

SHANNON, EDWIN HOWE, Lawyer, Laconia, was born in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, March 8, 1858, son of James C. and Judith W. (Batchelder) Shannon. He traces his descent in the paternal line from an early settler of Portsmouth, his grandfather, George Shannon, having been born in that place. In the maternal line he comes of the family which was related to that of the famous statesman, Daniel Webster, his great-grandmother having been a cousin of the statesman. Mr. Shannon received his education in the common schools of his native town, and at Gilmanton Academy. He studied law with Hon. Thomas Cogswell of Gilmanton, lately the United States Pension Agent at Concord, and



E. H. SHANNON.

was admitted to the Bar in 1881. He then became a partner of Mr. Cogswell, remaining such for about a year, when the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Shannon seeking a wider field for practice than was afforded him in Gilmanton. He thereafter practiced his profession alone, until 1893, having offices in Farmington and Pittsfield, where he soon acquired more than a local reputation for his ability in the trial of causes, and gained for himself a considerable clientage. In 1893 he went to Laconia and entered into partnership with W. S. Peaslee, the firm subsequently becoming Shannon, Peaslee and Blackstone. In 1894 he withdrew from that firm, since which time he has been

in business alone. He is counsel for several large and prosperous corporations, and for a number of years has devoted considerable time to the special study of that important branch of the law. He is also considered an authority upon the Law of Personal Injuries, and has a large practice in that branch of his profession. Mr. Shannon is a man of strong personality, is quick to determine and prompt to execute. Fearless in thought and action, with strong common sense as a guide, he does not hesitate to carve a way where none appears. Precedents have no terrors for him. If they appear to be right, he follows them, but if wrong, he fearlessly attacks them and some, at least, have gone down before the logic of his reasoning. As a counsellor, wise and prudent, in the trial of causes, strong and tactful, and as an advocate, earnest and eloquent, he has acquired a large and lucrative practice. In politics he is a Republican. He was married October 18, 1882, to Myra E., daughter of Ira L. and Lavina E. (Drew) Berry, of Barnstead. They have three children: Ella C., Mildred and Edwin H. Shannon, Jr.

SPRAGUE, OBADIAH, Retired Manufacturer, West Swanzey, was born in Richmond, New Hampshire, May 21, 1826, son of Samuel and Melinda (Kingman) Sprague. In the paternal line he is of Scotch descent, his great-grandfather having emigrated from Scotland to Providence, Rhode Island, about 1760. His grandfather, Obadiah Sprague, born in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1770, removed to Richmond, New Hampshire, in 1792, and resided there until his death in 1858. His father, Samuel Sprague, who was born in Richmond in 1797, died in Winchester in 1881. On the maternal side, Mr. Sprague is of good old New England stock, the Kingman family having long resided in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, before their removal to Winchester, New Hampshire. Mr. Sprague attended the district schools of Richmond until he was fifteen years old, and was a pupil for two years at the Winchester High School. At seventeen he was employed as a merchant's clerk, being thus occupied in Winchester and Keene for six years. Then for eight years he was a clerk in a wholesale and retail grocery house in Keene, for six years acting as bookkeeper. He opened a crockery and carpet store in Keene in 1857, but in 1859 sold out his interest to accept the Cashiership of the Winchester Bank, where he remained five years, resigning to purchase, with others, the woolen and wood-