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JOHN EIRP.

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Starting as a boy on his own account John Eirp, who is now the owner of a valuable farm in Poweshiek county, worked his way through many obstacles and attained a position of comparative independence. The efforts which he was obliged to make strengthened the muscles and also developed his character, so that he is today highly respected, not alone on account of his success in business, but also because of his reputation for honest and straightforward dealing, which is an asset greatly to be valued.

He was born in Keokuk county, Iowa, in March, 1860, a son of Andrew and Sarah (Johnson) Eirp, the former of whom was born in Columbus, Ohio, and the latter in West Virginia. The father of our subject removed to Keokuk county, Iowa, in 1858, and there engaged in farming for eleven years. He then moved to Missouri, but after two years returned to this state and settled permanently in Poweshiek county, where he engaged in farming until his death,

which occurred in 1901. The mother is still living and makes her home in this county.

John Eirp received limited advantages of education in the district schools as he was obliged to begin working for wages at the age of twelve years. He continued to work by the month until he was twenty-eight years of age and in the course of this time became thoroughly acquainted with all the details of farming and stock-raising. About 1888 he rented land in Jefferson township, which he later purchased, and now owns a farm of two hundred acres. The farm is beautifully located and is provided with modern improvements, making it one of the desirable places of the township. He feeds cattle and raises Poland China hogs for the market. He also buys and sells horses and is regarded as an expert in the various lines to which he devotes his attention.

In April, 1888, Mr. Eirp was married to Miss Ella H. Meyer, a daughter of Henry and Veronica (Buhl) Meyer. The parents were both born in Germany and emigrated to this country. The father was a ship carpenter and became a successful farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Eirp have six children: Ethel, who married A. M. McCarty, a farmer of Jefferson township, and who is the mother of three children, Harry, Howard and Jessie; Maggie; Andrew; Orrin; Carrie; and James, all of whom are residing at home.

Politically Mr. Eirp casts his ballot in support of the democratic party, the principles of which he endorses as essential to the permanency and prosperity of the nation. He has through life been accustomed to work, having early learned its value, and he and his estimable wife have reared their children so that they may become useful and efficient members of society, willing to make sacrifices if necessary for the promotion of the comfort and happiness of others, and also desirous at all times of performing their part in whatsoever station they may be found. Mr. Eirp takes just pride in his family and in his farm, and as he is energetic and capable in whatever he undertakes he ranks as one of the successful men of the county.

EIRP, John, b. Keokuk Co., Ia.,  
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