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EDITORIAL.

THE DRYING UP OF THE EUPHRATES.

At this time the eyes of the whole world are directed towards the Turkish Empire, and Constantinople its capital. It may be well to refresh the memories of our readers in regard to the rise of the Turkish power in Europe.

THE OVERFLOWING OF THE EUPHRATES.

The Dominion of the Turks in Eastern Europe dates from the time they got a hold of Constantinople.

"On the 6th of April, 1453, Mahomet commenced the siege with an army of 250,000 men and 420 vessels of all sizes. It was during this celebrated siege that monster guns were first used by the Turks, and Greek fire, an incendiary compound, was applied for the purposes of the defence. After a series of terrible combats, in which fanaticism and despair lent an almost miraculous power to the arms of the contending forces, the city was captured on the 29th of May. The Greek Emperor fell, fighting to the last, and his unfortunate capital was abandoned to all the horrors of pillage and slaughter. So great was the desolation caused by this terrible event that even the heart of Mahomet relented, and he endeavoured to re-people the city by recalling the fugitive

Greeks and according them many privileges, such as the free exercise of their religion, as an inducement to return. With Constantinople fell the Empire of Constantine the Great, 1,125 years after the rebuilding of the city by that monarch. Mahomet II. followed up his triumph at Constantinople by a series of important movements on the line of the Danube, and was so far successful as to re-occupy Servian territory which had been partly wrested from the Porte during preceding reigns, and to compel John Hunyady, the most active opponent of the Turks, to make peace and pay a tribute to the Sultan. Under Mahomet the Greek Archipelago was attacked by Turkish fleets, and many important islands were added to the Ottoman Empire, but the Turks were defeated in their second attempt to capture Belgrade, although this check was more than counterbalanced by the conquest of Greece, which was accomplished under the personal direction of the Sultan. He also defeated the Venetians at Negropont in 1470. However, although the Turkish conquests were marked by the most terrible devastations and slaughter of the conquered, they were sometimes met and checked by Christian valour. In 1475 Selimen Pacha, at the head of 100,000 men, invaded Moldavia to enforce the payment of tribute by the