonic War. It is very possible.)} ~~of the Napoleonic War.~~ In the regions of the
Pyrenees, the guerillax fought boldly for King and Faith, both ~~intangible~~
^{sacred} intangible at that time. But it is also possible that the struggle
against French "atheism" was not so conservative as is generally
believed; and that the peasant, in fighting to the death against
Napoleon, thought that on the day of victory there would be born a
social system which contained more justice.

Two of the studies published on the "Juntas Corrigimentales"
~~(Juntas with Magistratral Powers)~~ ^{local militia} lead us to this new attitude.
One of these refers to nothing less than the actions of the ~~Home Guard~~
Corps of Igualada, the same which on the 6th of June 1808 ~~was~~ won at El
Bruch the first and memorable triumph in the long ~~armed~~ struggle
against the French front line troops. Now, from where did those
~~vallant~~ defenders come, and what did they do after the victory?. They
came from the very same Igualada, from where, since the first ~~see~~
signs of the Revolution, they had maintained an obstinate attitude
~~of protest and a threat against the existing authorities.~~ both ~~the~~
treating and protesting against the existing authorities. On the
8th of July, two days after the battle, the established authorities
citizens
were forced to listen to the demands of the ~~people~~, which included
arms for the people, military organization and just government. The
Junt that was at once set up included people of undoubted liberal
views, such as the Prior of the Augustines, Friar Eudaldo Jaumandreu,
who was later to prove himself even more as an economist. But the reforms
having till not been carried out, the artisans pressed further and
succeeded in getting the Guilds represented on the Junta, at the same