

arts cheapen the reproduction of all manner of drawings, maps and illustrations. What is called "process" work has made wonderful advances in the last few years and there seems no limit to its possible development. To meet this the extension of the Bureau is necessary. The additional room could be obtained by extending the wing, as suggested, at the north end of the building seventy-five feet by fifty. By building there the motive power as it now exists need not be disturbed and no rearrangement of the shafting would be necessary nor a disturbance of the rooms.

Voters' Lists.—The Printing Bureau has been of late prominently before the public in connection with the issue of the voters' lists. Previous revisions were carried on in times of political calm, but this revision occurred at a time when one hundred and five constituencies were protested. Of these ninety-eight were taken before the courts. In the forty-six by-elections which ensued it was very natural that if any misconceptions existed in any one's mind they would find expression, and, as such was the case, a few remarks upon the subject may seem appropriate. So far as the lists are concerned the functions of the Bureau are simple. They are to produce in type in clear alphabetical order a transcript of the manuscript lists entrusted by the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to the Queen's Printer for that purpose. These manuscript lists are for the most part anything but clear and are by no means in alphabetical order save in a very few instances. They are taken from the safe as required and sent to the voters' list room for printing. The proofs are read and compared with the MS. in the proof-room and after correction clean proofs are sent to the revising officers for verification. When they are returned verified they are printed off and twenty copies are sent to the revising officer who sends four to the sitting member and one to the last defeated candidate. The original MS. is then returned to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery who keeps it on record and there it can always be seen and compared with the printed list by any one who wishes to do so.

The whole process is carried on in rooms where a number of men are working side by side who, necessarily knowing nothing of the persons whose names they are setting, are concerned only in following their copy.

The lists came in very late, for the most part in December, and, as the results of the appeals could not be foreseen, there was great difficulty in getting out the revised lists in time for the elections. This, however, was done in every instance. A statement of the present condition of the revision is given at page 43. The last revision took forty men eight months to get through. The pressure for the departmental reports and sessional work has been so great that the voters' list room was depleted of men for March and April and half of May, but it is now filling up to its proper strength, and the work will go on more rapidly.

Distribution.—The question of the best method of distributing public documents occupied the attention of my predecessor, and is discussed at length in his report. The problem is to place them in the hands of those who will read them, and to avoid the waste of sending them to persons who do not want them. The pressure of other matters has prevented much inquiry into this. A new departure has been made by printing on every blue-book a distinctive number, so that it may be ordered without chance of error, and printing also the price for which it can be bought at the Bureau. The price fixed is approximately two cents for every sheet of