

# THE CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY.

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## Editorial.

### THE MERITS AND DEMERITS OF ISLAM.

(Second Article.)

**I**N our last number we passed in brief review, the native country of Islam, the people among whom this religion arose, and the man who was its prophet, priest, and king. It remains now that we consider the remaining points mentioned in our introduction, *i.e.*, the teachings of Islam and their value—its apostles and missionaries—its probable destiny—and its voice of warning to this young country.

#### THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM AND THEIR VALUE.

The doctrines of Islam are contained in the Koran, which, according to Mahomet, was at various times read to him by the angel Gabriel, out of a copy, in a volume of silk and gems. The message he received thus, he spoke to his followers, who wrote, from his lips, on palm leaves and the shoulder-bones of mutton, all which lay in confusion in a chest, till two years after his death, when the whole was revised and published as we now have it. The substance of Islam, as revealed in the Koran, consists of two articles of belief, and four practical duties. The two articles are the unity of God, and the Divine mission of Mahomet. The four practical duties were: 1st. Pilgrimage; 2nd. Prayer, which carries a man half way to God,—prayer five times a day, it does not matter where, in