



Brigantino - il Portale del Sud

ITALY'S **UNIFICATION** AND THE
THOUSEND'S VENTURE:
from myth to reality

by

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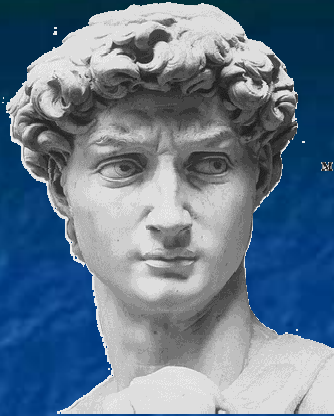
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ITALY OF OUR ANCESTORS: "The Small Homelands"

- Going back in history to the eastern roman emperor **GIUSTINIANO**, was the last United nation in Italy. Following the Lombard invasion in the year 568 A.D. the country political unity ceased to exist. Followed 1300 years of a partitioned Italian peninsula.
- In the 18th century there were **12** different states, becoming **9** after the Wien convention of 1815. A few years later became **7**.





dignity of "Small Homelands"

- Geographical fragmentation is not a sign of decline. We refer to the **renaissance period** which was the highest expression of art and culture in Italy, and the lowest of political relevance. The meaning of home country was the same of national belonging, that was the established moral value of the age.
- The population of the southern kingdom of two Sicilies defined **foreigners** the inhabitants of the rest of Italy. The Piedmont population when travelling outside their own state used to say "they were going to Italy"



The **political thought** of the 18th century

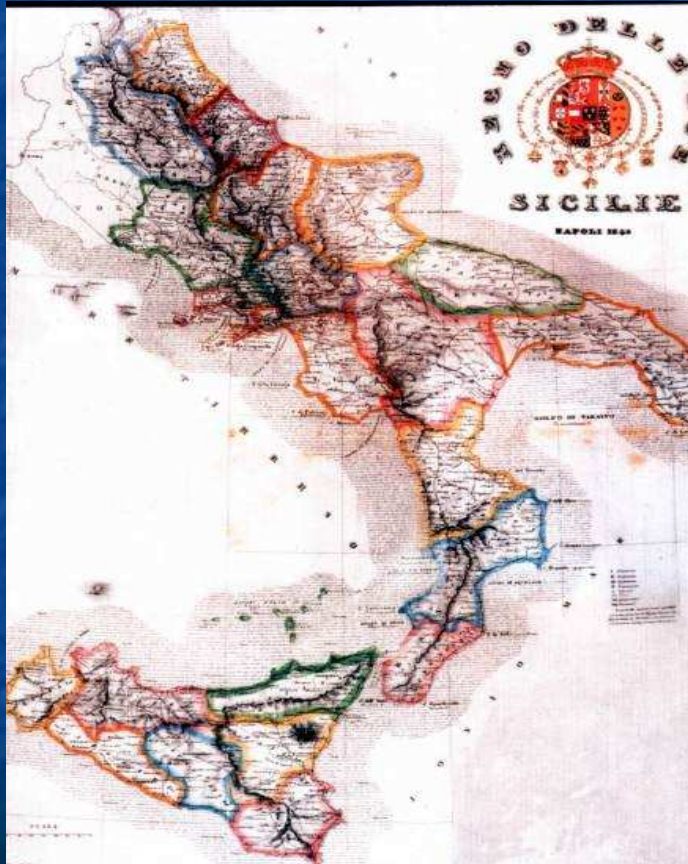
- The educated European classes, in the first part of the century, firmly believed in the **rights of administrative and cultural autonomy** of diverse populations recognised as a nation. Followed the concept of independence.(as an example the Austrian empire comprised 11 different nationalities).
- On the trail of this political belief part of the Italian educated classes developed the concept of an "**Italian nation**", meaning all the people living south of the alps, **no matter the great difference of culture, language, history and customs, which characterise the concept of nation.**

FROM IDEALS TO REALITY: the Italian condominium under the same roof (the alps) **BUT ...**



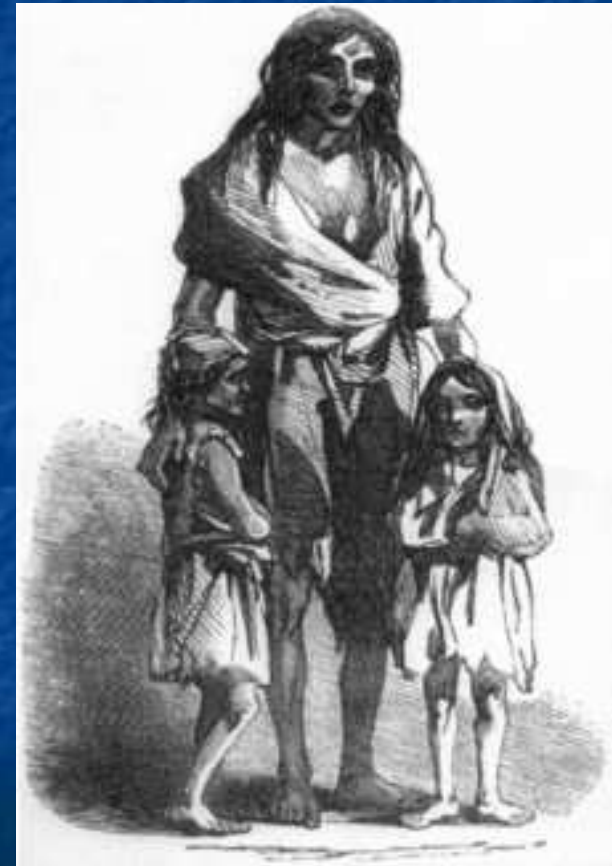
- The population of Italy that spoke Italian was **only 2.5%**: The rest preferred to express themselves in their own dialects (**Still in the 1950, 60% of the population used only local dialects**).
- The official and legal language of the state was **Italian** in all the pre-unitarian states, **Piedmont** was the exception where **French** was the legal language.
- **Customs and conventions** in the different states were **very different**, even eating habits were not common.
- **There was not an integrated economy**. Only 20% of trade was between other Italian states prior to union.
- The only common factor to all was the **catholic religion**.

THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM: ESTABLISHED IN
1130 PROSPERED IN UNITY FOR 730 YEARS.
It has its history, its rules and customs, his flag and his
national anthem.



WAS THE SOUTH POOR ?

- Percentage of destitute people was **1.34%** of total population, more less equal to other Italian states prior to unity. **Emigration did not exist.**
- From **official census** of 1861 emerge the following facts:
- with a population of **36.7 %** of the total of Italy the south had:
- **INDUSTRY**: a labour force equal to **51%** of the total in 5000 manufacturing enterprises, which were: naval construction, (4th largest fleet in the world). Ironworks industry, textile, paper, chemical and mines, tanning, jewelry, glass and food.
- **AGRICULTURE**: it registered **56.3%** of agricultural workers, and **55.8 %** of farmers of the total population of Italy.



THE TRADE BALANCE



- Trade with **other Italian states** prior to unity was on credit except with Tuscany; with Piedmont had a satisfactory balance of trade (Years 1838-1855) import Ducats 19441, export 33541.
- With **European powers** trade was passive except with Austria, but comparing datas of 1838 with 1855 we notes signs of progressive economical growth.
- In 1858 export value of the kingdom to the **United States** reached 1.737.328 Ducats import 566.243.

COMMON ITALIAN TREASURY

GOLD RESERVE guarantying the currency in 1860, in Period LIRA

(1 Lira = \$ 4.40 abt.)

TOTAL ASSETS 670.4

- Two Sicilies **443.2**
(equal to 2 third of total)
- Lombardy **8.1**
- Duchy of Modena **0.4**
- Duchy of Parma e Piacenza **1.2**
- Vatican (1870) **90.6**
- Piedmont **27**
- Tuscany **85.2**
- Venice (1866) **12.7**



WAS PIEDMONT PROSPEROUS ?

ANALYSING PUBLIC DEBT IN 1860

(In period millions of Lira)

- **Piedmont** (called also **Sardinian kingdom**, **5** millions inhabitants): **1,271.43**
 - **Two Sicilies** (**9** millions population): **441.22**
-

PIEDMONT, WITH SLIGHTLY OVER HALF OF SOUTHERN POPULATION, HAD 3 TIMES AS MUCH PUBLIC DEBT.

Causes were: **bad trading** balance passive from 1849-to 1858 and the costs of a **burdensome foreign policy**, which required the floating of enormous loans with the great friendly powers (France and England) and banker Rothschild.

WE ARE NOBODY'S FOOLS !



YOU BE THE **JUDGE**: WAS IT AN ADVANTAGE FOR A STATE LIKE PIEDMONT WHICH WAS ON THE VERGE OF ECONOMICAL COLLAPSE, to invade, occupy a southern nation, which historians of the posterity defined as **VERY POOR ?**

Health and welfare in the southern Kingdom

- In the kingdom there was the highest percentage of doctors for number inhabitants, (over all 9390 physicians for a population of nearly 9 millions; Piedmont, Lombardy, Genoa territory, Tuscany and Romagna had 7087 for a population of 13 millions).
- The lowest infant death rate in Italy: till the end of the 19th century the highest rates were registered in Piedmont, Lombardy and Emilia Romagna.
- In 1821 a law was approved which precluded employment to parents **who did not vaccinate their children against smallpox**. (in the Savoy kingdom, vaccination was made mandatory in 1859).
- In the Southern kingdom there were **22 hospitals** already in 1847.



The unification process in Italy: gives a centralised strategic position to geopolitical perception in Europe



- France and England contend for a dominating position in the central Mediterranean area, which is becoming the pivot of commercial traffic (with the construction of the Suez canal). Russia pressures the Ottoman Empire for access to the sea, the Italian peninsula is the geographic strategic center of the Mediterranean sea.

The French emperor **Napoleon the 3rd** adopted the policy of making the Mediterranean sea a French lake, following his uncle's endeavour 55 years earlier.



France strives toward a submitted united Italy

- Napoleon the 3rd summons prime minister **Cavour** to Plombiers in **1858**. Proposes an alliance for a war against Austria (which was the second Italian war of independence in 1859). And the creation of an Italian **confederation** of states composed of Piedmont, enlarged in **northern Italy** with area taken from Austria.
- A kingdom in **central Italy** with a French prince (Girolamo Bonaparte) as head of state.
- The **Vatican** states and the **Bourbon kingdom** to remain **independent**.
- In exchange demands the city of Nice and the region of Savoy, plus the payment of war expenses.



CAVOUR: "dogs eye, wolf mouth"

- Cavour signed the agreement, but do not observe it: during the war in 1859, through agents provocateur causes spontaneous demonstrations for unification in **central Italy**, the legitimate heads of state were expelled and exiled.
- Napoleon, though having won the war, seeks an early peace with Austria, worrying of Prussian threats of intervention. Settle for **Lombardy** which he transfer to Piedmont. France only obtained war expenses.



In **march 1860**, the Sardinian king annexed **Lombardy** (obtained from France) and **Duchy of Modena and Parma** with respective territory by Forced, manipulated vote. The city of **Nice** and the **Savoy** region are given to France in exchange.



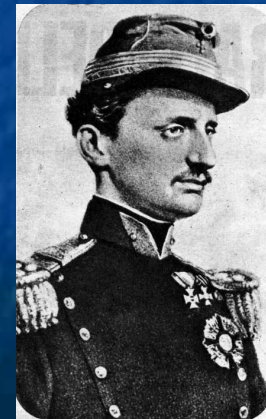
ENGLAND AND THE VICTORIAN AGE

- The British Crown pursue the policy of undermining French influence in southern Italy. Upholds the neutrality of the south in the second war of independence (1859).
- Later, due to king Francis 2nd stand on internal security and to restore the constitution, liberal and civilised U.K. cannot longer support the king of Naples towards the European nations.
- Adopt, therefore a new strategy and foreign policy: if the kingdom falls, will come in its place a united **Italian nation**, larger and stronger, which will have far more resources **to resist to French hegemonic attempts**.

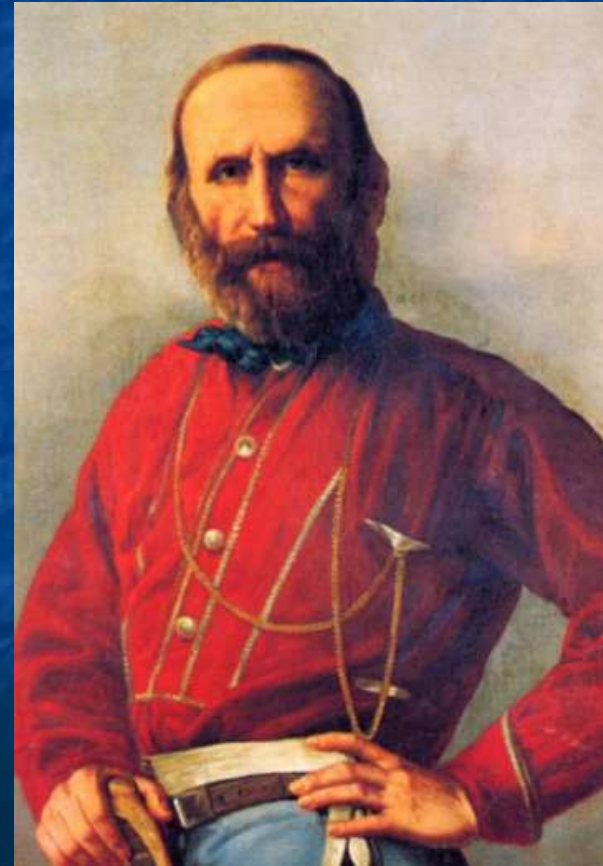
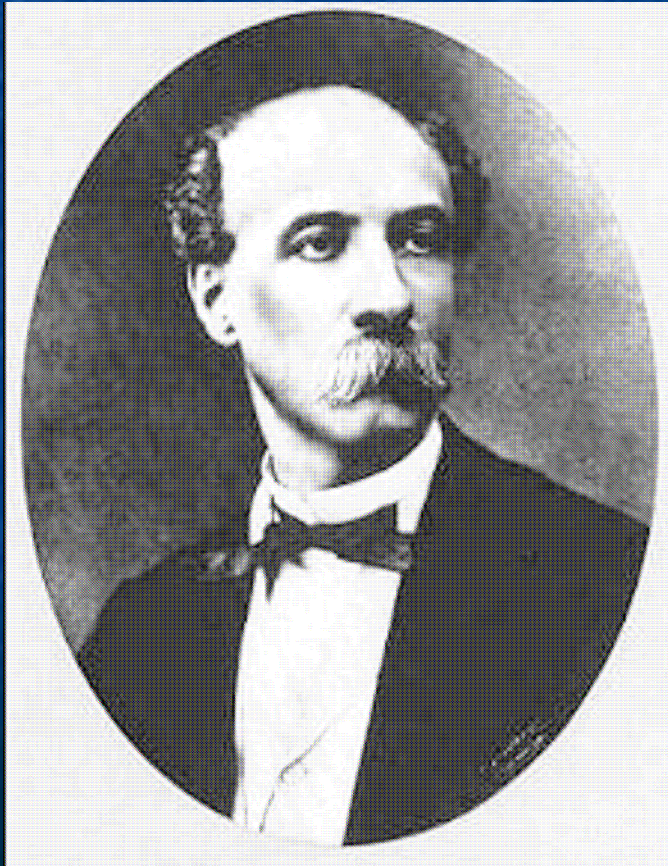


The fall of the Southern Kingdom: the main Italian actors

- **THE CONQUEROR:** *Victor Emanuel 2nd* of the Savoy dynasty. Adopts Cavour's policy of TAKE ALL, following his father Charles Albert caused the project of a Unitarian political alliance in Italy, during the first war of independence, to fail. It was Piedmont who hindered the project of an Italian confederation.
- **THE DEFENDER:** *FRANCIS 2nd* of Bourbon. Diplomatically isolated, politically naïve and motionless.



The schemer and the leader of the invaders: **Francesco Crispi** (doctrinaire ideologist) and **Giuseppe Garibaldi**, international adventurer.



THE TALE OF THE 1000: HOW THEY COULD DEFEAT 100.000 OF THE SOUTHERN ARMY ?

Historical research can not longer subscribe to the romantic version of this "adventure" for the successful outcome **became essential:**

- Complete support of **Piedmont** (known to Garibaldi's followers)
- The **treason** of high placed Bourbon officers who adopted the cause of Italian union.
- Support and connivance of the great Sicilian **landowners** who opposed King Francis reforms.
- Support and active help from **England**

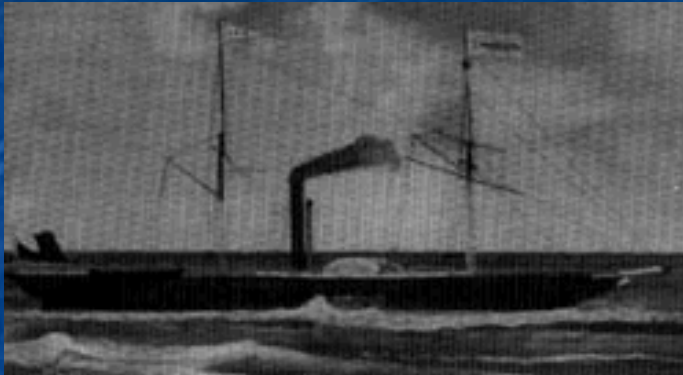


PRELIMINARY TO THE VENTURE



- **Sicily** was the weak spot of the southern kingdom, due to nobility and landowners opposition to the central government in Naples.
- During **April**, in Sicily a new uprising is organised, contacts between Garibaldi's agents and Sicilian barons, to co-ordinate strategy for the invasion.
- The uprising is **suppressed**.
- Crispi, the doctrinaire ideologist, sends 2 telegrams to Garibaldi, in the first informs him of the failed uprising, pausing whether the venture should be aborted. In the second falsely states that rebellion was still active inland. **The 1000 sailed**.

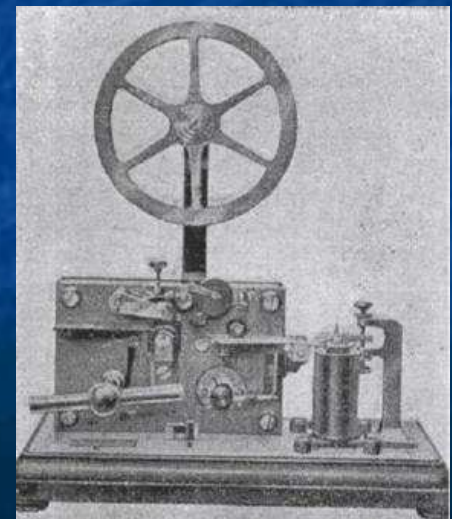
May 6, 1860 the expedition sails from Quarto (near Genoa) destination Sicily, on board 2 ships



- The 2 ships (named **Piedmont** and **Lombardo**) were regularly sold from the Rubattino Company of Genoa to G. Garibaldi by act of public Notary G.V.Baldioli, dated may 4, 1860. **The Savoy king** trough his minister **Cavour** guaranteed payment.
- Piedmont contribution to Garibaldis venture, was included in the Italian state budget. Finance Minister Sella in 1864 reported among states debts Lira 7.905.607 as expenditure for Garibaldis enterprise. (about **\$ 40 millions** value of period)

NO ONE WAS SURPRISED

- In the south, authorities were well aware of the invasion intent; the arrival of the 2 ships with the volunteers was telegraphed by the ambassador in Turin, **may 6 the day of departure.**
- It was also known that the landing would be in the western part of Sicily. The navy was alerted. **The order was to intercept the 2 ships at sea and sink them.**



THE SOUTHERN FLEET AND ITS OFFICERS

- The **navy** of the southern kingdom was the most powerful fleet in the Mediterranean. ,had the strength of over 100 war ships. (The **Italian navy after union adopted the uniforms, signal system and operating manuals**).
- The **officers corps** was inept and inadequate, more dandified showmen than sailors. From the young ensign, fresh out of school to old captain embellished and arrogant. Uncomplete sailors whose only strive was to shine and glitter, rooted in that nobility which later ran away and betrayed.
- "**Damn the navy**" still today a popular expression in Naples."



May 11 1860: MARSALA IN SIGHT !

THE EVENT:

- 10 a.m., 2 british ships drop anchor in front of the harbour, by chance or organised ?
- 1 p.m. arrive the 2 boats with the expedition, begins immediately to disembark, Garibaldi's volunteers don't stay on the warves but run toward the center of town.
- The telegraph officer informs Palermo and Naples of the events, he is threatened at gun point.



2 p.m. arrives 3 warships of the southern fleet after the signal of the arrival.

The first of the ships **hesitate** to fire, unable to identify who came on land (but who else could have been ?), afterward began firing.



THE BRITISH REACTION

- The british commander goes on board the southern ship and informs the southern captain that he will retain responsible of any damage to british property in the town (wine production and storage facilities) times is wasted.
- When landing of the invading force is practically completed, begins anew firing, now all 3 in the harbour: results 2 slightly wounded.



GARIBALDIS MEMORIES



- He writes: **“the presence of the 2 british warships was essential to the success of landing our men, and influenced the decision of the southern captains to hold firing on us on the critical moment. I will always be grateful to the British navy.”**

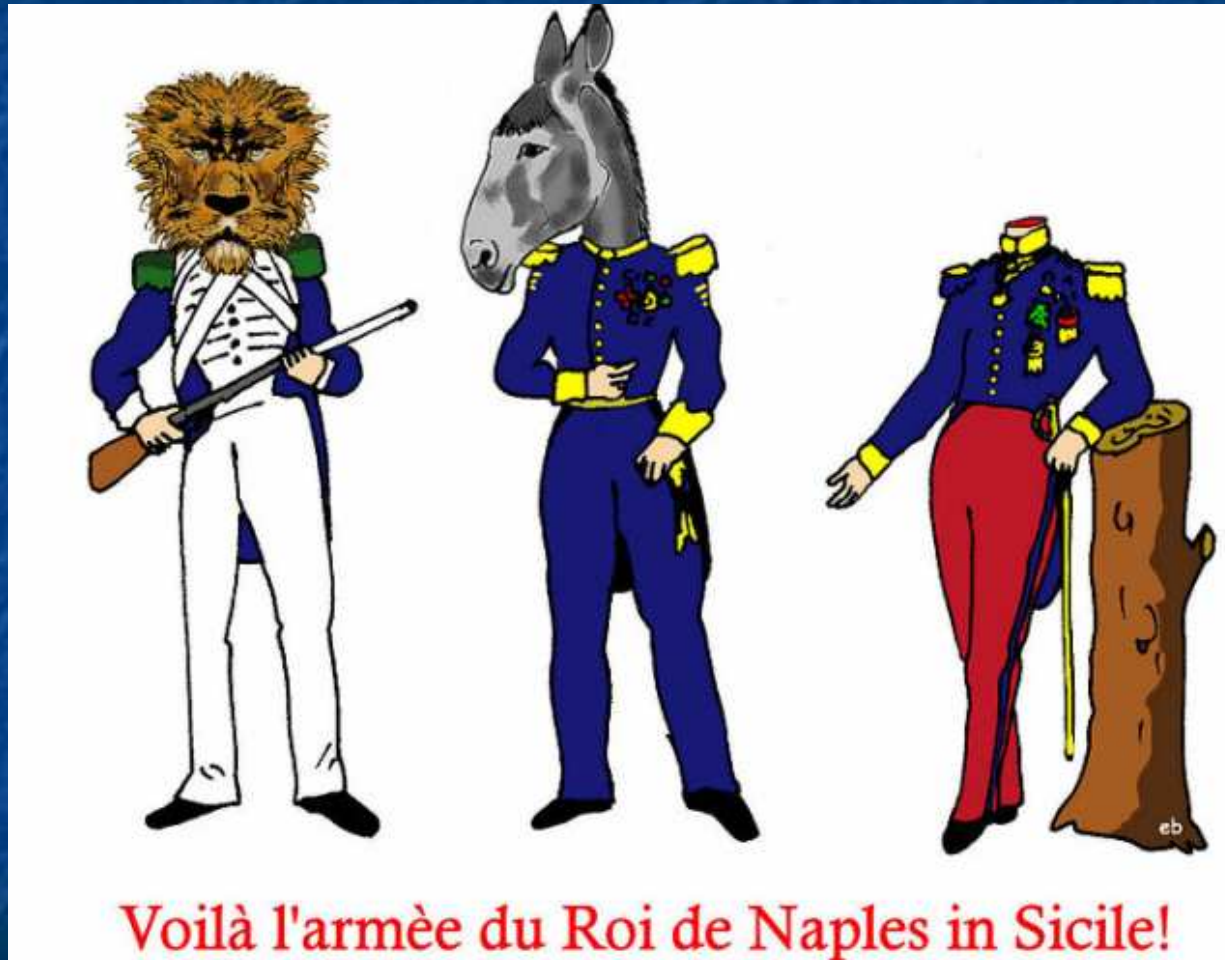
The handling of the crisis shifts to the army



In the past occasions, the Bourbon army had always behaved **bravely** on battlefields: The southern cavalry in **Napoleons armies**, were judged the **best in the world**, they were called "the white devils" it was the Bourbon cavalry that covered his retreat from Russia. The Austrian marshall Radetsky comment on southern soldiers bravery in 1st war of independence: "**fought like lions**".

The two Sicilies was a **peaceful country**. Related to civilian population had the lowest number of soldiers in Europe. From 1848 the army was mainly used to patrol the borders, to keep internal security, and also in public works constructions of roads, bridges, railroads. The majority of the officers were aged.

The Royal army: soldiers represented as lions, officers as jack asses, generals headless



Cartoon by Enzo Brizio, reproducing the original of 1860

LOCATIONS OF THE MAIN EVENTS



The Sicilian **barons** and nobility offer immediate support to Garibaldi: They choose Turin to Naples.



- La Masa, one of Garibaldi's officer, claimed to have enlisted, by himself, more than 6000 men, through connection established in the island before the arrival of the expedition.
- G. C. Abba, another officer, describes them as mountain folks armed to the teeth. The impression they gave was of fear; their leaders were real gentlemen of the nobility.

May 15 1860, **CALATAFIMI**, the royal army on top of a hill, garibaldi's followers at the foot of it.



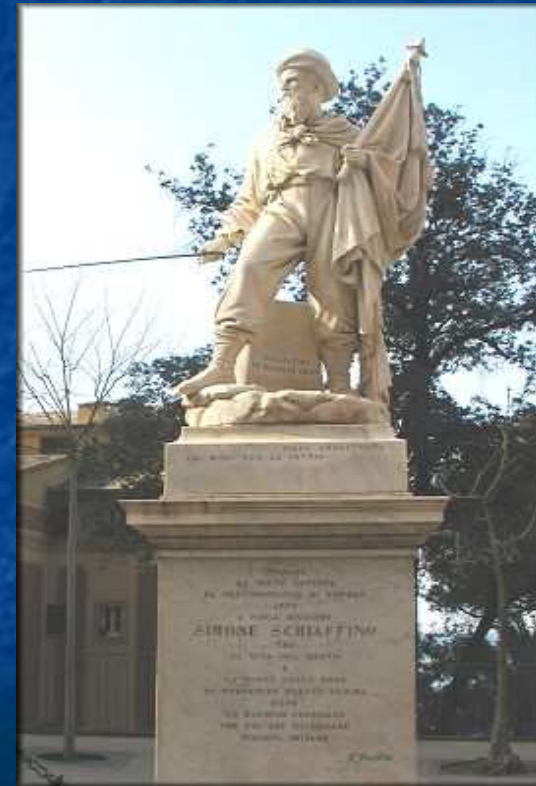
THE BATTLE



G. C. Abba wrote in his diary: "I saw Garibaldi with sword in hand, going slowly forward, watching the action. A few of ours volunteers fell around him; Bixio came forward to shield him with horse, shouting: " General, you are risking your life. My impression was that Garibaldi didn't confide in victory, and was seeking death in the field".

THE INVADERS ARE DEFEATED

- At 3 p.m. Garibaldi ordered the last attack, going forward uphill, the Bourbon army was winning: Schiaffino, Garibaldi's ensign was shot dead and dropped the flag, Garibaldi's son Menotti was wounded, Garibaldi's life was saved by August Elia, who stepping in front of him had his jaw shattered by a shot.



The winners retired ! Unbelievable!

- A group of southern soldiers, bring to General Landi the flag that had been captured in battle, The general waving the flag yelled: "VICTORY! VICTORY!"
- General Landi ordered to signal the retreat, abandoning his first line soldiers in the field, short of ammunitions, refusing to order the reserve brigade in battle to chase the enemy. That same general Landi, at war conclusion, attempting to cash a money order signed by Garibaldi for 15.000 ducats, found the account empty of funds.



- Again G.C.Abbas wrote in the diary: "from the bottom of the hill, we watched astonished the long column of the royal army retire toward Calatafimi. It was a miracle!"

Bribery, corruption and High Treason



- The conclusion of the fight discouraged the common soldiers, who started to doubt the integrity of their commanding general and superior officers: that was the dominating factor of the invasion campaign of the kingdom, where the soldiers always fought with courage and dedication, confirmed qualities, later in the confederate army, while their commanding officers showed themselves unfit, often traitors sold out to the enemy.
- Cavour had been busy lavishing money without reserves to buy the loyalty of the southern highest officers, and even member of the government. The man to manage the payoff was Admiral Persano, present in Palermo on board his own ship. Liquid assets at his disposal amounted to 1. million ducats (\$ 40 millions, in period value).

The invaders repeatedly defeated inland from Palermo: **Rosolino Pilo** dies

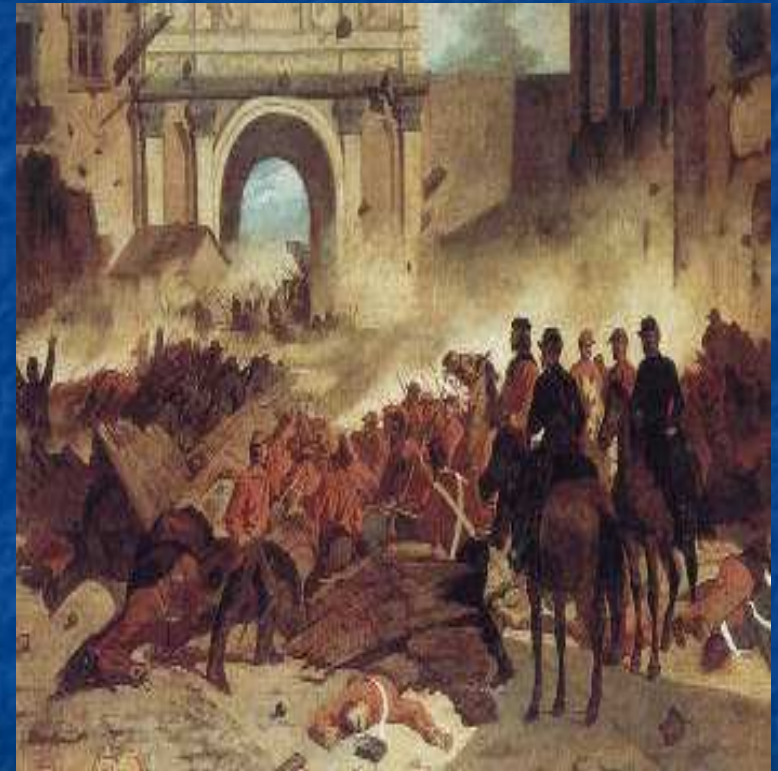
- Garibaldi holds a war council, in which he affirms his belief in the impossibility to conquer and occupy Palermo, referring to the defeats suffered and the failed insurrection, proposes to head inland to instigate revolt.
- Crispi, the doctrinaire ideologist, convinces him in risking everything, to invest Palermo. In the worst case they could get protection on board Admiral Persano, and British ships, anchored in the bay.
- It is decided to divide the forces in 2 groups: one will fake a diversion toward Corleone, the other will invest the city.



- The Bourbon General Von Mechel, decides to follow the group directed inland, against the belief of Colonel Bosco in keeping the forces united to protect Palermo.

Occupation of Palermo (May 27)

- **May 26th**, Garibaldi receive detailed informations of enemy dispositions for the defence of the city. And the agents of the revolutionary committee gave assurance that insurrection would start at his entry in town.
- The southern commander, general Lanza, decide to keep his 20.000 soldiers in the city, and refuses to attack the invaders heading towards Palermo.
- To his subordinate officers, who recommend assaulting the enemy, answers that he will open fire with the artillery. After he goes to bed.
- In the morning Garibaldi enter the city with 4000 followers from the Termini gate, to defend which there were only 260 new recruits.



Palermo Surrenders



- General Lanza, instead of ordering a counter attack with all his forces, sends a small patrol with few soldiers which are captured. After orders artillery fire. The invaders builds barricades. Finally agrees to an unbelievable truce, while the forces of general Von Mechel , back from Corleone, had started a counteroffensive. Garibaldi, short of ammunitions, ponder on taking shelter in the friendly ships. As a condition for the truce, Garibaldi demands the reserve deposited in the bank of Sicily **103 millions dollars**.
- **PALERMO SURRENDERED!** The southern soldiers are angered and indignaated while going on board ships for evacuation of the city.

The **Barons** gets the promised reward: Garibaldi confirms the ownership of their properties



Decree of June 2, 1860:

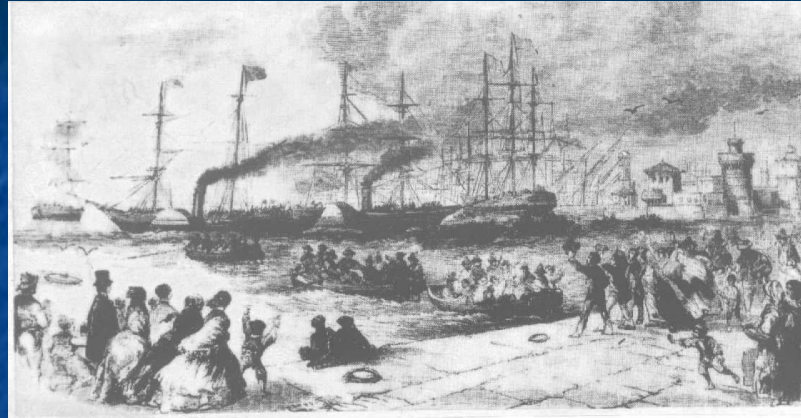
"G. Garibaldi, supreme commander of the national forces in Sicilie decrees:

Art.1) Over the lands of **public property**, to be divided among the county inhabitants. All who have enlisted in our army shall receive a certain share before a draw to be held for the rest of the lands, according to law. In case of death of the soldier, the property will go to his heirs.

Art.2)....

Art.3) In the of case counties which do not hold public lands, the **lands of the crowns** and **of the states** shall be drawn.

The 1000 became 22.000! Reinforcement arrived



- Many ships from **Genoa** and **Livorno** arrived with arms and so called "volunteers", actually soldiers of the **northern army** (officially discharged to enable them to join Garibaldi, Piedmont been at peace).
- According to the communication nr. 40 of Piedmont military journal, dated Aug. 12 1861, the **northern** soldiers participating to the military campaign in Sicily and Naples in 1860, have the right to consequent reinstatement in the army with full pay.
- Every arrival of ships, and landing of 22,000 volunteers, were made **without any attempt** of the powerful Bourbon fleet to intercept them.

King Francis, what did he do?

- He starts a **confused diplomatic offensive**, accusing Piedmont before the European Powers of conniving with the invaders. Teoretically that was an irreprehensible behaviour, given an hostile expedition originating and supported by a nation with which there were normal diplomatic relations, at peace.
- Diplomacy showed helpless, but the king kept confiding in a negotiated solution of the crisis. **Declined to lead his army**, which with the exception of the commanders, are faithful and dedicated.



The march to the Sicilian Channel

Battle of Milazzo (July 20, 1860)

- Colonel Bosco of the southern army, though inferior in numbers (3000 against 8000) comes out of Messina and go to the offensive, he leads his brigade in the very front.
- Messinas garrison, by direct order of the ministry of defense Pianell, does not intervene in support of colonel Bosco: **20.000 soldiers are left inactive!** The king from Naples urges the action, but the military commander Gen. Clary remain inactive. **Milazzo** is accupied. **Messina** surrender without a fight, with the exception of the fortress.
- **SICILY IS LOST.**
- **Garibaldi's** comments: "Victory in Milazzo was achieved at a high price, our losses in dead and wounded were far superior to the enemy. The day, if not the most glorious, was definitely the most deadly. The Bourbon forces fought bravely and kept their positions for a long time". (120 dead and wounded among the royalists, 780 in Garibaldi's forces).



The farming population of **Bronte** rises against the nobility and land owners; Garibaldi sends **Nino Bixio**, his second in command.

Decree issued by Nino Bixio, Aug. 6 1860: Retribution on the farmers

- The village of Bronte **guilty of lack of humanity** is herewith declared subject to **martial law**. Within 3 hours from 1 p.m. the population will hand over all firearms and daggers. Failing to comply will **lead to execution**.
- The village **Council** and the national guard are disbanded, will be organised according to directives.
- Perpetrators of crimes will be handed over to the military authority and be judged by a special committee. **(Shot after a show trial)**
- A **war tax** is hereby levied on the whole county, to be cancelled after the situation returns to normality.



THE CHANNEL IS FREE !

- In August Garibaldi begins to plan landing on the continent, the Calabria region.
- The frigates "*Fulminate*" and "*Ettore Fieramosca*" on patrol along the coast did not detect the landing of the invaders, which gain the shore in small units.
- The disgraceful behaviour of the "*Ettore Fieramosca*" Captain angered the crew to the extent to provoke a mutiny, he was imprisoned with all the officers in the storage hold, and sailed the ship to Naples, here the officers were freed and **the crew imprisoned for mutiny !**



GARIBALDI IS GRATEFUL

- In his memories, Garibaldi pays respect to the Bourbon fleet, due to its collusion, the march to Naples was not hindered: securing the shore and landing on the continent would not have been possible with an hostile navy.
- 20.000 MEN CROSSED THE STRAITS **WITHOUT LOSSES.**



The events in the city of Reggio and in Soveria Mannelli

- In the city of **Reggio Calabria**, brigadier general Gallotti stays in the fortress, sends a patrol to scout in the wrong direction, and later refuses to let the patrol enter the fortress, and order to keep watch on the cathedral square. During the night the patrol was attacked by the enemy, the captain of the patrol **Antonio Dusmet** and his son were mortally wounded in the fight.
- Gen. Gallotti **surrendered though is not attacked** and has provisions for a month.
- In the Village of Soveria Mannelli, near the town of Catanzaro, general Ghio **surrenders without fighting**, in spite of the 10.000 soldiers at his orders, perfectly equipped. The way to Naples is open. **General Ghio was later appointed by Garibaldi, commander of the military district of Naples.**



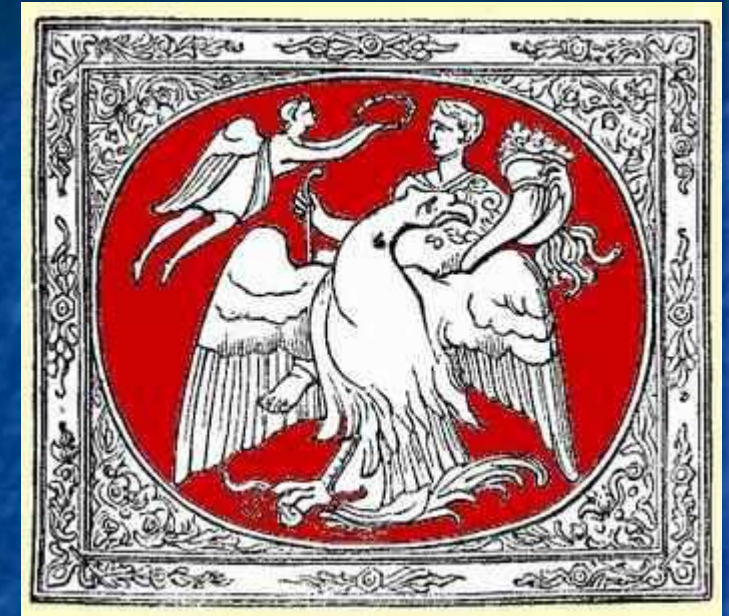
The stroll of the invaders in the continent: in 17 days they reached Naples !

The soldiers assaulted gen. Briganti: **TRAITOR !**



WAS IT REAL GLORY ?

- A severe judgement on Garibaldi's military genius was passed also from men that took part in the venture with him, like [Maxime Du Camp](#) who called it **a military stroll, tiring BUT DEVOID OF ANY RISKS**. Also [Agostino Bertani](#), whose descriptions: easy victories, caused Garibaldi's rage in his memories.



- 16 officers of the royal army were judged responsible for the military blunder in Sicily and Calabria.
- **INCOMPETENT, SOME GUILTY OF TREASON, SOME CORRUPT.**
- 3 of them were found responsible and dismissed in disgrace by the high command.

Sept.6, 1860: the **king** leaves Naples

- The king Francis 2nd retires in the **fortress of Gaeta**, following the advice of his general staff, to spare the city of Naples the devastation of war; the population did not rise against him as Cavour hoped.
- 5000 soldiers for safekeeping in the city with the order "Don't fire first on the enemy". To his government ministers, he said: "**You all are dreaming of a united Italy under Victor Emanuel, but you will not be happy, and regret our country**".
- Recommends that Naples be kept neutral to avoid violence devastation and looting, and to have the treasury safe as heritage to the nation for future generations. Only 30 faithful followers leaves escort him.
- In Gaeta he finds 6 ships of the fleet and **40.000 reliable soldiers**, weeded out of traitors.



Liborio Romano

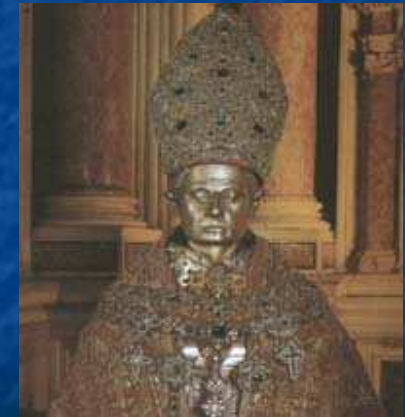


- Minister of the interior controlling the police and national security, conspiring with the savoy government and Garibaldi; he achieved through the liberal government with a decree dated July 7, the disbandement of former police forces, appointing leaders from the ranking **mafia**.
- As soon as the king left, he sends a telegram to Garibaldi in Salerno: "to the victorious general Garibaldi, Dictator of the Two Sicilies - Naples is waiting to welcome as the saviour of Italy, and entrust you with the full power of the state and its destiny. In expecting you, I will remain steadfast guardian of order and public comfort, waiting to follow your orders".
- Garibaldi confirmed him in charge of police.
- **He is the man**, that at later stage permitted and arranged recruitment of prisoner of war to be **deported and shipped to Louisiana** to be enlisted in military units.

Garibaldi arrives in Naples sept.7, **comfortably seated in a train,** in company of his general staff, his soldiers arrived sept.9



- The authorities organised a **warm welcome** to Garibaldi, who rides in a coach through the city.
- He visits the **Cathedral**, paying respect to St. Gennaro Relics (**which in private defines an humiliating chemical mixture**) and expressed completely false religious feelings, being a declared atheist.
- The **southern fleet** is transferred to Piedmont flying the new Italian flag with the Savoy arms.



62 days of pillage and looting

- The **Royal Palace** was plundered of everything, the most precious items were sent to Turin, the rest was sold.
- On sept. 11 **Gold** of the state treasury, valued in present figures to over \$ 2 billions, was appropriated. Even the kings personal belongings left behind were taken **as war booty**.
- Thieves, pillagers, murderers, rapist were pardoned by Garibaldi, and later placed in the national guard, in the custom and some in public administration.
- Corruption was rampant, sometime 5 government jobs were vested on the same individual. Minor appointed in high office, pensions granted without title to wives sisters and relations to whomever helped the cause.

The last battles, the king leads his army

- Following the occupation of Naples the southern army, though late, starts to fight. Prevails on the invaders in a few battles, but failed to defeat the enemy in the **conclusive battle of Volturno** (Oct. 1-2, 1860).
- **OCT.12 THE SAVOY ARMY INVADES THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM.** After first fight contacts, Col. Molla of the invading army realized: "in the heart of bourbon soldiers is the image of their king"
- Feb. 13, 1861 the **fortress in Gaeta** surrendered, invested during 3 months by northern artillery. King Francis 2nd went into exile.
- Fortress in **Messina** and **Civitella** still resisted, respectively untill 13 and 20 of March.
- March 17, 1861 the **Kingdom of Italy** is officially established.

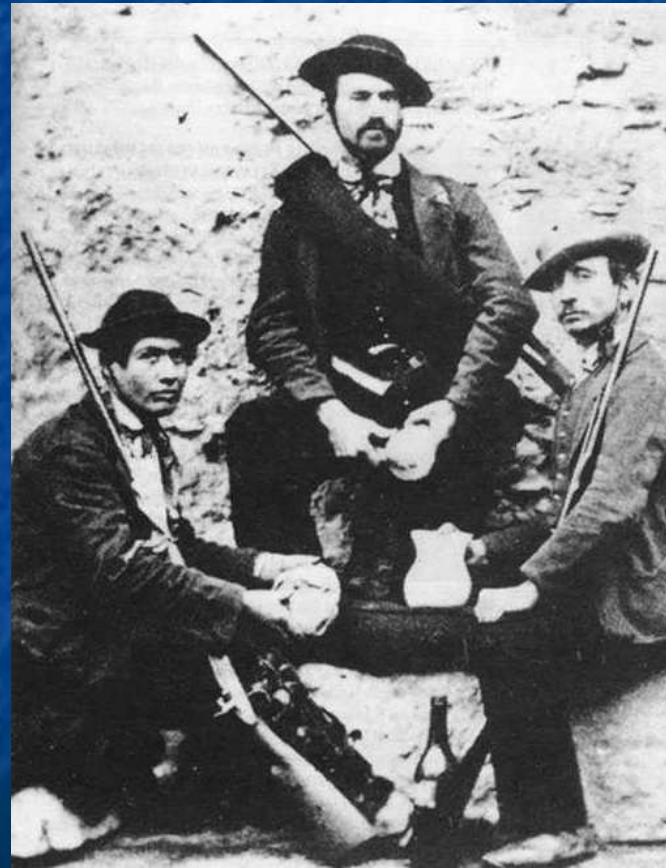


The prisoners of war. The **prison lager** of Fenestrelle in the northern alps.



Popular rising against forced union: **the outlaws - the repression**

- **80.000 fighters (outlaws)** rebelled in the south, badly equipped and armed, organised themselves in 488 units. Which comprised from 10 to 500 fighters. Their action was not coordinated, they were supported by the majority of the population.
- During 1862, 120.000 men (half of the total) of Piedmont army (called "italian" from May 4, 1861) fight in the south against the popular rising.



Cavour letters to king Victor Emanuel 2nd

- Dated December 14 1860: "our object is clear, devoid of further debate: we must impose the union upon the weakest and most rotten part of Italy. No doubts on the means to be adopted : if moral strength is not sufficient, physical strength will".
- Dated Dec.17 1860: "Now that union has been achieved, I would die 10 times rather than allow secession. But before dieing myself, I would try to kill the opponents. **Time must not be wasted taking prisoners**".



Wanton killings of outlaws: 74.000 were executed.



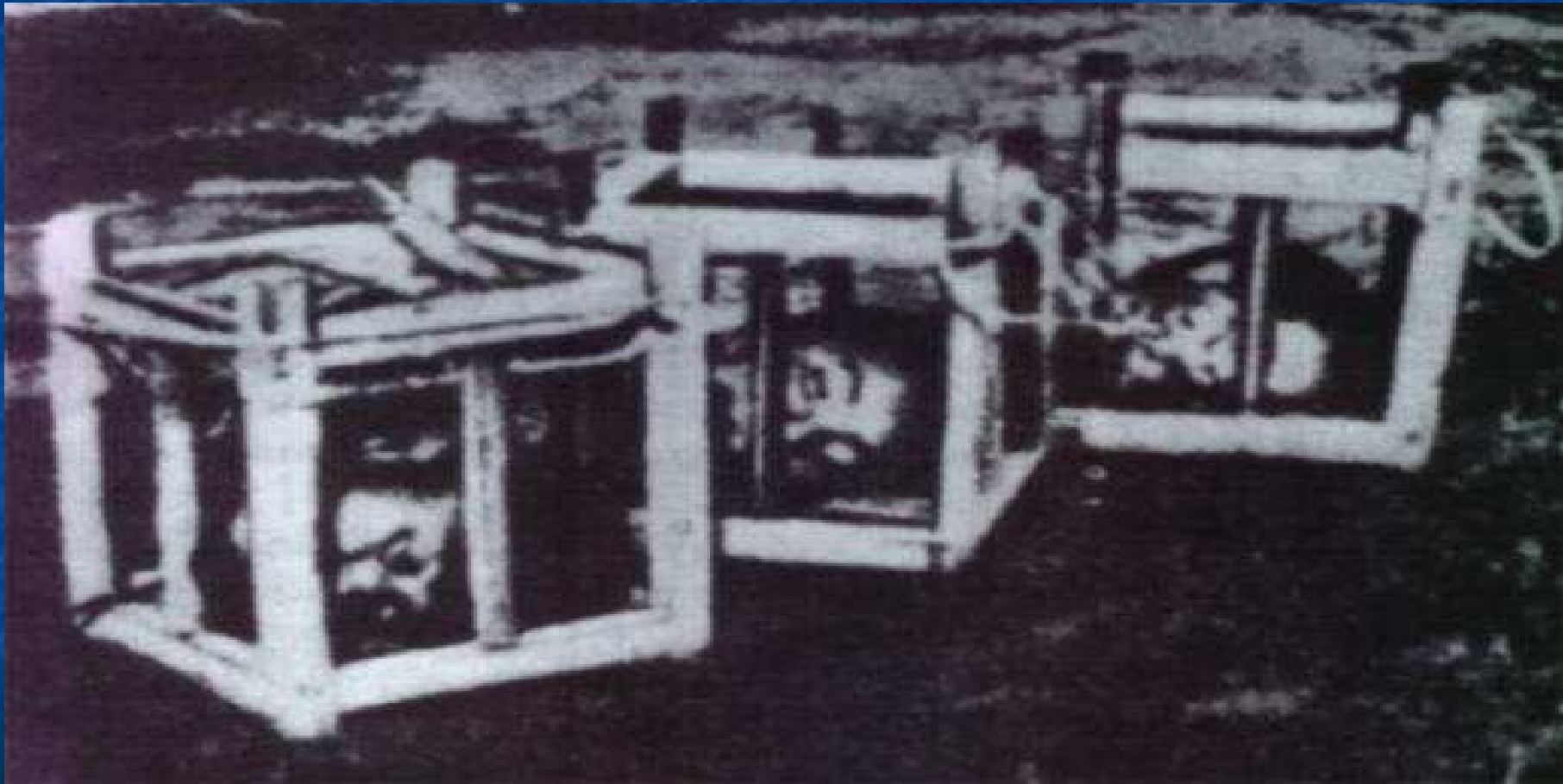
Single and family men perished in the struggle



Michelina De Cesare refuses to disclose the names of her comrades, tortured and killed



CUT OFF HEADS DISPLAYED IN CAGES!

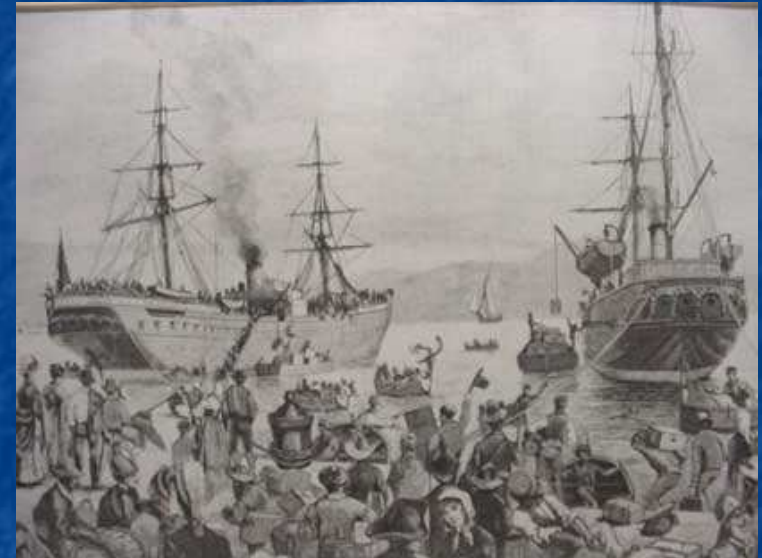


Outlaws executed and exposed to the camera



To resist **another northern invader**

- The southern soldiers, recruited from disbanded units, from war prisoners camps, they were herded on board the ships **heading to America**.
- They arrived in **New Orleans** in the turmoil of secession. Their enforced emigration, rich of experience of service in an army where no credit was given to their sacrifices; where most of the officers joined the enemy and sold themselves to the invaders.
- They were told that they were free, that their new country needed their services to resist **another northern invader**.



They volunteered to defend their freedom in the new homeland



Pickdett's Charge, July 3,
1863

- They shared with their fellow soldiers suffering and endurance in the unequal struggle for 4 long years.
- Their records invites respect from modern man, in having secured the last ounce of strength.
- Those soldiers rendered humble and fine service, nameless laying in graves, mere names on casualty lists. **BUT THEY WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN!**

Slide by Peter Rossi

They will never, never be forgotten!

With all the confederate soldiers unswerving devotion to duty, to honour and to the cause

- They suffered through the hell of battlefields, toiled through the misery of the long hard marches, under grueling sun, or frozen icy roads, pulled their leaden feet in the mire of spring rains, They endured the misery of camp diseases. They knew the pangs of hunger, they pined in yankee prisons, languished in southern hospitals wounded and maimed, some paid the supreme price. but they kept their pride.
- All of them answer the roll call of history when the grand army of the north were defeated and driven to ignominious flight, by inferior number and resources.
- **WE WILL NEVER FORGET THEM!**



Peach Orchard, April 16, 1862

Slide by Peter Rossi

OUTLAW OR EMIGRANT (30 % of southern population leaves their homes and country for a future in distant lands).



Farewell parting between mother and son

He threw his arms around me, held me tight, clung to each other we both cried. "I will be back" told her sobbing, feeling her tears wetting my cheeks. "I will be back soon", but I didn't.

The mothers fears sensed the truth, he never came back. She held me tight once more and kept kissing me till we departed



AMERICA ! One month sailing for the hope of a better future

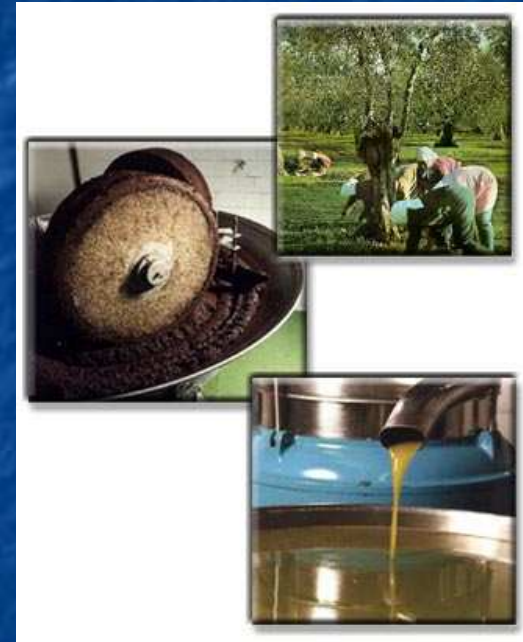


- In 1901 the mayor of Moliterno, a southern community, paying his respect to the head of government during an official visit said:
I greet you on behalf of the 8000 citizens of this community, 3000 of which are in America, while the remaining 5000 are prepared to follow.

THE SOUTH PAYS FOR THE WHOLE COUNTRY

Until the economic miracle of 1950 – 1960, two thirds of the trade balance of Italy derived from:

- **southern export** of fruits, vegetables and agricultural products (oranges, lemons, wine, olive oil)
- **money sent by emigrants**



THE CHARADE OF THE VOTE FOR THE UNION

“The people wants a united Italy with Victor Emanuel 2nd as constitutional king and his legitimate heirs.”

- Naples and continental Provinces: October 1860. Qualified voters 1.650.000 equal to 25% of total population. Voted 1.312.366 equal to 79.5% qualified voters. Giving approval 1.302.366. Contrary 10.302. For the Union **99.19%** against **0.80%**.
- Sicily (October 1860) Qualified voters 575.000. Equal to 25% of the island population. Voted 432.762. In favour of Union 432.053 contrary 709. For Union **99.84%** against **0.15%**
- In all former Italian states voted for the union **98%**. Only in Tuscany was the highest percentage of votes against.