

In the mean time French fiscal pressure on Turin was intensifying. In 1555 the council was forced to mortgage the income from the city's mills, its chief source of revenue, in order to meet the governor's demands for money. Nonetheless the city's economy does not seem to have suffered; in fact, judging by the numbers of professional men and merchants who were migrating to Turin and becoming citizens, the city seems to have prospered, thanks in part to the profits to be made by supplying the armies campaigning in the region. The influx of new citizens reinvigorated the city's ruling oligarchy. These new men merged into the civic elite and acceded easily to seats in the city council, for membership was not restricted to a circle of ancient families, as was the case in many Italian cities, such as Venice or Milan. The result was that Turin's civic elite was constantly revitalized by the rise of new families from below. And far from being crushed by foreign domination, this elite was showing remarkable resilience in difficult times, successfully defending the city's privileges. It would soon face a new challenge, however, following the restoration of Duke Emanuel Filibert, known (for good reason) as "Iron-head". He set out to curb the city's independence, initiating a tug-of-war between the dukes and the city council that would continue, intermittently, for a century and more.

3. *The Savoyard Restoration, 1563-1630.*

The treaty of Cateau-Cambrésis, signed on April 3, 1559, ended the wars that had convulsed the Italian peninsula since 1494. Among its many provisions, the treaty restored Duke Emanuel Filibert of Savoy to his hereditary domains, as a buffer between France and the Spanish duchy of Milan. Early in December 1562 the French garrison finally evacuated Turin, and on February 7, 1563 the duke made his formal entry to the city, accompanied by his consort, Margaret of Valois. The civic militia escorted the ducal couple along streets hung with tapestries as a sign of public jubilation, through three temporary triumphal arches erected for the occasion, until they reached the archbishop's palace, which Emanuel Filibert had decided to take over and use as his residence.

Emanuel Filibert's grand entry served a crucial symbolic function. It demonstrated that Turin, and no longer Chambéry, was now the capital of the entire Savoyard state. Emanuel Filibert took over the archbishop's palace as a more commodious residence for himself and his court, and proceeded to modify and expand its accommodations. He chose it in preference to the old castle of the Savoy-Achaea princes, which