

## Werk

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ject to the Romans, till it was conquered by the Alemans, German emigrants, A. D. 395 ; who were expelled by Clovis, King of France, in 496. It underwent another revolution in 888, being made part of the kingdom of Burgundy. In 1032, it was given, by the last King of Burgundy, to Conrad II. Emperor of Germany ; from which time it was held as part of the empire, till the year 1307, when a very singular revolt delivered the Swiss cantons from the German yoke. Grissler, Governor of these provinces for the Emperor Albert, having ordered one William Tell, an illustrious Swiss patriot, under pain of death, to shoot at an apple, placed on the head of one of his children, he had the dexterity, though the distance was very considerable, to strike it off without hitting the child. The tyrant perceiving that he had another arrow under his cloak, asked him for what purpose he intended it ? he boldly replied, “ To have shot you to the heart, if I’d had the misfortune to kill my son.” The enraged Governor ordered him to be hanged, but his fellow citizens, animated by his fortitude and patriotism, flew to arms, attacked and vanquished Grissler, who was shot dead by Tell, and the independency of the several states of this country, now called the Thirteen Cantons, under a republican form of government, took place immediately ; which was made perpetual by a league among themselves, in the year 1315 ; and confirmed by treaty with the other powers of Europe, 1649. Seven of these cantons are Roman Catholics, and six Protestants.

TURKEY, in EUROPE.

Length <sup>miles.</sup> 1000 } between { 17° and 40° East Longitude.  
Breadth 900 } { 36° and 49° North Latitude.

**B**OUNDED north, by Russia, Poland and Sclavonia ; east, by Circassia, the Black sea, the Propontis, Hellespont and Archipelago ; south, by the Mediterranean sea ; west, by the same sea, and the Venetian and Austrian territories. *Soil.*

*Soil, Air and Productions.*] Nature has been lavish of her blessings upon the inhabitants of Turkey in these particulars. The soil, though unimproved, through the indolence of the Turks, is luxuriant beyond description. The air is salubrious and friendly to the imagination, unless corrupted, by the neighbouring countries, or through the uncleanness of its inhabitants. The seasons here are regular and pleasant, and have been celebrated from the remotest times of antiquity. The Turks are invited to frequent bathings, by the purity and wholesomeness of the water, in every part of their dominions. Raw silk, cotton, oil, leather, tobacco, cake soap, honey, wax, manna, and various fruits and drugs, are here produced in plenty.

*Chief Cities.*] CONSTANTINOPLE, the capital of this empire, stands on the west side of the Bosphorus, in the province of Romania, was rebuilt by the Emperor Constantine in the fourth century, who transferred hither the seat of the Roman government; upon his death it obtained the name of Constantinople. It is of a triangular shape, washed by the sea on two sides, and rising gradually from the shore, in the form of an amphitheatre. The view of it from the harbour is confessedly the finest in the world. The city is surrounded by a wall about twelve miles in circumference, and the suburbs are very extensive. It contains 1,000,000 souls, of which 200,000 are Greeks, 40,000 Armenians, and 60,000 Jews.

*Religion.*] The established religion in this empire is the Mahometan, of the sect of the Sunnites. All other religions are tolerated on paying a certain capitation. Among the Christians residing in Turkey, those of the orthodox Greeks are the most numerous, and they enjoy, among other privileges, that of being advanced to dignities and posts of trust and profit. The Turkish clergy are numerous, being composed of all the learned in the empire, and are the only teachers of the law, and must be consulted in all important cases.

*Government.*] The Turkish Emperor, who is usually called the Grand Seignior, has an unlimited power over  
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