

Greek freedom was secured by the Treaty of Adrianople in 1829 (p. 29). Since this time Greece is an independent kingdom, recently enlarged by the addition of Thessaly.

Egypt through the 18th century was but loosely connected with Turkey. Under the rule of Mehemet Ali, in the early 19th century, it threatened not only to sever connection with Turkey, but to conquer from her Syria and Asia Minor. In 1841 Egypt was made a hereditary possession of Mehemet Ali's family, subject only to tribute and to furnishing a war contingent to the Sultan.

The Crimean War (p. 298) gave Turkey a new lease of life by depriving Russia for a time of naval ascendancy in the Black Sea.

But atrocious massacres in Bulgaria by Turkish Irregulars, 1876, so roused the sympathies of other Slavonians and of members of the Greek Church, that first Serbia, then Russia declared war. The Russian army reached Constantinople, but was forbidden by Great Britain to occupy the city, and Russia was too exhausted to stand a new war with a fresh enemy.

The Treaty of Berlin, 1878, gave Russia only a slight increase of territory in Armenia (Kars and Batoum). Turkey in Europe was much diminished. Bulgaria, between the Balkans and Danube, was lost entirely. Eastern Roumelia, south of the Balkans, was made a semi-independent principality, subject to Turkish tribute and supervision. Bosnia was occupied by Austria. According to a secret clause of the Berlin treaty, Cyprus was occupied by Great Britain. Serbia and Roumania were made independent, as noted on preceding page.

The little mountaineer State of Montenegro, on the Adriatic, has never been conquered by Turkish troops. It is a centre of constant active or smouldering guerilla war against them.

The Herzegovina is the mountain district (a portion of Bosnia) above Montenegro, nominally subject to Turkey, in which began the revolt which extended to Serbia and Roumania after the Bulgarian massacres just mentioned (map, p. 300).

GENERAL ASPECTS OF LATER TURKISH HISTORY.

An important source of decay in the Turkish State, the sale of offices by the Sultan to recruit his private purse, has been mentioned. Another was the insubordination of the Janissaries who, after 1600, dethroned, assassinated, or terrorized over the Sultan at frequent intervals. The Janissaries were suppressed by Mahmoud II. in 1826, after a terrible struggle.

Another cause of decay was the habit, after 1600, of secluding the children of the Sultan in the palace instead of giving them posts of trust in the lifetime of the sovereign. This measure, intended to prevent family feuds, made the sovereign effeminate or imbecile, and threw all active part in the government into the hands of a Grand Vizier.

The countries held by the Turks in Europe were all inhabited originally by Christian populations. There are Armenian Christians in Asia Minor, Maronite Christians in Syria, and Kopts in Egypt. Besides the large numbers of Christians remaining in Asiatic Turkey they still form in European Turkey four-fifths of the population. These Christians in Europe—aside from the Greeks, of whom there are many in Turkey besides those in Greece—are nearly all Slavonians, and thus doubly allied, by blood and by religious sympathies, with Russia. Hence constant revolts and disturbances, tending to draw this country into war with Turkey. On the other hand, Austria discomfited Russian extension on the side of European Turkey, as tending to endanger her control of the mouths of the Danube. England objects to Russian control of Constantinople, as threatening to cripple her own hold on Asiatic commerce. Ger-