

Obituary.

MR. CHARLES WHITLAW, PARIS, ONT.

REV. W. H. ALLWORTH, LANSING, MICH.



WE have looked in vain in our Congregational paper for some obituary notice of Mr. Whitlaw, of Paris, lately deceased. We therefore send these reminiscences of his life and character, gathered during seventeen years of pastoral experience in Paris, during which time Mr. Whitlaw was an efficient deacon and treasurer of the Congregational church there. How long before and after that time he held that official relation to the church we cannot tell. Mr. Charles Whitlaw, who died 13th July, 1895, was born in Montreal, 1823, of Scotch parentage. He came to Paris, Ont., when he was but in his 22nd year, and soon evinced the qualities of a first-class business man. In 1847, he established the flour mills on Grand River St., which he conducted himself until 1878, when he took Mr. A. H. Baird into partnership with him. During this thirty-one years in which the mill was under his sole control, it was a trying time for millers, requiring consummate skill and prudence to keep from dangerous speculations on the one hand, and loss for lack of enterprise on the other. Mr. Whitlaw gained during this period a merchant miller's experience, sometimes gaining large profits, then again losing by the sudden fluctuations in prices, such as required a prophet's eye to foresee. During these years of business changes, Mr. Whitlaw proved himself to be possessed of great business ability. Being diligent, prompt, and upright, he inspired the confidence of his fellow-citizens, both as a merchant and municipal officer. Seventeen times he

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