

Italian Unification - Document Packet

Document 1

Questions:

1. In what ways does this speech appeal particularly to workers?
2. What was Mazzini asking the workers to do?
3. Why does Mazzini believe that 'the map of Europe will be re-drawn'?
4. In what ways would you use this historical document in writing about the rise of Italian nationalism?

Yours first duties—first as regards importance—are, as I have already told you, towards Humanity. You are *men* before you are either citizens or fathers. Embrace the whole human family in your affection. Bear witness to your belief in the Unity of that family, consequent upon the Unity of God, and in that fraternity among the peoples which is destined to reduce that unity of action....

But what can each of you, singly, *do* for the moral improvement and progress of Humanity? You can from time to time give sterile utterance to your belief; you may, on some rare occasions, perform some act of charity towards a brother man not belonging to your own land;—no more. But charity is not the watchword of the Faith of the Future. The watchword of the faith of the future is *Association*, and fraternal co-operation of all towards a common aim; and this is as far superior to all *charity*, as the edifice which all of you should unite to raise would be superior to the humble hut each one of you might build alone, or with the mere assistance of lending, and borrowing stone, mortar, and tools.

But, you tell me, you cannot attempt united action, distinct and divided as you are in language, customs, tendencies, and capacity. The individual is too insignificant, and Humanity too vast....

This means was provided for you by God when he gave you a country; when, even as a wise overseer of labour distributes the various branches of employment according to the different capacities of the workmen, he divided Humanity into distinct groups or nuclei upon the face of the earth, thus creating the germ of Nationalities. Evil governments have disfigured the divine design. Nevertheless you may still trace it, distinctly marked out.... They have disfigured it by their conquests, their greed, and their jealousy even of the righteous power of others; disfigured it so far that if we except England and France—there is not perhaps a single country whose present boundaries correspond to that design.

These governments did not, and do not, recognize any country save their own families or dynasty, the egotism of caste. But the Divine design will infallibly be realized. Natural divisions, and the spontaneous, innate tendencies of the peoples, will take the place of the arbitrary divisions sanctioned by evil governments. The map of Europe will be re-drawn. The countries of the Peoples, defined by the vote of free men, will arise upon the ruins of the countries of kings and privileged castes, and between these countries harmony and fraternity will exist. And the common work of Humanity, of general amelioration and the gradual discovery and application of its Law of life, being distributed according to local development and advance. Then may each one of you, fortified by the power and the affection of many millions, all speaking the same language, gifted with the same tendencies, and educated by the same historical tradition, hope, even by your own single effort, to be able to benefit all Humanity.

O my brothers, love your Country! Our country is our Home, the house that God has given us, placing therein a numerous family that loves us, and whom we love; a family with whom we sympathise more readily, and whom we understand more quickly than we do others; and which, from its being centered round a given spot, and from the homogeneous nature of its elements, is adapted to a special branch of activity. Our country is our common workshop, whence the products of our activity are sent forth for the benefit of the

whole world; wherein the tools and implements of labour we can most usefully employ are gathered together: nor may we reject them without disobeying the plan of the Almighty, and diminishing our own strength.

SOURCE: Giuseppe Mazzini, An Essay on the Duties of Man Addressed to Workingmen, late-19c.

Document 2

Questions:

1. Who are identified as the chief enemies of a unified Italy? Why?
2. What does Garibaldi ask of the people of the various regions of Italy? Why?
3. How is unification to be achieved?
4. Why is this such an important historical document?
5. What does it tell us about the nature of Italian nationalism in 1860?

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.

The brave man finds an arm everywhere. Listen not to the voice of cowards, but arm, and let us fight for our brethren, who will fight for us tomorrow.

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 other reward than a clear conscience.

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

At this cry, thundering from the great rock of Italy to the Tarpeian, 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.

SOURCE: Garibaldi's "Proclamation of the Liberation of Sicily," 1860.

Document 3

Questions:

1. Briefly, what did Cavour get from Napoleon III here at Plombieres?
2. What was Cavour's hidden agenda? Napoleon III's?

1. With the objective of freeing Italy from Austria's yoke and of consecrating the great principle of Italian nationality, an offensive and defensive treaty of alliance shall be concluded between the Emperor of the French and the King of Sardinia.
2. As soon as war shall have been declared between Sardinia and Austria, France would immediately intervene by sending an army corps to Spezia and one or two divisions to Genoa, which, together with the Sardinian Army, would advance against the Austrian forces concentrated along the Po and the Ticino.
The military forces of the allies in Italy should be rapidly increased to 300,000 men, that is to say, 200,000 French and 100,000 Sardinian and Italian.
A naval fleet in the Adriatic would support the operations of the armies on land.
3. The preparations to be made, the immediate action to be taken, shall be concerted in advance between France and Sardinia. To this effect, the Emperor shall decide if he wants to send an officer who enjoys his entire confidence to Turin, or if he believes it preferable that General La Marmora go to Paris.
4. The military convention, to be signed following these preliminary agreements, shall regulate the manner in which the two Nations shall meet the expenses of the war and the use of resources which the successively occupied countries could furnish.
5. France shall assist Sardinia in obtaining a loan at Paris.
6. The successively occupied Italian provinces shall be declared in a state of siege and submitted to military authority. The administration shall be entrusted to employees nominated by the King of Sardinia. An immediate attempt shall be made either through recruitment or through an appeal to volunteers, to enlist all the active forces in the country,
The recruits and the volunteers shall be incorporated in the Sardinian Army.
7. The purpose of the war being the complete deliverance of Italy, it shall be pursued until this purpose should be achieved.
8. At the peace, the Kingdom of Upper Italy shall be created. It shall include, in addition to the areas already a part of the Kingdom of Sardinia:
The Austrian provinces in Italy;
The Duchies of Parma and of Modena;
The Papal States this side of the Appennines.
9. The conduct of the Grand Duke of Tuscany and of the King of Naples toward the allies and the political events caused by the war shall determine the fate of these States at the peace.
It is, however, established in principle that the Holy See shall remain in Rome, and that the Pope shall continue to exercise sovereign authority therein, as well as in the territory which shall be annexed thereto; and that the portion of Italy not included in the Kingdom of Upper Italy shall be divided into two states.
10. The diverse Italian States shall constitute a confederation.
11. It shall remain to be seen if, in the event that the throne of Tuscany should become vacant, it could not

be disposed of in favor of the Duke of Parma.

12. Since the war is being fought in defense of the great principle of nationalities, the population of Savoy could be reunited with France. Sardinia shall retain, however, the fortress of Esseillon, located at the foot of Mount Cenis.

The nationality of the inhabitants of the County of Nice being in doubt, the question as regards them is reserved.

SEPARATE ARTICLE.

If between now and the coming spring no occasion arises which leads to war with Austria, the Government of Sardinia shall not further oppose an appeal to it by the populations of Massa and of Carrara, who have long been subjected to the most oppressive regime, to obtain aid and protection. It shall permit the inhabitants of these districts to demand, in a formal petition, the annexation of these two small Duchies to Sardinia.

King Victor Emmanuel, without granting this wish, will place them under his protection by addressing a forceful and menacing remonstrance to the Duke of Modena.

The question thus precipitated, not only with Modena, but also with Austria, her natural protector, would necessarily lead to a declaration of war. If need be, Sardinia could occupy Massa and Carrara.

Nigra to Cavour

Paris, Hotel du Louvre, 31 August 1858.

My dear Count,

... At 9:30 a.m., I was presented to His Majesty,...

The Emperor first looked over the summary of what had been agreed to at Plombières, which Your Excellency had sent to him... The Emperor then said to me that, since these were not formal treaty stipulations, the comments he had made were not to the point, and he charged me with writing to Your Excellency to assure you that, for his part, the summary which he held in his hand was an exact and complete expression of the agreement reached at Plombières.

SOURCE: Count Cavour to Napoleon III, August 3, 1858 & Napoleon's response, August 31, 1858.

Document 4

Questions:

1. What were the major challenges facing the new Italian nation in 1871?
2. Why does Victor Emmanuel mention the danger of rivalry?
3. Why does Victor Emmanuel encourage the nation in its 'love of work'?
4. How representative are these of the concerns which activated other European nations at this time?
5. What other types of documents and evidence would help us gain a fuller understanding of the challenges facing the new Italian state in 1871?

Senators and Deputies, gentlemen!

The work to which we consecrated our life is accomplished. After long trials of expiation Italy is restored to herself and to Rome. Here, where our people, after centuries of separation, find themselves for the first time solemnly reunited in the person of their representatives: here where we recognize the fatherland of our dreams, everything speaks to us of greatness; but at the same time it all reminds us of our duties. The joy

that we experience must not let us forget them....

We have proclaimed the separation of Church and State. Having recognized the absolute independence of the spiritual authority, we are convinced that Rome, the capital of Italy, will continue to be the peaceful and respected seat of the Pontificate....

Economic and financial affairs, moreover, claim our most careful attention. Now that Italy is established, it is necessary to make it prosperous by putting in order its finances; we shall succeed in this only by persevering in the virtues which have been the source of our national regeneration. Good finances will be the means of re-enforcing our military organization. Our most ardent desire is for peace, and nothing can make us believe that it can be troubled. But the organization of the army and the navy, the supply of arms, the works for the defense of the national territory, demand long and profound study....

Senators and deputies, a vast range of activity opens before you; the national unity which is today attained will have, I hope, the effect of rendering less bitter the struggles of parties, the rivalry of which will have henceforth no other end than the development of the productive forces of the nation.

I rejoice to see that our population already gives unequivocal proofs of its love of work. The economic awakening is closely associated with the political awakening. The banks multiply, as do the commercial institutions, the expositions of the products of art and industry, and the congresses of the learned. We ought, you and I, to favor this productive movement while giving to professional and scientific education more attention and efficiency, and opening to commerce new avenues of communication and new outlets....

A brilliant future opens before us. It remains for us to respond to the blessings of Providence by showing ourselves worthy of bearing among the nations the glorious names of Italy and Rome.

SOURCE: King Victor Emmanuel II, 1871.