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FRIDAY, DEC. 16, 1898.

PREDICTIONS as to who will be the Democratic candidate for President in 1900 are premature.

A great improvement in the health of the army has taken place within the last two months.

The Philippine problem is giving the Republicans no end of trouble.

Julian Ralph, who has been for some years in England, writes for the December Cosmopolitan a very clever analysis of what seems to him the English ideas of a gentleman.

Another great discovery has been made, and that too, by a lady in this country.

A careful canvass of the Senate makes it certain that there are sufficient votes to ratify the treaty with Spain.

At this time of the year a cold is very easily contracted, and if left to run its course without the aid of some reliable cough medicine.

This is the only remedy that is known to be a certain preventive of pneumonia.

Overcome evil with good. Overcome your coughs and colds with One Minute Cough Cure.

Beauty is Blood Deep. Clean blood means a clean skin.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Notes and Comments on Public Matters at the National Capital.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1898.—The bill prepared by General Miles for the recognition of the army has been introduced in Congress.

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For Railroad Commissioners.

The Asheville Citizen nominates Hon. M. L. Reed, of that city, for Railroad Commissioner.

The Legislature will choose successors to Commissioners Pearson and Caldwell at its coming session.

Suffering humanity should be supplied with every means possible for its relief.

From all reports of the south west comes the news that the storm of last Saturday was the worst in twenty-nine years.

Don't be persuaded into buying imitations without reputation or merit—Chamberlain's Pain Balm costs no more.

Rev. I. W. Thomas, pastor of the Baptist church at this place, resigned last Sunday after a successful pastorate of several years.

After having some chambers continually praising Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

It is said that a new paper will be published under the auspices of the North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

Constipation prevents the body from ridding itself of waste matter.

The formation of a flour trust is said to be assured, with a capital of \$150,000,000 and a daily capacity of 95,000 barrels.

The board of aldermen in Winston have prohibited the discharge of fireworks in that town during the holidays.

A Sure Thing for You. A transaction in which you cannot lose is one in which you do not lose.

IN THE HOLY LAND.

CHRISTMAS DAY AS IT NOW IS IN BETHLEHEM.

The Modernity of Jerusalem—The Scene of the Nativity—Incongruous Visitors in the Sacred Grotto, Christmas Night Rituals.

"All aboard for Jerusalem, Ramleh, Artouf and the tomb of Samson!" The poet Lamartine, writing of the Holy Land in his "Meditations" sixty odd years ago.

After having passed through fragrant gardens the line opens into a plain famous in Bible history as the garden of Palestine.

Passing outside the walls of Jerusalem one traverses the valley of Jehenna, sees Job's well with its white cupola and then finds himself advancing up the slopes of Mount Zion.

Arrived at Bethlehem one naturally hastens to see the scenes of the Nativity, full of expectation and yet ready to be disappointed.

At night the Christmas service in Bethlehem begins at 10 o'clock with a pontifical mass celebrated at the Franciscan church near the basilica.

The Supreme Court has affirmed the judgment of Judge Norwood that the Buncombe county bond issue in behalf of the Spartanburg and Asheville Railroad is invalid.

When you ask for De Witt's Witch Hazel Salve don't accept a counterfeit or imitation.

It is probable that within a few days a proclamation will be issued by this government assuring the natives of the Philippines of a large measure of home rule.

Everybody Says So. Cascaerts' Candy Cathartic, the most wonderful medicine for constipation.

A Letter to the People.

MY DEAR FRIENDS:—Knowing as I do your every wish concerning the happy Christmas tide now so near at hand, I take this method of doing you a little service in the way of setting you right in making selections of the numerous little gifts you are to purchase for those who are near and dear to you.

Take my advice and see if this is not so. Do your Christmas shopping largely at the store of J. B. Swindell.

Sincerely your old friend and well wisher.

SANTA CLAUS, We Want to C-U-B-A Customer of Ours.

Just opened up the nicest and largest line of Rugs, Carpets, Floor Oil Cloths, Samples, etc. Shoes—the most complete line we have ever had to show.

WOMAN'S WORK.

An apt old adage declares that a woman's work is never done. This is true of the housewife's manifold duties.

Those Turkish Bath Towels, nearly 60 inches long, and only 12 1/2¢ each.

Thomas Medd, VARIETY STORE, MARION, N. C.

Winston claims the distinction of selling more pounds of leaf tobacco direct from the hands of the farmer than any other loose market in the world.

Mr. C. M. Dixon, a well known merchant of Pleasant Ridge, Fulton county, Pa., has a little girl who is frequently threatened with croup.

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Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. Digests what you eat. Artificially digests the food and aids Nature in strengthening and reconstructing the exhausted digestive organs.

Scientific American. A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal.