

## NICOLAE MILOȘESCU - THE FOUNDER OF TÂRGU-JIU'S FIRST PRINTING HOUSE

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**Abstract.** *The study aims to present the circumstances in which Nicolae D. Miloșescu settled in Târgu-Jiu and started a printing house in 1880. Provided with good printing tools and forming a group of skilful workers, Miloșescu's printing house would shortly become the most modern typography in the region.*

*The first newspaper and the first illustrated postcards in Gorj County and the works of historian Alexandru Ștefulescu (1856-1910), one of the Gorj County Museum founders, were published there in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

*The quality of his Târgu-Jiu printings were acknowledged at the typographic exhibitions held in Târgu-Jiu (1884), Craiova (1898), Paris (1900) and Bucharest (1904 and 1906) and for which he received many medals.*

*For his merits, Miloșescu was granted by the King Charles I (Carol I, in Romanian) the title of Romanian Royal Court provider in 1898 and he was knighted with the order "Crown of Romania" in 1902.*

**Keywords:** *printer, book, Târgu-Jiu, Gorj, provider of Romanian Royal Court.*

Nicolae D. Miloșescu was born in the town of Cerneți in the Mehendinți County, at a date that is still subject to controversy. Thus, G. Filip, the author of the Typographic Almanac (Almanahul tipografic), book which was published in Bucharest in 1904, mentioned as date of Nicolae D. Miloșescu's birth the year 1860<sup>1</sup>. The same year was also mentioned by Jean Bărbulescu in the paper The Gorj Calendar (Calendarul Gorjului), published in Târgu-Jiu in 1925<sup>2</sup>.

After following primary grades at Schools no. 1 and 2 from Turnu-Severin, Nicolae D. Miloșescu dedicated himself to the printing activity, first, until he was 14, as apprentice within the Severin section of the "SAMITCA" printing house from Craiova<sup>3</sup>.

The printing press he worked with during that time had been brought in the country before 1850 from Vienna, initially used in Craiova and subsequently moved to Turnu Severin<sup>4</sup>.

In 1880, Nicu. D. Miloșescu acquired this printing press and decided to settle in Târgu-Jiu where he would found Gorj first printing house. Shortly after settling in Târgu-Jiu, Nicu. D. Miloșescu acquired a number of equipments, necessary to a printing press' proper functioning, which were added to the old printing press he had brought from Turnu-Severin. Also, Nicu D. Miloșescu formed a group of printing press workers who would contribute to the future activity of Târgu Jiu's printing press.

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<sup>1</sup> G. Filip, *Nicu D. Miloșescu*, in volume *Almanahul tipografic*, Editura Minerva, București, 1904, p. 75.

<sup>2</sup> Jean Bărbulescu, *Calendarul Gorjului*, Tipografia Lumina, Târgu-Jiu, 1925, p. 61.

<sup>3</sup> Vasile Arimia, Vasile Bobocescu, Nicolae Mischie, Dan Neguleasa, Alexandru Pășărin, *Personalități gorjene de-a lungul istoriei*, Editura Fundației „Premiile Flacăra - România”, București, 2000, p. 65.

<sup>4</sup> Ion Mocioi, *Publiciști gorjeni*, in „Litua. Studii și cercetări”, no. IV, 1988, p. 420.

Under these conditions, towards the year 1880, the "Nicu D. Miloșescu" National Printing House was in function, the first modern printing house in the town<sup>5</sup> and in the Gorj County.

During that period, the town of Târgu-Jiu was undergoing a modernization process, stimulated by the young mayor Vasile Lascăr<sup>6</sup>, while also benefitting from the presence of some educated people such as: primary school teacher Alexandru Ștefulescu, lieutenant Emanoil Părăianu, sculptor and graphic artist Witold Rolla Piekarski.

The "Nicu D. Miloșescu" National Printing House was situated in the centre of the town, on the Drumul cel Mare Street, no. 27, street which would later on be named the Tudor Vladimirescu Street<sup>7</sup>.

The first work published in Nicu D. Miloșescu's printing house from Târgu-Jiu was the short story called "Nicu Steluță" by the Gorj writer Emanoil Părăianu, one of Nicu D. Miloșescu's close friends, who helped him settle definitively in Târgu-Jiu<sup>8</sup>.

At the end of 1881, Nicu D. Miloșescu received a proposal from the primary schools teacher Alexandru Ștefulescu and the writer Emanoil Părăianu to print the "*Volcano*" ("*Vulcanul*") newspaper. The magazine appeared from January 1882 until October the same year and was the first newspaper edited in the Gorj County. It had a weekly edition, but, unfortunately, no copy of this magazine has remained until present days<sup>9</sup>.

About that moment, G. Filip, the author of the "Typographic Almanac", while bringing homage to Nicu D. Miloșescu in 1904, wrote: "*A year after elevating the Gutenbergian temple at the foot of the Parâng Mountain, a handful of talented writers gathers around the young and enterprising printer. The <<Volcano>> newspaper is the encyclopaedic masterwork of these associated energies*"<sup>10</sup>.

Until the inauguration, on 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1888, of the Filiași – Târgu-Jiu railway, the paper necessary to Nicu D. Miloșescu's printing house was brought from the Filiași railway station by wagon and the its transportation was rather difficult considering the distance of almost 80 km to Târgu-Jiu.

Despite these shortcomings, a national typographical exhibition was organized in Târgu-Jiu in 1884, during which Nicu D. Miloșescu's printing house in Târgu-Jiu was awarded the silver medal and gained nationwide recognition<sup>11</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> Teodor Berca, Voicu Berca, *Târgu-Jiul de odinioară*, Editura Cronos, Giurgiu, 2001, p. 175.

<sup>6</sup> Nicolae Mischie, *Vasile Lascăr – reformator în administrația de stat*, Editura Clusium, Cluj-Napoca, 2000, *passim*.

<sup>7</sup> Vasile Arimia, Vasile Bobocescu, Nicolae Mischie..., *op. cit.*, p. 65.

<sup>8</sup> Ion Mocioi, *art. cit.*, in *loc. cit.*, p. 420; Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *Istoricul tipografiilor și tipăriturilor din Gorj*, Editura Ager, Târgu-Jiu, 2001, p. 12.

<sup>9</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *Publicații periodice din Gorj*, Tipografia Târgu-Jiu, Târgu-Jiu, 1978, p. 23.

<sup>10</sup> Apud. Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 12.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibidem*.

Numerous works by Gorj men of letters were published at Nicu Miloșescu's printing house in Târgu-Jiu and, for this reason, it was modernized and tooled up with printing equipments and mobile letters ordered from abroad, especially from Vienna. Also, a lithographic press was acquired and a stone drawer-carver was employed.

Under these conditions, in 1894, the printing press changed its name into "*The Nicu D. Miloșescu Litho-Typography*", while its activity developed through the foundation of a modern lithography and by bringing specialists from the country and from abroad, as was the case of the German W. Werner<sup>12</sup>.

The same year the first Gorj newspaper appeared at Nicu Miloșescu's printing house, the "*Gorj Voice*" ("*Vocea Gorjului*") magazine was also published, a publication with no preserved copies, but about which is firmly known that it appeared at Târgu-Jiu in 1882<sup>13</sup>.

Later on, in February 1891, Nicu D. Miloșescu's printing house in Târgu-Jiu also published the first issue of the "*Parângul*" magazine, edited by the Gorj primary school teachers, under the coordination of Lazăr Arjoceanu from Pojogeni<sup>14</sup>.

On 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1894, at the "*Nicu D. Miloșescu*" Printing House, the cultural magazine "*Jiul*" was edited, by the initiative of: Iuliu Moisil – teacher, Alexandru Ștefulescu – primary school teacher, Ștefan Dobruneanu – lawyer, P. Pârvulescu – lawyer, Emanoil Părăianu – officer, Vasile Petrescu – officer, I. Urbeanu – doctor, C. Vișinescu – teacher, Clement Bontea – teacher, G. Pietroșanu – teacher, Alexandru Ionescu – teacher and Witold Rolla Piekarski – graphic artist.

In the article entitled "*For a start*" it read: "*We don't have gods to worship or shrines to destroy; on the contrary, enthusiastic for all the hardworking and skilled fighters of the quill, we believe there is room for all and that they equally deserve the audience support (...) It is time that this cultural movement to spread farther and to go deeper into all social categories, in cities as well as villages, by developing the taste for reading in all those who could welcome culture*"<sup>15</sup>.

The "*Jiul*" cultural magazine was published during the period 1894 – 1895 and it reunited studies and articles by Gorj men of letters and displayed illustrations executed under special graphic conditions by the graphic artist Witold Rolla Piekarski.

In October 1895, the first issue of the "*The Youth Friend*" ("*Amicul Tinerimei*") was published, having the teacher Iuliu Moisil, headmaster of the Technical Secondary School in Târgu-Jiu, as editor in chief<sup>16</sup>. The magazine contributors would include: M. Străjan – teacher at the

<sup>12</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 13.

<sup>13</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 23.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 25.

<sup>15</sup> „*Jiul*”, year I, no. 1/15 April 1894, p. 2.

<sup>16</sup> „*Amicul Tinerimei*”, year I, no. 1/10 October 1895, p. 1.

Highschool from Craiova, Andrei Bârsanu – teacher at the Secondary School from Brasov, M. Șăineanu – teacher at the Secondary School from Alexandria, dr. P. Tanco – teacher at the Secondary School Năsăud, Alexandru Ștefulescu – primary school teacher, Gheorghe Pietroșanu – teacher at the Secondary School from Târgoviște și I. C. Panțu – teacher from Brașov<sup>17</sup>.

For the editing of the “The Youth Friend” magazine, besides those mentioned above, there were also contributions from: Witold Rolla Piekarski – graphic artist, Anghel Păunescu – student at the Belle Arte Academy from Venice and Nicolae Bran – painter and teacher at the Secondary School from Târgu-Jiu<sup>18</sup>.

Also in 1895 the “*Hot Pepper*” (“*Ardeiul*”) humour magazine was published at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu, comprising caricatures inspired from the Romanian political life. The characters aimed at members of the Conservatory and National-Liberal parties, as well as at Gorj politicians and were skilfully drawn by Witold Rolla Piekarski<sup>19</sup>.

In 1895, Nicu D. Miloșescu opened in Târgu-Jiu a bookshop with paper and hosiery departments, situated in a multiple floor building, across the street from his printing house in the town centre<sup>20</sup>.

From the “Book, Paper, Hosiery and Typography Shop”, according to the official name used by the owner Nicu D. Miloșescu, one could acquire: musical notes, drawing blocks, writing paper, registers, school manuals, schoolbags, postal stamps, as well as: shirts, canes, albums, gloves, perfumes, ties, pianos, newspapers and tobacco<sup>21</sup>.

In 1894, by the initiative of the primary school teacher Alexandru Ștefulescu, supported by teacher Iuliu Moisil, engineer Aurel Diaconovici and graphic artist Witold Rolla Piekarski, The Gorj Museum was founded, hosting collections of palaeontology, coins, Romanian Medieval documents, old books, as well as different artefacts discovered by Alexandru Ștefulescu during his numerous trips and field research performed in the county<sup>22</sup>.

After the foundation of the Gorj Museum, during 1896, in a single issue, the “Publications of the Gorj Museum” („*Publicațiunile Muzeului Gorjului*”) would be published, reuniting studies and articles by Gorj men of letters. This publication appeared in Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house in Târgu-Jiu.

<sup>17</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 31.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>19</sup> Copies of the „*Ardeiul*” magazine are found in the collections of the Archaeology-History Section of the „*Alexandru Ștefulescu*” Gorj County History Museum from Târgu-Jiu, one of them being displayed in the permanent exhibition within the section.

<sup>20</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 13.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>22</sup> Nicolae Mischie, *Gorjul cultural. 1890-1910*, Editura Rhabon, Târgu-Jiu, 2003, p. 200; Gheorghe Nichifor, *Alexandru Ștefulescu – un destin în slujba istoriei*, Editura Scrisul Românesc, Craiova, *passim*.

The same year, the first edition of the paper entitled “The Tismana Monastery” (“*Mănăstirea Tismana*”) by Alexandru Ștefulescu was published, comprising drawings executed by Witold Rolla Piekarski and numerous documents related to the history of one of oldest monasteries in the country<sup>23</sup>.

On 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1896, the first issue of “*Jiu Struggle*” (“*Lupta Jiului*”) weekly magazine, owned by Toma Cămărășescu, was edited at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu<sup>24</sup>.

During the same year, Nicu D. Miloșescu edited the papers “Light and shadows” (“*Lumini și umbre*”) by captain Emanoil Părăianu and the one entitled „*In the Maelstrom*” („*În vârtoare*”) by Alexandru Vlahuță<sup>25</sup>.

In 1897, the collection of short stories entitled „The Villager’s Book” („*Cartea sateanului*”), elaborated by Emanoil Părăianu, was published in Târgu-Jiu by Nicu D. Miloșescu, along with two pedagogic books. One of them was by Ștefan Bobancu and was entitled “Pupil flaws and their correction” (“*Defectele școlărilor și corectarea lor*”), while the second was a manual of “Vâlcea County Geography for Elementary Course” (“*Geografia județului Vâlcea pentru cursul elementar*”), elaborated by Ioan Gabrielescu<sup>26</sup>. The same year, the book entitled “*Lyrical poems from Pind*” (“*Lirice de la Pind*”) by P. Vulcan was also edited<sup>27</sup>.

After presenting all these products to the typographical exhibition organized in Craiova in 1898, the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu was awarded a silver medal for the second time<sup>28</sup>.

Nicolae D. Miloșescu financially supported the Gorj sculptor Constantin Bălăcescu in order for him to execute – in his workshop in Milano – Tudor Vladimirescu’s statue that would later be placed, in November 1898, in the park in front of the Technical Secondary School in Târgu-Jiu<sup>29</sup>.

Writing about Tudor Vladimirescu’s statue in Târgu-Jiu, Alexandru Vlahuță stated in the pages of the book “*Picturesque Romania*” (“*România pitorească*”): “*Tudor Vladimirescu’s statue – so well placed in front of the Secondary School – this everlasting embodiment of bravery and sacrifice is and will always be the most wonderful lesson of patriotism for the coming generations who will step by it*”<sup>30</sup>.

<sup>23</sup> Alexandru Ștefulescu, *Mănăstirea Tismana*, ediția I, Tipografia „Nicu D. Miloșescu”, Târgu-Jiu, 1896, *passim*.

<sup>24</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 33.

<sup>25</sup> Ion Mocioi, *art. cit.*, in *loc. cit.*, p. 423.

<sup>26</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 25.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 24.

<sup>28</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, *Personalități care au fost în Gorj*, Editura Măiastra, Târgu-Jiu, 2009, p. 197.

<sup>29</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 16.

<sup>30</sup> Apud. Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 16.

On 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1898, the first issue of the “*Villager Reunion*” (“*Șezătoarea săteanului*”) magazine appeared and was edited at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu by the Cultural Society “*The Villager’s Enlightenment*” (“*Luminarea săteanului*”) from the Bumbești-Jiu village. The magazine was published in Târgu-Jiu until 1905 when the editorial staff moved to Bucharest, and its pages consisted in: folkloric poems, fairytales, stories, legends, folk medicine articles, tips about agriculture and animal rising<sup>31</sup>. The manager of the magazine was the primary school teacher Gheorghe Dumitrescu-Bumbești and the contributors included: Ion Pătrășcoiu, Emanoil Popescu, Grigore Pătrășcoiu, primary school teacher Ion Haiducescu, Constantin Dobrescu, Victor Bilciurescu, doctor Constantin Istrati, poet George Coșbuc, Alexandru Ștefulescu, Witold Rolla Piekarksi, Iuliu Moisil, Aurel Diaconovici, priest Ion Mălăiescu and others.

After Gheorghe Dumitrescu-Bumbești moved to Bucharest starting with 1902, the editorial staff of the “*Villager Reunion*” magazine moved to the capital as well<sup>32</sup>.

On 30<sup>th</sup> of May 1898, the first issue of “*The Nation’s Friend*” (“*Amicul poporului*”) encyclopaedic magazine, edited by the cultural society bearing the same name, was published by Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house in Târgu-Jiu.

In the article entitled “*Brother Peasants*” (“*Frați țărani*”) it was shown that the “*Nation’s Friend*” magazine will deal with “*matters of agriculture, animal rising, national industry, education, economy, hygiene, pedagogy (...) law interpreting (...) history (...) grammar, orthography, folklore lessons in the most accessible style possible*”<sup>33</sup>.

Also in 1898, the volume “*The Popular Civil Code*”, elaborated by Ștefan Romulus Scribian was edited at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu<sup>34</sup>.

As result of his typographic activity and of his support for cultural and pedagogic activities in Târgu-Jiu and the Gorj County, on 10<sup>th</sup> of May 1898, Nicolae D. Miloșescu was granted the title of Romanian Royal House Supplier by King Charles I.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1899, Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house in Târgu-Jiu published the first issue of “*The Light of the Villages*” (“*Lumina satelor*”) magazine, managed by school teachers Lazăr Arjoceanu and Gheorghe Dumitrescu-Bumbești<sup>35</sup>.

In the article “*We are moving forward*” inserted in the publication’s first issue it was shown that: “*It has been a year since we came before our readers (...) We came in two sides, with different organs, but with the same goal: to elevate the villager’s cultural level and to improve his economic*

<sup>31</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 36.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 39.

<sup>33</sup> „*Amicul poporului*”, year I, no. 1/30 May 1898, p. 1.

<sup>34</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 25.

<sup>35</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 42.

*status (...) We have agreed to make use, in future, of only one magazine which will bear the name of <<The Light of the Villages>>, born from uniting <<The Nation's Friend>> with <<The Villager Reunion>>*”<sup>36</sup>.

Among the contributors of “*The Light of the Villages*” magazine there were Alexandru Ștefulescu, Iuliu Moșil, Emanoil Părăianu and others.

November 1899 marked the first issue of the monthly publication “*The Bazaar – the brochure of the book and hosiery shop*”, owned by Nicu D. Miloșescu, who declared in the debut article that the brochure “*will offer to my honoured clients, on the one hand, the catalogue of the merchandise available in my shop and, on the other, will provide my good readers with excerpts from Romanian authors, as well as translations from foreign authors*”<sup>37</sup>.

We consider it to be a significant fact that this publication would collaborate, among others, with, Romanian cultural life personalities, such as: the poet George Coșbuc, the writer Alexandru Vlahuță, the playwright Ion Luca Caragiale<sup>38</sup>.

During 1899, Nicu D. Miloșescu was visited in Târgu-Jiu by the poet George Coșbuc whom he had met at the mineral water resort of Sângiorgiul Romanesc from Transylvania a couple of years before. On this occasion, George Coșbuc wrote a poem dedicated to Nicu D. Miloșescu, poem which would later on be used by the latter as an advertisement for his typographical products. The poem was published, without signature, in the “*Bazaar*” magazine<sup>39</sup>.

In 1899, the first illustrated postal card from the Gorj County was executed in Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house in Târgu-Jiu. The images on the postal card were drawn by Witold Rolla Piekarski and subsequently printed on paper<sup>40</sup>. The oldest such type of postal card officially circulated by means of the postal services starting with 10<sup>th</sup> of May 1889<sup>41</sup>.

During the same year, Nicu D. Miloșescu, together with G. C. Bălășescu and Nicolae Georgescu, founded a Vocational School for Girls in Târgu-Jiu, that would later become public school in 1908<sup>42</sup>.

In 1900, the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu participated at the Universal Exposition in Paris, where it was awarded an “Honourable Mention”, as recognition of the quality of its typographical products<sup>43</sup>.

<sup>36</sup> „Lumina satelor”, year II, no. 1/1 June 1899, p. 2.

<sup>37</sup> „Bazarul”, year I, no. 1/November 1899, p. 1.

<sup>38</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 45.

<sup>39</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 16.

<sup>40</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>42</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 18.

<sup>43</sup> Mircea Tomescu, *Istoria cărții românești de la începuturi până la 1918*, Editura Științifică, București, 1968, p. 163.

On 15<sup>th</sup> of December 1900 the first and only issue of the “Aurora” magazine appeared, bearing as subtitle the mention “magazine for literature, science and art”. The magazine’s editorial staff was based in the Hurezenii de Sus village, under the leadership of Mr. Marius de la Stroia<sup>44</sup>.

In 1901, at Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house in Târgu-Jiu, the volume “*Guide for founding and managing people’s banks in the villages*” appeared, elaborated by the primary school teacher Gheorghe Dumitrescu-Bumbești and comprising articles of association models, which the people’s banks in Gorj would use upon their founding<sup>45</sup>.

For all his activity in the typographic sector, on 9<sup>th</sup> of May 1902, King Charles I presented Nicu D. Miloșescu with the order “The Crown of Romania” (“Coroana României”), cavalier rank.

In the course of the same year, the volume “*Upon an independent state of Congo*”, written by captain Pleniceanu, member of the Romanian Geography Society, was edited at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu.<sup>46</sup>

In 1904, the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house produced the volume entitled “*The Historical and Picturesque Gorj*” by Alexandru Ștefulescu, following another milestone paper written by the Gorj historian, entitled “*An Attempt to recollect the History of Târgu-Jiu*” (“*Încercare asupra istoriei Târgu-Jiului*”), also published at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house<sup>47</sup>.

The collaboration between the historian Alexandru Ștefulescu and the printer Nicu D. Miloșescu continued over the years to come and generated the editing of numerous volumes elaborated by Alexandru Ștefulescu. Thus, during 1906, the following papers were published at Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house in Târgu-Jiu: “The History of Târgu-Jiu”<sup>48</sup>, “*The Strâmba Hermitage*”, “*The Polovragi Monastery*”, “*The Lainici Monastery*”<sup>49</sup>.

All of these were followed by the appearance, during 1908, of the volume entitled “Slavonic-Romanian Documents related to Gorj”, comprising numerous medieval documents referring to the Gorj County<sup>50</sup>.

Returning to Nicu D. Miloșescu’s editorial activity in the mass media sector, one should highlight the appearance, on 15<sup>th</sup> of November 1902, of the first issue of the “Hope” (“Speranța”)

<sup>44</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 45.

<sup>45</sup> Vasile Arimia, Vasile Bobocescu, Nicolae Mischie..., *op. cit.*, p. 65; Nicolae Mischie, *Gorjul Cultural...*, p. 201.

<sup>46</sup> See Captain Pleniceanu, *Asupra statului independent Congo*, Tipografia „Nicu D. Miloșescu”, Târgu-Jiu, 1902, *passim*. The volume is found in the collections of the Archaeology-History Section of the „Alexandru Ștefulescu” Gorj County History Museum from Târgu-Jiu.

<sup>47</sup> Vasile Arimia, Vasile Bobocescu, Nicolae Mischie..., *op. cit.*, p. 66; Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 25.

<sup>48</sup> The volume is in the collections of the Archaeology-History Section of the „Alexandru Ștefulescu” Gorj County History Museum from Târgu-Jiu a copy being displayed in the permanent exhibition within the section.

<sup>49</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 25.

<sup>50</sup> The volume is in the the collections of the Archaeology-History Section of the „Alexandru Ștefulescu” Gorj County History Museum from Târgu-Jiu.



magazine, “literary, scientific, political and legal magazine”<sup>51</sup> based in Târgu-Jiu, Unirii Street, no. 54, managed by Mr. Nicoale Burlănescu-Alin<sup>52</sup>.

In the article entitled “*Instead of foreword*”, inserted on the publication’s front page, it read: “*Several Gorj sons, devout admirers of the great Tudor Vladimirescu and of the ancient virtues, gathered today in an unanimous agreement of wills and aspirations for the glory of their kin, we have decided to publish, with our humble means, a magazine that will be named <<The Hope>> (...) We aim at discovering from the ashes of forgetfulness and ignorance of all that is worthy to be called beautiful, true and useful for the society we live in*”<sup>53</sup>.

The “*Hope*” magazine will only print 6 issues, of which the first 4 were published at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house, and it ceased to appear in September 1903<sup>54</sup>.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1905, the only issue of the “*Hodinău Voice*” (“*Vocea Hodinăului*”)<sup>55</sup>, while, on 18<sup>th</sup> of January 1905 the first issue of the “*Advice*” (“*Sfatul*”)<sup>56</sup> newspaper appeared, which would cease its activity on 31<sup>st</sup> of January 1906.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1905, the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house brought to light the first issue of the “*Good Friend*” (“*Bunul prieten*”) magazine, dedicated to the “*youth from secondary schools*”<sup>57</sup>, its declared goal being “*to seed the pleasure of reading into the school youth*”<sup>58</sup>. The “*Good Friend*” magazine ceased its appearance in October 1906<sup>59</sup>.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1906 the first issue of the bimonthly publication “*The Defence of the Nation*” was edited at the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house, under the editorial supervision of August Crainic. After just 5 issues it would cease its appearance at the end of July 1906<sup>60</sup>.

The first issue included an appeal “*To Romanians*” in which it was shown that “*<<The Defence of the Nations>> will enlighten the mind of those Romanians who do not know that, in order to be a good Romanian, it is not enough to speak Romanian, but also to accomplish Romanian deeds (...) <<The Defence of the Nations>> will aim at seeding in the category that lacks national education the love for the entire Romanian nation, that means also the Romanians abroad, because we are all offspring of the same parents who created the Romanian nation*”<sup>61</sup>.

<sup>51</sup> „Speranța”, year I, no. 1/15 November 1902, p. 1.

<sup>52</sup> Vasile Cărbăș, *op. cit.*, p. 47.

<sup>53</sup> „Speranța”, year I, no. 1/15 November 1902, p. 1.

<sup>54</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 22.

<sup>55</sup> Vasile Cărbăș, *op. cit.*, p. 49.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 50.

<sup>57</sup> „Bunul Prieten”, year I, no. 1/1 November 1905, p. 1.

<sup>58</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>59</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 22.

<sup>60</sup> Vasile Cărbăș, *op. cit.*, p. 53.

<sup>61</sup> „Paza neamului”, year I, no. 1/1 June 1906, p. 1.

On 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1908 the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house published the first issue of the “*New Gorj*” (*Gorjiul Nou*), from the initiative and written by the young liberal Gheorghe Tătărescu<sup>62</sup>. The publication would cease its appearance on 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1908<sup>63</sup>. The magazine’s goal was revealed by the article entitled “*Call*”, which read: “*a strong and restorative current goes through the country from one side to another; new institutions are being created, the old ones are transforming, the rights are being dislocated, new duties are born and are imposing themselves, a new transformations is agitating and shaking our society from the foundations – we left a way and wish to go on another. But is this guidance possible, without interior transformation, without moral organization?*”<sup>64</sup>.

In 1904, Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house participated at the typographic exhibition in Bucharest and received the “Honorary Diploma” and “The Gold Medal” as recognition of his editorial products’ exceptional quality.

Later on, while participating at the Romanian General Exhibition, organized in Bucharest in the year 1906, celebrating 40 years since Charles I ascended the throne of Romania, Nicu D. Miloșescu’s printing house obtained the gold medal. In fact, Nicu D. Miloșescu was part of the jury of the Romanian General Exhibition.

As result of the success and recognition enjoyed by his products, in 1900, Nicu D. Miloșescu built a mansion at Tismana and a trout pond in the vicinity<sup>65</sup>.

In 1901, Nicu D. Miloșescu acquired through a tender, using George Sfetea’s (his accountant) money, a building site which he eventually ceded to the latter. In 1902, George Sfetea built a mansion on that field<sup>66</sup>.

In the period 1902 – 1916, the Miloșescu and Coșbuc families met annually at Tismana, the place where George Coșbuc used to spend his holidays, at George Sfetea’s, his brother-in-law, mansion<sup>67</sup>.

A special attention was paid by the printer Nicu D. Miloșescu to editing manuals and writing materials. Thus, after publishing the manual for “*The Geography of the Valcea County for the Elementary Course*” in 1897, his printing house would print, in 1908, “*The Geography of the Gorj County Manual*”<sup>68</sup> for the second primary grade.

<sup>62</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 57.

<sup>63</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 22.

<sup>64</sup> „Gorjiul Nou”, year I, no. 1/27 March 1908, p. 1.

<sup>65</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 16.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>67</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 17.

<sup>68</sup> A copy of this manual is in the collections of the Archaeology-History Section of the „Alexandru Ștefulescu” Gorj County History Museum from Târgu-Jiu.

A constant preoccupation was the publishing of papers related to the founding and functioning of people's banks in Gorj's communes and villages, so, in 1906, the volume entitled „*Die rumanischen volksbanken*” elaborated by Grigore Pătrășcoiu, was printed<sup>69</sup>.

Starting with December 1909 until May 1910, Nicu D. Miloșescu's printing house in Târgu-Jiu edited the monthly magazine “*The Dawn*” (“*Zorile*”) <sup>70</sup>.

On 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1911, his typography printed the first issue of the “*Awakening*” (“*Deșteptarea*”) publication, managed by Dimitrie Brezulescu<sup>71</sup>. The magazine was addressed to peasants and consisted materials about agriculture, fruit growing, vineyard growing, economy, people's banks, cooperatives and agriculture legislation, but after 3<sup>rd</sup> issue from 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1911, it would cease its appearance<sup>72</sup>.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of February 1912, the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu printed the first issue of the bimonthly publication entitled “*The Light*” (“*Lumina*”) which would have the same sort of ephemeral existence, as it also ceased its appearance after the 4<sup>th</sup> number, in May 1912<sup>73</sup>.

An unprecedented, from a content point of view, magazine appeared in the Gorj mass media on 12<sup>th</sup> of January 1912, once the “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house in Târgu-Jiu edited the “*Military Week*” (“*Săptămâna militară*”) publication, lead by retired colonel D. I. Cocorăscu<sup>74</sup>. It comprised articles related to military theory and practice, methods of instructing military men from all arms, information, announcements, regulations and military dispositions; it ceased its appearance on 26<sup>th</sup> of October 1913<sup>75</sup>.

Furthermore, on 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1913, The “Nicu D. Miloșescu” printing house published the first issue of the newspaper called “*The Romanism*” (“*Romanismul*”), under the editorial supervision of Ștefan Bobancu. The publication appeared weekly until 5<sup>th</sup> of January 1914 when it turned its name into “*The Unity of the Nation*” until 14<sup>th</sup> of August 1914, when it ceased its appearance in the context of Romania entering the First World War and due to the privations caused by the opening of a frontline on the Jiu Valley<sup>76</sup>.

<sup>69</sup> The volume is in the collections of the Archaeology-History Section of the „*Alexandru Ștefulescu*” Gorj County History Museum from Târgu-Jiu.

<sup>70</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 201.

<sup>71</sup> Jean Bărbulescu, *Calendarul Gorjului. 1925*, Tipografia „*Lumina*”- Frații Niculescu, Târgu-Jiu, n. y., p. 53-54.

<sup>72</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 22.

<sup>73</sup> Vasile Cărăbiș, *op. cit.*, p. 63.

<sup>74</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 65.

<sup>75</sup> Al. Doru Șerban, Nelu Vasile, *op. cit.*, p. 22.

<sup>76</sup> *Ibidem*.

In 1913, two volumes elaborated by teacher Iuliu Moisil were published at Nicu D. Miloșescu's printing house and were entitled "*Gorj Guide*" ("*Călăuza Gorjului*")<sup>77</sup> and "*Plant Collection*" ("*Colecțiune de plante*")<sup>78</sup>.

Nicu D. Miloșescu was elected several times chairman of the Gorj Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the "Tudor Vladimirescu" United Craftsmanship Corporation from Târgu-Jiu, chairman of the Printers Guild from Târgu-Jiu, chairman of the "Help" ("Ajutorul"), "Unity" ("Unirea") and "The Craftsman" (Meseriașul) societies from Târgu-Jiu, as well as honorary chairman of the Commercial Clerks Society<sup>79</sup>.

Nicu D. Miloșescu found himself among the founders of the Târgu-Jiu Musical Society, which would later be known as the "Gorj Lyre" ("Lyra Gorjului").

After his death on 5<sup>th</sup> of January 1924, Jean Bărbulescu declared in his paper, "*The Gorj Calendar*" for 1925: "*Many good deeds – known and unknown – were done by Miloșescu for the Gorj County, for the entire nation*"<sup>80</sup>.

Shortly after Nicolae D. Miloșescu passed away, in 1924, Iuliu Moisil, one of his friends, stated that: "*Miloșescu was very skilled in his activity as a printer (...), in all he was, more precisely, the clear template, the perfect letter, the flawless execution. The books were elegant, of a very pleasant artistic display and were as perfect as those come from any good European printing press. Miloșescu was a true artist in the graphic arts, a man of good taste, as one can rarely find in our country*".

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<sup>77</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 25.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>79</sup> Jean Bărbulescu, *op. cit.*, p. 62.

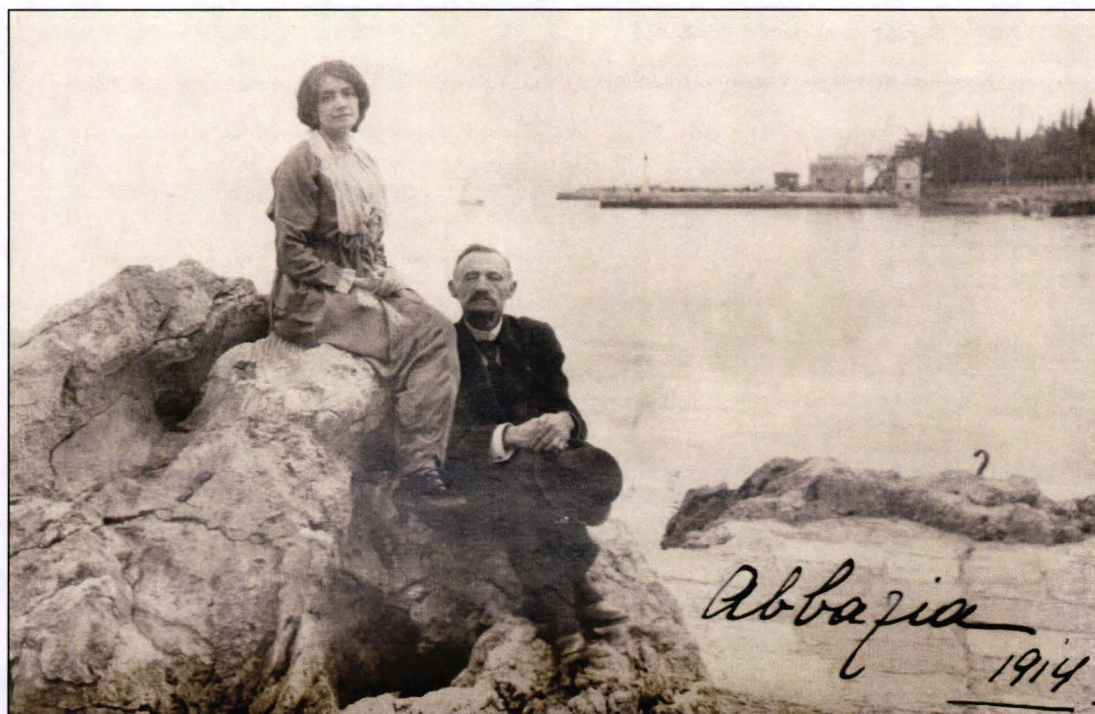
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Nicolae D. Mișoșescu.





Nicolae D. Miloșescu and his daughter Ștefania at Abazzia in 1914.



Nicolae D. Miloșescu and his daughter Ștefania at Venice.



Ștefania Miloșescu at Venice.



CASA CENTRALĂ A MESERIILOR, CREDITULUI ȘI ASIGURĂRIILOR MUNCITOREȘTI

Bresla *Tipografie* NO *18* Comuna *Cărgu-Jiu*  
 (Corporația B. Vladimirescu) Județul *Gorj*

## CARTE DE MEȘTER

<sup>1)</sup> *Tipograf*

Liberată D.<sup>2)</sup> *Nicu D. Miloșescu*

Născut în anul *1858* luna *Decembrie*, ziua *20*, comuna *Cerneti*,  
 județul *Mehedinți*, locuind în *Cărgu Jiu* Jud. *Gorj*

Liberată pe temeiul art. 15.  
 din Lege. Astăzi *18 Februarie*

Comitetul Breslei  
*Nicu D. Miloșescu*  
*Membru* *P. Constantin*

Semnătura meșterului  
*N. Miloșescu*

1) Numele și prenumele; 2) Semnăturile membrilor comitetului breslei.



Handcraft book of Nicolae D. Miloșescu.

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(CASĂ FONDATĂ LA 1880)

*Târgu-Jiu Septembrie 1902*

### Certificat

Prin care se constată că *Domnul Vasile  
 Prețoiu*, a fost angajat în Atelierul meu de Le-  
 gătorie ca *Uler* de la anul *1899* până la *1902*, și  
 de la această dată ca *lucrător*, în care timp și  
 a dat totă *libertatea* pentru *multumirea* mea, *liberându-l*  
 acest *Certificat*, spre a-l servi la *necesitate*. —  
*Având putere bună? —*

*N. Miloșescu*



Certificate elaborated by the Typography of Nicu D. Miloșescu.