

Northern Kentucky Views presents . . .

## Hon. Richard H. Stanton

STANTON, HON. RICHARD H., Lawyer and Law Writer, son of Richard and Harriet Perry Stanton, was born September 9, 1812, at Alexandria, then in the District of Columbia. His father was of English origin, a Marylander by birth, participated in the war of 1812, was a bricklayer by pursuit, and died at Memphis, Tennessee, in 1846. His mother was a native of the District of Columbia, and daughter of Alexander Perry, a soldier in the war of the Revolution. Richard H. Stanton was educated at Hallowell Academy, in his native town. He assisted his father at his trade for several years, but spent much of his leisure in reading law, having early decided on entering the legal profession. In 1835, he came to Kentucky, stopping for a few months in Flemingsburg, but subsequently locating at Maysville, where he has since resided. He edited the "Maysville Monitor" until 1841; in the mean time, finishing his law studies, was admitted to the bar in 1839; in 1841, entered regularly upon the practice of the law; in 1845, was appointed postmaster of Maysville, then a distributing office, by President Polk; was removed, under Taylor's administration, in 1849; in that year, was elected to Congress; was re-elected in 1851 and in 1853; during the first term, was Chairman of the Committee on Public Grounds and Buildings, and was mainly instrumental in the construction of the dome, and otherwise improving the Capitol; and, during his second term, on account of his successful interest in the work of improvement, a gold watch was presented to him by the mechanics engaged; during his last term, was Chairman of the Committee on Elections, and of the Special Committee on the Military Supervision of Civil Works, and succeeded in removing the military supervision of mechanics at the armories of Harper's Ferry and Springfield, and substituting civil superintendence; in 1857, was appointed Commonwealth's Attorney for what was then the Tenth Judicial District; was elected to the same position in 1858; resigned the office in 1862; in 1868, was elected Judge of the Circuit Court for the Fourteenth Judicial District, and served the term of six years; was a member of the Baltimore Convention, of 1844, that nominated James K. Polk; was member of the Baltimore Convention, of 1852, that nominated Franklin Pierce; was a member of the Union Convention, which met in Philadelphia, in 1866; also, of the New York Convention, which nominated Seymour, in 1868; and, in 1856, was Presidential Elector, and cast the vote of his district for James Buchanan. Among his published works are: "Civil and Criminal Code of Kentucky;" "Revised Statutes of Kentucky," in two volumes; "Powers and Duties of Justices of the Peace, Clerks of Courts, and other Officers;" "Manual for Executors, Administrators, and Guardians;" "Guide for Sheriffs;" and will soon have ready for the press his "Complete Digest of the Decisions of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, from 1795 to 1877." Judge Stanton has always been a Democrat. He is a voluminous and indefatigable writer, an able and successful lawyer, and has made for himself a record, of which he might well be proud, and a place among the most distinguished men of his profession in the State. In 1833, he was married, in Alexandria, Virginia, to Miss Throop, a native of that city.