VINCENZO CATALDO, Risorse granarie e commercio a Crotone del Settecento

An important commercial hub of the central Mediterranean, during the 18th century Crotone played a fundamental role in the grain/wheat production of the Kingdom of Naples. Crotonese cereal growing was called to satisfy the growing demand coming mainly from Naples. Agriculture was subordinated to the possession of the capital and places where to keep the product to be delivered for more time in case of request or need. A small number of shopkeepers, merchants and noble-entrepreneurs maintained dominance over the territory’s production and distribution system.

In this reality elements of the second and third classes move in perfect synchrony, whose possibilities of entering the folds of the commercial sector were favored by the exponential growth of traffic. In the business world there were also sacred institutions and priests, recipients of substantial income derived from houses, shops, land leased and from the collection of interest on loans provided through the widespread practice of “censo bullare”.

Keywords:

Crotone
Kingdom of Naples
Commercial traffic
Cereal farming