

FIFTY YEARS' CHANGES IN
MANCHESTER.

THE demolition of a Manchester warehouse, which was opened in 1851, has inspired a correspondent of The City News, Mr. G. Morris, to give some interesting reminiscences of business life in Manchester 50 years ago. Those were, indeed, palmy days for manufacturers and merchants engaged in the cotton trade, and for the city they enriched by their enterprise. What strikes us most in reading Mr. Morris' letter is the difference in the business methods of then and now. The principals made their £100,000 a year, and were not without knowledge of business and capacity for management. But they thought it worth while to employ good men at high salaries, and to leave them a considerable amount of independent initiative. Prices seem to have been to a very great extent fixed by the salesmen and buyers, and, says Mr. Morris, "as long as there was a good profit at the end of the year the governors were content, and did not interfere." And now!

How few foreign customers do we now see in the market? The young buyers dare not pay a halfpenny or even a farthing apiece more than their limits, and the worried salesmen often have to go half-a-dozen times backwards and forwards before they can fix up an order; and, when it is done,

how often is it merely to keep looms or machines running?

But in the old days they had to work—

There was no five o'clock business then. We frequently had to stay till ten or twelve o'clock at night, during the season. But all that was amply compensated for by the pay, good annual advances, our salaries commonly doubling every two or three years.

Mr. Morris' conclusion is that "the past was all energy, expansion, enterprise, courage, rewarded by success and a good profit. The present is timidity, narrowness, trickiness, poor pay and stagnation, with little or no profit after all." Mr. Morris is, perhaps, unduly pessimistic, and we think his conclusions somewhat too general in their character.—London, Eng., Drapers' Record.

BUYERS IN THE MARKET.

Among the buyers who visited Toronto, during the last week in August, were: A. E. French, Sundridge; A. K. Anthony, Galt; D. Spencer, Victoria, B.C.; D. W. Ross, Parry Harbor; E. A. Jaffray, Bolton; E. G. Hall, Rat Portage; D. J. Davis, Thamesville; Richard Babb, Mitchell; J. Lindsay, Southampton; Mr. Cressman, of Cressman & Bowman, Berlin; Mr. Preston, of the N. R. Preston Co., Limited, Winnipeg; Mr. Whalen, of Hamilton & Whalen, Fort William; Mr. Robinson, of Robinson

& Hamilton, Rat Portage; James E. Lee, Rat Portage; Mr. Heald, of the Wm. Heald Co., Port Arthur; Mr. Smith, of the North Bay Trading Co., North Bay; Mr. Ogel, of H. H. Layfield, Vancouver; Mr. Beck, of the C. Beck Manufacturing Co., Penetanguishene; Mr. Sales, of Sales & Haliday, Merlin; Mr. Strowe, of Strowe & White, Brandon; H. L. Heath, Huntsville, W. H. McIndoo, Wingham; W. H. Roach, Windsor, N.S.; Mr. Cameron, of McLean & Cameron, Craipaud, P. E. I.; Joseph Corkey, St. John, N.B.; J. F. Brownscombe, Uxbridge; Mr. Geldert, of G. D. Geldert & Co. Windsor, N.S.

CHANGE IN FIRM.

D. C. Wilcox has withdrawn from the firm of Robertson, Lindsay & Wilcox, dry goods merchants, St. Thomas, and the business will hereafter be conducted by James Robertson and W. J. Lindsay.

THE GLOVE TRADE.

THE REVIEW is informed by Messrs. Perrin, Freres & Cie. that they have already delivered most of their fall orders. The quality of their goods this season is as good as ever, and the shades are perfect. They have a large stock on hand from which they can supply the trade.

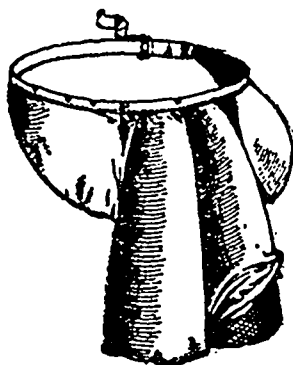
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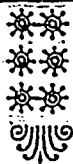
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