of the Turks, among which the principal were Corinth and Athens. The Greeks, however, ſtill made ſome faint struggles ; but all in vain : for by the year 1459 the whole country was ſubdued, excepting ſome maritime places held by the Venetians ; and prince Thomas was obliged finally to take up his abode at Rome, where he was lodged in the pope’s palace, and had a penſion of 3000 livres a-year allow­ed him for his expences.

Mohammed now purſued his good fortune ; and having made war on the emperor of Trebizond, he ſubdued his do­minions, and put him to death. His career, however, was for ſome time stopped by Scanderbeg the Epirote. This prince had already defeated an army of 12,000 Turkiſh horſe, of whom only 5000 eſcaped the ſlaughter ; and diſperſed another, with the loss of their general, and 4120 of his men killed on the ſpot. Encouraged by this ſucceſs, he laid ſiege to Belgrade, which it ſeems was now in the hands of the Turks : but, through the treachery of his scouts, his army was defeated, and 5000 of his men killed ; upon which, one of his generals, by name *Moſes,* went over to the Turks.

Scanderbeg, not at all diſpirited by this misfortune, proſecuted the war with the utmoſt vigour. His firſt enter­priſe was againſt his persidious general Moſes, who had been immediately put at the head of an army by the ſultan. This army was by Scanderbeg totally deſtroyed, excepting about 4000 men ; upon which Moſes fell into ſuch diſgrace with the Turks, that he returned to his old maſter, who forgave his treachery, and reſtored him to all his former poſts.

The bad ſucceſs of Moſes did not prevent Ameſa, the nephew of Scanderbeg, from following his example. Mo­hammed received him kindly, and ſent him with Ishak baſhaw of Conſtantinople ; whom he intruſted with an army of 50,000 men againſt his uncle. Scanderbeg, with only 6000 men, retired towards Lyſſa, a maritime city of the Vene­tians. The Turks purſued, contrary to the advice of Ame­ſa ; and being ſurpriſed by Scanderbeg, were utterly defeat­ed, with the loss of their camp, 20,000, or, according to others, 30,000 men killed on the ſpot, and the treacherous Ameſa taken priſoner. With the like good fortune Scan­derbeg defeated three other Turkiſh armies, one of 20,000, another of 30,000, and the third of 18,000 men. On this Mohammed ſent againſt him an old experienced commander, at the head or 40,000 choſen troops ; but as he likewiſe was able to atchieve nothing, the ſultan thought proper to con­clude a peace with Scanderbeg in 1461.

Mohammed being thus freed from ſuch a troubleſome enemy, completed the conqueſt of the Greek iſlands ; ſub­dued Wallachia, Boſnia, and Illyria, extending his empire nearly to the confines of Italy. But as it was eaſy to ſee that no conqueſts would satisfy the Turkiſh ambition, the Venetians, who found themſelves ill-treated by their warlike neighbours, entered into an alliance with the Hungarians, to repreſs the overgrown power of the Turks, and prevent the weſtern parts of the world from being totally over-run by them ; and into this alliance Scanderbeg was ſoon drawn, notwithſtanding his treaty with Mohammed already men­tioned. The Hungarians invaded the Turkiſh dominions on the west side, defeated ſome troops, and carried off 20,000 ſlaves : the Venetians invaded the Morea, where they made ſome conqueſts, but were ſoon obliged to abandon them : however, they recovered the iſland of Lemnos ; but being defeated in two engagements at land, they were obli­ged to ſolicit aſſiſtance from France, Germany, aud Spain. Having obtained conſiderable ſupplies from thoſe parts, they again entered the Morea ; but meeting with ſtill worſe ſuccess than before, they applied for aſſiſtance to Matthias the ſon of John Hunniades king of Hungary. Matthias willingly made another incurſion into the Turkiſh dominions, ravaged Servia, and carried off a vaſt number of priſoners with a great booty.

In the mean time, Mohammed, fearing left Scanderbeg ſhould be declared generaliſſimo of the Chriſtian forces, ſent to him, deſiring a renewal of the league between them. But this being refuſed, the war was renewed with the utmoſt vi­gour. Many Turkiſh armies were ſent againſt this hero ; but they were utterly defeated and diſperſed, till the year 1466, when by his death the ſultan was freed from the moſt for­midable enemy he had ever encountered.

The death of Scanderbeg was followed by the entire re­duction of Epirus and Albania. The Venetians in 1469 defeated the Turks in a pitched battle; but were driven out of Negropont, at that time the ſtrongeſt city in Europe: alter which they entered into an alliance with Ferdinand king of Naples, Lewis king of Cyprus, and the grand ma­ſter of Rhodes, at the ſame time that they ſent ambaſſadors to Uzun Haſſan king of Perſia, in order to perſuade him to attack the Turkiſh dominions on the eaſt side. Moham­med did not loſe his courage at the number of his enemies ; but having defeated the Perſians, reduced the Venetians to ſuch diſtreſs, that they were obliged to conclude a treaty in 1479.

In 1481 the war was renewed, and the city of Rhodes beſieged. but without ſucceſs ; however, the city of Cephalonia was taken from the Venetians, Italy invaded, and the city of Otranto taken. This was the laſt of the exploits of Mohammed II. who died this year of the gout, and was ſucceeded by his ſon Bayezid, or Bajazet II. Under this prince a war commenced with the Mamalukes of Egypt, which, under his ſuccessor Selim I. ended in the total ſubjection of that country. Bajazet, however, greatly facili­tated Selim’s conqueſt by the reduction of Circaſſia, whence the Mamalukes drew their principal reſources. Caramania and Croatia were totally reduced ; the cities of Le­panto, Modon, and Durazz, taken by the Turks, though the Venetians recovered Cephalonia ; Syria on the eaſt, and Moldavia on the west, were invaded and ravaged by the vic­torious armies of the ſultan ; till at laſt a peace was concluded with the European powers in 1503.

The year 1509 is remarkable for a dreadful earthquake at Conſtantinople, which overturned a great number of houſes, and deſtroyed 13,000 people; being alſo followed by an epidemic diſtemper, which carried off great numbers. About this time alſo the ſultan, finding the infirmities of old age drawing on, and being deſirous of paſſing the remain­der of his days in quiet, resolved to reſign the throne to his eldeſt ſon Achmed. But having engaged in this affair with too great precipitation, and before he had gained over the grandees, his ſecond ſon Selim, whom he had made gover­nor of Trabezond, haſtily croſſing the Euxine ſea, dethro­ned and put to death his father, in the year 1512.

The new emperor, who had not ſcrupled to ſacrifice his ſather to his ambition, did not hesitate at eſtabliſhing himſelf on the throne by the death of his brother alſo. Accord­ingly, as Achmed, knowing he could be nowhere ſafe, reſolved to ſtand on his defence, Selim with a powerful army marched againſt him ; and having defeated the few forces of his brother, took him priſoner, and put him to death. Ha­ving thus ſecured himſelf, he marched againſt the Perſians, whom he overthrew in a great battle ; after which he took the city of Taurus ; made ſome other conqueſts ; and having ſecured tranquillity on the eaſtern ſide of his dominions, turned his arms againſt Sultan Gauri of Egypt. Him he reduced in the manner related under the article Egypt, n⁰ 101. His farther deſigns oſ conqueſt were fruſtrated by his death, which happened in the year 1519.