

general election in 1872, Mr. Blain successfully contested West York, and was returned to the Dominion Parliament, defeating Wm. Tyrrell, of the Village of Weston, formerly Warden of York, by a majority of over 200 votes; at the next general election he was re-elected to the same seat, defeating Capt. N. Wallace, of Woodbridge, by over 500 majority, and continuing in parliament until the defeat of the Mackenzie Government in 1878, when, as one of its supporters, he was unsuccessful. In politics he is a Liberal, and while in parliament was an independent supporter of the Reform Administration, though inclined to be more Conservative than that party, in some national measures, favoring a qualified protection policy, as the growing industries of the country might require. He also holds moderate views on the National Currency question and favors the withdrawal from the existing banks, on the expiration of their present charters, the power of issuing bank bills, substituting therefor bills issued by the Dominion Government, which will be equally good for circulation at their face value in any and all parts of Canada, said bills to be redeemable in gold by the Government, on demand. His political views are broad, and his ideas carefully studied and followed to logical conclusions, which favor the welfare of the whole Dominion, rather than that of any particular section or political party.

In religious views he is of Presbyterian antecedents, but being unconnected with any denomination, he worships with his wife at the Evangelical Church of England, of which she is a communicant.

January 27, 1869, Mr. Blain was united in marriage to Eliza, daughter of the late John P. Harrington, of Northlands, Tipperary, Ireland, and grand-daughter of the late General Robinson, of Ballynovan, same county. Her father died while she was young, and she emigrated with her mother and brother to Toronto, where the latter, John Harrington, Esq., became a successful hardware merchant, and a highly respected citizen. His death, which resulted from an accident while out riding, was very sudden, and deeply regretted by a host of friends, who honored him for his sterling worth and character.

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### GUSTAVUS W. WICKSTEED, Q.C.,

OTTAWA.

GUSTAVUS WILLIAM WICKSTEED, the present Head Clerk and Chief of the Legislative Department of the House of Commons, has held that office and a like one in the Legislative Assembly and of United Canada, and in the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada as a first assistant, since 1841. He was born in Liverpool, England, December 21, 1799. His father, Richard Wicksteed, was a member of the Cheshire and Shropshire family of that name, and his mother, whose maiden name was Tatlock, was of a Lancashire family. Mr. Wick-