dethroned sultan, and determined to avenge his fall. So early as October 1807, he formally intimated to the sultan, that he should advance to the capital to reform the abuses of the state, and to assist him in the administration of pub­lic affairs. Accordingly, having collected an army of forty thousand men, he marched to Constantinople, and en­camped on the plains of Daout Pasha, four miles from the city. There his camp soon became the centre of the bu­siness and affairs of the Porte, whose chief officers directed their visits of ceremony to the tent of the triumphant ge­neral. But the pasha, conscious that his authority in such a state of affairs was unstable, resolved upon the restoration of tiιe sultan Selim. The 28th of July 1808 was fixed upon for the enterprise; and as Mustapha had appointed that day for a hunting expedition, Bairactar determined to enter the palace during his absence, and, by preventing his return, exclude him from the throne. Unfortunately the secret transpired ; and when, at the appointed time, Bairactar marched to the seraglio, he found the gates closed, and the body-guard under arms. Orders were given for an immediate assault ; and after a brief contest, the insurgents forced their way into the seraglio. But the interval proved fatal to Selim. At the commencement of the contest, the emissaries of Mustapha were despatched to his apartments, and after a powerful resistance, that ill- fated prince was thrown down and strangled. After the murder of Selim, the strictest search was made for Mah­moud, the youngest son of Abdulhamid, and the only remaining prince of the blood-royal. But a faithful slave had con­cealed him in the furnace of a bath, and before the place of his concealment could be discovered, the insurgents had forced their way into the interior of the palace. Advancing to the third gate, they called aloud for the instant appear­ance of Selim, when the eunuchs of Mustapha, casting the body of the murdered monarch before them, exclaimed, “ Behold the sultan whom you seek !” Bairactar, over­powered by his feelings, threw himself on the disfigured corpse, and wept aloud ; till Seid Ali, the capitan pasha, exhorting him to seize the moment for revenge, he instant­ly aroused himself, and commanded that the Sultan Mah­moud should be proclaimed, and Mustapha arrested. The command was immediately obeyed ; Mustapha was con­signed to the prison of the seraglio, and Mahmoud was re­leased from his painful concealment, and placed on the Ot­toman throne. On the ascension of Mahmoud, Bairactar was of course made grand vizir; and he avenged with unsparing severity the death of his benefactor. The traitor Mousa Pasha lost his head, and all the officers of the ya- maks and the most seditious of the janizaries were strangled and cast into the Bosphorus ; and the females of the harem who had rejoiced at the death of Selim were sewed up in sacks and precipitated into the sea near the shores of Prince’s Island.

The vizir openly avowed his intention of reforming the system of the janizaries, and retrenching their privileges ; and it was resolved to revive the order of the Seimens, who might supply their place, and be regulated accord­ing to the discipline of the nizam-jedid. The name of this corps was more odious to the janizaries than even that of Selim, as belonging to an institution more ancient than their own ; and they were only the more resolved to ruin the author of the innovation. Bairactar, however, becom­ing elated by prosperity, began to despise their enmity ; and, blinded to the danger by which he was surrounded, came to the fatal resolution of dismissing the greater part of the provincial troops, and thus remained almost unpro­tected in the midst of an infuriated soldiery thirsting for his destruction. On the night of the 14th of November, several thousands of janizaries, issuing from their quar­ters, surrounded the palace of Bairactar, and set fire to the building. The vizir and his friends escaped from the conflagration into a strong stone tower, used as a powder magazine, which the janizaries attacked in vain. But in the middle of the night the whole city was shaken by a tremendous explosion ; and it was found that the maga­zine, with the grand vizir, had been blown into the air, whether by accident or design is to this day unknown. During the two following days the contest raged with un­abated fury, till the forces of the arsenal and of Tophana united themselves to the janizaries; and the death of Bai­ractar becoming known, the Seimens withdrew from the combat. In the mean time, the officers of Mahmoud had strangled the imprisoned Mustapha ; and the sultan having no longer any thing to fear from the partiality of the ja­nizaries for his predecessor, commanded the cannonading to cease, and at the same time announced to the janizaries that the Seimens were abolished for ever. The friends of the late vizir saved themselves by embarking on board a vessel at the Seraglio Point; but the victorious janizaries completed their vengeance by the destruction of the mag­nificent barracks of Sultan Selim at Scutari and Tchiftlik, at the latter of which, five hundred Seimens defended them­selves with desperate valour against a multitude of assail­ants, until their quarters were fired, and they all perished in the flames. Thus terminated the most tremendous re­volution that Constantinople had experienced since it fell under the power of the Turks, and which, after dethroning two monarchs and spilling the best blood of the empire, ended in the destruction of the meditated reforms, and the entire re-establishment of the ancient institutions.

During these events, the war with Russia had languished; but on the accession of Mahmoud, the armies on both sides were augmented, and the contest was carried on with great ferocity. The campaign of 1811 was short, but disastrous to the Porte, the main body of the Ottoman army having surrendered as prisoners of war. The result might have been fatal to the Turkish empire ; but in 1812 the prospect of the arduous struggle with France induced Russia to make peace with the Porte, on the latter ceding Bessarabia and part of Moldavia. At the peace of Tilsit, Napoleon left the Turkish empire single-handed to fight or fall, though it had been induced to take up arms solely by French pro­mises and intrigue. The neglect was deeply felt by the Ottomans, and it received its just punishment when the unexpected pacification of 1812 released the Russian army just in time to interrupt the distressed French tro ps in their attempt to pass the Beresina. The sultan being now happily freed from foreign enemies, resolutely entered on the difficult task of reducing to obedience the great officers of his empire, who during the distracted state of the coun­try had virtually exercised independent power ; and in the course of a few years, the famous Ali Pasha and the other powerful and rebellious satraps were all deprived of their governments, and most of them executed. In 1821 be­gan that celebrated insurrection which, after a bloody war of eight years, terminated in the complete emancipation of the Greeks from the Turkish yoke. (See Greece.) Meanwhile the tranquillity of the empire was again threat­ened by the janizaries. They had chosen to take umbrage at certain members of the divan ; and, in consequence of their representations, in November 1822 four of the ob­noxious ministers were exiled, and Halet Effendi, the keeper of the signet, was put to death. This interference, however, is supposed to have been the remote cause of the destruction of these troops. The necessity of introducing new systems of discipline had long been apparent to every thinking man, and the government was anxious to do so; but every attempt had hitherto proved fatal to the innova­tor. The sultan resolved to make another effort, and if the janizaries resisted, to extirpate them altogether. In con­formity with these designs, one hundred and fifty men were selected from each orta of the janizaries, who were instruct­