

JOHN F. WHITE.

John F. White is now practically living retired upon his farm on section 3, Cass township. He was born in this township May 17, 1840, his parents being Samuel and Jane (Balk) White. He received but a limited education in the common schools, for his services were needed upon the home farm, and he early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. At the age of fifteen years he began working in a tanyard owned by Abraham Willet, by whom he was employed for four years, on the expiration of which period he apprenticed himself to a brick and stone mason. His life has been one of marked industry, and whatever success he has achieved is due to his own efforts.

At the time of the Civil war, however, Mr. White put aside all personal considerations of a business nature and with marked promptness offered his services to the government in defense of the Union, joining the "boys in blue" of Company I, Fifteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served throughout the war and participated in forty-seven regular engagements. He was wounded at the battle of Stone River, was taken prisoner and was reported dead; but life was not extinct and he ultimately recovered. He was confined in a prison in Montgomery for ten days when he was transferred to Andersonville, where he was incarcerated until the night of the riot, when he was sent to Libby prison. There he remained in confinement for five months, on the expiration of which period he was exchanged, rejoining his regiment at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In the winter of 1864 he was mustered out, and with a most creditable military record he returned to his home, for he was ever found at his post of duty faithfully defending the old flag.

On the 4th of July, 1865, John F. White was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Shanck, a native of Jacksonville, Morrow county, Ohio. They became the parents of ten children, of whom nine are yet living, as follows: Clinton S., who works his father's farm; Franklin L., a mason of Shelby, Ohio; Zella, a teacher in Milroy, Indiana; Mary, the wife of William Coerber, of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania; Lulu and Adrian, both at home; Blaine, who is engaged in blacksmithing in Plymouth, Ohio; and Eva and John S., also at home.

After his marriage Mr. White located in Shiloh, where he resided for fifteen years, working at his trade. In 1880 he purchased his present farm, comprising one hundred and four acres on section 3, Cass township. Here he has since lived and devoted his attention to the further cultivation and improvement of his property. He continued to work at his trade also until failing health forced him to abandon it, his sons performing the farm work under his direction. Energy and enterprise are numbered among his chief characteristics and have been the salient features in his success. His study of the political issues and question of the day has led him to exercise his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party. For thirty-five years he has been a consistent member of the United Brethren church, in which he has served as a trustee, and of Spiegel Post, No. 208, G. A. R., he is also a representative. He belongs to one of the prominent old pioneer families of the county and has ever been a valued citizen of the community, as true to his duties as when he followed the old flag upon southern battle-fields.