

his own *Naredbenizi* (stewards). One was master of the horse, another looked after the cattle, another after the sheep and goats, another managed the household, another commanded the servants. But there was one chief above all the others, called the Grand Chatunar.

. . . These Chatunari formed the *Sboro* (Council or Parliament), and for their convenience divided the population into three parts: the first was of gentlemen, the second of burghers, the third of serfs. Many serfs had come from Wallachia with cattle, and it seemed to them a mean thing to be called even as the shepherds.¹ Some attended to the house, some to the horses, some to the person of their master, but the latter were few in number. The third part was of gentlemen; for at the beginning there were many who had fled from Bosna and Albania, and who were not men of low condition, but of much account, having been captains or counts or *Naredbenizi*, and these were of noble origin. . . . Those who were gentlemen were made governors of the land or were given other offices, and they alone entered the *Sboro* or General Council. The other part was of the people, *populani*, from *pol vilani*, or half villeins,² for although those villeins were of low condition, some were in the houses of gentlemen as guardians, and therefore enjoyed benefits."

This account is somewhat confused and difficult to understand. As far as we can make out, the people were divided into three classes; *i.e.* the nobles, who alone formed the Grand Council, and were either the de-

¹ In Southern Dalmatia the word *Morlacco* is still a term of contempt.

² This etymology is obviously impossible.