

THREE more weeks to Christmas Monday.

THE cartoons by Russell in the News-Observer are full of thought.

WONDER if the scientists of Mars have discovered our new canal yet?

HONEST now, did you give thanks for the prosperity you have enjoyed.

REPORTS show that troops are being called out in Colorado to settle the labor troubles.

THE several Conferences held the past two weeks have ended amid much good feeling.

REALLY, do you believe that if the "pie counter" was done away with there would be as many republicans?

HALIFAX county is working a good part of their roads with vagrants. A good example for Franklin to follow.

WE hope the Western wool growers told the President more than they were willing to cough up to the tariff board.

THE United States Ambassador to Brazil, Irving Bedell Dudley, died in the Johns-Hopkins hospital at Baltimore Monday.

THE alleged unfair freight rates for the transportation of eagles and cobras will not arouse any widespread popular indignation.

THE North Dakota courts hold that a man can demand and receive alimony from his wife upon being sued by her for divorce.

IT is a comeme tary on the American idea of justice that we never begin to treat prisoners humanely until they have been proved guilty.

WE don't know why, but in nine cases out of ten you can spot a young man or boy who gambles, by the attention they give their work.

AND the ministers are singing the praises of Kinston and its hospitable people. Right they should as Kinston is a fine place and full of good people.

YOU really can't expect a negro to do a week's hard work and earn six dollars, when he can sell a lot of whiskey and make the same amount in less than six hours.

WE have always heard that "a poor excuse was better than none," but we don't believe this will hold good in the republican party pretenses—they are too thin.

A GOOD live Chamber of Commerce in any town can do wonders in the advancement of the interests of the town that will open the eyes of the pessimistic citizens.

THERE is a suspicion that the steam laundries have incited this Chinese rebellion in order to make their rivals quit the collar and cuff business and go home to fight.

A STAMFORD man has presented to Connecticut a sample soil from every State in the Union. Now, if somebody would do as much for New Hampshire, it might grow a crop.

IN the death of J. P. Caldwell the State has lost one of its best citizens and the press one of its strongest and most influential writers. His loss will be felt all through the State.

A NEW YORK inventor has a scheme to prevent airships from obeying the law of gravity; but if his attachment will fit human beings, can't we navigate the welkin without aeroplanes?

FOR the honor of our country next year army officers will have to keep out of the horse show contests and let a bunch of Wyoming cow punchers see what they can do against the foreign riders.

NEVER until the white people stop being so ready to stand bond or loan money to the price of a fine for the negro, will the officials be able to break up so much crap shooting and whiskey selling in Louisburg.

FIFTEEN thousand people, mostly women, attended the funeral of Henry Clay Beattie in Richmond Sunday, as say reports. He was buried by the side of his wife for whose murder he paid the penalty of death.

THE public should not criticize the officers for not enforcing the prohibition

laws until they are willing to come out openly and lend their assistance. You can't expect an officer to enforce a law when he knows the public don't want him to.

CHAMP CLARK says the Democrats are settled for good and predicts victory in 1912. This sounds good to us, and we only hope he sees "the handwriting on the wall." It is truly time that an end is being put to the "iniquities" of the Republican party.

THERE is no use "cussing" the laws; they are usually all right. The trouble generally is in the officers; however, the public need not expect the officers to enforce the laws when they know they will be severely criticised by the very people from whom they should receive encouragement.

A WHITE man named John Rhodes, of Zebulon, and about 50 years old, was found dead about one mile from that place on the Norfolk-Southern Railway on Saturday morning with his head crushed and brains scattered and exposed. It is supposed that he was killed by one of the night trains.

IN passing through eastern North Carolina this week we saw a sign that read "given away factory sites for any manufacturing enterprise." Now why can't Louisburg start something like this only don't wait for people to read the sign, but send it to them. You may not know who to put the proposition to, but with an organization like a Chamber of Commerce they will be easily found. Let's try it.

WE won't use names but we have been informed by those who have taken part that there is a great deal of gambling being carried on by the boys of Louisburg. This is something that should be stopped. If the fathers of the boys can't stop it then the officers should be instructed to stop it, but if it is your son he catches, don't "cuss" the officer and try to have it "squashed," go up and pay the fine like a man and take steps to have your son change his ways in the future.

Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets do not sicken or gripe, and may be taken with perfect safety by the most delicate woman or the youngest child. The old and feeble will also find them a most suitable remedy for aiding and strengthening their weakened digestion and for regulating the bowels. For sale by all dealers.

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Suggestive Questions

On the Sunday School Lesson by Rev. Dr. Linscott for the International Press Bible Question Club

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DECEMBER 10TH, 1911. Nehemiah and His Enemies, Neh. vi.

Golden Text—The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Ps. xxvii; 1.

(1) Verses 1-2—When God is blessing us with great success in our work how does that generally affect those who are doing the same kind of work?

(2) Which are the worst enemies and why, those who outwardly declare their hostility, or those who pretend to be friends and are secretly working for our injury?

(3) Why instead of being annoyed, did not Sanballat and his company admire and praise Nehemiah for his wonderful success?

(4) In a race it is fair for each to try to win; but what is the character of the one who puts out his foot and trips up his competitor?

(5) What would you say were the real motives of Sanballat, and his friends, in wanting to prevent the building of the wall of Jerusalem?

(6) When men have for years neglected, or failed to do a needed work, how do they generally feel when others do that work?

(7) How would you characterize the answer of Nehemiah to the invitation to a conference with Sanballat?

(8) What may be expected of business or professional men who neglect their calling and spend much time in playing bill or other pastimes?

(9) Verses 4-8—Why were they so anxious to have this outside conference with Nehemiah?

(10) If a false report gets circulated about a man who is doing a good work, how much, if any notice, should he take of it?

(11) What probably would have been the result if Nehemiah had gone to this conference in order to protect his good name?

(12) Why do people so often impugn the motives of those who are succeeding in doing a good work?

(13) How should we treat those who oppose us, or speak evil of us?

(14) What arguments did or could Sanballat use to justify the accusation which he said people were making against Nehemiah?

(15) Is slander of good people generally pure fabrication, or is it a perversion of actual facts, as in this case?

(16) Verse 9—There is a natural tendency for us to be more or less afraid of such devilish and persistent enemies as these; what, therefore, is our best method to keep up our courage and succeed?

(17) Verses 10-14—What would have happened if Nehemiah had been tempted to fear, and had shut himself up in the temple, as he was advised?

(18) In what class would you place the sin of moral cowardice?

(19) Which are the more vile and why, bad men in a pious garb, or out-and-out sinners? (This is one of the questions that may be answered in writing by members of the club.)

(20) How did Nehemiah discern the hypocrisy of Shemaiah?

(21) Verses 15-18—How long did it take them to complete the wall?

(22) What qualities did Nehemiah display that are still essential for success?

Lesson for Sunday, Dec. 17th, 1911. Ezra Teaches the Law. Neh. viii.

Farmers and Merchants Bank

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