

The church was purchased for a little over \$30,000. Additional buildings, since erected, brought the entire cost up to about \$120,000.

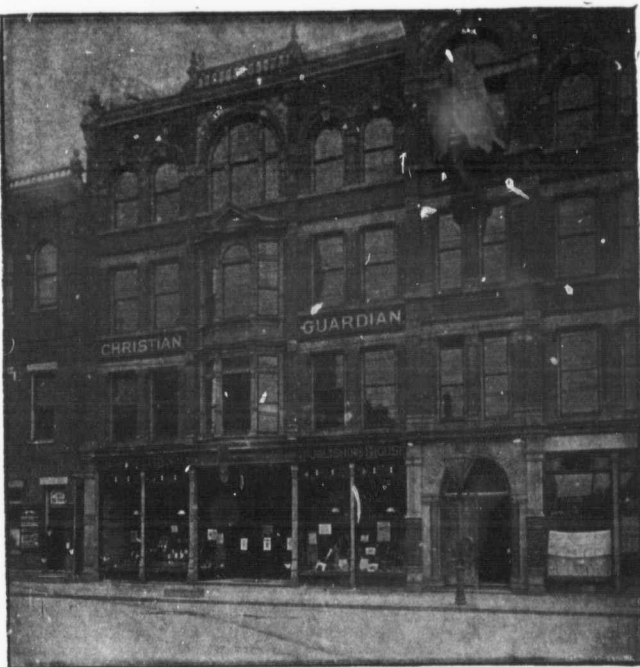
The wisdom of leaving a main thoroughfare like King Street was at first questioned, but every year shows that the right step was taken. Richmond Street is fast becoming a business street, the book trade particularly drifting in that direction, until there are now six book stores in one block. The street is undoubtedly destined to be the Paternoster Row of Toronto.

The new premises have a frontage of 100 feet, and are 176 feet deep, running through to Temperance Street. On both streets handsome additions have been built—that on Richmond Street is four storeys high, and on Temperance Street six storeys. The store for general sales, which is by far the largest and finest bookstore in the city, is in charge of Mr. Slater, an experienced bookman, who keeps it in apple pie order, and is always ready to sell books and stationery as cheap as they can be secured anywhere else. He does not propose to allow even the departmental stores to under-rell him.

Immediately back of the store is the Book Steward's office, which is the heart of the whole concern. Without stirring from his chair, the Book Steward can converse by telephone with the head of any of the departments, and, if necessary, can summon one or more by call-bell for consultation. When matters of importance are to be settled, there is frequently a gathering of all the departmental heads. The present book steward is one of the most genial men, and is accessible to everybody who chooses to call upon him. For every one he has a cordial hand grasp and a cheery word. It is marvelous that he manages to get through with so much work when subject to so many interruptions.



METHODIST BOOK AND PUBLISHING HOUSE.
SHOWING BOTH FRONTS WITH OLD CHURCH BETWEEN



METHODIST BOOK AND PUBLISHING HOUSE, RICHMOND STREET FRONT.

Further in the rear is the General Business office, where the big correspondence of the House is handled and the books are kept. The business management of the *Guardian* and other periodicals is in the competent hands of Mr. James Dale, who has been with the institution for over thirty years. By the way, the Book Room is noted for keeping its employees a long time. In the composing room there is a printer who has been there for forty-one years. If a man behaves himself and does his work efficiently, he need not stand in any dread of losing his job.

The book-keeping, and indeed, every part of the concern is managed in the most business-like way, and nobody need look for favors simply because it is a Church enterprise. One of the best accountants in the Dominion, after examining the books of the Methodist Book Room, said that he could not suggest any improvement in the method of keeping them or in their auditing. Mr. Frank Byrne, the cashier, has been the trusted servant of the house for twenty-five years, and Mr. Martin Merry, the efficient accountant, for twenty years.

A large business is done in subscription books. This department is under the direction of Mr. John C. Berkinshaw, an old and faithful employee of the house.

The shipping room is a busy place,

for goods are constantly going out to all parts of the Dominion. Mr. A. M. Huestis, a son of the Halifax Book Steward, is head man here, and keeps his eye on all orders so that very few mistakes occur.

If he were not a bachelor we would be inclined to call Mr. Ed. Caswell a "veteran," for he has been with the Book Room a number of years and thoroughly understands the business. He has charge of the Publishing Department, and it is his duty to read all manuscripts submitted by authors, and also to see them through the press.

Mr. S. B. Gundy looks after the wholesale business, and, with his travellers, covers the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Once a year he visits the Old Country as buyer. He is as live and up-to-date a business man as can be found in Canada.

The basement of the old Richmond street church is now used as the press room, where large presses rattle and clatter from seven in the morning until six at night, and not unfrequently far into the night to overtake the rush of work. The foreman, Mr. McLellan, is an active young man with quite a large force under his direction, as will be seen by the accompanying photograph. The stock room is on the ground floor, and usually contains many thousands of good books. Mr. R. Whittaker, who is in charge here, is so conversant with them