

The Germans in Dobrudscha (Part 16)

The book listed below, containing 248 pages of information, is being translated chapter by chapter and posted as each chapter is completed. Part 1 gives you a summary of each of the 15 chapters in the “Contents” section. The words in the [square brackets] are those of the translator and are not found in the original text.

Translator: Allen E. Konrad
31 May, 2017

The Germans in Dobrudscha

**along with a contribution
to the history of the German
migration in Eastern Europe**

**by
Paul Traeger**

**With 73 illustrations in the text and tables
Stuttgart 1922
Foreign and Home Publishing Company
(*Ausland und Heimat Verlags=Aktiengesellschaft*)**

Appendix

Translation of the Colonization Regulations for Turkey

Conditions

which have been determined by the imperial government regarding colonization in Turkey for those families who come from abroad and who are here to settle as subjects of the Ottoman Empire.

- Art. 1. The colonists foremost take an oath to remain faithful to His Majesty the Sultan, and undertake to accept the conditions of the subjects of the Empire without the slightest reservation.
- Art. 2. They subject themselves in every respect to the existing and future laws of the Empire.
- Art. 3. Like all the other subjects of the Empire, the colonists are allowed the free exercise of their religion without any prejudice. They are to enter into religious privileges without discrimination, which all the other classes of the Empire enjoy. If there are enough churches of their rite in the localities that they are instructed by the government to settle, they will conduct their prayers in them. Those who find themselves in new localities will be given the permission to build the necessary churches after a petition to the government of the same.
- Art. 4. In the provinces of the Empire, which are considered as most suitable for their settlement, one will choose from among the government land available to them which is the most fertile and healthiest, and as much land allotted to each colonist as he requires to cultivate or for any other activity.
- Art. 5. The colonists, who have settled on government land made available to them, which is granted to them without payment, are exempt from any territorial tax and personal tax for a period of 6 years if they have settled in Rumelia [Ottoman Turk name for Balkan Peninsula] and for 12 years if they are currently in Asia.
- Art. 6. Likewise, the colonists are exempt from any military service or the stipulated loan purchase sums (*Loskaufssumme*); those in Rumelia for 6 years and those in Asia for 12 years.
- Art. 7. At the end of this period, the colonists are subject to all conditions and obligations, the same as the other subjects of the Empire.
- Art. 8. The colonists have the right to sell the landed property granted free of charge to them by the government after a minimum of 20 years.
- Art. 9. Those who want to leave the country and abandon the sovereignty of the Empire before the end of this time have to return to the government the landed property they received.

Likewise, they must surrender to the government all structures that they have built on these lands without any compensation and any claim to property ownership.

- Art. 10. The colonists recognize the authorities of the district (*Casa*) or the department (*Sandjak*) in which their villages and spots are located, and will be administered and protected by them just like the other subjects of the Empire.
- Art. 11. If the colonists find it necessary to leave their place of residence and settle in another place of this Empire before the time of their tax relief, they will be allowed to do so on condition that the period of their exemption from taxes and other obligations be dated from the day they received their land.
- Art. 12. The colonists, who have not been accused in the country of their earlier stay of a crime or of bad behavior, are considered respectable men and can pursue agriculture and crafts of all kinds. The imperial government, however, reserves the right to remove those from the realm who shall be guilty of a crime or generally of bad behavior.
- Art. 13. Since we intend to give as much land to all families who want to settle in Turkey as their needs require, before these families embark on the journey to Turkey, the imperial embassies and consulates in the foreign countries are to indicate in detail their names, features, resources, financial positions and professions. The aforementioned authorities will provide these details to the imperial government.
- Art. 14. Both on departure from the foreign country and upon arrival in Turkey, the imperial consulates and the interior imperial authorities will grant the colonists the necessary support for the transport of their funds and baggage. The passes will be issued free of charge by the imperial consulates.

The German immigrants had to commit themselves in writing to accept these regulations and to submit to all the conditions contained therein.

=====