indeed, were of any great conſequence ; but, in 1769, a war commenced with Ruſſia, which threatened the Ottoman em­pire with deſtruction, and which has given it ſuch a ſevere check as it can ſcarcely recover. The origin of this war is given under the article Poland, n⁰ 101 ; and during the courſe of it, an almoſt uninterrupted train of ſucceſs attend­ed the Russian arms.—About the end of March 1769, a body of Russian troops made themſelves maſters of the im­portant fortreſs of Asoph, at the mouth of the river Don. In the end of April, prince Gallitzin, commander in chief of the Ruſſian army on the frontiers of Poland, passed the river Nieſter, hoping to take the fortreſs of Choczim by ſurpriſe ; but being diſappointed, he was obliged to return. Near the beginning of July, however, he again paſſed that river, and on the 13th attacked and defeated the van of the grand vizir’s army, conſiſting of about 50,000 or 60,000 men. Thirteen thouſand of the fugitives entered Choczim ; which was next day inveſted by the Russians : but they were at laſt obliged to raiſe the siege and repaſs the Nieſter ; which they could not effect without conſiderable loss.

In the mean time, both the Ottoman and Ruſſian courts were displeaſed with the conduct of their generals. The Turkiſh grand vizir was deprived of his command, and af­terwards beheaded ; and was ſucceeded by Moldovani Aga Pacha, a man of a bold and enterpriſing ſpirit. On his firſt taking the command of the army, finding it impoſſible to ſubſiſt where be was, he attempted to force a passage over the Nieſter ; but being three times repulſed with great loſs, he made a precipitate retreat towards Bender, at the ſame time drawing the troops out of Choczim, which the Russians immediately took posseſſion of.

Prince Gallitzin was now ſuperſeded by general Roman­zow, who took the command of the army on the 29th of September. Soon after his arrival, he received news of the ſucceſs of general Elmpt, who, with a body of 10,000 men, had reduced the province of Yaſſy. He inveſted Bender ; but finding the ſeaſon of the year too far advanced, he ſoon withdrew his troops, and put them into winter quarters.

This firſt campaign had proved ſo unpropitions to the Turkiſh affairs, that the court would gladly have concluded a peace, if they could have obtained it upon honourable terms ; but the Russians insisting upon the entire ceſſion of Moldavia and Walachia as a preliminary article, the nego­tiations came to nothing. A new campaign was therefore reſolved on ; and this proved ſtill more unſucceſsful than be­fore. The grand Ruſſian army under general Romanzow paſſed the Nieſter in the month of May 1770 ; and, having assembled at Choczim on the 3d of June, marched towards Truth : at the ſame time, their ſecond army, commanded by general Panin, arrived before Bender. The plan of opera­tion was, that the latter ſhould form the siege of Bender, and Romanzow ſhould cover it.

On the 18th of July, general Romanzow attacked an army of 80,000 Turks and Tartars, commanded by the Khan of Crimea, and ſtrongly intrenched on an almoſt inacceſſible mountain, forced their intrenchments, and obliged them to flee in the utmoſt confuſion, leaving an immenſe quantity oſ ammunition and proviſions, &c. in their camp ; which they totally abandoned to the victors.—After this victory, the Ruſſian general puſhed on towards the Danube; and on the 2d of Auguſt attacked another Turkiſh army, commanded by the grand vizir in perſon, and totally defeat­ed it, making himſelf maſter of their camp, ammunition, 143 pieces of cannon, and above 7000 carriages loaded with pro­viſions. The loſs of the Turks on this occaſion was not reckoned leſs than 40,000 men, and ſome accounts raiſed it to 60,000.—During the courſe of this ſummer alſo, the fortreſs of Kilia Nova, at the moſt northerly mouth of the Da­nube, ſurrendered by capitulation ; and likewiſe that of Ac­kerman, or Bialogorod, near the mouth of the Nieſter. Ben­der was taken by ſtorm on the 27th of November ; and the: Russians, enraged at the obſtinate reſiſtance they had met with, made a terrible ſlaughter of their enemies. It was computed that 33,000 Turks periſhed on this occaſion. The fortreſs of Brailow, ſituated on the northern side of the Da­nube, was inveſted on the 26th of September ; and the garriſon were ſo much intimidated by the taking of Bender, that they abandoned the place, and moſt of them were drowned in crossing the river.—During this campaign, it was rec­koned that the Russians took 1000 pieces of cannon from their enemies.

This year also a Russian fleet of 16 or 18 ſhips entered the Mediterranean, and landed a body of troops on the Morea. Theſe being joined by the Greeks, committed great cruelties on the Turks, and made themſelves maſters of almoſt the whole country. At laſt, however, the Porte, notwithſtanding their bad ſucceſs in other parts, found means to send a force into the Morea ſufficient to overpower the Russians. The Greeks now ſuffered in their turn ; and the Russians, hearing that a Turkiſh fleet had paſſed the Dardanelles, abandoned the Morea, and ſailed to meet their antagoniſts. A battle enſued, in which the Turks were defeated ; and having imprudently retired into a neighbouring harbour, they were next day entirely deſtroyed by the Ruſſian fire-ſhips, except one ſhip of 64 guns, which was taken. This fleet conſiſted of 15 ſhips of the line, from 96 to 60 guns, three large frigates, and ſeven large armed vessels, besides galleys. After this victory, the Ruſſian fleet blocked up the mouth of the Dardanelles, interrupted the Turkiſh trade, prevent­ed the carrying of proviſions to Conſtantinople by ſea, and raiſed contributions from moſt of the iſlands in the Archi­pelago.

In 1771, matters did not at firſt go on ſo ſucceſsfully on the part of the Russians. On the side of the Danube, they were obliged to keep on the defenſive. Another army, un­der prince Dolgorucki, had better ſucceſs; they reduced the whole peninſula of Crim Tartary in leſs than a month, though defended by an army of 50,000 men.—During theſe tranſactions the Turks made themſelves maſters of the fortreſs of Giurgewo; which enabled them to become ſo formidable on the side of Walachia, that prince Repnin durſt not attack them. Upon his refuſal to do ſo, he was deprived of his command; which was given to General Essen. On the 17th of Auguſt, he attacked the Turkiſh intrenchments; but, after a desperate engagement of four hours, was defeated, with the loſs of upwards of 3000 men.

This was the only engagement of any conſequence in which the Turks had proved victorious since the beginning of the war ; and, after it, their uſual bad fortune attended them. In conſequence of their victory, they determined to winter on the northern side of the Danube, which would have been of the utmoſt ſervice to them ; and with which view they conſiderably reinforced their army in Walachia. But ge­neral Romanzow, by a train of maſterly diſpoſitions, not only thwarted all their ſchemes, but ſurpriſed them on their own side of the river. They had divided their army into two great bodies, which were ſtationed in the neareſt and moſt important poſts on the Turkiſh side of the Danube. On the 20th of October, one of theſe bodies was ſurprised at Tuhza by general Weiſman, and another at Maczin by general Milarodowits. The event was the same in both places. The intrenchments were forced, the Turks totally routed, and their artillery, stores, and magazines taken, together with the two towns and their caſtles. Next day ge­neral Weiſinan attacked the grand vizir himſelf, with the