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64 YATES ST., VICTORIA.

CLEAN UP OLD STOCKS.

Every grocery store, in fact every store of any kind, always has on hand a quantity of old stocks of goods that range at two or three to five or even ten years on the sheleves, says an exchange. These goods are usually counted as assets in the concern, when in fact they are more or less worthless. It is a mighty good thing always to clean out such old stocks at any half reasonable price. It is really not a sacrifice to do this as the capital obtained from such dead horse sales is worth many times more in the business than the unsalable stuff.

The present is a particu'arly good time to clean out all sorts of old stocks. The times force economy on many people who ordinarily scorn such a thing. If the stuff is offered cheap, there are people now who will buy it. Again the merchant in every town is carrying a big load in the way of book accounts, and finds it hard to obtain cash to meet his bills to the wholesaler. Here is another opening to send off all slow selling goods. Go in under the coun'er, up on the top shelves, and into all the corners of the store not exposed for many a long day. Dig up all the immovables of all sorts. Brush all the dust off, and burnish them up. Put them out where they may be seen and put low-price marks on them. The honest business man will not jujure his trade by so doing. He sells them for what they are; he puts bargain prices on them and the buyer takes them with his eyes open. Customers whose accounts are as long as prudence will justify will be glad to get a second grade article at a bargain price. Something beats nothing at all, and you will be doing your customers a substintial kindness. If we were in business in a time like this, we would not have a dead piece of goods in the store in thirty days.

WHERE DID THE WATER GO?

A writer in a Sarnia paper makes a remarkable statement. It is that at \$:15 lock on the morning of the 7th, the ... Clair river began to subside, and in en minutes droppped 22 inches. "Thus m ten minutes a volume of water, say 25 ..iles long, three-quarters of a mile wide and 22 inches deep, disappeared. Now there did those millions of tons of water go? The disturbance seems to noticed on either Lake St. Clair or Lake of the end."



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Huron. Only a slight breeze was blowing at the time, nor has any report been received of a sudden cyclone to disturb the water level so violently. Besides, a wind storm only lowers the level gradually, not with a sudden drop of twenty two inches. We are thus driven to account for this startling phenomenon in some other way. A theory is only tenable which accounts for all the known facts. My theory is that this huge volume of water was permanently lost by the sudden opening of a long fissure in the bed of the river. If this be true, then there will be a permanent lowering of the world water supply by that amount. Following this hypothesis to its natural conclusion is startling in the extreme. For centuries different volcanoes all over the world have been belching out gas, smoke, ashes, etc., all of which left a vacuum there. Man for years has been aiding this natural drain by pumping out oil, letting out millions of cubic feet of natural gas, and in other ways, till a huge hole must exist. What if this lowering of the St. Clair river in ten minutes by 22 inches was an indication that the crust was thin just here, and one cavity had thus been filled? What if another and larger cavity should have its 'ave been entirely local, as it was not crust broken? Are we at the beginning

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