

THE
Canadian Horticulturist

Vol. XIX.

1896.

No. 9.



PROMINENT CANADIAN HORTICULTURISTS.—XXVI.

REV. E. B. STEVENSON, GUELPH, ONT.



HERE are men who are said to ride hobbies because, whatever their regular avocation may be, they have some favorite line of study or pursuit in which they are deeply interested and which seems to carry them away at times entirely from the business of life. This is commendable too, in many instances, especially where, as in the case of Mr. Stevenson, the hobby is such as to be a means of physical recreation and mental refreshment. So much has he become engrossed in the study of the strawberry, that it has become to him a delight, and every new variety produced by his experimental hybridization becomes another addition to his pets.

Last year Mr. Stevenson was appointed experimenter in strawberries for the Provincial Department of Agriculture, and a valuable report from him has just been published in the Fruit Growers' Report for 1895. It was in order to see some of his favorite varieties that the writer visited Guelph on the 10th of June last. Maplebank, at Guelph, is the early home of our strawberry specialist, and is still occupied by his father, Mr. William Stevenson, and here the pet varieties of strawberries have also a permanent home.

Maplebank is situated on a beautiful elevation commanding a fine view of the City of Guelph. The house is antique both in structure and in furnishing, and is surrounded by a spacious and interesting yard planted with