

ter power from the canals that ran from the Dora, north of the city, where a small industrial suburb was starting to form. So from the end of the fourteenth century we encounter references to a number of new enterprises there: sawmills, a machine for stripping tan-bark from tree-trunks, machines for grinding, a trip-hammer for metalworking, and at least one paper-mill. Here too were the flour-mills that ground the city's grain. These installations belonged to the princes of Achaea; as feudal lords they owned the water-rights along the river and the canals, and they leased out the mills to the manufacturers, Turinese or immigrant, who were setting up new trades and manufactures. The flour-mills were leased permanently to the city council. Naturally, not all these new initiatives prospered. Capital was in short supply, markets unpredictable. Even the elements were hostile. Periodically the mills sustained damage from floods, as in 1408, when a particularly violent flood burst the banks of the canals and swept away the mills and machinery. But in the long run some of the new trades would prosper, albeit modestly: by the middle of the fifteenth century paper-making and the metal trades were beginning to take off.

4. *The Later Savoy-Achaea Princes, 1334-1418.*

James of Achaea ruled his Piedmontese principality in the shadow of his forceful cousin, the "Green Count" of Savoy, Amadeus VI, who treated him as a subordinate in his campaigns to extend the influence of the House of Savoy in northern Italy against the Visconti and the marquises of Saluzzo and Monferrato. Prince James chafed under his uncle's control and finally attempted to assert his independence. In 1355 he petitioned the Emperor Charles IV to become his direct vassal, in order to be free of the feudal ties that bound him to his overbearing cousin. Amadeus reacted quickly to this threat: he declared James dispossessed of his Piedmontese lands, and occupied them. In March 1360 he entered Turin and assumed personal authority over the city. He then compelled James to exchange his lands in Piedmont for a group of fiefs in Savoy, safely on the other side of the Alps. With his troublesome cousin thus neutralized, Amadeus was free to pursue his designs against the Visconti and the great feudatories of Piedmont. Two years later, however, he readmitted James to his good graces and reinstated him as lord of Turin and Piedmont, this time unequivocally as his vassal. In 1367 James died, leaving two young sons, Amadeus and Ludovico, as his heirs. Philip, his son by his first marriage, was excluded from the