

## **THE REUNIONS OR ASSOCIATION OF HANDICRAFTSMEN FROM TRANSYLVANIA**

### **SUMMARY**

All along the modern history, from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century until the accomplishment of the ideal of the national unity (1<sup>st</sup> of December 1918), the Romanian thinkers from Transylvania elaborated and cultivated an economical literature that layed stress upon the handicrefts. The basic idea was that, since Romanians could not dispose yet of financial capital, a large scale industry was still impossible for them, adding to this the fact that Romanian bourgeoisie was suffocated in its striving by the stronger bourgeoisies of the dominant nations. Thus it become a necessity to work out an accessible way, to "provide us quicker with fortune", and, after a large basis of small-scale industry would have been created, to make the transition to the large-scale industry.

The promotion of trades among Transylvania's Romanian population was considered to be a possibility to create in urban centres a Romanian industry bourgeoisie, a middle class, situated between peasantry and intellectuals.

With that end in view and following the exemple of the political societies, of the cultural and literaies associations, replacing guilds that had meanwhile last their function, the Romanian intelectual elite founded handicraftsmens' reunions in synthesis the actual activity of the Transylvanian reunions or associations.