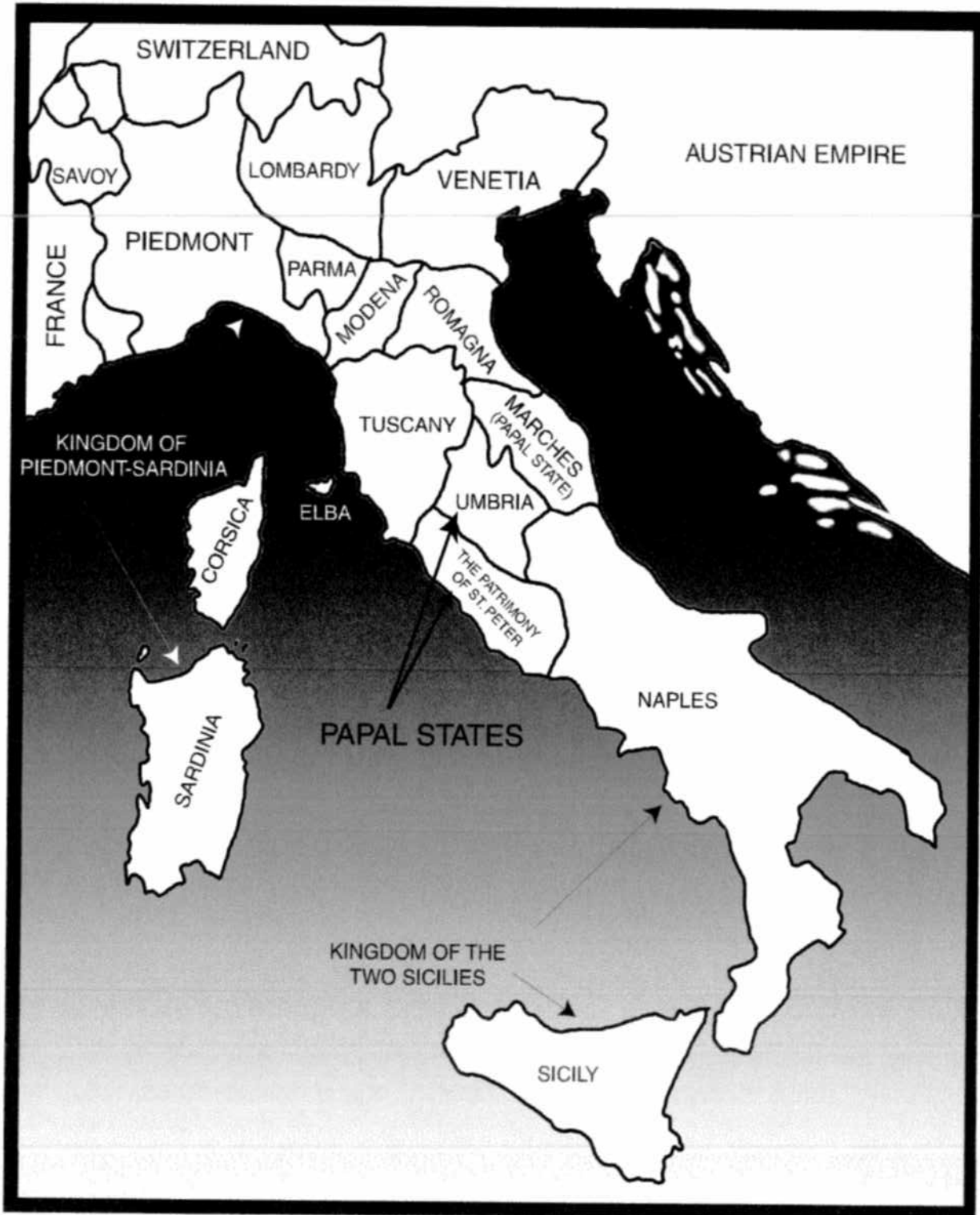


MAP OF ITALIAN STATES IN 1859



Documents of Italian Unification, 1846–1861

Directions: Read each selection, and summarize the main ideas expressed by each individual.

Joseph Mazzini

Young Italy is a brotherhood of Italians who believe in the law of *Progress and Duty*, and are convinced that Italy is destined to become one nation. . . . They join this association in the firm intent of consecrating both thought and action to the great aim of reconstituting Italy as one independent sovereign nation of free men and equals. . . .

Young Italy is Republican and . . . dedicated to a United Italy.

The means by which Young Italy proposes to reach its aim are: education and insurrection, to be adopted simultaneously. . . .

The priesthood preach ignorance in the name of the God of truth; and abject submission in the name of the God of battles. They storm against the irreligion, incredulity, and wickedness of an epoch which, like all great revolutionary epochs, is essentially religious; against those who, strong in virtue and self-sacrifice, seek to elevate the creature from the dust in the name of the Creator, and restore to man the consciousness of his origin and of his mission; and against enterprises having for their aim the destruction of the anarchy produced by tyranny, and the union of humanity in the name of the spirit of love. . . . Humanity will not stop short because unaccompanied by the depositaries of the ancient creed. The religious idea exists in and for humanity. . . .

You are citizens, you have a country, in order that in a given and limited sphere of action the assistance of a certain number of men, already related to you by language, tendencies, and customs, may enable you to labor more effectually for the good of all men. . . .

Never deny your sister Nations. Be it yours to evolve the life of your country in loveliness and strength, free from all servile fears and skeptical doubts, maintaining as its basis the People; as its guide the consequences of the principles of its Religious Faith, logically and energetically applied; its strength the united strength of all; its aim the fulfillment of the mission given to it by God.

As long as you are ready to die for Humanity, the life of your country will be immortal. . . .

. . . Whenever justice is extinct, and the terror of a single tyrant cancels and denies the conscience of a people, and the God who willed them free—if a man, pure from hatred and of every bitter passion—arises in the religion of a Country, and in the name of the Eternal Right incarnate within him, and says to him: "You torture millions of my brothers; you withhold from them that which God has decreed theirs; you destroy their bodies and corrupt their souls; through you my Country dies a lingering death; you are the keystone of an entire edifice of slavery, dishonour and wrong; I overthrow that edifice by destroying you," I recognize in that manifestation of tremendous equality between the tyrant of millions and a single individual, the finger of God. Most men feel in their hearts as I do. I express it. . . .!

¹Joseph Mazzini, *The Life and Writings of Joseph Mazzini* (London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890–1891), I: 96, 106, 253, 254; IV: 276, 277.

Camillo Cavour

The history of every age proves that no people can attain a high degree of intelligence and morality unless its feeling of nationality is strongly developed. This noteworthy fact is an inevitable consequence of the laws that rule human nature. . . . Therefore, if we so ardently desire the emancipation of Italy—if we declare that in the face of this great question all the petty questions that divide us must be silenced—it is not only that we may see our country glorious and powerful but that above all we may elevate her in intelligence and moral development up to the plane of the most civilized nations. . . . This union we preach with such ardor is not so difficult to obtain as one might suppose if one judged only by exterior appearances or if one were preoccupied with our unhappy divisions. Nationalism has become general; it grows daily; and it has already grown strong enough to keep all parts of Italy united despite the differences that distinguish them.²

Giuseppe Garibaldi

Italians!—The Sicilians are fighting against the enemies of Italy, and for Italy. It is the duty of every Italian to succour them with words, money, and arms, and, above all, in person.

The misfortunes of Italy arise from the indifference of one province to the fate of the others.

The redemption of Italy began from the moment that men of the same land ran to help their distressed brothers.

Left to themselves, the brave Sicilians will have to fight, not only the mercenaries of the Bourbon, but also those of Austria and the Priest of Rome.

Let the inhabitants of the free provinces lift their voices in behalf of their struggling brethren, and impel their brave youth to the conflict.

Let the Marches, Umbria, Sabina, Rome, the Neapolitan, rise to divide the forces of our enemies.

Where the cities suffice not for the insurrection, let them send bands of their bravest into the country. . . .

A band of those who fought with me the country's battles marches with me to the fight. Good and generous, they will fight for their country to the last drop of their blood, nor ask for no other reward than a clear conscience.

"Italy and Victor Emmanuell!" they cried, on passing the Ticino. "Italy and Victor Emmanuell!" shall re-echo in the blazing caves of Mongibello.

At this cry, thundering from the great rock of Italy to the Tarpelan, the rotten Throne of tyranny shall crumble, and, as one man, the brave descendants of Vespro shall rise.

To Arms! Let me put an end, once and for all, to the miseries of so many centuries. Prove to the world that it is no lie that Roman generations inhabited this land.³

²R. Zanichelli, ed., *The Writings of Count Cavour*, Vol. 2 (Bologna: n.p., 1892), 4–50.

³Giuseppe Garibaldi, "Proclamation for the Liberation of Sicily," *Public Documents, The Annual Register, 1860* (London: n.p., 1861), 281–82.

Victor Emmanuel II

Free, and nearly entirely united, the opinion of civilized nations is favorable to us; the just and liberal principles, now prevailing in the councils of Europe, are favorable to us. Italy herself, too, will become a guarantee of order and peace, and will once more be an efficacious instrument of universal civilization. . . . These facts have inspired the nation with great confidence in its own destinies. I take pleasure in manifesting to the first Parliament of Italy the joy I feel in my heart as king and soldier.⁴

⁴Count C. Arrivebene, *Italy under Victor Emmanuel* (London: n.p. 1862), 349-53.