

COX, Wm. John, b. Beaver Co.  
Pa., 1851, s. of Hiram and Nancy  
(Wright) Cox. The father came to  
Iowa in 1865, locating in Pow. Co.  
m. 1875 Amanda M. McFarland,  
dau. of Perry and Nancy (Kemp)  
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WILLIAM JOHN COX.

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A well tilled and highly cultivated farm of two hundred and twenty-four acres in Union township pays tribute to the agricultural skill of William John Cox, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of April, 1851, and is a son of Hiram and Nancy (Wright) Cox, both natives of the Keystone state. The father, who was born in Westmoreland county, was a carpenter by trade. He came to Iowa in 1865, locating in Poweshiek county. Upon his arrival here he first bought a farm in Jackson township, which he cultivated for a time, but later disposed of it and purchased other land in Sugar Creek township, in the operation of which he engaged until his retirement to New Sharon, Mahaska county, where he later passed away. The mother, also died in New Sharon. Unto them were born six children: Joseph L., who is a resident of Searsboro, Iowa; Alexander R., a resident of Montezuma, Iowa; Sarah E., deceased; William John, our subject; Hiram Zenas, who is living in Oskaloosa; and Nancy Jane, the wife of Charles Bogard, of Oskaloosa. The family attended the services of the Pres-

byterian church. In politics Mr. Cox was always an ardent democrat and served as school director in his district.

As William John Cox was fourteen years of age when his parents settled in Poweshiek county his education was largely acquired in the common schools of Pennsylvania. After laying aside his text-books he assisted in the cultivation of the home farm until he had attained his majority. In 1872 he rented the homestead from his father and for a year thereafter engaged in its cultivation. He subsequently went to Nemaha county, Kansas, where he resided for five years going from there to Nebraska. In the latter state he filed upon a homestead, which he cultivated for a time, and then disposed of it and returned to Iowa, purchasing a farm in Union township, this county, upon which he has ever since continued to reside. He now owns two hundred and twenty-four acres of land, upon which he engages in general farming, making a specialty of raising high grade stock, particularly thoroughbred horses. Mr. Cox has met with success in his ventures and owns one of the highly improved and well stocked farms of the township.

In 1875 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cox and ~~Miss Amanda M. McFarlin~~, a daughter of Perry and Nancy (Kemp) McFarlin, of Sugar Creek township, and they have become the parents of two sons and three daughters, the order of their birth being as follows: Harvey H., who is a resident of Union township; Rose, the wife of Charles A. White, of Sugar Creek township; Essie, the wife of George Sheehe, of Mahaska county, Iowa; Verde M., the wife of Guy Hildebrant, of Union township; and Joy L., who is at home.

Ever since attaining his majority Mr. Cox has given his political support to the candidates of the democratic party but has never held any official position save that of school director. A capable business man as well as agriculturist, Mr. Cox has so intelligently directed his activities during the period of his residence in Union township that he is now recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community in which he resides.