

## Jan Cimbura, South Bohemian Ideologist

This is a summary of a 400 page book. It contains things I thought were interesting after reading the full translation completed by Blanch Zelmer from Montgomery, Minnesota in March of 2000. It was compiled very quickly. All Czech accent marks in this summary were eliminated for ease of typing. -- Tim Cimbura on May 10, 2000

Ideologist -- A person who exhibits characteristics of visionary theorizing or thinking about a systematic body of concepts especially about human life or culture.

The book was written by Jindrich Simon Baar. He was a Catholic priest with reformation ideas. He wrote several books about the life of people in that area. He was born in Klenci (east of Domazlice) where he died on October 24, 1925. He donated his house for a museum in the area called Chodska. His uncle was Josef Barr an adviser, bishop notary, and parish priest of Putim. Jindrich was introduced to Cimbura in 1886 and met over school vacations. Jan Cimbura died before the book was finished on July 6, 1921. It was republished at least 14 times as late as 1940 by Noviny Publishing Company in Prague.

### Interesting Snipits, Notes, and Wisdom From the Book

In the old Gothic church in Putim (St. Vavrinec) they would sing Hospendine Pomilujny or Svaty Vaclac. Jan closed his prayer book and his voice could be recognized above all. He sang religious songs in fall when he plowed and it was quiet. In the spring he only listened to the birds singing. Once a year he with on a pilgrimage to Sepekov or Podsrpenske Matce Bozi begging for bread and water along the way. ...So in Hradiste the man grew, a good honest Christian, strong in body and spirit--Jan Cimbura.

Jan's welcome to the village: Roucek led singing: "We met as friends and as friends we'll part. Before we part, we'll have another drink. Then we'll go with God." They all lifted their glasses and sang on... "We'll go with God. We'll have good memories of this brotherly love, not like a Pharisee. Stay with us. Amen. Stay with us Amen. We won't stop announcing that God is our love to him honor and glory for all time. Amen." Then all joined "Stay with us amen. We won't stop announcing as long as the Lord in heaven will preserve the Czech tongue. Amen." They clinked their glasses. "God give us good health." Then they all sand an old song "Brothers, brothers, we'll be only happy, brothers, brothers be joyful." Then they toasted to happiness. They all clasped hands and Kolarik knelt to sing

"The Lord God love us, our sins forgive, and give us heaven."

Prayed to God using his own words: He opened his prayer book but now the words seemed empty, that another man had written. He should be able to pray to God with his own words. This scared him--as though the devil must be tempting him in God's house. He studied each word and realized how he liked these old prayers and knew how to pray in truth from his soul. From then on, he prayed more with thoughts than words...directly to God. His strong faith let him feel he could speak directly with God and God could answer him. When the priest got up to preach the gospel, his words fell on Cimbura like the dew on parched ground. There was no need to fear him and know that I can listen to Him. Jan Cimbura always thanked God when he married Marjenka Piksa and family life made him a whole man.

The infantry marched out of town singing. "Fathers we would greet you. Mothers we would kiss you. If I could only stop. Be with God sisters, brothers. My life belongs to my country. For her, I'm going to battle." Where are you going soldiers? Where are they chasing you? We don't know...Italy or Prussia. Into the fire. They waved again and started singing "God be with you fields, meadow, woods when we're dying in the field we'll think of you. Tell my love there. I won't be kissing her anymore." Women were wiping their tears, even the soldiers now felt sad. They left the saddest verse for last. "Mary, mother of God, teary eyes on your bed, to you we will be leaning when we will be in the hospital, desolate in this big world, dying for out emporer. We will be longing for our home. The nuns will be caring for us. They couldn't sing any more but broke down crying when the whole area resounded in their marching.

Cimbura kept to himself about the war and eventually said to the farmers of the village: "All you talk of is war. How many are killed? What has our side done? Who did they trample? Are you Christians? And you are mad if 'someone does not pull on the same rope as you.'"

Hail storm on crops compared to war. Cry for the loss and beauty of the loss. Grain grows in half a year but a man in twenty or more years. When even one shepherd is killed by a tree the whole area mourns...a horse downed the whole village is sad. Now thousands die...our sons and brothers/ Why are people killing each other? Why do you want this information? After Jan said that the priest still read the news but no one took joy in it.

Did wonderful things for the land. He would rather have his finger chopped off than cut and sell wood from his woods.

Cimbura liked nothing more in nature than the trees...especially apples. He planted two nut trees when his twins were born.

Today (late 1800's) everything is the opposite. The young boss the elders. As soon as supper is over they don't even think about chores. They grab their tobacco and head for the tavern...Work doesn't get done. Everything is falling to pieces. Bad things are happening. Dirty songs are sung and who is at fault? Klasek's bad examples.

They call him "Strong Cimbura". It's a story people make up...like Samson and Hercules. Three men couldn't get a heifer out of a barn. Cimbura jumps in, lifts her like a lamb and carries her into the yard. Jan's fist broke an Oak table when he saw some traders cheating a farmer. he doesn't look for trouble but when there is, he stands against it. He doesn't brag about himself. When carpenters come and say "Cimbura, we're lifting the rafters...can you help?" He gladly comes and hands them to the men like matchsticks. In anger he put an axe into a stump and no one could pull it out.

Jan always brought the children some goodies from wherever he traveled. He never brought candies...but fruits (like a string of figs).

Around farm he had cattle, pigs, chickens, horses, rams. In winter they karded wool and in summer flax straw was used for linen. The earth carried, fed, and clothed them. pressed oil out from seeds and used in lamps. Woolen coats and leather pants. Milked southern Czech cows.

For breakfast they might have black bread. They didn't eat much meat...not even a butcher in Putim. Mainly only during celebrations with a little beer. Often ate fruits, vegetables, cottage cheese, butter, wheat and barley flour, dried fruits like plums, pears, apples. Most seasonings came from garden except for salt.

Hardly ever drank...maybe three times a year at celebrations.

His greatest joy was to sit and smoke his pipe on a hot summer day sitting with his wife Marjanka on the porch of the house while listening to the evening sounds.

Big wedding celebration lasted three days with dancing each night the old Czech way.

Marjanka thought what a nice life she'd had thanks to Cimbura. He raised her children and left the farm free of debt. Honzik became a farming man and in two years had baptized two children.

Cimbura saw a coachman beating his horses to go. He said "I'll give you one like that on your hind end!" and he cracked the whip at the coachman. "See! How many like that did you lay on the horses? Who fool, you had the brake on!"

There are days when we are lucky, sunny...when we get up with a smile and go to sleep with a smile. Then

there are says that are sad and we get one more line in our foreheads. We whisper "God of mine, what will I still meet today?" His faith in God strengthened him.

Terrible hail storm in Putim...not a drop of rain in Pisek. Postman from Razice said all the windows broke there. "Glory to God" all the farmers said. "He gave. He took." It isn't that bad that it can't be good again. Those more fortunate will help us out. A farmer doesn't complain long but looks for another road. There was no grain left...just straw.

As at the Cimbura home, they prayed out loud (in rhyme) "Before I take up spoon and fork, from heaven onto earth dear God, come to look at us, bless our food and drink, which we want for our living, with you blessing to receive."

Would not smoke a cigar...but his pipe. In the cigar the flame is without protection and if a spark flies there would be a fire. A cigar isn't finished but thrown away and that's wasteful. Cigars are not for a farmer.

Cimbura speaking with the Prince. Much has changed since the railroad first came through Razice. Education is growing but are morals growing along with it? More floods, theft, fire, murder, suicide. Something is wrong somewhere. According to my thinking the head is getting educated and we're forgetting about the heart. I can only see it getting worse. It seems as though education was everything. In life, it should be honesty, sobriety, love, and religion. That is the basis of good fortune. With that must go working hard. There are farmers that think they are the most educated and have terrible contempt for religion. They stay away from church festivals. They travel around, don't go to church and spend most afternoons in the taverns. Farmers have to guard so something isn't stolen or ruined.

Prince's park had trees of Bismark, French, Gravstejn, Tsar Alexander. Pears of Virtemberk, Napoleon, Holland. Fruit trees of Cherry, Plums, Plums for prunes, peaches, apricots. A field of clover. Russian wheat from the river Don. Rye from New Zealand. Beets from Bavaria. Steam plows from England. Getting rid of the sheep and using sheds for cattle. Cimbura said "Sheep are like a holy animal. they bring good to a farm. The Lord loved them and invited us to his table as the Lamb of God. Everything is good from the sheep...wool, meat, milk, manure." Prince said leave the old ways and raise diverse crops...beets for oil and sugar, hops for beer, French alfalfa, corn. Drain lakes and ponds for more fields and meadows. You farmers waste too much time with hard work when it could be done easier with machines...like this grain binder and thrashing machine. What you can't

do alone a cooperative can do. Organize and you will become stronger." Cimbura said "We farmers feel a responsibility which the Lord gives us to help the poor. Their cows can graze in the alleyway. The children without fields have the right to pick up left behind heads of grain. My heart ached when I saw the new machine doesn't leave anything for the poor." Roses in park were French, shrubs Japanese, flowers Italian. In nursery the trees are German and from Holland. Livestock is Hungarian, Swiss. Pigs and dogs are English. Aren't the Czech Cibulku pears and Zitavka apples better? Treat horses by rubbing with Alder leaves and putting a fly net on them. Work together like brothers and sit at the table together instead of having supervisors that do nothing.

In the lakes they had carp, white fish, eel, tench (cad, dejn, mik). But in Putim they liked Pike fish best. Cimbura was against building a poor house in Putim. We are all poor. There is no difference between us...nothing is ours...we came naked on the earth and leave almost naked. What I have isn't mine but only to use for a time. That is why we can't deny any of us bread or clothing because it isn't from our own we give. We divide among ourselves and live in peace. Who works with me all my life, let him live, suffer and die with me. Why should we take them from their home and put them somewhere else like into a prison and then put up a sign saying "District Poor House"? I would be ashamed to humiliate these poor people. It's unchristian. Let them die where they grew up. Let them know they are still worth something. Let them take care of children, graze geese, pick mushrooms and strawberries in the woods, take care of trees, pull weeds, sein for fish, pick fruit so that they think they are supporting themselves with their own strength and that we are not giving them alms... Everyone remembers how Cimbura can with his nice language and truthfulness convince everyone. He can be a fiery speaker.

Cimbura didn't have books which could have helped him understand politics between the Czechs and Germans. He had only one book, the Holy book. This guided him in all things and the older he got the more he liked reading about the life of the Lord, the holy ones, especially the blessed Virgin Mary. So it was that in his old age he was, I would say, a prophet.

Cimbura was happiest among children who understood him best. The grown ups stayed out of his way. "He's preaching again" they'd say. If he saw someone was mean to his livestock he stepped in. Someone throwing rocks into a tree, tramping in wheat...God's gift, or crumbs on the floor, making fun of someone, swearing, right away Cimbura

spoke up...whether it was his own or a stranger he was reminded of a wrong.

Called to court in Pisek. The judge reminded him to speak the truth. "I have one foot in the grave, but I can say all of my life I have never lied... I have to step in when I see someone stronger harming a weaker one."... He listened carefully, picking out truth from untruth and keeping in mind wise things.

Cimbura liked to meet with young students who went to church daily during the summer vacation and sang in the church choir. After mass they would wait for "grandpa". There was Zofka (a lawyer), Mister Simek (a ferryman), Mika (who studied for a teacher in Praha), Hala (a real estate agent and nephew of the priest). "Boys, I tell you to study", he'd say. The boys wore berets, student caps, and beards as a sign of their national thinking. Cimbura told them to wear that in Praha but in Putim go stand in the cabbage patch with that. He understood they were "aping" the Germans in Praha..."a crazy house."

Jokingly, a student said, "Grandpa, there was not one horse at the auction in Netolice!" "That's impossible, what could have happened?" Laughingly, "only geldings, stallions, bred mares and colts...not horses." Cimbura replied..."I don't feel like laughing today...you know that the King's Palace in Praha burned down. All Hradcany, the castle, and church of St. Vitus... Yes! The 2<sup>nd</sup> of June in 1541! Now go learn your history!"

He told many stories, some experiences in his life that were educational. He'd say "I'm like a bird. A bird sings to himself and doesn't care who listens." Played games with kids showing how to ride a horse on his leg. He especially preferred the company of children. Cimbura built the children a little mill that the wind would run. Then he built many more. He was always building something...a squirting pump, a willow whistle, etc. Cimbura could whistle on his fingers but didn't like to because of one time when he whistled three times by Hurky for Martin. The brakemen on the train stopped and threatened him with a fine and jail because they thought it was an oncoming train.

Air...kids like outside. Fire...tempts children. Put matches up high out of reach. Water...for swimming, skating, and sliding. Would teach them good games (not soldiers, thieves or robbers) like guessing what is in their hands. It was as if he had eyes in the back of his head until he revealed the secret of the mirror on the wall!

Taught children how to take care of horses. Taught them about bees...God's little workers at Steba's farm. Spending money on candy is a sin. He taught them how to have a flower and herb garden. Chamomile is a healing herb. Sunflowers feed the birds in

winter. Raise your own foods and don't buy unnecessary foreign foods like coffee, pepper, saffron, and mustard. "If God had wanted us to have it he would have put it here to grow." Cloves are good for sores, strawberry leaves for cough, chamomile for tea.

He told the children Bible Stories like how the rooster crowed when Peter denied Christ. Don't make fun of an ass since one carried Jesus to Egypt and into Jerusalem. The shepherds with sheep were the first to see Jesus at his birth. They knew even before Kings did. The stars saw Christ in the garden praying...they see us.

Cimbura told of his father who didn't like spiders. Why did God create them? One night as he slept a spider fell from the ceiling right on his cheek. He jumped as saw a light in the house. He then caught burglars jumping out of the window. He would have been robbed if it hadn't been for the spider.

He told Honzik there would be horses in heaven because one took Elias the prophet there.

Visitors asked what he thought of all the time. "I pray" he said without lying. All his thoughts were a witness to what he said "The heavens tell us the glory of God. The earth isn't dead but the spirit of God is over everything. I see God's steps, His wisdom and love. Glory be to God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit."

Cimbura realized that life was the greatest gift of god. He lived almost 90 years. Nothing interested him anymore. He just liked being alone. The priest said he missed him in church. He wondered what he would say when he came to judgment in heaven. He thought, "I'm Jan Cimbura from Putim, a farmer." He would bow his head and mention that on earth he never bowed to anyone, not even the prince, the mayor, judge, not even Miltner or the priest. "I just greeted them all, but here I bow." Love would straighten everything out. Love each other. People need to be taken care of like a tree that must be staked not to grow crooked. The soul needs to be weeded. That can only be done by the teachings of Christ.

When I see Jesus Christ I will fall on my face and say "Lord Jesus, you know all but I, Jan Cimbura, am telling on myself. I was no drinker or fighter but when we gathered for our memories I had something to drink and when necessary fought and my memory tells me that in the war at Solferina I likely killed. I could have done more good works, scolded less, prayed more and talked less." The Parish priest went through the Ten Commandments, the five religious rules and his main sins. he then said "You have the truth a person doesn't assure himself a road to heaven by

many Our Fathers, masses, festivals, money, but by living well throughout your life."

Cimbura dies on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1898 on St. Antonin's Day.

At the funeral all talked of Cimbura's deeds...riding into the fiery woods on Belacek to save the children. Saving Roucek's horses sinking under the bridge. Even the priest couldn't compare to Cimbura in preaching...feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, cloth the poor, welcome them to your home. He not only preached it but himself carried it out. At midday the church bells rang "Hrana". A small loaf of bread called Bozi Dar (God's gift) had the cross cut into it (also called Dusicka or little soul by the poor). People said "Pores Vas PanBuh" (let the Lord comfort you) and Martin replied "Dejz to Pan Puh" (return it to the Lord God). The prince himself came to the funeral. Martin and Jan (Honzik) carried the casket. Many people came from all around.

At the Putim Cemetery in the old part near the door and church stands a cross. A large cast iron cross in a granite base. It is gold and silver plated. Below the nailed feet of the cross is a table with this inscription in rhyme:

Zemrelemu v Panu Cimburovi Janu Postavil nyni Kriz ten jeho syni	Died in the Lord Jan Cimbura Built now This cross his sons
Byl to Sedlak Silny bohatty a Pilny Rad mel v Ziti shone lidi a pak kone	He was a farmer strong Rich and hard working he liked activity in his life, people, and then horses
odpocivej v Pokoji	Rest in peace

### Quotes and Sayings

At funeral of Vasek his son, "The Lord God gave and the Lord God took. He took one and left us four."

Cimbura said "Pray to God daily, love your wife, and bring up your children well."

At the church festival they baked Kolace and bread. An old saying "When there are guests, there must be plenty."

An "old" saying at the time "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth."

"It isn't proper to debate with guests."

"By a man's speech you can tell if he's good or bad."

"You cannot fill a sack with holes."

"A good friend is worth more than gold."

"No matter what you do you can't please everyone."

"Whoever asks my advice I cannot refuse without sinning."

"At your home, eat what you have. At other peoples', eat what they give you."

## People

Jan Cimbura -- An excellent coachman but didn't like that gypsy life. Good farmer and enjoyed it. Honest, modest, diligent, shy. Had amazing strength to lift two men, rescue horses from mud, lift a carriage. Had brothers and sisters from Cemice. Seemed to lose strength like Samson after marriage. Humbled himself by doing work and chores like maid and wife. Kept a very orderly and clean house. Large feet...put his sons in his boots and strapped over his shoulder to bring them to see their grandmother in Semice. Known far and wide as a good speaker. Everyone knew he was wise and went to him with their problems. Was always called on to come to village meetings. Equal to Kozina and Kubata as a Czech hero...with songs, poems, and stories. Like a true born artist he saw what others didn't. A south Czech idol.

Martin Kovanda -- Farmer that became mayor of Hradiste. Hired Jan after he came out of the army. Considered wise but not as wise as Roucek. Like a father to Jan.

Marjanka Kovanda -- Wife of Martin Kovanda?

Young Kovanda -- A child when Cimbura lived there. Brought grain and seed to Cimbura after the terrible storm.

Piksa -- Farmer in Putim originally from Semice who served in the army with him. Married to Marjanka who was the maid for a year at Kovanda's farm. Willed farm, wife, and children to Jan when he died.

Marjanka (Marie) Piksa/Cimbura -- Wife of Piksa and then married Jan two years after her husband's death. Had two sisters. Bore twins Martin and Vaclav for Jan. "Good and faithful"

Honzik, (Jan) Piksa/Cimbura -- Son of Marjanka, 14 and out of school at time Jan was married. Jan taught the boys farming. Sat on horse like a King...as if he was Cimbura's. In the 11<sup>th</sup> regiment of Pisek under Crown Prince Albert Sasky in Trident (Saxony). Drove horses. Sang high tenor. Fell in love and married Ruzarka Roucek. Loved trees and herbs. Like a professor understood everything. Had two sons and two daughters.

Francek (Frantik) Piksa/Cimbura -- Son of Marjanka, 13 at time Jan was married. Found work in the brewery in Pisek. Moved back to Putim and married into the Srnka (tavern owner) family.

Verunka Piksa/Cimbura -- Daughter of Marjanka, almost 4 at marriage time. Jan would give rides on horse to her. Saved from fire by Jan. Married cottage owner Sterba. Unlucky. A load of wood ran over

her and by a miracle she recovered. Also got pox and pulled through. Married Kopecky later?

Martin (Martinek) Cimbura -- First twin son of Jan when he was 40. Blue eyes and blond hair like mother. Boys wore dresses until they were toilet trained. Saved from fire by Jan. Would inherit the Cimbura farm. Got picked for the army by lottery and parted with Jan after St. Vaclav day in front of the barracks in Pisek around 1877. Came back on a weeks leave on train from Pisek. Looked brown like a gypsy with a mustaches and thick black hair. Fought at Zepec, Banjaluky, Vysoke, and Sarajevo. Later he took over the hard work from his father. Big shoulders. Married Marjanka Hamak. Traveling salesmen and smiths gathered at his farm. Beggars and gypsies were not turned away. All the "world travelers" were welcomed in winter.

Vasik (Vasek, Vaclav, Venclick?) Cimbura -- Second twin son of Jan when he was 40. Black eyes, dark skin, and heavy hair like Jan. Died young. Had cabinet maker build a coffin. Brothers Honzik and Francek lowered him into grave covered by a shroud.

Marianna (Marie Anna) Cimbura -- Daughter of Jan born the year of the war (1866?) Took care of her mother in later years. Married Kotrch from Stritez and then moved to Stritez. Had a son named Jan (Honzik) after his grandpa, father, and godfather.

Anka -- Raised horses at their place.

Anyzka -- Retarded woman who danced with Jan.

Babak -- Cottage owner in Putim

Benedek--Leader of northern army at Skalice, Mnichova, Hradiste, Svistan, Kralove Dvory, Jicin.

Cardinal Schwarzeberk and Purkmistr Belsky--Rode to meet Prussians and give them the key to Praha at the castle of old kings Hradcany.

Cenkr -- The mayor's assistant in Putim. Measured out a little piece of meadow for old grandma Pelikan.

Cernoch -- Farmer at right side of administrators at time of court hearing in Putim. Strong man that pulled apart bear and man in Cizov. Offered barrel of beer to anyone that could carry him out of the door. Brought mare who had a colt that died to Jan's new colt after the horse Divoka died giving birth. Grew oats as tall as ferns. Died at 100 years old.

Cizov--Group of wounded soldiers came from there.

Culik -- Pigeon man. Called the star man since always looking up even in the day.

Custozzo, Italy? -- Austrian army had a victory there over the Italians.

Dvorak -- Man owned farm in Pistina with horse that mated with Balacek.

Frantisek Karel Miltner -- District executive, councilman, or justice of the peace from Pisek. Had been a

clerical official in Smecne for Prince Martin. Historian who collected antiques, coins, guns, cooks, and magazines. Donated them to the national museum. Jan took him to Praha several times.

Hamak -- Mayor of Putim. Had a son named Vodtisek and daughter Marjanka (married Martin Cimbura)

Hanak -- Asked about family lineage at court hearing. Strong man lifted up heavy chair with teeth.

Hesoun -- Farmer mayor from Vrcovic

Hlodalek -- Man who's wife threatened to leave him if he went to the tavern again and wrote one more IOU.

Hornik -- Experienced landscaper with hands like a magician.

Hrachovina -- Owned wagon used to carry Kovanda's body at funeral.

Hrozny -- Captain from Bojemil in army at Pisek.

Hubacek -- Jan's neighbor and mayor of Putim. Jan could hear his cow moo. Built a new room.

Hussars -- Men with waxed mustaches like gypsies on Hungarian shaggy horses.

Hynek Skala -- Pastor and father for 10 years in Putim. Parish priest. Born in Pisek. Announced war in 1866 between Austrian empire, Prussia, and Italy. Died the year the railroad was built.

Jan (Honzik) -- Cimbura's grandchild through Marianna?

Jaros -- From Putim. Told story of Zezulka. Smart man who pretended to be innocent bystander to police after several men pounded on doors and windows to wake up town early in morning. Asked riddles. Remembered war in 1859 in Italy. Had what? as thick as a beach.

Jelinek -- Teacher in Putim.

Jira and Bartik -- Two fellows Jan lifted up and taught a lesson.

Jirasek -- Author told story of bloody tragedy of the Chodsko farmer Kozina their leader.

Jiricek -- Cut off a pear twig to make a whistle. Cimbura taught him how to make it work by cutting it in two, putting it behind his back and squeezing his fingers so the kid jumped and screamed. (The Czech word for whistle and scream in the same.)

Jirsik -- Bishop at Budejovice who took treasury.

Josef Prchlik -- The miller. Studied at Pisek. Secretary at the castle in Varvazov. Had contact with many noblemen.

Josefka Kubel -- Woman from Putimac who worked for Porazils. Jan danced with her.

Julius Gregr -- Pisek military leader backing up General Koller in Praha. Father master woodman in Novy Dvur. Also a doctor of law at court in Pisek and voted as a representative to parliament in 1865.

Kalousa -- Rich baker from Pisek who bought Cimbura's wheat.

Karel Havlicek Borovsky -- Writer and resistance leader. Uprising of nationalism in 1844 with love for Czech language.

Karel Malec -- An old veteran and doctor in Putim. Couldn't help Jan's failing son Vasek.

Kavalir -- In Putim son of infantry man in army.

Keclik -- One of five witnesses to the will of Piksa. Grew rye long and beautiful. Won as mayor of Putim. Had a guest Kotrch from Stritez. Died in Putim.

Klasek (Klaska) -- From Putim. Big barn boots stamped feet and made tavern shake. Got involved in politics. Read radical newspapers. Wore a green hat with jay feather and formed a hunting club. Thought to be knowledgeable by a cottage owner. Cimbura would not accept Klaska for mayor because he doesn't know how to farm his own land...he can't farm someone else's land. Hunting experiences knowing animal tracks and calls. Spoiling the village and the young people by teaching them drinking and gambling. Stayed in taverns half the night, smoked cigars, neglected farm, wastes time and money, hollered and argued. Served country with his mouth but in reality harmed it. Lazy...you could tell by his hands like a scribe. Loved guns and cards more than a plow. Cimbura said these things as truths not insults. Threatened to sue Cimbura and Cimbura represented himself at the trial. Lost and left Putim to buy a tavern in Pisek. Political agitator. Sold protective insurance, usually German. Matchmaker for brides and grooms. Cimbura farmed his land and fixed the whole place up after he left...preparing for his retirement. Became Cimbura's retirement home.

Kolarik (Simon) -- The church keeper and leader of celebrations and singer. Asked Jan about religious beliefs. Rang evening Angelus bells at St. Vavrinec. Lost money gambling with cards.

Koliska -- Farmer mayor from Zahori

Kolorik -- Announced Jan's wife to Jan after fire.

Kopecky -- Tied a knot no one could untie. Encouraged Cimbura to go to election meeting in Pisek. Ran the evening prayer hour in the church tower at 9 PM. Church singer and leader of the church festival and rosary prayers. A religious man and exceptional farmer. Married Verunka Piksa/Cimbura?

Kotrch from Stritez -- Young man (a village near Volyne where people are called rajchaci) who danced with Marianna Cimbura. Served with Martin in Bosnia during war. Friends with Keclik. Hit his chair across the floor and broke off the hard oak legs handing them to the boys as weapons during brawl.

Koubsky

Kozina -- Farmer who became a martyr by hanging. Lomikar won a trial in court at Plzen. Lomika had a castle in Trhanov. A Czech hero.

Krajic -- Man from Hradiste had son in war

Kubata -- Another southern Czech hero who gave his head (martyr) for the village of Blata.

Losos -- Tailor in Pisek.

Lukas--Big miller from Pisek.

Luv's -- Coachman for Prince that handled horses very unchristianly.

Malec--Doctor from Pisek visited Putim.

Mastny -- Widow from Smrkovice had son in war

Matejcek Benes -- Child liked to brag how strong he was to carry a rock. Cimburá told him he couldn't even carry a spoon if he tried. Tomorrow we'll see. Jan heated up the spoon on the stove (not burning hot) and gave it to the kid who promptly dropped it. See! Taught him a lesson.

Mika -- Happy-go-lucky asked Jan about wooden shoes...so big hens and cats nested in them. Also in army in Italy in 1859.

Paroubek -- A lazy man who used to walk to Vienna to do seasonal mason work. Cimburá hired him to help with harvest. Cimburá told him to take his scythe and leave because he was swearing while in the field. "Farm work is hard and takes patients you don't have. We are cutting God's gift...bread He's given us. We farmers pray on the field so God will guard our field. We pray so everyone who eats this bread will feel satisfied and fortunate. That's why we need to work with pleasure and not anger."

Pelikan -- Old grandma that bought a piece of field and meadow behind the railroad station. She worked the land many years until the Pisek village claimed land as its own. Cimburá wrote a letter in Svabach script for her "In the Psalms we read the king Achab said the the poor habot: Give me your wine field for it is near my field and didn't give up until he took it from the poor man. In Putim we hear that the wealthy Pisek is taking a little meadow from the poor grandmother Pelikan because you said it belongs to the town pond. I am writing in order to erase this sin from heaven of those who persecute the poor. Your noble village is wrong. here there are memory keepers and I am one of them. When there was no memory of a railroad and a meadow didn't belong to a pond but to a field and a field to a meadow." Cimburá smiled and Pelikan thought it was at her...but really it was her cow.

Perina--Farmer mayor from Kresic

Piksa--Butcher from Pisek who bought cattle from Cimburá.

Prince at Stekne -- Jan asked him about his horse Belacek when he was recovering at a spa.

Prince from Hluboka -- Nobleman owned large estates and interested in agricultural school in Pisek

Prince from Orlik -- Nobleman owned large estates and interested in agricultural school in Pisek

Prince Lobkovic -- Nobleman owned large estates and interested in agricultural school in Pisek. Preceded over meeting regarding school where Jan spoke up.

Prince Paar -- Nobleman owned large estates and interested in agricultural school in Pisek.

Prince Windishgrec -- Nobleman owned large estates and interested in agricultural school in Pisek.

Princes from Svarcenbergs -- Nobleman owned large estates and interested in agricultural school in Pisek

Prokupek -- Cimburá's grandchild?

Radecky -- General Jan served under him.

Roucek -- Administrator of village of Putim and miller. Could guess the weight of anything in his hands. Sang in high tenor voice. Daughter Ruzrka.

Ruzrka -- Daughter of Roucek the miller. Sang soprano.

Sejpal--Farmer mayor from Nepodric

Sekyra -- Mason in the war at Hradec Kralove. Son Venci in war from Putim.

Simek -- Fisherman. Knew every pool in Blanice and Otava.

Smid -- Patriarch of a comedian family...a carnival and circus. In their family tradition they put on plays during the winter all around the Sumava mountains. For two weeks he and his wife came by horse to put on a puppet show at Srnka's in Putim. The more productive and wealthier the people, the harder and unfeeling they are to their own countrymen. The poor the kinder they are...good religious people living by the word of Christ.

Sobec -- Priest in Putim?

Solomon Steiner -- A Jew who rented a house by the bridge across from Rouck's mill in Putim. Sold colonial goods cheap...tobacco, school books, whisky, playing cards. Two women were in his store...one older and ugly...the other walked like a peacock and was pretty as a picture. People would not shop there but went further to Hala's or Zizka's store or tavern because he wasn't from them...not blood, tongue, or religion. Built a Vinarna (winery) behind store. Attracted people from Pisek. Eventually villagers called the place "In Sodom" because there was Italian singing, German swearing, Czechs arguing at all hours of the night. Fighting, stabbing. Migrant railroad workers got paid there. Got beer from the Prince's brewery. "Red girlie" in window for attracting customers. Closed store and moved to Klatovy. Putim farmers moved his goods free of charge.

Soucek -- Go between for marriages. Lived in Putim and took care of weddings, funeral ceremonies, invitations, etc.

Srnka -- Tavern owner and bartender in Putim.

Steba -- Cottage owner that married Verunka.

Sterba -- Beeman.

Svarcenberg--Prince of South Bohemia...seated in Hluboka.

Tonicek Zezulka -- Youngest child had a toy horse on wheels. Didn't understand that Cimbura was dying while laying in bed. Why not take a broom and chase him from bed like mother does to me in the morning?

Venousek -- Crippled but carried the mail from Pisek to Putim daily with his mother. Putimers liked the hunchback. His buddies dressed him as a clown by smearing coal below his nose, a paper hat, in his lips an Italian cigar, and his coat turned inside out and a flower on his lapel like a groom. Cimbura got mad because they did this and got him drunk.

Vindisgrec -- General Compared to galloping up hill like him.

Vlacha -- In Putim

Windisgrec--Prince that rode Belacek in the war. Taken prisoner by the Prussians.

Zezulka -- Strong man who put millstone from Roucek's mill around neck like a white starched collar. Poured beer into a plate to the rim and balanced it on three fingers while walking around room. Died in Putim.

Zizka -- Led a war.

### Unnamed Occupations and People

Blacksmith -- Shoed horses

Cattle Dehorner -- Also neutered horses. Came twice a year like tinkers and smiths.

Guardmaster -- German army guy wanted Belacek. Rytmistr and two officers.

Harness Maker

Maid working for Roucek -- Announced Jan's court hearing to village with her son Venclik a hunchback.

Veterinarian

### Some History

The crown jewels were taken out of St. Vitus Cathedral in Praha. The canon men prepared to guard the Silver Tomb of St. Jan Nepomucky. The state officers and treasurers are running to Praha and people are hiding in the forest with their cattle and burying or pasturing over in the wall what they couldn't take with them.

German was the official language of Bohemia and Moravia under the Austrian empire for some 300 years.)

In 1870 political winds turned and Vienna had more reliable people.

In Feb. 1871 the minister was Hohenwart...eventually fell. Czech ministers Jirecek and Hrabetinek were appointed.

In 1877 the Russian-Turkish war broke out. Alexander II Tsar of Russia took up the sword. They crossed the Danube River to the Balkins taking Sipka and Plevno.

Czechoslovakia became independent after peace of agreement of World War I formed by Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia...a democracy when Germany took over in 1938 at the start of WW II. Then Russia ruled over them until 1989.

### Places

Bavaria

Benesov -- Millers came from there to help after Putim storm.

Blatna -- Known for shoemakers.

Bodejovice Highway

Cernoch's Farm -- Nearby Putim.

Cervený -- Millers came from there to help after Putim storm.

Chelcic -- Jan visited Church of St. Martin on the way back from Dvorak. Statue sitting on Stallion like that bred to Divoka.

Chlum -- Horse fair

Cimbura Castle -- Origin of name.

Cimelice -- Horse fair

Cizov -- Place of Nova Tavern (bartender Janda slaughtered pig) where Jan fed horses often. Man with trained bear in shed. Robbers got a surprise when looking for pig.

Custozzo, Italy -- Jan fought there. Bloody battle.

Custozzo, Italy -- Village where fighting took place under Radecky in 1838. Also Verna, Milan, Navarr, all of Lombardy.

Dobevic -- People came from there to meet troops.

Domazlice -- Handyman from there. Near German border. SW of Putim.

Drazdany -- Prussians surrounded it in war.

Dunav River -- Fish pond where child fell through ice and was saved by Jan's wooden shoe.

Hanzlicek (Hanzlik) Fish pond and Rezabinec Lake -- Jan liked better than the Meditteranean... close to home. Bathed horse Balacek there. Water looked black there before terrible hail storm.

Herman -- Could hear bells from there in Putim.

Highway from Vodnany to Pisek had a cavalcade of horses.

Hradec Kralove -- Place where Francek may have been in battle. A great stronghold with moats filled with water from the Lave river.

Hradiste -- City close to Pisek where Jan worked on farm for Kovanda. Word hrade means castle.

Hurek -- Closest woods to Putim.

Hurky -- Sun rose back of it. Village NE of Ceske Budejovice. Back of the hill by Hurky the moon rose.

Jicin -- NE of Praha by Polish border. Possibly Prussia at the time.

Jirka's Rock Cross

Kestrany -- Sun set behind it. City SW of Pisek. Putim could hear the noon bell from there.



Kladruby -- Horse fair  
 Klatovy, Budejovice -- Army marched toward Pisek.  
 West of Pisek.  
 Koloredov -- Horse fair  
 Komarna--Firing line in war.  
 Konopiste -- Leather strap makers. Just west of Benesov  
 and east of Dobris.  
 Mikulov--Near Austrian border below Brno. Signed an  
 agreement there to stop war. From Belina (by  
 Pribram) to Orlik is the Prussian line.  
 Milan--Firing line in war.  
 Milcin--Woman fed Prussian King's troops.  
 Milevsko--Prussians going there.  
 Mysenec -- Villages on the way to Netolice.  
 Nemicice -- Owner of white horse Jan purchased from  
 there.  
 Netolice -- Attended big horse auctions last Sunday in  
 October with Kovanda.  
 Novy Dvur -- Horse fair  
 Pisek -- Major city near Hradiste and Putim.  
 Pistin -- Home of farmer named Dvorak with four  
 stallions.  
 Prachatice -- Wood carvers  
 Protivin-- Jan crossed on the way to Dvorak's and  
 Netolice. Castle there between the mountains.  
 Putim -- City of Cimbur Farm at House #25. Grave of  
 Piksa in Putim Cemetary. Known for being a  
 church village with its own brewery.  
 Putim--City where Jan lived most his life on farm. First  
 train from Razice came Sept 1, 1868 going towards  
 Protivin.  
 Radetsky -- Battlements of his?  
 Sihove -- Belacek horse was sold at an auction there after  
 wars.  
 Simice (Semice, Cemice) -- Birthplace of Jan Cimbur.  
 His mother continued to live there. Jan's brothers  
 and sisters lived there...other relatives.  
 Skocice -- Priest celebration around castle grounds.  
 Smrkovice -- On the way to Simice from Putim.  
 Starahuta -- Mines where they found old coins.  
 Stasice -- Woodcarver there made shoes for Jan  
 Stekin -- Jan saw general Vindisgrec drive around castle  
 there.  
 Strakonice -- City up river from Hradiste. Railroad routed  
 through there since Pisek did not want it. behind  
 there are the Sumava mountains.  
 Strukovice -- Well-known southern Czech town known  
 for music. Violin, bagpipe, clarinet "Serafin", Ruba  
 bass. Everyboy born there is a musician. Cimbur  
 did not want the new brass music from Pisek but  
 the old Czech music.  
 Susice -- City up river from Hradiste  
 Szoregu-- Firing line in war.  
 Trident -- Picck army went there during war.  
 Tvrzic at Scateks -- Another place with horses.  
 Varvazov--Soldier's burned out mill there.

Vodnany -- Jan crossed on the way to Dvorak's.  
 Volta -- Firing line in war.  
 Vraze  
 Windisgrec -- Leading army against the Prussians.  
 Zahori

### Water

Blanice River -- River near Putim that flooded quickly  
 with narrow banks. Deep with wooden bridge over  
 it.  
 Blanice River Lake -- Jan took horses there to bathe of  
 Saturday evenings.  
 Otav(a) River -- Winding river that ran in Pisek and along  
 farm in Hradiste.  
 Adiz River -- Marched along from Trident. In a deep  
 valley.

### Various Places

Vapenice, Obcizne, Obrazku, Plazu, Hurky, Skala --  
 Berries in woods.  
 Sepekov or Podsrpenské Matce Bozi -- Jan made  
 pilgrimmage to either place once a year begging  
 for bread and water.  
 Netolice, Strachovice, Hurce, Chlumeck -- Farmers with  
 stallions  
 Northern Italy, Hungary, Austria, Vatican, Vienna, and  
 Praha -- Places Jan saw while in the army. Jan  
 spent 7 years of battles in army there.  
 Hradiste, Smrkovice, Zatava, Razic, Kestran, and Herman  
 -- Farmers came from these cities to Putim for  
 funeral of Piksa.  
 Skalice, Novy Dvur, Hermonice, Razice -- Army marched  
 on these cities.

### Things he saw Praha (Prague)

- Bethlehem Chapel (Betlemska Kaple) -- (p. 17 guide)
- Charles Stone Bridge (Karlův Most) -- Statue of  
 patron St. Jan (p. 16 guide)
- Convents -- (p. 19 guide)
- Hradcany -- The castle (p. 18 guide)
- Mosoleum of St. Vitus -- Jan visited in Praha (p. 19  
 guide)
- Old Town Square -- (p. 15 guide)
- National Theater

Army Posts

Churches

Czech Crown Mistodrzitelstvi -- Appeals court that  
 replaces Gubernium

Museum -- Given a private tour by the director Mr. Vocel  
 in Praha.

National Gubernium -- Museum? or appeals court  
 destroyed in 1849? in Mala Strana section of Praha.

Praha (Prague) -- Capital city. Jan spent a year there while  
 in army waiting in a suburb called Oujezd). Visited  
 during Lent with Miltner, wife, and daughter.

Schools

Statue of The Turk on the Bridge  
Tavern Zlata Husa (Golden Goose) -- In Praha near St. Vaclav Square. Owned by people from Pisek. Place for carriage and horse there.  
Ujezd Gate -- Gate in city of Praha. Closed at 9 PM.  
Uysehrad -- Original seat of settlement

### **Jan Cimbura's Trip to Praha with Miltner**

Traveled over Emperor's Road following this route  
Pisek, PI - Start  
Mirotice, PI -- Clock tower  
Cimelice, PI -- Clock tower  
Mirovice, PI  
Milin -- Arrived at noon. Six miles? in five hours.  
Dobris -- Princes barn where horses could stay. Tower and castle. Large three-cornered square. Princes Tavern. From Pisek to Dobris in 6 hours. Five hours trotting and 5 miles? from Praha?  
Doris  
Mnisek  
Zbraslav, PH  
Zlichov  
Praha  
...and back  
Praha -- Left at 2 PM...Passed through Zlichov district  
Zbraslav -- Got dark due to clouds and possible rain.  
Mnisek -- Couldn't recognize buildings. Drove past the Holy Mountain.  
Vosnice -- Shortly after passing attacked by 5 men.  
Dobris -- Stopped for the night. Left at noon. Took horses to lake to swim.  
Pisek

### **Various Buildings and Landmarks**

Blanice Bridge  
Celokovsky Grave -- Visited in Praha? but from Jan's area. Wrote books about heroes.  
Cimbura Farm in Putim -- Originally owned by Soukup's then Piksa's...then Cimbura's. About 45 acres...a large farm.  
Hluboka Castle  
Jirovka or Soudna Draha -- Location of Jan's meadow where he planted seedling trees along road. Good hay for his horses.  
Kravihora (Cow's Mountain) -- On right side of woods from Vodnany to Pisek.  
Naruzku, Zavadiлка, or Obiralka Tavern -- In Pisek. Site of auction or market. Farmers stopped for roasted meat and a beer. Kolarik lost at cards here.  
Parish Meadows  
Pezout under Hurka -- Location of Jan's fields  
Pisek -- Monument to commemorate the dead from war in Italy of 1859 with the Czech lion fighting with a snake around him. "In the year of our Lord 1859 fighting courageously in battles at Malegnana the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May of the Czech 11<sup>th</sup> Regiment. How many

returned? Not Captian Bayer or Berg. On the battle field stayed Corporal Zupan, Priborsky, and Cermak and almost 900 men raised here in the Pisek district."

Pisek Agricultral School -- Jan wished to send his farm boys Martin and Vasek there. Jan spoke up and suggested the school be built in a village and not Pisek. "Just as you can't raise a fish in a tree, you can't raise a farmer in a town school".  
Pisek Army Base and Horse Barns - Belacek horse was there. Red tile roofs.  
Pisek Tower / Town Hall -- Had a clock  
Pisek Town Square -- Gates to barracks around castle  
Putim railroad station (around 1871) built...yellow that reflected into pont below the church. New white watch towers built. In 1884 another railroad "Transversalk" was built...so Putim had three. Razice, Putim, and Protivin formed a huge triangle.  
Putim St. Vavrinec Church and Cemetary -- (Vavrinec?) Tomb of Radkovec knights of Mirovic, organ and grave of Piska. Guards posted in church spire during war time could see to Bernatice. Gothic church in Putim where Jan had his special prayer place. Tall steeple. Married to Marie (Marjanka) Piksa October 20th, 1858. Old church on the hill? Bell in church tower signaled danger of fire in the woods.  
Srnrka's Tavern in Putim -- Site of Jan's acceptance into town.  
St. Anne's Chapel

### **Animals**

Belacek (Whitey, Marengo) -- Divoka's colt. Became a breeding gelding, sire. Stallion tamed after 3 years. Incredible horse. Rosey white and black coat. Black spot. Braided main and black tail. Jan rode into forest to save children picking berries in fire. Berber and hald Arabian or English horse. Taken by army to war. Renamed Marengo after Napoleon's horse. Given false genealogy and talked about all over Europe. Mother Fivoka dn sire Musak from Dvorak farm in Pistina. Given by the emporer to General Prince Windisgrec. Army brand M on his leg. Came back home to die in Putim.  
Chlapik -- Dog helped save children from fire  
Divoka (Wild) -- Mare horse. Died giving birth. Jan planted Apple tree on her grave.  
Dobrak (Good Fellow) -- Gelding horse  
Jenik -- Team horse

### **Things**

20 gold pieces -- Jan's wage for 1 year work on the farm  
General's March -- Trumpet played  
Hadrusenka soup  
Obzinky -- Harvest festival

Rudeck'y March -- Tune the band played  
St. Isodor and St. Vendelin -- Farmer's saints  
St. Marketa -- Put her scythe to the rye.  
St. Vaclac and St. Jiri -- Saints on horses?  
Many other Saints are mentioned in the book

**Books He Enjoyed**

Prayer Books and the Bible  
Tyl, Ji from Hvezdy, Klicper  
Vocel or Celokovsky -- Wrote about heroes.  
Erben -- Wrote collections of old Czech songs  
Bozena Nemcova -- Women author of beautiful stories