

ph II., Ferdinand II., and
ny. According to the Paci-
of Lintz (1646,) as well as
urg (1622,) and of Presburg
d to tolerate the public exer-
to redress the political com-
nts.

of religion, which infested
emia, where the new doc-
tion, as they were in unison
ssites, who had already nu-

It was chiefly under the
milian II. that Protestantism
se who were formerly called
e Communion in both kinds,
er or Calvin. Rodolph II.,
n, was obliged, at the Diet of
ee exercise of their worship,
n to extend this indulgence to
tia by letters-patent, known
copies of which were made
20th of August 1609. These
thias, on his accession to the
erdinand III., when he was
ates, as the adopted son and

ich were put on these letters
ry by the name of the Thirty
thias happening to die in the
Bohemian States, regarding
ne election of Ferdinand II.
n Frederic, the Elector Pala-
the States of Silesia, Mora-
against Ferdinand, who was
pain, the Catholic princes of
kony.

20,) and the fall of the Elec-
tion in Bohemia. The ring-
executed at Prague, and their
no treated that kingdom as a
the States had forfeited their
new constitution which he
re these, only on condition of
ich they had claimed in the
he Letters of Majesty which

granted to the Protestants the free exercise of their worship.
But this prince did not stop with the suppression of their reli-
gious liberties; he deprived them also of their rights of citizen-
ship. Laws the most atrocious were published against them,
and he even went so far as to deny them the liberty of making
testaments, or contracting legal marriages. All their ministers,
without exception, were banished the kingdom; and the most
iniquitous means were employed to bring back the Protestants
to the pale of the Catholic Church. At length it was enjoined,
by an edict in 1627, that all Protestants who persisted in their
opinions should quit the kingdom within six months. Thirty
thousand of the best families in the kingdom, of whom a hun-
dred and eighty-five were nobility, abandoned Bohemia, trans-
porting their talents and their industry to the neighbouring
States, such as Saxony, Brandenburg, Prussia, &c.

Ferdinand judged it for his interest to detach the Elector of
Saxony from the alliance with Sweden, which he had joined.
He concluded a special peace with him at Prague, in virtue of
which he made over to him the two Lusatias, which he had dis-
membered from the kingdom of Bohemia, to reimburse the Elec-
tor for those sums which he claimed, as having been the ally of
Austria against the Elector Palatine, then King of Bohemia.
That province was ceded to the Elector John George, for him-
self and his successors, as a fief of the Bohemian crown, under
the express condition, that failing the male line of the Electoral
branch, it should pass to the female heirs; but that it should
then be at the option of the King of Bohemia to use the right of
redemption, by repaying to the female heirs the sum for which
Lusatia had been mortgaged to Saxony. This sum amounted
to seventy-two tons of gold, valued at seven millions two hundred
thousand florins.

The Turkish empire received new accessions of territory, both
in Asia and Europe, under the successors of Mahomet II., who
had fixed their capital at Constantinople. The conquest of Bes-
sarabia belongs to the reign of Bajazet II., about the year 1484.
That prince had a brother named Jem or Zizim, who had been
his competitor for the throne; and having fled to Rome, he was
imprisoned by order of Pope Alexander VI., at the instance of
Bajazet, who had engaged to pay the Pope a large pension for
him. Charles VIII. of France, when he made his expedition
into Italy for the conquest of Naples, compelled the Pope to sur-
render up the unfortunate Zizim, whom he designed to employ
in the expedition which he meditated against the Turks, but
which never took place. Selim I. the son and successor of Ba-
jazet, taking advantage of a revolution which happened in Persia,
and of the victory which he gained near Taurus over the Schaw