

additional space and changes in progress well bring their various departments more under control than formerly. In the rear end of the building they have put up a stairway that connects the basement first and second floors. By removing some partitions, they make a fine entry and shipping room in the rear. The basement where they keep their stock of flat paper has been much improved and rearranged. The second floor will be devoted to their miscellaneous stock of file goods and jobbing stationery. The upper stories are used for their reserve stock and workshops. An elevator is also to be put in. When all changes are finished, they will have a every complete establishment.

The Methodist Book and Publishing House, desiring to keep pace with the march of progress in Toronto, has made extensive improvements in its warerooms. In addition to putting in two fine plate glass windows, the inner part of the store has been thoroughly renovated, new paper and fresh paint giving a bright attractive appearance.

Warwick & Sons have burnished up the front of their warehouse, and enlivened the former comparative dulness by new and attractive signs. The sign on the office window is notable in reading—"Ontario Government Printers. Office of *Ontario Gazette*."

Joseph Fletcher, the Yonge street news dealer, has made improvements that add much to the appearance of his store. Always a neat and attractive place of business, the addition of plate-glass windows, new gas fixtures, papering, painting, etc., make the old establishment quite spruce. It is a favourite half-way house for the wayfarer coming down town, and when waited on by Mrs. Fletcher, to whom we give credit for the apple-pie order of everything, it is no wonder that that business is increasing.

### CHEAP BOOKS.

George Munro, speaking on the question, recently said: "We are not the originators of the scheme of publishing paper-bound novels. It was started by the Lake-Side Publishing Company of Chicago. We bought them out and began at once issuing the Sea-Side Library."

"Have you found it profitable?" was asked.

"There is really no money in printing this class of work for a publisher who goes into it exclusively," Mr. Munro said. "We depend altogether on our periodicals. These books merely keep our name before the public and serve to advertise other publications. We sell more standard books than of any other kind. The best English reprints take the lead in every case."

"Would an international copyright affect your publications?"

"Not at all."

"Do you think publishers have overdone the matter of cheap publishing?" Mr. Munro was asked.

"I think a good many of them will be compelled to give it up when they become convinced there is no money in it," was the reply.

"The publication of cheap books," said James Harper, "has cultivated a taste for reading among

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