

AMONG THE RETAIL MERCHANTS.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS IN A BELLEVILLE STORE.

EXTENSIVE alterations are now going on in the store of Geo. Ritchie & Co., Belleville, Ont. The millinery department has entirely outgrown its present quarters and will occupy an entire flat directly over the dry goods department. It will be fitted up and lighted equal to any millinery department in Ontario. The dressmaking department will occupy the rooms directly north of the present quarters, which are now used for reserve stock. Double fitting-rooms and waiting-rooms will also be furnished. The reserve stock will be taken to the main floor in the rooms now occupied as millinery workrooms. The present millinery and mantle rooms will be entirely used for ladies' made-up garments of all kinds, as well as for a large assortment of ladies' fur garments, which the firm purpose dealing in much more largely than formerly. The entire building will be heated with steam, replacing two hot air furnaces and several stoves. When finished, the store will be more modern in its appointments, and the firm purpose doing business for cash only. This change was inaugurated July 1.

A MARITIME MAN ON WESTERN CANADA.

A representative of DRY GOODS had a very pleasant half-hour's chat with Mr. A. E. McLeod, one of Parrsboro's oldest and most successful merchants, who was just returning from a pleasure trip to the Coast. He speaks in glowing terms of the Northwest and British Columbia as a field for young men, and said when he got home he would do all he possibly could to induce young maritime men to go to the Northwest instead of the United States. Mr. McLeod has one brother in business at Prince Albert, one at Moose Jaw, and another starting at Vancouver. Asked as to business in Parrsboro', he said it was good and that the town has greatly improved within the last few years. They have put in a water system and electric light, all owned by the town and giving perfect satisfaction. Mr. McLeod has sold out the balance of his business in Parrsboro', and intends starting in men's furnishings in Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

CHANGING FROM ONTARIO TO MANITOBA.

W. G. Murphy & Co., Mitchell, Ont., are giving up business in that town to locate in Carberry, Manitoba. They are having built for their accommodation in Carberry a large two-storey brick building, 30 by 85 feet, which will be fitted with all modern improvements, including handsome plate glass windows, metallic ceilings, polished floors, cherry counters and solid stone vault, making altogether one of the finest places of business west of Winnipeg. They will do business for cash and have everything run in the modern departmental store style, handling the choicest goods and quoting the lowest prices. This firm have been doing a progressive, live, and steadily growing business in Mitchell for a number of years, and it was only after being offered the most exceptional inducements that they consented to go west. However, there is in Mitchell to-day a splendid chance for a real live business man to step into one of the best towns in Ontario and pick up the thread of a cash business turning over \$35,000 of general goods per year and make a success of the enterprise.

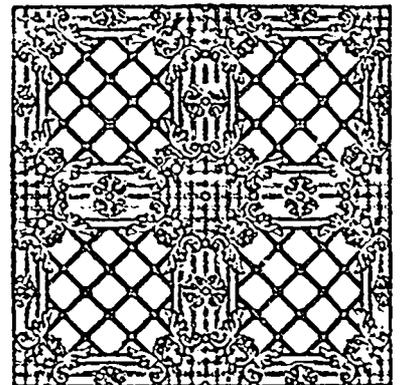
VISIT TO MR. CAMERON'S STORE AT BEACHBURG.

A. Cameron, of Beachburg, Ont., has one of the best general stores in Canada. It is built of solid stone and brick, 30 x 85 feet, with two large plate glass windows. An iron railing extends in front of the windows, so that there is no danger of anyone leaning too heavily against them. The front is built of white marble, with Scotch granite polished blocks for cross pieces. The second storey is composed of white marble and sandstone, unpolished, eight inches square. On entering the store, a representative of THE DRY GOODS REVIEW was struck with the neatness and the well kept stock. The right side is devoted to boots and shoes, groceries and hardware, all having their proper place. The left side has a full

range of general dry goods, dress goods, silks, tweeds, etc., each having its own department. In the centre, and at the rear end of the store, is a wide stair, leading to the ready-made clothing, millinery, and where tailoring and dressmaking are done. Off the main showroom is a ladies' dressing-room. At the back of the stairs is the entrance to the basement, which has a good, firm cement floor, sloping to one corner, so that if any water should happen to get in it will all run away. The general office is at the rear of the store. It is large and well furnished, which is in keeping with the store. It extends five feet to the east of the main buildings, so that it gives the office three windows, one looking out on the street, two on the lawn. Mr. Cameron's private office is back of the general office. It also extends five feet further east, which gives it a window looking out on the street. One very noticeable thing about Mr. Cameron's office is the Encyclopædia Britannica. In rear of the store is a storehouse, 28 x 40 feet, which is separated from the main building by two double iron doors. Above, the storehouse is fitted up for a music hall. Under this storehouse is another basement, used for keeping farmers' produce. In one corner is an ice house over which is cold storage. At the rear of storehouse No 1, and across a 20-foot passage is another storehouse 38 x 52 feet. This is used for heavy ware. Mr. Cameron's store is heated with hot water. In the packing-room there is a cistern from which the water is pumped into a tank that supplies the whole building. There is one mile of piping in the building. Back of the stairs is a wash basin, so that one can pass from one side of the store to the other and wash one's hand without the public seeing. In the basement is a lavatory fitted up in city style. The store has 92 feet of counters, 60 of which have plate glass tops. There are eight inches of space below the glass which is used to display the goods. Mr. Cameron said: "In the old store we had no room to show crockeryware, but since I came in here, about one year and nine months ago, I have sold more crockery than I did the last five years in the old place." This is an ideal country store, and Mr. Cameron has good reason to be proud of it.

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