

reigning prince, but Etienne almost destroyed the Turkish forces in battle, and the surviving few found refuge in the territory south of the Danube, after which all the important fortresses along that river were recaptured by the Moldavians. The insatiable ambition and military skill of the Sultan were also rewarded by the conquest of the Crimea, and the subsequent destruction of Moldavian independence."

Thus it was that the waters of the Euphrates overflowed its banks, and covered those lands which had grown weary of the waters of Siloam. It happened to Western Asia and Eastern Europe for neglecting Christ and corrupting his Church, as happened (for the same crime substantially) to the land of Israel, as Isaiah tells us: "For as much as these people refuse the waters of Shiloah that go softly, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son, now, therefore, behold the Lord bringeth up on them the waters of the river (the Euphrates, *i.e.*, the Chaldeans) strong and many, even the King of Assyria and all his glory; he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks, and he shall pass through Judah, and shall overflow and go over; he shall reach even unto the neck, and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel."

ITS DESOLATING EFFECTS.

We know what follows when a mighty river like our American Mississippi overflows its banks. Desolation like that came on all those countries over which have passed the flood-waters of Islamism. Wherever Mahomedanism triumphs, there have perished free institutions. The Caliph or Sultan is absolute ruler in Church and State. With free institutions have perished also the Christian Sabbath, Christian preaching, and Christian morality. The writer of these lines travelled through the Dominion

of the Turks, from Alexandria to the first cataract of the Nile, from Joppa to Damascus, and from Beyroot to Constantinople, and in that journey he saw on every side, and in many forms, evidence that the waters of the Euphrates had submerged under its waves all that makes a land worth living in it and dying for it. The voice of the people is never heard in the making of their laws; and in the execution of the laws they are at the mercy of every petty tyrant that may get into office. Wealth and learning, laws and commerce, are dying or dead. What there is of energy anywhere is owing to the Christian population, which is to be found largely in cities like Smyrna, Damascus, Beyroot, and Constantinople. But there is no need to repeat what everyone acknowledges, that the waters of the Euphrates have now, in this 19th century, "reached even unto the neck" of those countries over which they have come, submerging and destroying whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, and whatsoever things are of good report.

THE EBBING OF THE FLOOD.

After such rivers as the Nile and the Euphrates reach their full height they retire slowly to their original beds, leaving behind them a desolate waste covered over with slime and mud. These rivers retire very slowly, less slowly than they advance, sinking a few feet to-day, and a few feet to-morrow, leaving now the hills dry, anon the mounds, then the villages, built on high ground, and last of all, the level plain. In the Word of God (which alone can guide us in looking into the future of history, where so many complicated forces are at work) we are told that the Turkish power will subside, shrink back and disappear, as the