

It is always a good idea to know what kind of a public record a man has got especially if he is a candidate for the suffrage of the people. Below we print a sketch of Hon. M. N. Johnson's public life, which is a very creditable one:

M. N. Johnson was born in Racine county, Wis., in 1850, and his parents removed to Decorah, Ia., the same year. He is a graduate of the state university. He taught in the military academy of California, at Oakland in 1874 and 1875. In the fall of 1875 he returned to Iowa and was elected to the legislature. In 1876 he was a presidential elector for the Third district of Iowa, and was admitted to supreme court practice that year. Mr. Johnson developed great power and ability as a campaign speaker and organizer in the campaign of 1876, making thirty-six speeches in thirty-six consecutive nights, and turning the congressional district from the democrats to the republicans. In 1877 he was elected to the state senate for a term of four years, and made an excellent record. He came to North Dakota in 1882, and settled in Nelson county. He owns 1,000 acres of land at the village of Petersburg. In 1887 he was elected district attorney, and holds that office yet. In 1889 he was elected a member of the state constitutional convention, in which he served with ability, being on some of the most important committees connected with the body. He presided over the first republican state convention, which was held in the city of Fargo, and in that capacity most ably acquitted himself. Mr. Johnson is the acknowledged leader of the Scandinavian element of North Dakota. The devotion to Mr. Johnson is most remarkable, and the tidal wave in his favor comes to a great extent from the Scandinavians. He has been a consistent republican from the first. His failure to receive the nomination for United States senator at Bismarck last winter, when he had a majority of the republican members committed to him by a caucus vote aroused a great deal of sympathy in his behalf. His friends determined then and there to send him to congress, and the movement has been steadily growing ever since, and culminated in his nomination.