

--Louis the Pious (843)

--Charles the Bald (877)

--Louis the Child (911)

and we need go no farther. But by slow degrees the Frankish Empire did put life together in a more orderly fashion in the western world and a recovery from the wild conditions following Rome's fall was underway.

c. Germany (and we are using the term in an anachronistic fashion)

Of the Teutonic territories..and there were many , there was no unified control. It as an unstable political condition but there was a desire for greater political uniformity so long as it did not give up individual entities. The Germanic territories began "electing" one of the district rulers to a "kingship" position in which his power was not increased but his prestige and leadership roles were greatly improved. As the Frankish powers diminished, the power of this German confederation strengthened and then became the dominant political power. For the next few centuries this rivalry will keep Europe in a state of confusion. The Germanic leaders of special interest to us are:

--Henry the Fowler (936)..perhaps the first in the sequence.

--Otto I (973) who in 964 became the "Emperor" of the Holy Roman Empire and who was a chief antagonist in the "lay investiture" disputes.

--Otto III (1002)

--Henry III (1056) whose climactic battles with the papacy drew the state/church relationship into a long protracted war, so to speak.

These are the major forces in the western historical sketch for the period.