

and stemmed. There is perfume distilling for your clover and juices for your grasses and fruits.

"Ice will be here for your wine, shade for your refreshment at noon, breezes and showers and snow flakes all in their season, and all 'deeded to you for forty dollars an acre!"

"Gods! What a copyhold of property for a fallen world!"

READER.

PAPER TEA BOXES.—Paper Tea Boxes have been repeatedly suggested as feasible. The only difficulties are to make the pieces so that they can be brought closely together and be waterproof. Varnish or liquor could be used on the outside. A writer in the *Indigo Planters' Gazette* has taken up the idea thus:—It does not matter much how the tare differs so long as the net weight is correct; but we consider it just as essential as ever to try and improve upon the old boxes. A neatly got up package will often attract attention where a heavy, clumsy one would probably only be noticed in a disparaging way. The subject of neat boxes must be kept carefully before the public and dinned into its ears until some one comes to the rescue with a good patent, and to ensure its success, a cheap one. If tyres for railway carriages and wagons can be made out of paper, which we understand they can, then why cannot a tea box be made out of it, and lined with lead paper, which would possess advantages over everything else in its cheapness, uniformity of size and even tares. The outsides, too, could be covered with pictures in the same way as the Chinese boxes are with characters of one kind and another. The lining with lead paper would, no doubt, be quite sufficient to protect the tea from damp, etc., and no question could arise regarding the corrosion of the tea leaf that takes place when some kinds of wood are used, and of course the deterioration of the tea in consequence. Of course the pieces would have to be made so as to pack conveniently for freight and to fit well into each other.

POPULAR LITERATURE AND INFIDELITY.—One of the most interesting subjects under discussion at the Church Congress was the foregoing: and of the papers read, that of Dr. James Macaulay, editor of the *Leisure Hour*, has received most favourable comment. Taking into account the whole mass of cheap newspapers and periodicals which has come into existence since the remission of the paper duty and the improvement of steam printing. Dr. Macaulay says, very truly, that notwithstanding occasional faults and defects, its influence is on the side of truth and right, as well as of order and freedom. Addressing ourselves, as we do, to those who are in the best position to know its real character, it is safe to assert that good wholesome morality pervades most of the popular literature of the day. The speakers at the Congress, however, omitted to mention one very important factor, and that is the part played by the distributors of literature, the booksellers throughout the country. Booksellers, as a class, will not sell impure literature if they can help it. There are plenty of booksellers who will not, under any circumstances, allow impure or mischievous literature to enter their premises; and even those who think themselves obliged to supply whatever is demanded, very rarely encourage the demand, or do anything to promote

the sale of what they privately condemn. This is particularly the case with regard to literature for the young. Without in the least suspecting it, many a lad has been put off the scent of literary impurity by some clever evasion on the part of the bookseller to whom he applied for a book or periodical that was not fit for him to read. Booksellers exert an enormous influence upon the character of popular literature, and that influence is invariably exercised in favour of what is good and wholesome.—*London Bookseller.*

NOVELTIES.

FROM THE *American Stationer*:—An ingenious and very useful article to bookkeepers and accountants is a pen extractor, which may be affixed to the desk for the purpose of extracting old pens from the holder without soiling the fingers. Another form of extractor comes in the guise of a paper-weight.

A MAN in Pennsylvania has taken out a patent for a paper shirt. The shirt is made of very tough paper that will not tear without a great deal of strain, and the bosom is made up of seven layers, one for each day in the week, so that the wearer may present a clean shirt-bosom every day. Enough collars and cuffs go with the shirts for the seven fronts, and the whole outfit only costs thirty-five cents. I forbear to remark on other conveniences which this shirt suggests.

A NEW enamel, which is said to be a perfect representation of burnished iron, has been brought out. A porcelain vase, or piece of statuary, covered with this enamel is said to pass with experts for artistic iron-works.

A NEW toy, which retails for five cents, consists of two pieces of round tin soldered together close on the edges and widening out in the centre to about a quarter of an inch in thickness, with a hole in the centre. A string is attached to a hole made for the purpose on the edge, and when the toy is twirled in the air a sound is emitted which is like a partridge call. There is a variation in the sound according as the device is whirled rapidly or slowly. The toy is brilliantly painted, and is a little larger in size than a silver dollar.

CONFECTIONERY pails are now made of a solid sheet of waterproof paper and are guaranteed to hold either hot or cold water. Why they should hold water deponent saith not.—**TRADE LOUNGER.**

SOME of the most remarkable specimens of paper that we have ever encountered have been sent to us by the firm of Fritz Victor & Co. It is pretty well known now that paper can be found to suit almost any purpose—from making a book to a bottle, a house to a carriage wheel. But these samples show that this material, possessing such infinite adaptability, can also be made to imitate or counterfeit almost any other substance, whether textile, like satin or silk, or organic and animal, like skins. In the little books sent to us are imitations of nearly every fabric to be found in the draper's shop—such as chintz, rep, brocaded silk, etc. Then there are imitations of