

expenditures, and which has resulted in saving millions of dollars to the government. His knowledge of public men is large, having been connected with the treasury and for the past seven years associated with the sergeant-at-arms of the U. S. senate at Washington. Mr. Lewis has always risen in the estimation of those with whom he has been associated by simple force of his ability and character. Shortly after the war he married Isadora, daughter of Mr. William D. Winship of Georgetown, D. C. Three sons and three daughters are the fruit of this union. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and with his good wife founded a mission church of that denomination, while sojourning in Washington. He is also a free mason and in politics has always been a pronounced republican. He believes in progression and takes great interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of Connecticut; especially is he interested in all improvements in his own locality. He is an enterprising citizen of the town of Westbrook. He has resided at Grove Beach, between the villages of Clinton and Westbrook, with his family since 1872. He is a very nervy, tireless worker at whatever he undertakes, as shown by his energy in causing the opening of the new and beautiful shore highway running through Grove Beach and connecting the towns of Clinton and Westbrook, and in his untiring and persistent work for the breakwater improvement at Duck Island Harbor on the sea front of these towns. He is the founder of Grove Beach, and the improvements and wonderful growth of this place in the past few years is due to him more than to any other person for his enterprise and push in developing this charming summer resort.

JOSEPH PIERPONT, NORTH HAVEN, Merchant.

Joseph Pierpont was born in North Haven March 11, 1853, and was educated in the common schools and at Cheshire academy, providing him with a thorough equipment for business. He is engaged in mercantile pursuits and is a careful and judicious manager. Mr. Pierpont is a member of St. John's Episcopal church at North Haven, occupying the position of junior warden. In politics he is a republican. He is a member of the board of school visitors, his present term expiring in 1892. Mr. Pierpont has a wife and three children. The former was Miss Hattie B. Brockett prior to her marriage.



JOSEPH PIERPONT.

HON. W. W. EATON, HARTFORD: Ex-Congressman.

William W. Eaton was born at Tolland, October 11, 1816, and received a public school education there, preparing him for business life. His father, Hon. Luther Eaton, was a man of notable honesty and integrity, possessing the fullest confidence and respect of the community in which he resided. He was also a man of political influence and control, at one time representing the old twentieth district in the state senate. Mr. Eaton inherited the strict probity and independence of conviction of his father, and from the earliest period of his life his course has been one of fearless adherence to what he has believed to be right. On arriving at his majority he engaged in mercantile pursuits at Columbia, S. C., and spent three or four years there in business. The strong individual views which characterized his subsequent course in public affairs were established in part at least by his residence at the South. At the conclusion of his commercial career, which lasted upwards of four years, he returned North and commenced the study of law at his old home in Tolland, and was admitted to the bar in Tolland county. In 1847 he was elected a member of the Connecticut house of representatives from Tolland, and was returned the following year from that town. From that time until now he has been a prominent figure in Connecticut politics. In 1850 he was elected to the state senate from the old twentieth district. At the end of the session of the general assembly that year Mr. Eaton removed to Hartford, and has since been a resident here. He received the appointment of clerk of the Hartford county court, and proved himself a thoroughly competent official. In 1853 he was elected a member of the house from Hartford and was chosen speaker, a position for which he was amply qualified both by reason of ability and experience. Mr. Eaton was also a member of the house from Hartford during the sessions of 1863, '68, '70, '71, '73, and '74. In 1873 he was elected speaker for the second time, and discharged the duties of the position with characteristic efficiency and success. Mr. Eaton possesses special adaptation for the legislative function, and his career in the general assembly was marked by the highest personal integrity and uprightness. During the session of 1874 he was elected United States senator from Connecticut, succeeding Hon. William A. Buckingham, whose term expired March 4, 1875.



W. W. EATON.

Upon the death of Senator Buckingham in February, 1875, Mr. Eaton was appointed United States senator, filling the vacancy caused by Mr. Buckingham's death, and assumed the duties of the office February 13, 1875. Commencing his full term on the 4th of March following, he remained in Washington during the succeeding six years, establishing for himself a record in which the state might experience a just sense of pride. During the concluding years of his senatorial life he was senate chairman of the committee on foreign relations, one of the most important in congress. He was opposed to the appointment of the electoral commission by which, in 1876, the election of President Hayes was ratified, and was the only democrat in the senate who voted against the measure. Mr. Eaton was one of the strongest advocates of tariff reform during his term in congress, and was the author of an important measure providing for the appointment of a tariff commission. His term expired March 3, 1881, before his bill could be made a law, but the subsequent congress enacted a measure covering the main provisions of Mr. Eaton's act. He was a hard-money democrat, and held positive views with regard to the greenback controversy which agitated the country a few years ago. In the fall of 1882 he received the democratic nomination for congress from the first district, and was elected by a handsome majority. At the close of his term he retired from active political life, though his voice is still heard and his influence felt in the councils of his party.

HARVY GODARD, NORTH GRANBY: Farmer and Miller.

Harvy Godard was born in North Granby, March 15, 1823, and was educated in the common schools, preparing him for a useful and successful life. In 1873 he was a member of the general assembly from the town of Granby, and was master of the state grange from 1875 until 1879. He has held most of the offices within the gift of his town, and is an active and influential citizen of Granby. He is a democrat in politics. Mr. Godard has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. He is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 36, F. and A. M., of Tariffville. He has always lived in North Granby, where, in addition to his farming occupations, he has carried on a sawmill and gristmill. One of his yearly pastimes is to distill a small quantity of cider brandy in the



HARVY GODARD.

old-fashioned way. Mr. Godard has a wife and five sons. The former was Miss Sabra L. Beach prior to her marriage. His only daughter, Grace M., died in 1878, aged three years.

NORMAN C. STILES, MIDDLETOWN: Manufacturer of Machinery.

The subject of this sketch, like very many other persons who have risen to prominence, and who have been largely instrumental in building up great enterprises, was a poor



N. C. STILES.

boy, but possessed with energy and push, and succeeded in establishing one of the most important industries in the country, from which he retired in December last, leaving his son, E. S. Stiles, in his place. He was born at Feeding Hills, a village of Agawam, Mass., June 18, 1834. Through misfortunes to the father, the subject of this sketch was

deprived of the educational advantages enjoyed by most boys of his age. He early developed inventive genius and remarkable mechanical ability, and various devices were constructed by him, previous to the age of sixteen, when he removed to Meriden and engaged with his brother, Doras A. Stiles, in the manufacture of tinware; but this gave him no opportunity to develop his mechanical tastes, and he soon after became connected with the American Machine Works, at Springfield, Mass., where he remained until he attained his majority. Soon after he returned to Meriden, Conn., and entered the employ of Messrs. Snow, Brooks & Co., now known as Messrs. Parker Brothers. He was employed in making dies and other small work, requiring great skill and ingenuity. He subsequently entered the employ of Messrs. Edward Miller & Co. of Meriden, where he remained until 1857, when he concluded to "paddle his own canoe," and began the manufacture of presses and dies. His business increased at a rapid rate and required additional facilities, and Mr. Stiles selected Middletown as a good place for wider operations, removed there, and has remained there ever since. Previous to removing to Middletown, Mr. Stiles made several improvements in his punching press, among others an eccentric adjustment, which was a great improvement on other punching presses then in use, and far superior to what was known as the Fowler press. This device he patented in 1864. Parker Bros. of Meriden, who were engaged in manufacturing the Fowler press, adopted Mr.