Reading a Serialized Novel in Context
(I used Julia C. Collins’s novel The Curse of Caste for this activity; you can use any serialized novel you like and can find digitized!)

- Choose any chapter that we have read from The Curse of Caste so far and look up the issue of the Christian Recorder for that chapter in the Accessible Archives database. (Try searching “Julia Collins” or “Curse of Caste” and then sorting by date; the chapter dates are included in the edition of the novel that we’re reading.)
- Go to “Page Image” and view the scan of the whole page (if available) on which the novel excerpt appears. Take a few minutes to see what is on the page with the novel chapter.
- As you have time, dig into additional pages of the newspaper. (You can do this by going to “Issue Contents,” which will bring up a list of all of the different articles in the issue.) Images may not be available for every page, but you can still read transcriptions of the articles.
- Some questions to ask as you read:
  - How do the serialized chapters of this novel interact with the news that surrounds them?
  - How is this a wartime novel, even if it is not a novel directly addressing the war? How does the war surround the serialized chapters? Do you see hints of the war creeping into the novel?
  - Does reading the novel this way change your response to it at all?