

Elligott was born into the Catholic church, and yet belongs to that denomination, but he takes an interest in all Christian churches and is liberal in his religious beliefs. The only secret society to which he belongs is the order of the Knights of Pythias. He is secretary of the Board of Education of Madison.

HENRY JOHNS.

Mr. Johns is a member of the law firm of Henry and Robert L. Johns, of St. Paul. He was born at Johnstown, New York, June 18, 1858, the son of Captain Henry T. Johns and Martha Jane Brown (Johns). Captain Johns enlisted in Company C, Forty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers at the outbreak of the civil war, and afterwards in the Sixty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, and served until the close of the war, being breveted captain for gallant services at Petersburg. In 1868 he moved with his family to Minnesota, locating at St. Paul. At the close of the war he published a book entitled "Life With the Forty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers," one of the few books which portrays the part taken by the private soldiers in the defense of the Union. While in Minnesota he gained considerable reputation by the publication of several pamphlets upon the resources and great commercial advantages of the Northwest, and especially of the city of Duluth. He also attained prominence as a public lecturer, and for several years helped the cause of temperance as State Lecturer for the Minnesota Temperance Society. From 1873 to 1876 he was secretary of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce. In 1878 he moved to Washington, District of Columbia, where he has since resided, being engaged in government service and in various literary work. The ancestors of the mother of the subject of this sketch settled in Massachusetts about the year 1700, and several members of her family served in the Revolutionary War. The ancestors of H. T. Johns were of Welsh origin and Quakers, and settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the year 1680. Henry Johns received his early education in the public schools of St. Paul. While attending the high school, he contributed to and edited several amateur papers, and took considerable part in the literary society. He studied at



the National Law School in the City of Washington, from which he graduated in 1879, and was admitted to the bar in June of that year. In the fall of 1879 he came West and located at Burlington, Iowa, and entered the law office of General Tracy, where he remained about a year. He then came to Minnesota and located at Red Wing, where he began the practice of his profession and was engaged in the practice of law at Red Wing until 1885, when he moved to St. Paul. Mr. Johns has been a successful practitioner, and has been engaged in a number of important cases, among which are the Stensgaard forgery case, the famous real estate fraud cases and the notorious bank robbery cases. Mr. Johns' political affiliations are with the Republican party. He has been an active worker for the success of the party during the past ten years, and is considered one of the best political organizers and campaigners in the state. He has never sought election to any office, except the Legislature, of which he served as a member during the session of 1895, representing the Fourth ward, the Democratic stronghold in the city of St. Paul. At the last election he was re-elected to the same office. In the legislature he was one of the most active members of the judiciary committee, and exerted considerable influence on the floor of the house in behalf of several important measures.