

### JOHN C. HARRISON.

The well ordered appearance of the farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Armstrong Grove township, Emmet county, belonging to John C. Harrison is evidence of the care and labor which he bestows upon the place and which enables him to secure a gratifying income from his land. He was born on the 12th of March, 1846, in Michigan, a son of Alanson and Eleanor (Patek) Harrison, both natives of New York state. The father followed the stonecutter's trade in the east, but after his removal to Michigan engaged in farming there. At length he retired and removed to a nearby town, where he spent his last years, his death occurring January 2, 1882. On the 9th of May, 1884, his wife also passed away.

John C. Harrison grew to manhood in his native state and received his education in the common schools. On attaining his majority he left home and traveled during the greater part of the time for three years. He then went to California, where he was employed as a railroad brakeman for some time and where he learned and followed the carpenter's trade. At length he returned to Michigan, but in the spring of 1871 he and two brothers came to Emmet county, Iowa, where all took up homesteads. John C. Harrison filed on one hundred and sixty acres on section 20, Armstrong Grove township, and has there made his home during the intervening forty-six years. During that time the transformation wrought in his farm and in the county as a whole has been nothing short of marvelous. When he came here this was a frontier district, much of the land was unbroken and there were few white settlers. Now his highly cultivated and splendidly improved place is typical of the farms of the county and country life has many advantages that even a comparatively few years ago were supposed to belong to city life exclusively. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Creamery Company of Armstrong and the Farmers Telephone Company, believing thoroughly in the importance of coöperation among farmers.

Mr. Harrison was married February 16, 1877, to Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, a daughter of George and Jane (Froice) Martin, natives of England, whence they emigrated to America many years ago. Mr. Martin farmed in New York state and also engaged in the butcher business there until 1871, when he removed with his family to Iowa City, Iowa, where he operated a meat market for three years. He then came to Emmet

county, Iowa, where a son homesteaded land. Following the death of the son Mr. Martin took over the operation of the place, which he continued to cultivate for several years. At length he sold the property and from that time until his death, which occurred in 1904, made his home with Mr. Harrison. The mother died in December, 1893. To Mr. and Mrs. Harrison has been born a son, Harry, whose birth occurred in December, 1877, and who is now operating the home place. He married Miss Amy Moore and they have a daughter, Mabel Viola.

Mr. Harrison votes the republican ticket and has acceptably filled the offices of assessor and township clerk and has likewise been a school director. His religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Presbyterian church and in all relations of life he has sought to conform his conduct to high ethical standards.