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### THE STRUGGLE IN THE EAST.

[From the Baltimore Sun.] Making all due allowances for the predatory aspects of the combat which has begun in the East, it would be foolish and unphilosophical to ignore the fact that this is a struggle in which two civilizations and two religions have appealed to the waver of battle.

In view of the impending collision between Russia and Turkey it is therefore of interest to know the religious issues which are to be tried by battle between the contestants. The Christian faith of Russia is familiar to all, and being essentially that of the rest of Christendom, needs no explanation.

Mohammed was born in Mecca, A. D. 569 or 671. His family was wealthy and illustrious, but his father died in his infancy, and the family honors and family fortune descended to another son.

Like all the Arabians, the Koraites devoted themselves to mercantile pursuits, and Mohammed was trained in the mercantile profession.

The Daily Telegraph's special from Batoum on Friday at midnight says: "About 3 o'clock this morning the Russian forces, which had been largely augmented for the purpose, advanced with batteries of field artillery and made a furious attack upon the heights defending Batoum on the land side, which were occupied by Bashi Bazouks.

A correspondent of the Telegraph, describing the battle near Batoum says: "I myself was an eye witness of this important engagement from the first to the last, and can testify that the Ottoman soldiers behaved with a gallantry which was most admirable. They had, however, during a great part of the action, the advantage of entrenchments on high ground, and it is due to this fact, no doubt, that their losses, compared to those inflicted upon the enemy, were insignificant."

believer: The prescribed hours of prayer are at morning, noon, sunset and the closing in of night, Mohammed declared that God had announced to him that He would receive no prayer "which, in attesting that there is but one God, doth not also attest that Mohammed is his prophet."

The word koran signifies that which ought to be read. It comprises the entire scheme, religious, moral, social and political, of Mohammedan institutions. It prohibits drunkenness and gaming, to neither of which vices Oriental races are addicted, but it sanctions polygamy and provides for sensual gratifications. While it was superior to polytheism, it was inferior in purity and spirituality to the faith of Jews and Christians.

LONDON, May 12.—The military operations on the Danube and in Asia make slow progress on both sides. The Russians, in spite of their great resources and fine organization have a great many difficulties to overcome.

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The same correspondent, under Saturday's date, says: "The victory was won by the extraordinary courage of the Bashi Bazouks. The dead and wounded on the Russian side will exceed 4,000. The engagement lasted over eight hours' actual fighting. The last of the Russians did not withdraw until near midnight. The Russians lost many guns. The only Turkish officer of note killed was Khalim Bey, of the irregulars."

immemorial, the river having thrown out a new branch above Baghdad, which has completely blockaded the city and swept away two hundred houses in the village of Kiamania. The worst evil which the Russians may bring upon us by their premature invasion is cholera, which exposure to so inclement a season, can hardly fail to produce among their troops."

In the House of Commons this afternoon Hon. Rob't Bourke, Under-Secretary for the Foreign Department, in reply to a question by Sir William Vernon Harcourt, liberal, said: "Immediately after the outbreak of the war the Government learned that an iron-clad built for Turkey was lying at Victoria docks, and took steps to prevent an infringement of the foreign enlistment act."

The intelligent New York correspondent of the Raleigh Observer gives the following gratifying information of the death of a grinding monopoly the operation of which has been one of the many devices by which the South has been kept drained of its money.

Congress having wisely refused to renew the patents on sewing machines, the prices have suddenly been reduced one-half, from \$60 to \$30—at least on one of them, and probably on all. This shows what an enormous profit has been realized on these machines by the patentees, who have rapidly accumulated millions.

The patent office has ascertained that during one year, viz: 1874, five of the many sewing machine makers sold 410,000 machines. If the average price of these was \$60 (and it was probably more) the amount realized was \$24,600,000.

THE CRY FOR REST.—A physician says that the cry for rest has always been louder than the cry for food. Not that it is more important, but it is often harder to obtain. The best rest comes from sound sleep. Of two men or women, otherwise equal, the one who sleeps the better will be the more healthy and efficient.

The Reidsville Times says: A negro named Wesley Dodson stole a sheep from Sam Brandon at Dellin, Halifax, Va; the other night, and Brandon tracked the negro to his home in Milton, N. C. There he found the sheep skin in the house and the negro broke and ran. Mr. Brandon got Nat Palmer's fox hounds and set them on the negro's track, and Tuesday evening they were making the woods around Milton ring with their music.

A Scotch clergyman was seen by a neighbor striding home on Monday morning with a stout cod he had just bought, and was accosted with, "Mr. Duncan, did you know that that fish was caught on Sunday?" The minister, in his characteristic blunt manner, replied, "Well, well, the fish is not to blame for that, my man."

### HEROISM OF THE PLAINS.

There was an excited crowd gathered about the Pony Express Station at McPherson's. The western-bound rider had arrived with a bullet in his leg, and reported that the Pawnees were off their reservation, and were advancing on the settlement. They had met him between the last station and McPherson, and had given him chase. McPherson could boast of but twenty-five souls at that time before the railroad was finished, and there were but forty men in all capable of defending the post.

"Good!" said the old man, pressing his hand, "Old Jim Johnson sez so! Old Jim Johnson! You hear me! There's more sense in Essex's babeza, than the hull lot of you!"

Love was one incentive for the pony-rider's mission, and the desire to save the people of McPherson from a bloody death the other. Did man ever risk life in a better cause? Onward swept the little horse with her flying heels throwing a cloud of dust, that hovered in the air for a hundred yards behind her.

You may talk of the Mamelukes, the Tartar horsemen, the savage Bedouins, and all the wild riders, but what are they to compare with our American pony riders—men who were fearless, and who braved every danger, who ran the risk of life in every mile they dashed over;

Onward swept the brave little horse, and at last the station came in view. A minute more, and horse and rider were at the door. No relay was there to meet them. Not a sign of life was to be seen, but the hoof tracks on the ground in every direction showed that the relief had fled. Giving the horse a drink, the rider mounted, and again was on the way to Kearney. Further on they came to a large object in the center of the trail. It was the western-bound stage, with horses gone, the driver between the fore-wheels with a bullet in his head, the passengers lying about the road, and the conductor in the boat and wounded unto death.

On the prairie to the right of them appeared a host of mounted men. They are pets of the Peace Commission on their annual marauding tour. Turning with a triumphant yell, they speed to head the rider off. Narrower grows the distance between them, and the gallant horse redoubled his exertions. In the van of the savages rides a tall chief, mounted upon a powerful horse, his plumes streaming in the wind, as he urges onward the noble animal he bestrides. Young Essex can escape if he turns back. But, no, no! The sweet face of Nellie Johnson—the shrinking forms of defenceless little ones come before his view, and dashing the perspiration from his brow, the pursued dashed onward! But a few miles more and success is at hand!

muscle, nerves, and heart, for your work will be well done! Ride young Essex, for every thing is at stake. Onward—onward, rushed the horse, his hoofs beating time to his short quick breath: The gay coo! Twang! A sharp pain in the side, and the rider reeled in the saddle but for an instant only.

And now the green rainpans and stocks ated walls of Fort Kearney came in view. The baffled savages turned and set out rapidly up the trail, while the fainting rider checks the faltering steps of his dying horse. One last, last look at the waving sea of green, and they enter the gates thrown open to receive them.

And grasping the reins with stiffening clutch, the barbed shaft eating out his soul, he sank upon the pony's neck. Their brave hearts have ceased to beat.

PARTY DIVISIONS. A correspondent of the Missouri Republican furnishes some facts and figures relative to the exact status of the Forty-fifth Congress, outside of contested elections.

UNITED STATES SENATE.		
	Dem.	Rep.
Six New England States	2	10
Three Middle States	4	2
Sixteen Southern States	24	5
Ten Western States	2	18
Three Pacific States	1	5
	33	40
Republican maj.		7

It will be seen that the Republicans have exactly the same majority in the Senate that the Democrats have in the House, both political parties having precisely 183 votes on joint ballot.

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.—The present Archbishop of Dublin, the gifted author of the work so widely known as the "Study of Words," is not in very robust health, and has been for many years apprehensive of paralysis.

What I have been expecting for twenty years, solemnly answered the Archbishop—"a stroke of paralysis. I have been pinching myself for the last twenty minutes and find myself entirely without sensation."

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Friday last Monroe Rector, a young man from Morganton, jumped from the train bound West, two miles below Morganton, and was thrown under the hind wheels of the first-class coach. The wheels passed over both legs just below the knee. He was carried home where he died in a few hours. Being somewhat expert in jumping from cars, while in motion, he would not allow the conductor to stop for him.—Statesville Leader.