

PROF. G. W. HANNA.

The Principal of the Public Schools  
for the Coming Year—Sketch of  
His Career.

George W. Hanna who was elected as principal of the high school, for the coming year, is one of a family of five, all of whom have been engaged in educational work, he having two brothers holding professorships in college and two sisters who have taught several years in the primary schools of Iowa. Mr. Hanna is a native of



PROF. G. W. HANNA.

Iowa. At the age of three, being without a living mother, he accompanied his older brothers and sisters daily to a little shack three miles away, where professional work was done in the sprouting of the intellectual germ of all new comers. A little later he came under the instruction of an aunt school mistress and was for a time held up to schooldom in a new light, the glittering example to all unfortunate and unscreened villifiers of her law. During a succeeding two years spent in western Nebraska, there were no books to trouble the mind, no mark to toe, no laws to break, in fact nothing but cactus and rattlesnakes and the freedom of the great western plains. But in this land of cowboys and sandhills, this land without a school house, there was the great expanse of nature, and there much information was gotten not attainable elsewhere, and many of the most influential impressions of life were made.

Returning once more to the vicinity of the old home in western Iowa, the subject of this sketch, at the age of nine, re-entered the public school, somewhat behind his standing, in books, at the time of leaving school two years previously. At the age of thirteen fortune favored Mr. Hanna with his first opportunity of entering the city school. Entering the high school of Defiance, Iowa, the work there was completed in spite of the fact that the boy was the only help to his father on a large farm. He taught school in the country for some time, then entered Highland Park college and completed a didactic course of study. He again taught school in the country until he was given the principalship of schools at Kirkman, Iowa. His work here was followed by a similar position at Lennox, S. D., at which place the schools experienced a great growth and advancement educationally, during his principalship of three years. During the past year Mr. Hanna has had charge of the Oak Park schools of Des Moines, Iowa. This school is under the brow of his alma mater, and thus furnished an easy opportunity of entering the college to complete a post graduate course which had been pursued privately during his teaching career.

Mr. Hanna and wife are now with us, and has his plans for the year's work all laid. He asks the kind support and the sympathetic co-operation of all, teachers, pupils and patrons.