

other version of an older story, written thousands of years ago, which reads:

"My word shall not turn unto me void, but shall accomplish the thing whereunto I send it."

### THE MOSLEMS.

QUESTION. Who are the Moslems?

ANSWER. The followers of Mohammed. They are sometimes called Mohammedans.

QUES. Where do they live?

ANS. Chiefly in Turkey and Persia, though many are in Africa.

QUES. How many Moslems are there?

ANS. One hundred and seventy millions, or nearly one-eighth of the human race.

QUES. What is their sacred book called?

ANS. The Koran.

QUES. Who wrote the Koran?

ANS. Mohammed.

QUES. Where did he get the matter for it?

ANS. It is said that the angel Gabriel brought it to him from Paradise, engraved on golden plates, from which Mohammed copied it.

QUES. In what language was it written?

ANS. In the Arabic.

QUES. Why is the Koran never translated or printed into other languages by the Turks?

ANS. Because the Turks say it is a sacred book, written in a sacred language, and it would be a sin to translate it or print it.

QUES. Why do they regard the Koran as sacred?

ANS. Because they believe it came from God.

QUES. Why is the language sacred?

ANS. Because the golden plates from which it was copied were in Arabic.

QUES. Has the Koran been translated into our language?

ANS. It has.

QUES. How do the Moslems write their books?

ANS. With a reed pen and ink of several colors.

QUES. What is a Moslem church called?

ANS. A mosque.

QUES. For what other purpose are the mosques used, beside that of worship and prayer?

ANS. For schools.

QUES. Where do the scholars sit?

ANS. On the floor on rugs, with their feet under them.

QUES. What is one of their customs when they come to school?

ANS. To kick off their slippers and keep their hats on.

QUES. What do they wear?

ANS. Full trousers, a Persian shawl gathered up to the waist, with loose flowing sleeves, and a high, black astrachan cap, under which they sometimes wear a small cap of quilted silk.

QUES. How do the boys study?

ANS. They all read out loud, not together, but each one his own lesson. The more noise they make the better satisfied is the teacher, for he then thinks they are studying well; but as soon as the noise grows less he looks at them sharply, and sometimes stirs them up with a stick.

QUES. Are the Moslems easily converted to the Christian faith?

ANS. They are not. They believe that Mohammed was God's prophet, and if they obey the teachings of the Koran they will be saved. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin writes: "There is much that is very excellent in the Koran taken plainly from the Old Testament sources. There is much that is puerile and absurd, and its sensualism cannot be denied. But whatever it is, it does not contain the religion of the Moslems except in germ. For that religion, we must go to 'Sonnah'—to tradition. Its four leading characteristics are: Theism, Fatalism, Ritualism, and Sensualism. All worship is offered to God, as to a spiritual and everywhere present being to whom praise belongs, and before whom all creatures are nothing. He is the sovereign of the day of judgment, before whom all must appear, and neither in this world nor in the world to come, can they be blessed who do not entirely resign themselves to His will."—*Sel.*