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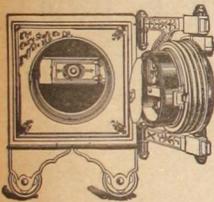
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## The General Merchants,

Are pleased to announce to their many patrons that they are strictly up with the times, and will sell from this date forward all goods in their stock of general merchandise at greatly reduced price, and hope to merit a continuance of the patronage of their many pleasant customers. With many thanks for past favors, we remain, Respectfully,

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### POPULAR SCIENCE.

THE greatest altitude in Maine is Katahdin Mountain, which is 5,200 feet high.

PROF. BALL says the actual momentum of some of the finest meteors is equivalent to that of a cannon ball.

At sea level an object one hundred feet high is visible a little over thirteen miles. If five hundred feet high, it is visible nearly thirty miles.

If two tuning forks of the same pitch are placed facing each other, the one sounding, the other silent, in a few seconds the silent one will be giving out a distinctly audible note.

SCIENTISTS have determined that more than twenty terrestrial elements exist in the sun's atmosphere. Among these are calcium, manganese, nickel, sodium, magnesium, copper, zinc, cobalt, aluminum, and hydrogen.

THE protection afforded to the earth by snow is shown by Elmer Iyer in the "Influence of Frosts." In one observation, the temperature of the air above the snow was 3 degrees below zero; under the snow the thermometer stood at 33 degrees.

ACCORDING to Muhlhal, the average number of days on which snow falls every year in St. Louis is eleven, in Lisbon one, in Paris thirteen, in Vienna thirty-three, in Copenhagen twenty-three, in St. Petersburg sixty-two, in Moscow seventy-one, in Greenland eighty.

At a late meeting of the Royal Botanic Society, the Secretary raised the question of the vitality of long-kept seeds. He said that fifteen years was as long as he had undoubted evidence of a seed being kept, and then germinating. He scouted the idea that seed from the hands of mummies had ever developed. The evidence of such a claim was unscientific and untrustworthy. Sir B. W. Richardson, at the same meeting, said that he had planted many seeds found with mummies, but none had ever developed.

### PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

MRS. THOMAS HARDY has always been a most able second in her husband's literary work.

THERE'S a hospital in Soo Chow, China, in charge of Dr. Anne Walter, a Mississippi woman.

MRS. J. B. STEWART, widow of the famous Confederate raider, is now the principal of a girls' school in Missouri.

GEN. WILLIAM BOOTH, of the Salvation Army, is about 66 years of age, and is as active and vigorous as many men of 30.

COUNT TOLSTOI laid the foundation of his literary reputation by writing news letters from Sebastopol during the Crimean war.

MISS ELIZABETH FLEMING has been appointed clerk of the United States Circuit and District Courts at Portland. Miss Fleming was previously the court stenographer.

A WESTERN bishop of the Episcopal Church says that the success of the church's missionary operations in the far West is largely due to the munificence of Cornelius Vanderbilt.

MRS. LOUISE CHANDLER MOUTON has a London home at Weymouth street, Portland place, and she is accredited with being one of the half-dozen women in London able to create and hold a salon.

HERBERT GLADSTONE has undertaken the task of raising money for a statue of Cromwell. If he succeeds in this, there will be no certainty that the statue will be permitted to find a resting place in Westminster Abbey.

SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN at 51 is portrayed as a short-necked, thick-set, beetle-browed man, with curly black hair, mustache, and side whiskers. He is somewhat stilted in manner, and has been composing for thirty-five years.

### HISTORICAL.

435. The celebrated Theodosian code made the law of the empire.

468. The principle of trial by jury inaugurated. Every accused person to be tried only by his equals.

476. The Western Empire overthrown by Odoacer; Roms taken and pillaged.

533. The Justinian code made the universal law of the Eastern Empire.

568. The semicircular arch first used; in the building of churches.

644. A school founded at Cambridge; said to be the origin of the univer. ity.

716. The art of paper making invented by the Arabs in Spain.

788. Lawyers first allowed to speak in court for their client.

792. The Gregorian chants brought to perfection and established in the ritual of the church.

802. Arabian race horses introduced into Europe by the Moors.

823. The famous Cathedral of St. Mark's, in Venice, built.

872. Venetian clocks made and sent to all parts of Europe.

890. Schools founded at Oxford; origin of the present university.

939. Schools of medicine founded at Cordova, in Spain.

941. The Arabian numerals brought to Europe and generally adopted in mercantile transactions.

102. Paper first made from cotton rags; invention claimed by Moors and Germans.

1024. Musical scale and notes devised by Guido Aretin.

1055. Laws passed in England forbidding men to sell their children.

1081. Domesday book, a census of England, compiled by order of William the Conqueror.

1095. The first crusade preached by Peter the Hermit.

1120. Abelard's writings; the scholastic philosophy reached comparative perfection.

Killed the Father of Rattles.

The largest rattlesnake ever killed

publicly in the entire State of Georgia

was killed Saturday afternoon in the

East Macon district. It had twenty-two

rattles and a button, making it

23 years old. It measured a fraction

over five feet in length. Nobody can

be found to have heard of a rattler 23

years old. A snake that carries four-

teen or sixteen rattles and a button is

considered a monster in these parts,

and is looked upon with most respect-

ful leasing. The men had quite an

exciting time killing the snake. None

of them dared go within several lengths

of him, and when he shook his mighty

bunch of rattles the noise was awful,

and struck terror to the hearts of the

negroes, causing them each time to

treat farther. They finally dispatched

him with a long pole.—St. Louis Globe-

Democrat.

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