

On the Nature of 'POSESSIONNYE' Manufacture

By Sigeo Abe

The 'posessionnye' manufacture, which the policies of Peter I helped to materialize early in the eighteenth century, falls under the same category as the privileged 'kpenostnye' manufacture. Evidently, it owed its development to industrial control, or monopolization. But from this it cannot be inferred that it turned into the capitalistic manufacture in the end. For that, the giving-up of privileges by the industrial bodies was a necessary condition.

The privileges given to the industrial bodies in those days were, fundamentally, landownership and monopoly of serfs, and they played essential parts in the economic development of the industrial bodies.

In this paper an attempt is made to enquire into the nature of 'posessionnye' manufacture, with some considerations of the meaning of landownership in the eighteenth century Russia, and to make it clear how in the nineteenth century the collapse of the monopoly system—in other words, the growth of competitions—necessitated the extinction or the reorganization of 'posessionnye' manufacture, and also how those industrial bodies alone which had succeeded in their reorganization could prepare their way for the capitalistic manufacture.