

John Ewing Blaine

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BLAINÉ, JOHN EWING, Merchant and Collector of Internal Revenue, was born February 6, 1841, in Mason County, Kentucky. He belongs to a family largely distinguished for patriotism in the history of this country. His father, Samuel Lyon Blaine, was a native of Pennsylvania; followed mercantile pursuits, mainly; was United States Assessor of Internal Revenue, from 1864 to 1873; was uncle of Hon. James G. Blaine, of Maine, one of the most able and brilliant men of his day; and was grandson of Ephraim Blaine, a wealthy Pennsylvania patriot, who gave largely of his means to the support of the Continental army, during the war of the Revolution. His mother, Anna (Coons) Blaine, was a native of Fayette County, Kentucky, and daughter of George Coons, one of the old citizens of that county. John Ewing Blaine quit school in his thirteenth year, and began to clerk in a dry-goods store, in Peoria, Illinois; in 1858, he returned to Maysville, where he continued in mercantile pursuits until 1863; during the next year, was in the Quartermaster's Department of the Army of Western Virginia; in November, 1864, was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue, for what was then the Sixth Kentucky District; held that position until May, 1873, when he was appointed United States Collector of Internal Revenue for the Ninth Kentucky District, by Gen. Grant. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant, and is an ardent Republican in politics. Religiously, Mr. Blaine is associated with the Presbyterian Church. He was married, December 14, 1871, to Miss Nannie McGranaghan, daughter of Dr. William H. McGranaghan, of Maysville.