THE DALI EVRNING TELEGRAPH.-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1867.

Cnening Edegraph

 | WEDNESDAY, FEBRCARY 6, 1887. |
| :---: |
| "The Sick Man of Europe," |
| Tre fallure of the Porte to crush a handtul | "The sick Man of Europe,"

Tug fallure of the Porte to crush a handtul
of Obristians at Crete, and the fact that the of Obristians at Crete, and the fact that the
rebellion, at first commenceng with a war-
cloud the size of a man's hand, is rapidly cloud the size of a man's hand, is rapialy
spreading throughout all of the istands of the spreading throughout all of the islands of the
Archipelago, and wil probably exiend
through many of the inland provinues of the Arrough many of the inland provinues of the
Empire, have directed attention once more to the prospects of the Ottoman power.
Fifty years ago Henry Hallimm wrote:-"In the preseant day we anticipate, with an assu-
rance which none can deem extravagant, the approwhing subversion of the Ottoman
power; but the signs of internal weakness power; but the signs of internal weakness
have not yet been conffrmed by the dismemberment or provinces; and the arch of
dominion that long since has seemed noding
to its fall, and totters at every blast from the north, still rests upon the landmarks of ancient conquest, and spans
Bagdad to Belgrade."
For hall a century this Government,
Whose fall was anticipated so long held together by the foree of cohesion, and it
seems reserved for the middle of the nin seems reserved for the middle of the nine-
teenth century to witnesss its overthrow. So
Sar as far as Turkey is concerned, it would, indeed,
seem that history repeats itself, The records of the Mahommedan power divide themselves into two distinct periols, which are strikingly
analogous to each other. From the desth of analogous to each other. From the death of
the Prophet, early in the seventh century, the first era, characterized by wonderful the itrst era, characterized by wonderfal
vitailit in the beginning, with a remarkable
development ot energy and courage as the introduction. This cycle or conquest was
followed by a stagnation, in which the Empire and far greatars, glories. And when all Europe and far greater glories. And when all Earope
Was trembling at its power and fearing an
invasion, this mighty structure crumbled to atoms with a rapidity without precedent, so
that, while Christendo that, while Christendom yet gazed with awe
on the pile, it sunk out of sight, like one of
those magical transformations with which those magical transformations with which
Oriental tales abound. Province atter
province fell off, and of the vast Empire nothing was left but the capital ot the sultans
of Gazna. With the irruption of a new tribe of
Tartary began the second era of the Porte.
Once more was it renowned for conquest, tor courage and ability. Once more it rose in earth. Then came the same period of stagna-
tion-a period which Hallam anticipated
would have ended half a century ago. Would have ended half a century ago. The
sign ol decay was to be the dismemberment of provinces, and until the present day no
symptom of dissolution was apparent. The
fnsurrection in Crete is the frst determined tusurrection in Crete is the flrst determined
attempt to which there seemed to be a pros-
pect of success. If the Christian Rebels succeed, their example will be followed by other
and more powertul principalities which now Porte once more fall into atoms; and once
destroyed, no tribe of barbarians can appear to reerect the ediffce of superstition and sen-
sualism. Under such circumstances, a double argument in favor of aiding the Cretans is laid
before all Christiannations. Not ouly does their
heroim, the oppressions to which they bave been subbected, and the common cause of re-
IIgion, call on us to give them actual assistance ligion, call on us to give them actual asistance
but the fact thas, by securing them victory, we
are tending to overthrow the great bul wark of are tonding to overtirow the great bulwark of
opposition to Christianity, demands that we supply them with the means of continuing
the struggle. From the days of Hallam until now, the "sick man of Europe" has occupied an aspiring rival in the north, and with enemies in its own provinces, while Greece
stands alled with batred to the West, it has only been the interference of the still more
western Governments that has saved the Sulwestern Governments that has saved the Sul
tan from destruction. That Russia still views hiuld by the Porte, is attested by the fair in
hel
ald of the Cretans, at S . Petersburg, oyer Which the two brothers of the Cazar presided; and that but a fitting opportunity is needed
to secure interveation none can doubt. The case of "the sick man" is indeed critital, and
will shortiy be settled-we anticipate by the invalid's death,
That the prospects of war are growing day
by day more probable, is shown by the letter by day more probable, is shown by the letter
to yesterday's Tribune, written (if report speaks truly) from the American Embassy struction of the Porte. The letter says:-

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