

the Maritime Provinces, and into six of the Northern and Western States, he having agencies in American cities as far west as Chicago. Of grafted apple-trees alone he has sold more than half a million; he is known among fruit-growers of the Dominion and the United States, as a high authority on horticultural matters; he is conversant with the geology of New Brunswick, and is well read on a great variety of subjects—one of the best informed men, in fact, in the county of Carleton—his conversation is free, flowing and highly instructive. It will do anybody good to have a chat with this prince of Maritime fruit growers.

Mr. Sharp has cleared in all about 500 acres of forest land, and has, in past years, devoted a good deal of time to experimenting in agriculture, but at present fruit culture absorbs his whole attention; he has kept out of politics, and out of office, giving his time to the turning of the leaves of the "Book of Nature," like Henry D. Thoreau. But unlike the Concord hermit, the author of "Walden; or Life in the Woods," who never voted, never went to church, and never, if he could help it, paid a tax. Mr. Sharp is practical, making a good use of his knowledge, and filling his place as a society man and common-sense citizen; he has a wife, whose maiden name was Maria Shaw, of Wakefield parish, county of Carleton, married in 1853, and they have reared five children, and also buried three.

HON. BENJAMIN R. STEVENSON,

ST. ANDREW'S, N.B.

BENJAMIN ROBERT STEVENSON, barrister, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, N. B., was born at St. Andrew's on the 10th of April, 1835, his parents being Robert and Christiann (Milliken) Stevenson, the latter being from the State of Maine. His grandfather, Robert Stevenson, came to St. Andrew's, from Renfrewshire, Scotland, in 1819.

Our subject was educated in the St. Andrew's grammar school, and the university of New Brunswick; being graduated B.A. in 1854; here he studied law with the Hon. James W. Chandler, Esq., afterward county court judge for Westmoreland, Kent and Albert counties; was admitted to practice in 1858; called to the bar in Trinity Term, 1859, and has been in practice at St. Andrew's since the former date, making a good success in his profession, and having a highly creditable standing at the Charlotte county bar. In law as well as in politics, he is one of the rising men of New Brunswick.

Mr. Stevenson was registrar of probates for Charlotte county from 1863 to 1867, when he resigned; has also served as a school trustee, and is major of militia, rising from the rank of ensign; he was in active service three months at the time of the Fenian raid of 1866.

He was first returned to parliament for his present seat, to represent Charlotte county in October, 1867, and was re-elected in 1870, 1874, and 1878. He was appointed a member of the executive council and surveyor-general on the 22nd of February, 1871, resigning the office of surveyor-general in July, 1878, but retaining his position in the executive council. He carried the Free Grants Act, while surveyor-general, in 1872, and also several acts in regard to the internal economy of the Crown Lands department; he also initiated the stampage system of collecting timber dues. He was elected Speaker on the 26th of February, 1879, and makes a prompt, courteous and efficient officer. Mr. Stevenson has been sent to Ottawa as a delegate,