

Mary of Burgundy

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Mary, called **Mary the Rich** (13 February 1457 – 27 March 1482), was *suo jure* Duchess of Burgundy from 1477 – 1482. As the only child of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, and his wife Isabella of Bourbon, she was the heiress to the vast Burgundian domains in France and the Low Countries upon her father's death in the Battle of Nancy on 5 January 1477. Her mother had died in 1465, but Mary was on very good terms with her stepmother Margaret of York, whom Charles married in 1468.

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History

Heiress of Burgundy

Mary of Burgundy was born in Brussels, at the Ducal castle of Coudenberg. Her birth, according to the court chronicler, Georges Chastellain, was attended by a clap of thunder ringing from the otherwise clear twilight sky. Her godfather was Louis the Dauphin, in exile in Burgundy at that time; he named her for his mother, Marie of Anjou. Reactions to the child were mixed: the baby's grandfather, Philip the Good, was unimpressed, and "chose not to attend the [Baptism] as it was only for a girl"; his wife, Isabel, was simply delighted at the birth of a granddaughter.^[1]

As the only child of Charles the Bold, Mary was heiress to a vast and wealthy domain, made up of the

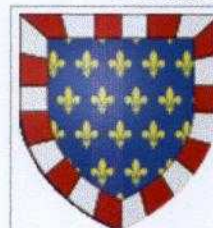
Mary



Duchess of Burgundy

Reign	5 January 1477–27 March 1482
Predecessor	Charles I
Successor	Philip IV
Spouse	Maximilian I, Holy Roman Emperor
Issue	Philip I of Castile Margaret, Duchess of Savoy
House	House of Valois-Burgundy
Father	Charles the Bold
Mother	Isabella of Bourbon
Born	13 February 1457 Brussels, Brabant
Died	27 March 1482 (aged 25) Castle of Wijnendale, Flanders
Burial	Bruges, Flanders

Duchy of Burgundy-House of Valois, Burgundian Branch



Duchy of Burgundy, the Free County of Burgundy, and the majority of the Low Countries, and her hand was eagerly sought by a number of princes. The first proposal was received by her father when she was only five years old, to marry the future Ferdinand II of Aragon. Later the younger brother of Louis XI, Charles de Valois, Duc de Berry made an approach, to the intense annoyance of his brother the King, who attempted to prevent the necessary Papal dispensation for consanguinity.



Coat of arms of Mary of Burgundy.

As soon as Louis produced a male heir who survived infancy, the future Charles VIII of France, Louis wanted his son to be the one to marry Mary, despite his son being thirteen years younger than Mary. Nicholas I, Duke of Lorraine was a few years older than Mary, and his Duchy lay alongside Burgundian territory, but his

plan to combine his territory with hers was frustrated by his death in battle in 1473.

When her father fell upon the field at the siege of Nancy, on 5 January 1477, Mary was only nineteen years old. Louis XI of France seized the opportunity afforded by his rival's defeat and death to attempt take possession of the Duchy of Burgundy proper, and also of Franche Comté, Picardy and Artois.

Louis was anxious that Mary should marry Charles, the Dauphin of France, and thus secure the inheritance of the Low Countries for his descendants, by force of arms if necessary. Mary, advised by Margaret, distrusted Louis, declined the French alliance, and turned to her Netherland subjects for help. Sensing her weakness, she obtained their help only at the price of great concessions.

The Great Privilege

On 10 February 1477 at Ghent on the occasion of her formal recognition, known as the Joyous Entry, as Charles' heir, she was compelled to sign a charter of rights, called the Great Privilege. Under this agreement, the provinces and towns of Flanders, Brabant, Hainaut, and Holland recovered all the local and communal rights which had been abolished by the decrees of the dukes of Burgundy in their efforts to create a centralized state on the French model out of their separate holdings in the Low Countries. In particular, the Parliament of Mechelen (established formally by Charles the Bold in 1470) was abolished and replaced with the pre-existing authority of the Parlement de Paris, which was considered an amenable counterweight to the encroaching, if informal, centralisation undertaken by both Charles and Philip the Good. Mary also had to undertake not to declare war, make peace, or raise taxes without the consent of the States, and to employ only native residents in official posts.

John the Good
<i>Children</i>
Charles V of France
Louis I of Anjou
John, Duke of Berry
Philip the Bold
Philip the Bold
<i>Children</i>
John the Fearless
Margaret of Burgundy, Duchess of Bavaria- Straubing
Catherine of Burgundy
Anthony, Duke of Brabant
Mary, Duchess of Savoy
Philip, Count of Nevers
John the Fearless
<i>Children</i>
Mary of Burgundy, Duchess of Cleves
Margaret, Countess of Richemont
Philip the Good
Anne of Burgundy
Agnes of Burgundy
Philip the Good
<i>Children</i>
Charles the Bold
Anthony the Bastard
Charles the Bold
<i>Children</i>
Mary of Burgundy
Mary of Burgundy

Such was the hatred of the people for the old regime that two of her father's influential councillors, the Chancellor Hugonet and the Sire d'Humbercourt, having been discovered in correspondence with the French king, were executed at Ghent despite the tears and entreaties of the youthful duchess.

Marriage



Mary of Burgundy (right) with her husband and children

Mary now made her choice among the many suitors for her hand, selecting the Archduke Maximilian of Austria (after her death the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I). The marriage took place at Ghent on 18 August 1477. By marrying Archduke Maximilian of Austria, son of the Archduke of Austria, she became Archduchess Mary of Austria. In this way the Low Countries came to the Habsburgs, initiating two centuries of contention between France and the Habsburgs, later of Spain, then of Austria, for their possession, which climaxed in the War of the Spanish Succession, 1701–1714.

In the Netherlands, affairs now went more smoothly, the French aggression was temporarily checked, and internal peace was in a large measure restored.

Death and legacy

Five years later, the 25-year-old Duchess met her death by a fall from her horse on 27 March 1482 near the Castle of Wijnendale. She loved riding, and was falconing with Maximilian when her horse tripped, threw her, and then landed on top of her, breaking her back. She died several days later, having made a detailed will. She is buried in Bruges.

Louis was swift to re-engage, and forced Maximilian to agree to the Treaty of Arras (1482) by which Franche Comté and Artois passed for a time to French rule, only to be exchanged for Burgundy and Picardy in the Treaty of Senlis (1493), which established peace in the Low Countries.

In 1493, Maximilian married secondly Bianca Maria Sforza (5 April 1472- 31 December 1510), the daughter of Gian Galeazzo Sforza, Duke of Milan, and Bona of Savoy but had no children by her.

Family



Mary's tomb effigy in the Church of Our Lady, Bruges.

Three children had been the issue of her marriage, and her eldest son, Philip, succeeded to her dominions under the guardianship of his father.

Her children were:

- Philip the Handsome, 22 July 1478 – 25 September 1506 who succeeded his mother as Philip IV of Burgundy, and became Philip I of Castile by marriage to Joanna of Castile
- Margaret, 10 January 1480 – 1 December 1530, married to 1) Juan, Prince of Asturias, the son and heir of King Ferdinand II of Aragon and Queen Isabella I of Castile and 2) Philibert II, Duke of Savoy
- Franz, b. and d. 1481

Ancestry

Descendants

Mary's daughter Margaret died childless, she had one miscarriage in her life, but her son Philip I of Castile is an ancestor of many monarchs, through Mary's grandson Charles she is an ancestor of many Spanish Kings such as Philip II of Spain and Philip III of Spain. Her greatgrand daughter was Johanna of Austria who was the mother of both Eleonora de' Medici and Marie de' Medici, Eleonora was the mother of Francesco IV Gonzaga. Marie became Queen of France, through Marie's son Louis, Mary are ancestors of French Kings, through Marie's daughter Henrietta Maria (who is the mother of Charles II of England and James II of England) Mary is an ancestor of English Kings.

Titles

-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Duchess of Burgundy as **Mary I** - disputed
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Duchess of Brabant as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Duchess of Guelders as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Duchess of Limburg as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Duchess of Lothier as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Duchess of Luxemburg as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Margravine of Namur as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess Palatine of Burgundy as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Artois as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Charolais as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Flanders as **Mary I**
-  5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Hainault as **Mary I**



Mary and Maximilian



- 5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Holland as **Mary I**



- 5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Zeeland as **Mary I**
- File:Flag - Low Countries - XVth Century.svg 5 January 1477–27 March 1482: Countess of Zutphen as **Mary I**

See also

- Dukes of Burgundy family tree
- Other politically important horse accidents
- Duchesse de Bourgogne beer

References

- ↑ Taylor, Aline, *Isabel of Burgundy*

- *This article incorporates text from the* Encyclopædia Britannica*, Eleventh Edition, a publication now in the public domain.*

Mary of Burgundy House of Valois-Burgundy Cadet branch of the House of Valois Born: 13 February 1457 Died: 27 March 1482		
Regnal titles		
Preceded by Charles the Bold	Duchess of Brabant, Limburg and Lothier, Duchess of Luxemburg, Margravine of Namur, Countess of Artois and Flanders, Countess of Charolais, Countess of Hainaut, Holland and Zeeland and Dukes of Burgundy, Countess Palatine of Burgundy 5 January 1477–27 March 1482	Succeeded by Philip the Handsome
	Duchess of Guelders Countess of Zutphen 5 January 1477–27 March 1482	
Titles in pretence		
Preceded by Now title	— TITULAR — <i>Duchess of Burgundy</i> 5 January 1477–27 March 1482	Succeeded by Philip the Handsome

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Categories: House of Valois-Burgundy | Dukes of Burgundy | Dukes of Brabant | Dukes of Lothier | Dukes of Guelders | Dukes of Luxembourg | Counts of Flanders | Counts of Artois | Margraves of Namur | Counts of Hainaut | Counts of Holland | Counts of Zeeland | Counts of Charolais | Counts of Burgundy | French duchesses | French countesses | Women of medieval Germany | 1457 births | 1482 deaths

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Mary of Burgundy

Columbia Encyclopedia: Mary of Burgundy

Mary of Burgundy, 1457-82, wife of Maximilian of Austria (later Holy Roman Emperor [Maximilian](#) daughter and heiress of [Charles the Bold](#) of Burgundy. The marriage of Mary was a major event in European history, for it established the Hapsburgs in the Low Countries and initiated the long rivalry between France and Austria. At her father's death (Jan., 1477) Louis XI of France seized Burgundy, Picardy and prepared to annex the Low Countries, Artois, Luxembourg, and Franche-Comté-Mar inheritance. To gain the assistance of Flanders, Brabant, Hainaut, and Holland, whose representatives met at Ghent in Feb., 1477, Mary granted the Great Privilege, which restored the liberties of the provinces that her father and grandfather had abrogated. She then rejected Louis XI's proposal that she marry the dauphin Charles, and in May she married Maximilian, who had hastened to her assistance with an army. However, the Low Countries remained in turmoil; despite his victory at Guinegate (1479) Maximilian was forced (1483) to agree to the Treaty of Arras (see [Arras, Treaty of](#)), by which Franche-Comté and Artois passed to France. Mary's premature death, caused by a fall from horseback, left her young son Philip (later [Philip I](#) of Castile) her heir, but only in 1493 was Maximilian able to regain control over the Low Countries, where Philip had been a virtual prisoner until 1485. The Treaty of Senlis with France restored Artois and Franche-Comté to Philip, but Burgundy and Picardy remained French.

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Mary of Burgundy - Definition and Overview

Mary (1457–1482), duchess of Burgundy, only child of Charles the Bold, duke of Burgundy, and his wife Isabella of Bourbon, was born on February 13 1457.

Mary of Burgundy

As heiress of the rich Burgundian domains her hand was eagerly sought by a number of princes. When her father fell upon the field of Nancy, on January 5 1477, Mary was not yet twenty years of age. Louis XI of France seized the opportunity afforded by his rival's defeat and death to take possession of the duchy of Burgundy as a fief lapsed to the French crown, and also of Franche Comte, Picardy and Artois.

He was anxious that Mary should marry the Dauphin Charles and thus secure the inheritance of the Netherlands for his descendants. Mary, however, distrusted Louis; declined the French alliance, and turned to her Netherland subjects for help. She obtained the help only at the price of great concessions. On February 10 1477 she was compelled to sign a charter of rights, known as "the Great Privilege," by which the provinces and towns of the Netherlands recovered all the local and communal rights which had been abolished by the arbitrary decrees of the dukes of Burgundy in their efforts to create in the Low Countries a centralized state. Mary had to undertake not to declare war, make peace, or raise taxes without the consent of the States, and not to employ any but natives in official posts.

Such was the hatred of the people to the old regime that two influential councillors of Charles the Bold, the Chancellor Hugonet and the Sire d'Humbercourt, having been discovered in correspondence with the French king, were executed at Ghent despite the tears and entreaties of the youthful duchess. Mary now made her choice among the many suitors for her hand, and selected the archduke Maximilian of Austria, afterwards the emperor Maximilian I, and the marriage took place at Ghent on August 18 1477. Affairs now went more smoothly in the Netherlands, the French aggression was checked, and internal peace was in a large measure restored, when the duchess met her death by a fall from her horse on March 27 1482. Three children had been the issue of her marriage, and her elder son, Philip, succeeded to her dominions under the guardianship of his father.

See also: Dukes of Burgundy family tree | Other politically important horse accidents

Preceded by: Charles	Duke of Burgundy	Followed by: Philip IV
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Example Usage of Burgundy



bacchae: this Mercury 05 frm Domain Juillot is so elegant she's making my heart sing. thank you very much x
<http://twitgoo.com/55fgo> #wine #**Burgundy**



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