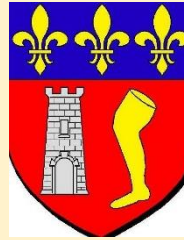




CAUSSADE



Its History

Gallo-Roman resorts are numerous around Caussade. In particular, at La Bénéchie, vases, medals, bronzes, gold coins and silver denarii minted in particular at the time of Titus, spindles in wood attesting to the woolen textile activity were unearthed at the bottom of a network of wells formerly filled around 1710.

However, most deposits of ceramic material cannot be associated with the Gallo-Roman period. Observation shows that they date from the end of the medieval era or especially the modern era.

These remains of ovens or these leftover deposits from their productions, in the form of bricks and tiles, are located near inhabited places, farms or villages. Southern Quercy already constitutes a world apart at the end of the clearings of the twelfth century.

The prodigious rise of the bastide town of Mons Albanus or Mont Alban, allows the new town of Montauban to shine on the flat country where the Tarn and Aveyron rivers converge towards the Garonne river and its close surroundings. To the detriment of the old abbey of Moissac, the austere cahorsin Jacques Duèze, Pope under the name of Jean XXII, seals this domination by creating the bishopric of Montauban in 1317.

Following the dismemberment of the county of Rodez in 1486, Caussade became the fortified capital of a Barony. The last Count of Rodez, Charles d'Armagnac constituted in favor of his bastard son Pierre this seigniorship including La Française, Molières, Montalbat and Sainte-Livrade. In 1562, the Barony falls to Cardinal Georges d'Armagnac.

In retaliation, she is ransacked by the Huguenot Duras. Georges d'Armagnac sold it in 1583 to Jacques de Villeneuve, Prior of Sea Bream in Toulouse. The prior's nephew resells to the Duc de Sully. The duke's son gives it as a pledge to the Alliès family who kept until the Revolution.

The bishopric of Montauban legitimizes the public space which is emancipated even more vigorously with the French generality of Montauban, under the appellation administrative office of Bas-Quercy, in 1635. Caussade depends on the election and stewardship of Montauban and the parliament of Toulouse.

Contrasting with the slow disappearance of Haut-Quercy, the last two centuries of the Ancien Régime attest to the economic peak of this intelligent and prosperous southern country, through diversified agriculture, refined viticulture and arboriculture and a remarkable industrial dynamic, driven by textiles and milling. Caussade becomes from 1560 a Protestant bastide in the orbit of Montauban, the Reformed Capital of the South-West. Besieged, the small square strong Calvinist surrenders to the troops of Louis XIII during the first campaign of 1621. From the 17th to the 18th century, the attraction of Bordeaux begins to touch the valleys white Quercy. The old polyculture, here and there supplemented by crops dyes and textiles, gives way. Industrial crops regress from 1830, apart from tobacco.

After 1850, fruit and vegetable crops characterized the good lands of Garonne. Until 1900, rail transport encouraged local areas to production and distant export of tomatoes, peas, beans, onions, asparagus and cauliflower, even artichokes and melons in some countries. After the vine crises, affected by phylloxera, between 1880 and 1900, the fruit crops are booming, especially plums, cherries and grapes from table. The economic changes of industrial France after 1850 have dramatically increased emigration to attractive countries, i.e. large towns in the valleys, i.e. the regions to the north, causing a rural exodus aggravated by the levy of the world wars. Caussade, more favored than the heights of the causes and collecting a local contribution in addition, has none less escaped a demographic decline.

The straw hat industry was first born from an idea of industry artisanal, using straw pailloles, woven by the sheep keepers of the causes like a straw hat. Gathered in Caussade and Septfonds, the pailloles are sewn there and are used to make hats. initiative comes from the lady Pétronille Cantecor (1762-1846), born "Gleye" instead- said Bourrou, parish of Saint-Martin de Cesquières, commune of Caussade and in peasant origin selling on the market.

In 1860, the railway services gave birth to the hat industry, since they easily transfer heavy machinery onto the station platform modern. Soon the local straw is insufficient, it is imported from Italy or in the form of rice straw from the Far East.

Benefiting from the arrival of the railway, attractive Caussade takes up a slight population growth. The Imperial Census published on January 10, 1867 reveals a municipal population of 4,208 inhabitants, of which more than half, i.e. 2,495 are grouped together in the Caussade conurbation.

But the demographic stagnation gives way to a slow regression. At turn of the 1880s, the pretty little town of the south in the middle of a beautiful and fertile plain, appreciated in tourist guides, is 22 kilometers north of north-east of Montauban by the railway. This small town, capital of the canton which retains houses from the 13th and 14th centuries is well built around wide boulevards originating from the old fortifications and, largely extended by its suburbs, still exceeds 4,000 inhabitants.

Factories of straw hats, stamens and cadis enliven the heart of the old town, while in its vicinity or in its surroundings, a number considerable lime kiln and brickworks remain in operation. The show agricultural promotes agricultural production, fruit and livestock in the canton. A station of standards confirms the ancient quality of the fodder of the plain. Besides the common linen, the once flourishing trade in grain, flour, of saffron, fruits, truffles and poultry is maintained.

Hat fashion is subject to the vagaries of fashion and also to crises. But the millinery are still active in 1930, they use other materials, felt or knitted fabrics. The confection thus takes over. In 1923, Caussade had 3,630 inhabitants. By road, the village is 24 kilometers from Montauban. It is served by the Orléans-Limoges- Toulouse. The activities in order of importance are electromechanical, headgear, grains, renowned poultry farming and phosphates.

The Caussade station is used for the export of lime phosphates. The deposits in the cantons of Caylus, Caussade and Saint-Antonin are mined since 1870 by an industrial company, the Compagnie des Phosphates du Midi.

These compact masses of whitish, pale or grayish phosphorites or colored in yellow or red, quite similar to calamite, are also crushed and used as fertilizer locally.

Caussade is also the head office of major international groups such as that CAUSSADE SEMENCES (creation and marketing of genetics for field crops and fodder production) and APEM (interfaces man-machine), and also the companies GUIMA PALFINGER, IRISA, etc.

