

Chapter 00761 **1863**

ALBERT PEARCE 1846—1871 (25)

Napoleon and Dayton, Ohio

Edward Pearce branch #3, generation #4.

Albert is a great grandson of Henry Pearce #1

Albert the same generation as cousin

Albert Wesley Pierce of Fairfield NJ.



Albert and Edward Pearce at an 1864 Union campfire

10/27/2024

Albert Pearce is a 4th generation Pearce.


Relationship: Henry PEARCE to Albert PEARCE

Albert PEARCE is the great grandson of Henry PEARCE


Self

	Henry PEARCE b: 7/25/1725 England d: 7/8/1788 Fairfield, NJ
	Elizabeth Lucinda SPEAR b: 5/6/1737 England d: 10/16/1814 Fairfield, NJ


Son

	Edward PEARCE b: 12/2/1773 England d: 7/26/1834
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Grandson

	Andrew Edward PEARCE b: 12/3/1806 Fairfield, NJ d: 1848 Napoleon, Henry County, Ohio
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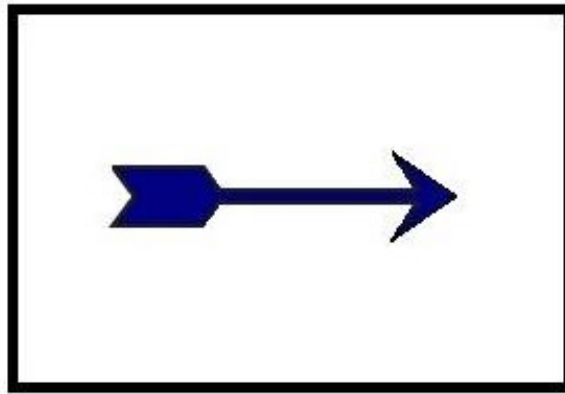
Great grandson

	Albert PEARCE b: 6/19/1846 Napoleon, Ohio d: 12/19/1871 Dayton, Ohio
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Albert Pearce was born 6/19/1846 at Napoleon, Ohio. He was a 4th generation Pearce on the Edward Pearce branch #3. Other's on branch #3 are Eric Pierce, Gail Pierce Plumstead and Joane Pierce Rainville.

His parents were Andrew Edward PEARCE and Maria Low. The parents lived in Fairfield NJ, Pine Brook NJ, Pequannock, NJ and finally Napoleon, Ohio.





Union Army 17th Corps, 3rd Division arrow badge

Albert Pearce enlisted 11/28/1863 as a Private in the 17th Corps, 3rd Division, 2nd Brigade Ohio 68th Infantry Regiment Company 'F'. He was the youngest brother of the family.



Regimental flag—68th Ohio.



National flag—68th Ohio.

“Between 1861 and 1865, Ohio supplied over 320,000 soldiers for the Union Army, a number which accounted for nearly **60 percent of Ohio's male population** between 18 and 45 years old.

Of the over 320,000 that fought, approximately **35,000** were killed, whether in battle, or by disease or accident.

Each soldier was paid, as a Private, **\$13 per month** until the rate was raised to \$16 a month, in June 1864.”

(Ohio History Connection Repository, Columbus, Ohio)

\$16 per month in 1864 is like \$321 per month in 2024.. Then again, goods and services were lower cost.

Annually, the 1864 soldier received \$192. In 2024 annual terms, the figure is \$3,852. Not a lot of money to put your life on the line. Then again, keeping the country whole was worth more than money.

1864 inflation was 24%. Retail cost per bushel, Wheat \$1.03, Corn 45¢. Hogs \$4.50 per 100 lbs. Cost per Lb: Sugar 12¢ and coffee 33¢.

A 1864 Haircut in Ohio cost 15¢, shave 10¢.



“Sherman's March to the Sea was a military campaign conducted through Georgia from **11/15/1864** until **12/21/1864**, by **Union** General William Sherman.

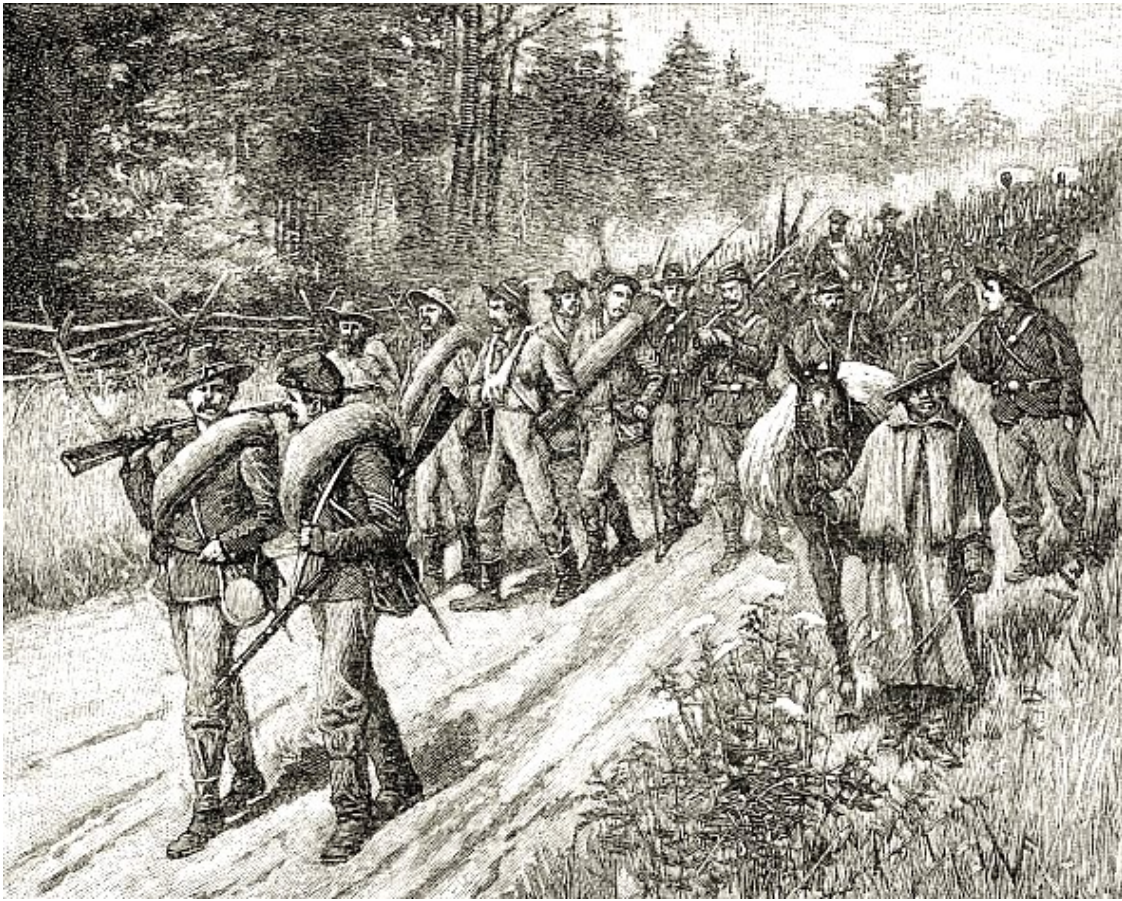
The campaign began on November 15 with Sherman's **60,000** troops leaving Atlanta and ended

with the capture of the Savannah Georgia on December 21.

His forces followed a “scorched earth” policy, destroying military targets as well as industry, infrastructure, and civilian property, disrupting the Confederate economy and transportation networks.

The operation debilitated the Confederacy and helped lead to its surrender. Sherman's decision to operate deep within enemy territory without supply lines was unusual for its time, and the campaign is regarded by some historians as an early example of modern warfare.” (2024 Wikipedia)

“Following the March to the Sea, Sherman's army headed North for the Carolinas. That portion of the march through South Carolina was even more destructive than the Savannah campaign.” (2024 Wikipedia)



Union General Sherman's army.

Albert Pearce age 18 and his brother **Edward W. Pearce** age 24 marched in Sherman's Union Army. I would expect that they met at a camp fire now and then.

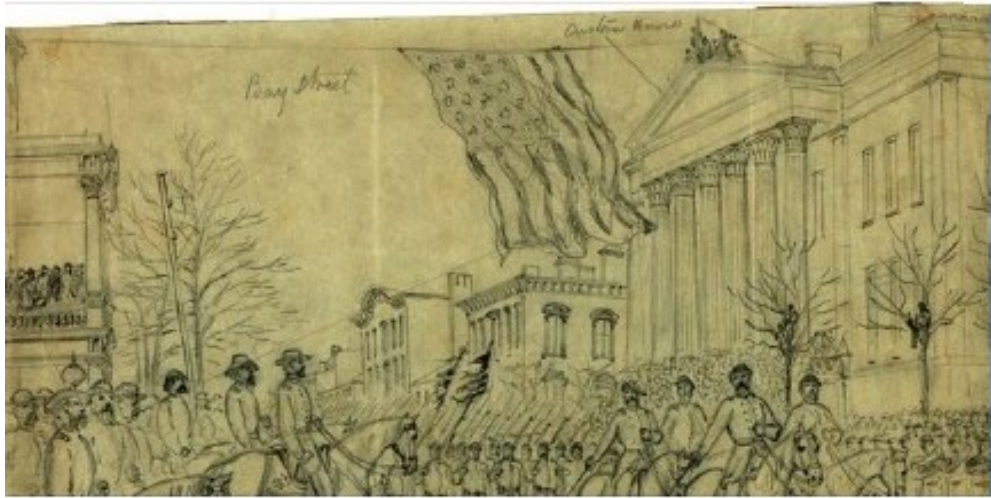
They remembered their brother **Joseph Henry Pearce** age 29 who died 5/12/1863 in battle at Grand Gulf, Mississippi.

Lewis and William already returned to **Napoleon Ohio**. Their brother **Lewis Pearce** was discharged 9/10/1864 for medical reasons. I assume that their brother-in-law **William Simpson** survived the war.

The two 4th generation great grandsons, **Albert and Edward**, of **Henry Pearce and Elizabeth Spear** marched 1864 on the red clay toward Atlanta, Georgia.

21 December 1864: Alfred Waud sketch depicting William T Sherman after the liberation of Savannah, Georgia. The 1852 Custom House on East Bay Street stands today.

1864



Albert Pearce age 18 marched thru Savannah Georgia in 12/21/1864 days before Christmas.





Confederate General John B. Hood



Union Major Gen. William T. Sherman

“Confederate General **John B. Hood** attempted to disrupt Sherman’s supply line. During raids in the area, the Confederates briefly recaptured the towns Acworth and Big Shanty and took 350 Union prisoners.” (2024 Kennesaw Georgia town website)



Edward W. Pearce was in a different Ohio regiment than Albert. Edward grew up in Napoleon Ohio busting horses. Naturally, he drove a wagon horse team during the war.

Edward's Ohio 100th regiment marched to a Confederate railroad depot named '**Big Shanty**' in Kennesaw Georgia on 10/6/1864. This is the second battle at Big Shanty.

Edward Pearce age 24 was **gunshot** wounded at **Big Shanty**, Georgia (about Oct 6, 1864) by glancing bullet which scarred his left cheek forever.

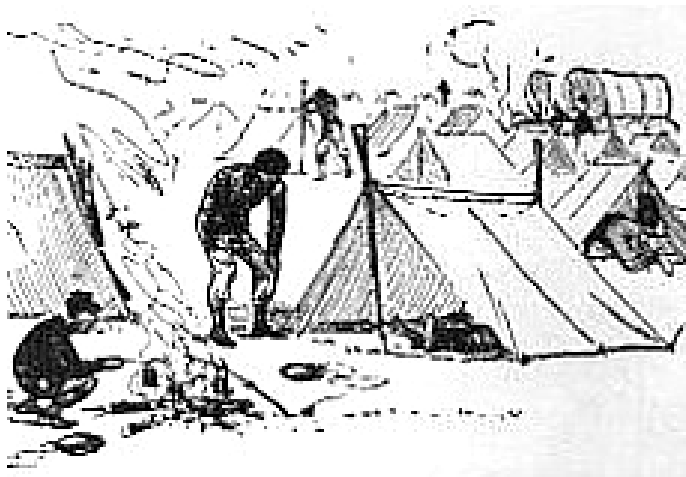
Big Shanty, Georgia railroad station years later.



Private Eugene Casey: “After **Big Shanty** our regiment was in action until Atlanta was taken, while in service I never lost a days service, we was in action most day and night. Our 17 Army Corps called the “Whip Cracker Corp.” as we marched from one flank to another. 95% of our Corp was western men or farmer boys.

I fed out of my haversack while on the marches, sow belly hardtack, I ate pickled pork raw, marched light tight – no knapsack with only poncho and blanket, musket, cartridge box with 20 to 40 rounds of minnie balls.

In rainy spells when we went into camp, I would cut brush and lay it on the ground, put my blanket on the brush, lay on it and put my poncho over myself to keep dry. While tromping through Georgia, we met not much trouble until got 11 miles south of Savannah, we camped near Owens Rice Plantation – 300 acres we was the right flank of Sherman’s Army we had subsisted on rice for 19 days, thrashed out of the straw to season it with, we paid the negroes 10 cents to take the hulls off the rice.”



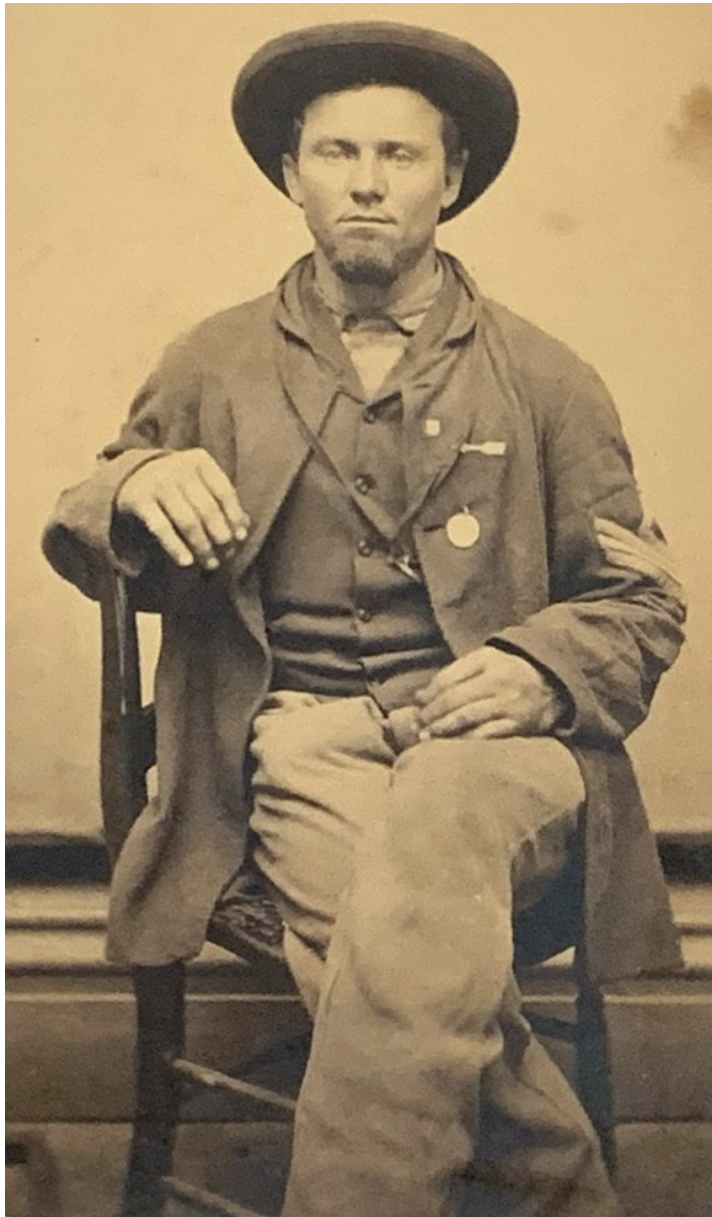
“The [haversack](#) was a single-strap canvas or fabric “catch-all” bag that carried a soldier’s personal items, extra ammunition, cooking and eating utensils and his food, typically a three-day supply of hard-tack bread crackers, salt pork and coffee.

Many Union haversacks were lined with rubber on the inside for waterproofing. Confederate haversacks were usually all cotton.”
(2024 Bob Zeller)



A Company 'F' mate to Private **Albert Pearce** was First Sergeant **George W. Scott** (below) of Henry County, Ohio. Albert would have taken orders from his 'F' Company leader.

17th Corps, 3rd Division, 2nd Brigade, **Ohio 68th** Infantry Regiment, Company 'F'.



George survived the war. He filed his Civil War pension in 1891.

2/9/1865 South Carolina



General William Sherman's 17th Corps crossing the south Edisto River, S. C., on pontoons, at Bennaker's Bridge, 2/9/1865." — Frank Leslie Weekly Magazine, 1896, John Young Foster. The Ohio 68th Regiment and Albert Pearce were in this Corps.

General Robert E. Lee surrendered his Confederate Army on 4/9/1865.



NY Times 5/17/1865: "The advance of Union General Sherman's army was expected to go into camp near Fall's Church, Virginia this evening. The General himself has not yet arrived in the city."

THE GRAND REVIEW—Albert Pearce marched

“The Federal Union troops would be honored with a 2-day parade through the Washington D.C. streets.

One of President Andrew Johnson’s goals was to change the mood of the capital, which was mourning following the Lincoln assassination a month before.

Union General Sherman insisted that uniforms be cleaned, buttons and brass shined, and that bayonets glistened.

Day 1, 5/23/1865 at 9 a.m. weather bright sunny, a **signal gun fired** a single shot and **Major General George Meade**, the victor of Gettysburg PA, led the estimated **80,000 men** of Army of the Potomac down the streets of Washington from Capitol Hill down Pennsylvania Avenue past an estimated crowds of 50,000.

The infantry marched with **12 men across** the road, followed by the divisional and corps artillery, then an array of cavalry regiments that stretched for another 7 miles.

The mood was one of gaiety and celebration, and the crowds and soldiers frequently engaged in singing patriotic songs as the procession of victorious soldiers snaked its way towards the reviewing stand in front of the White House, where US President Andrew Johnson, Commanding General Ulysses S. Grant, senior military leaders, the Cabinet, and leading government officials awaited.

At the head of his troops, Meade dismounted when he arrived at the reviewing stand and joined the dignitaries to salute his men, who passed for 8 hours.”



17th CORPS

“On the second day, 5/24/1865, Union General William T. Sherman led both the Army of Georgia, which had just completed a 2,000 mile march through the heart of the Confederacy, and the **Army of Tennessee** (**Albert Pearce's** 17th Corp) that had arrived at Washington by train.

Though tattered and worn, Sherman and the approximately 65,000 troops were met with excitement and interest.” (2024 Wikipedia)

The War was over. It was time to exhale and think about the future.

DESERVED RECOGNITION

**Private Eugene Casey 68th Ohio,
Albert Pearce's regiment.**

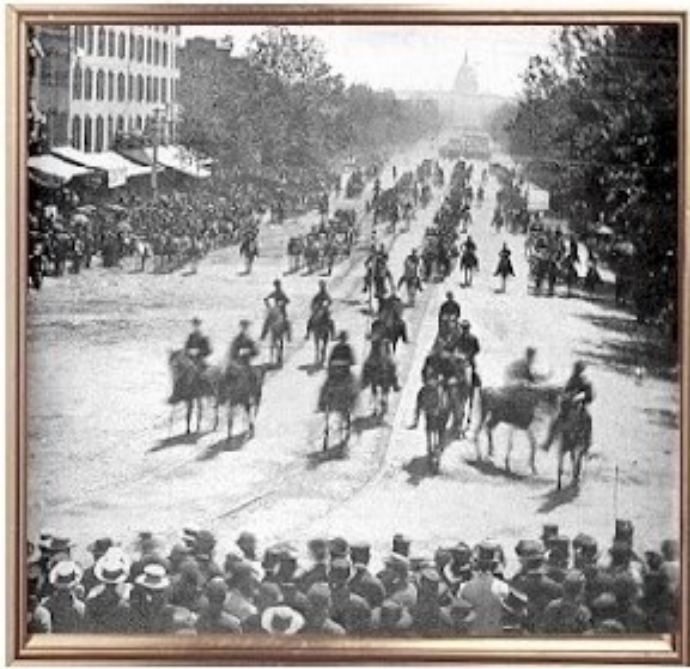
5/23-24/1865

The Grand Review in Washington DC.

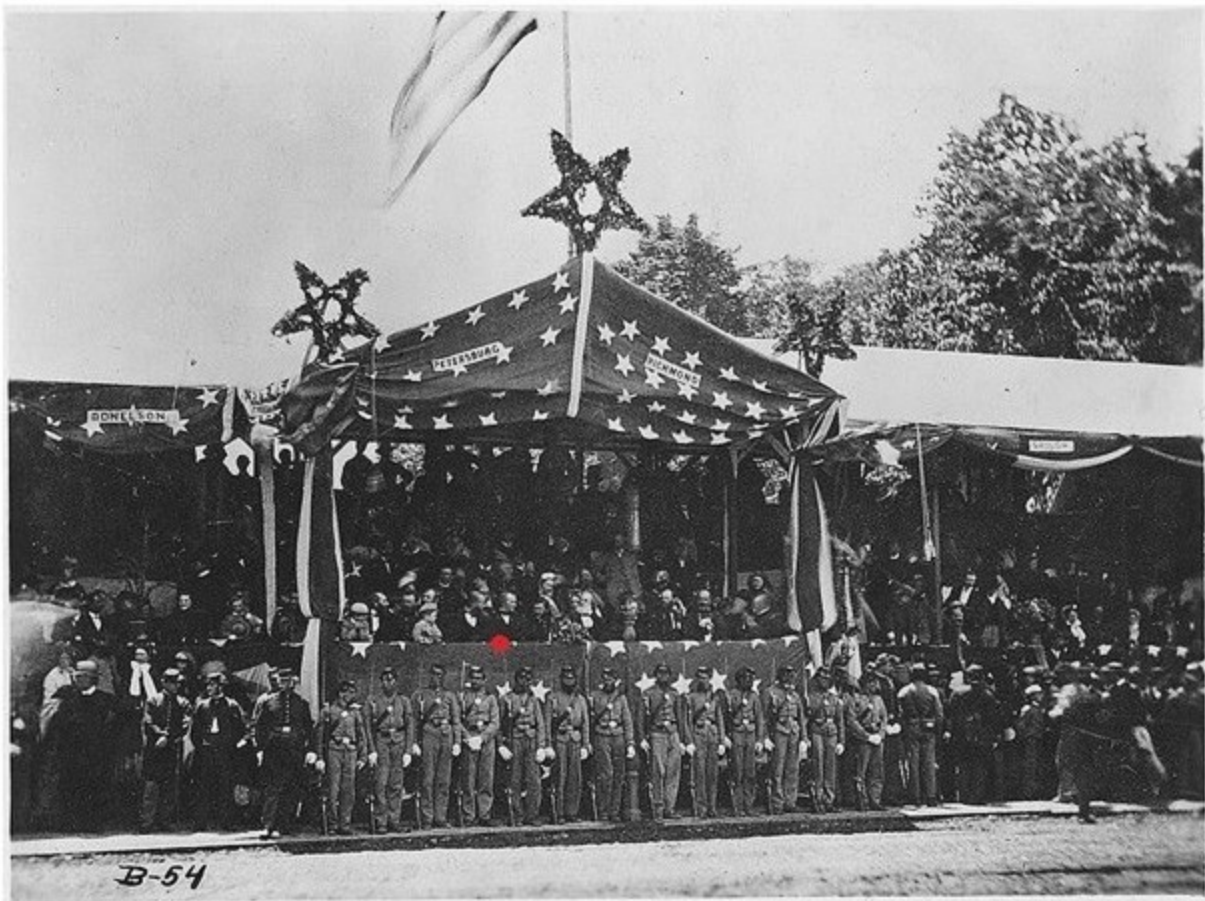
"The evening of 5/23/1865, General William Tecumseh Sherman crossed the Potomac River to talk to his army. The men were camped there waiting for the next day when they would march down Pennsylvania Avenue in the Grand Review. General Sherman asked the men to make sure they were clean and well groomed, and boots polished as best they could, and be ready to march with pride, because they were the rough and tough army of the west, not the spit and polish army of General George Meade. He asked them to look forward all the way with heads held high."

"His orders were, "Look neither left nor right, but straight ahead." As the army marched, General Sherman, known affectionately by his men as "Uncle Billy", could not help disobeying his own orders as he turned in his saddle and looked back at "his boys" with pride. He knew that this was the last time he would command this brave army of men and he was filled with great emotion as he thought of the march they had just completed to cause this wonderful day to happen."

After the 5/24/1865 Grand Review, the men boarded the B.O. Railroad, passed Harper's Ferry, then Parkersburg, VA. Took a steam boat that stopped at Cincinnati, Ohio overnight, then morning went to Louisville, Kentucky. Pvt. Eugene Casey

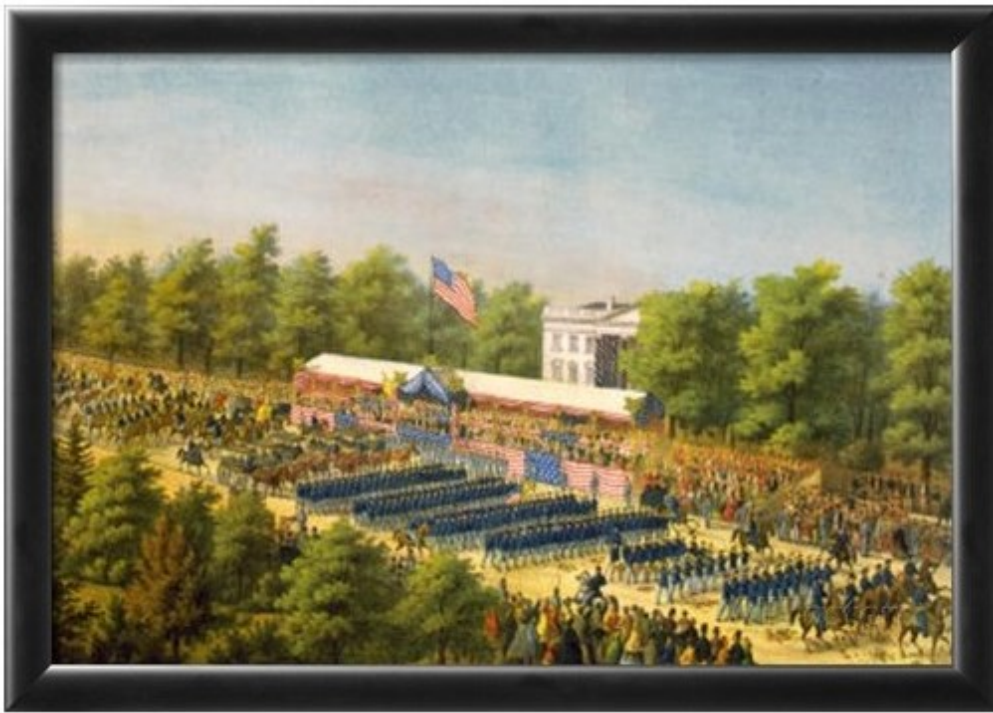


Albert Pearce marched in the 5/24/1865 **Grand Review** in Washington District of Columbia.

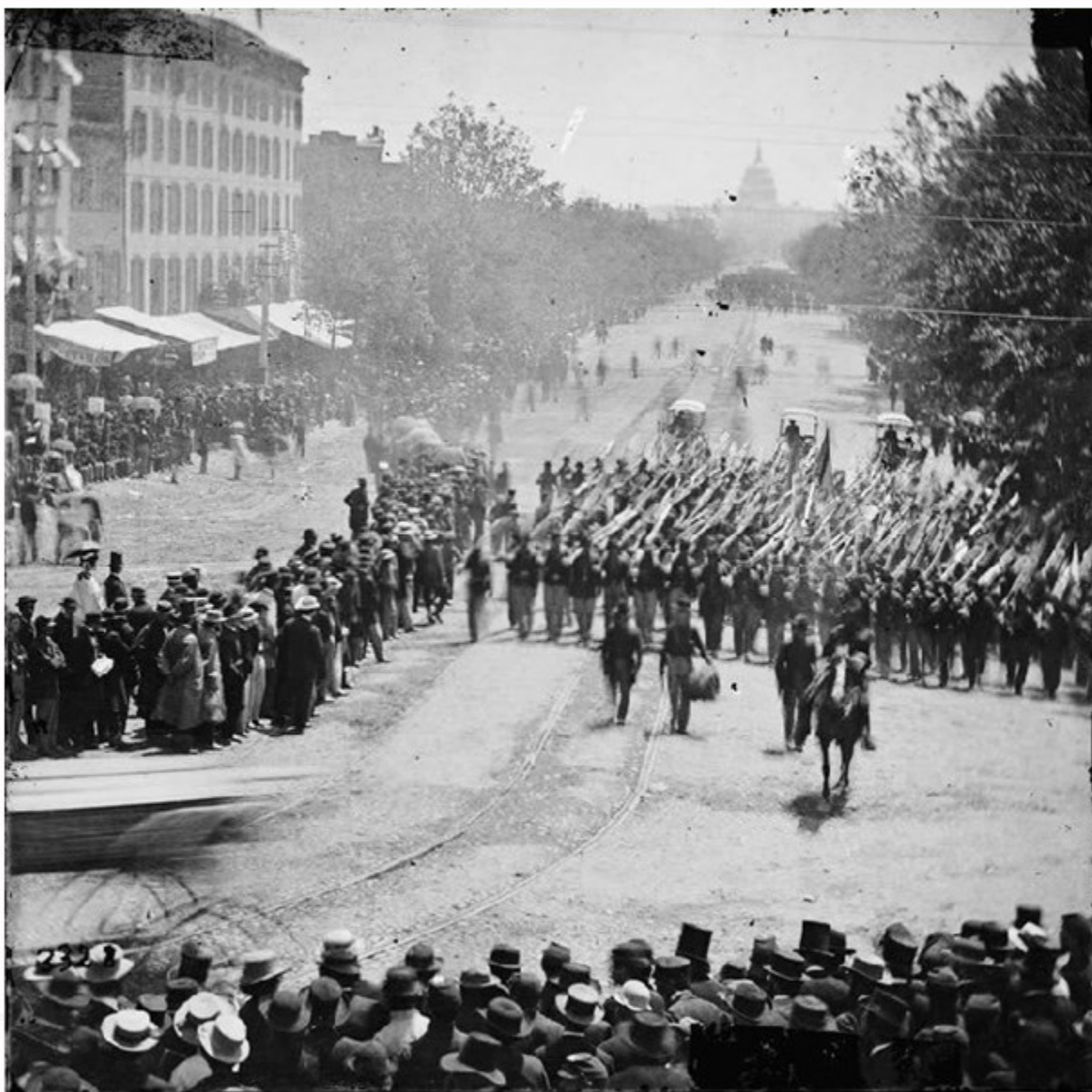


National Archives NWDNS-111-B-54 Red dot is Pres. Johnson





Grand Review 5/23-24/1865 Pennsylvania Ave



5/24/1865. This might be Sherman on horseback and his 17th Corps.

“The 68th marched in **THE Grand Review** on **5/24/1865** in **Washington, D.C.**..



Frank Leslie's Weekly Magazine (FLWM) (1896)

Side note: The highly regarded Editor of the FLWM from mid 1890's was **John Young Foster** of Newark NJJ. Foster was a very close friend to our Joseph Condit Baldwin, who is buried at the Fairfield Dutch Reformed Church with his bride Mary Speer.

Baldwin and his brother Stephen worked for Foster as a youngster in 1850s on the Newark NJ Daily Advertiser.

Baldwin received a sword about 1863 from Foster when Baldwin was promoted to Lieutenant.



Side note: The highly regarded Editor of the Frank Leslie Weekly Magazine from mid 1890's was **John Young Foster** of Newark NJ. Foster was a very close friend to our **Joseph Condit Baldwin**, who is buried at the Fairfield Dutch Reformed Church with his bride **Mary Speer**.



John Y. Foster.

As youngsters, Joseph Baldwin and his brother Stephen worked for Foster in the 1850s on the Newark NJ Daily Advertiser newspaper.

Baldwin received a **sword** about 1863 from Foster when Baldwin was promoted to Lieutenant. Where is that sword today?



Ohio Veteran
Volunteer Medal

Casualties

The regiment lost almost a total of **300 men** during service;

2 officers and 48 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded,
1 officer and 249 enlisted men died of disease.



“The 68th spent the last week of May 1865 at Tenleytown, Washington, D.C., before traveling to **Louisville, Kentucky** by train.

“After the 5/24/1865 Grand Review, the 68th Ohio soldiers boarded the **B&O railroad (Baltimore and Ohio)**, passed Harper’s Ferry, then Parkersburg, Virginia.

Then took a **steam boat** that stopped overnight at Cincinnati, Ohio. The next morning went to Louisville, Kentucky.” (Private Eugene Casey)

From **June 1865** to the regiment engaged in drill at Louisville. They were on standby until all Confederate units surrendered by June 1865.

On 6/19/1865, the war veteran Albert Pearce turned **age 19**. Imagine Albert’s world view by age 19.

7/14/1865 Albert Pearce of the Ohio 68th and brother Edward Pearce of the Ohio 100th were both at the Big Shanty Battle, Georgia fought on 6/9/1864.

If any of our readers have forgotten the career of the 68th, we will jog their memory by reciting the names of the battles they have fought, as they are inscribed on the regimental banner:

Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Siege of Corinth, Iuka, Matamora, Thompson's Hills, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills, Fort Hill, Vicksburgh, Monroe Raid, Bayou Chitto, Meridian Raid, Big Shanty, Bushy Mountain, Kenesaw, Nick-Jack, Siege of Atlanta, Atlanta, July 21st, Atlanta, July 22d, Atlanta, July 28th, Jonesboro, Lovejoy, Milledgeville, Savannah, Pocotaligo, Salkehatchie, Orangeburg, Charleston, Columbia, Cheraw, Bentonville, and Raleigh.

After the battle of Corinth this regiment was merged in the 17th corps, under General McPherson. That able officer was killed within thirty rods of the **68th.**

The boys have made as fine a record as those of any regiment in the service. They return 478 in number, leaving many a comrade sleeping in the sunny South.

Friday, 7/14/1865 Cleveland Leader paper

THE LAST CAMP FIRE

In July 1865, with the war over and Union soldiers facing muster-out, Loop reflected: "Our last evening together ... was rather less cheerful than many others covering a period of months and years, realizing something akin to pain, knowing that on the following day we must part, perhaps forever. While we all rejoiced in the thought of returning to the homes and friends we had left in 1861-62, yet we knew too well that the ties of comradeship which were forged around our campfires could not be sundered without many a sigh of regret."

Private Martin Loop 1843 - 1946

It was mustered out at Louisville Kentucky July 10, 1865.

Then home for good.



Corp Martin Loop

On **7/10/1865**, officials mustered the organization out of service. They were going home.

Albert looked forward to safely sitting in his mother **Mrs. Maria Pearce's** Napoleon Ohio homestead. His father **Andrew Edward Pearce** had died in 1848. Albert hoped his soldier siblings war injuries were slight.



After years of battle, It was time to **'STRIKE THE TENTS'** for the final time. I imagine Albert happily packing his shelter tent sheet. No more walking. They were going home in style by train that typically sped at 25 to 40 miles per hour.

The 68th Ohio regiment proceeded to Camp Taylor, at **Cleveland, Ohio**, where the command's members received their discharges on **7/18/1865**.

7/13/1865 Train stops at Columbus, Ohio and Cleveland, Ohio.

ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION OF TROOPS TO-DAY.
—Mayor Chapin received notification yesterday that the **55th** Ohio, 320 men, the **68th** regiment, 478 men, and the **124th** O. V. I., 278 men, will arrive here from Columbus this morning. They will probably reach the depot between eight and nine o'clock. The **55th** contains many Fremonters, having been raised in the counties just west of us. The **68th** was recruited in the Northwestern part of the State, and went out under Colonel Stedman, brother of the General. It was at the storming of Fort

Donelson, and has been in many of the heavy battles of the war. The gallant **124th** is largely made up of Clevelanders, and it will receive the welcome of parents, brothers, sisters, sweethearts and wives. It went out under Colonel O. H. Payne, of this city, as all will remember, having left on New Year's day, 1863. The **regiment**

has been under General Thomas, a part of the army of the Cumberland. It is much reduced. Two companies came several weeks ago. We understand that these companies will join their comrades at the depot, march up town and share the reception.

We trust the city will be emptied upon the streets this morning, ready to give the gallant, war-worn boys a rousing and cheering reception.

The Cleveland Leader, Thur, Jul 13, 1865 ·Page 4

Arrival of the 68th, 55th and 124th Ohio Regiments.

In accordance with our announcement yesterday two regiments of Ohio soldiers arrived this morning. About half past eight one of our fine city bands came marching up Water and Superior streets to the Public Square at the head of the 68th Ohio regiment, 478 men, under command of Lieut. Colonel G. E. WELLS. The 68th was organized at Napoleon, Henry county, and is principally from Northwestern counties. It went to the field under command of the gallant Colonel STEDMAN. The 68th has been at Louisville, Ky., for the past few weeks and left for Camp Cleveland yesterday, arriving over the C., C. & C. Road.

The 68th marched up to the Public Square where the formality of welcoming them was completed and they sat down to an elegant breakfast, after which they marched over to Camp to await final discharge.

Cleveland Plain Dealer, evening edition, Ohio. Thur,
7/13/1865 Page 3.

GENERAL SHERMAN.

General Sherman visits Columbus tomorrow, and while here will be the guest of the city. The public reception will occur in the Capitol Square at 10 o'clock A. M.

Glen: Sherman could have stayed in Washington DC after the Grand Review. Instead, he travelled with his regiments, watching them receive accolades before being mustered out.

During the Civil War's course, 50 men died from wounds received on the battlefield. An additional 250 soldiers succumbed to illness or accidents. Total of 301 deaths in the 68th.

The regiment's members **set foot** in every seceded state except for Florida and Texas.

The Ohioans marched 7.000 miles and traveled by train or steamboat 6.000 miles." (Ohio Civil War Central website)



I imagine a train brought the Ohio soldiers home, depot by depot. The steam engine train would load up water and logs. Passengers would rush into the depot station for food or bathroom breaks. And then the Toot!! from the engineer. All aboard. Albert Pearce was nearly home.

Albert was overjoyed reaching the Napoleon Ohio train station. The newspapers and telegraph system must have informed Albert's family about the arrival.

The war brought sadness. There could not be anymore pain. Or could there be?

While Albert was on camping in Louisville, Kentucky June 1865, his mother Mrs. Maria Low Pearce died 6/21/1865 age 54. Maria nearly had all her sons home from the war, except Joseph Henry Pearce who died in the war. It was a bittersweet Napoleon reunion.



Dayton Ohio Soldiers Home

The **next page** shows the Dayton, Ohio **1871** hospital card for **Albert Pearce**. He was admitted on **8/31/1871** but died 4 months later on 12/19/1871 at age **25**. He was born 6/19/1846.

Before the war, Albert was a fireman at Napoleon, Ohio.

Albert Pearce was diagnosed with **both kidney diseased and partial insanity**. His older brother Lewis Pearce also contracted kidney disease in the Army.

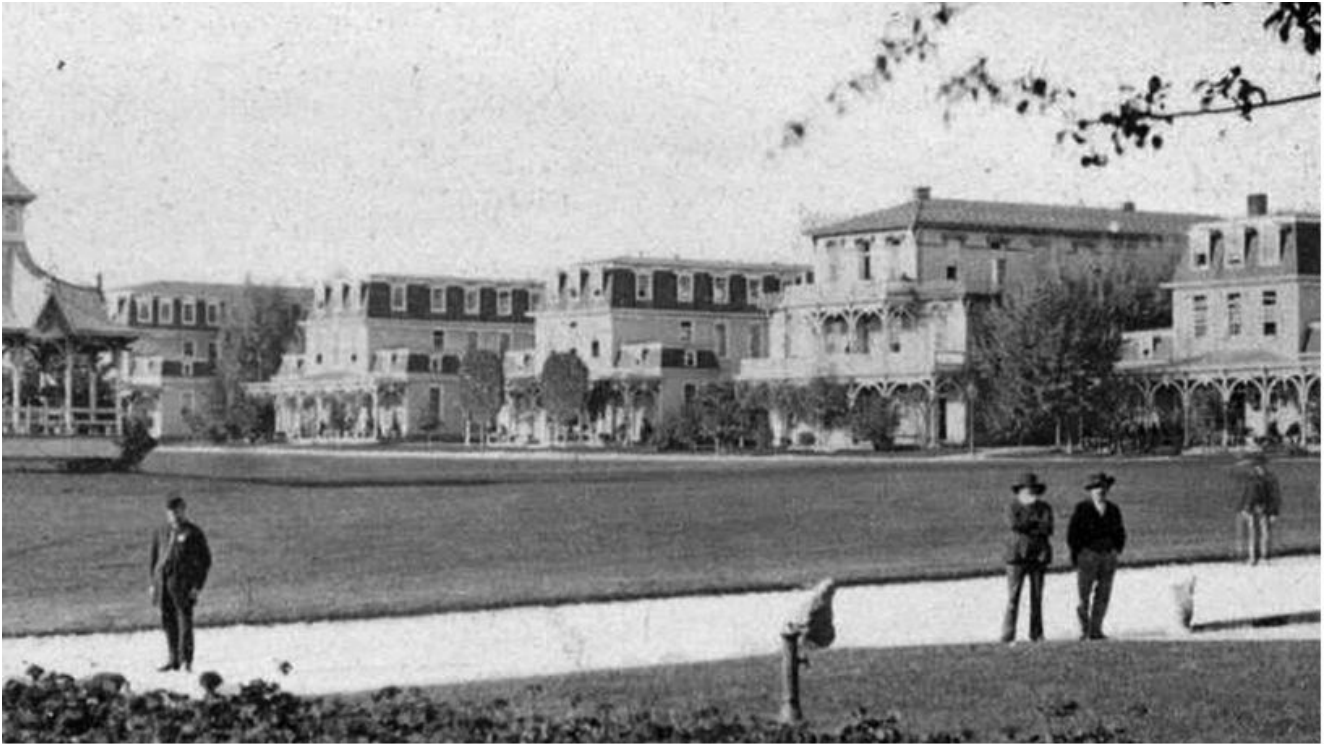
He rests at the Dayton National Cemetery, VA Medical Center 4100 West 3rd Street, Dayton , OH 45428. Section A , Row 12, Site 32.

DAYTON OHIO SOLDIERS HOSPITAL



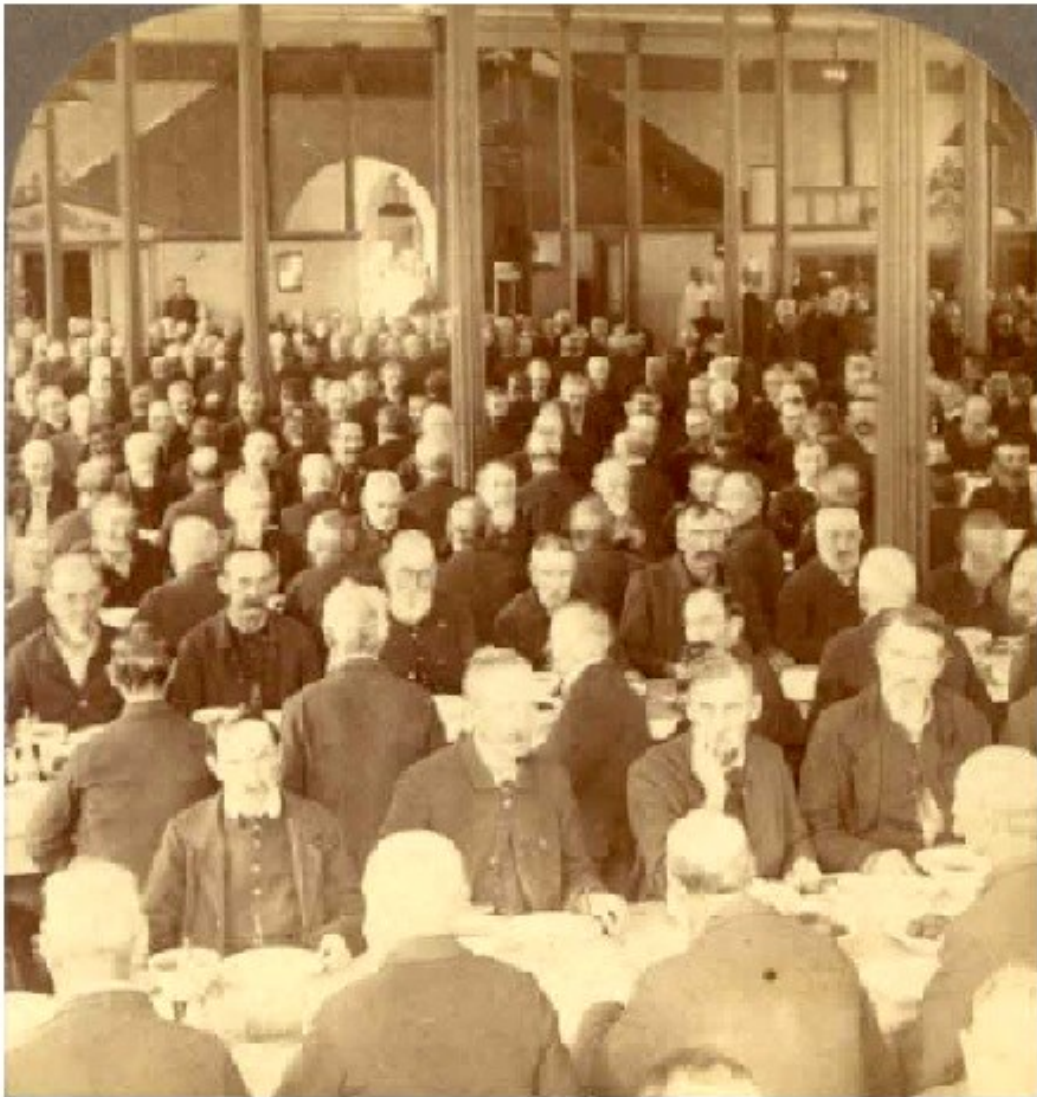
1907 National US Disabled Soldiers Hospital, Dayton Ohio.

Albert Pearce lived here for 4 months before passing.

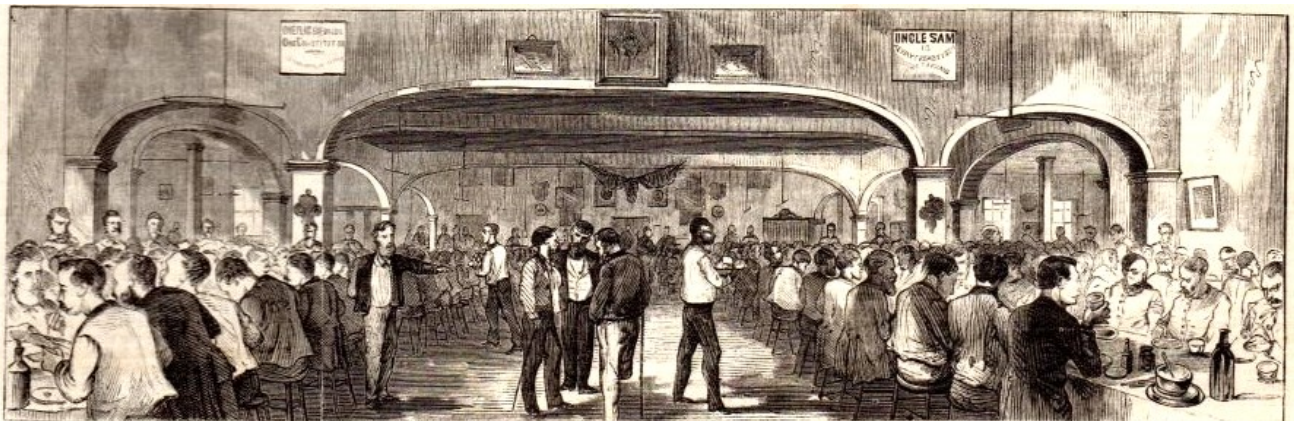


US Disabled Soldiers Home, Dayton Ohio after the Civil War.

Dayton home mess hall.



Dayton Ohio Soldiers Home. Albert Pearce was here.



THE DINING-HALL.

DAYTON OHIO SOLDIERS HOME



17th Corps, 3rd Division, 2nd Brigade, **Ohio 68th** Infantry
Regiment, Company 'F'.

U.S., National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers,

1866-1938 for Albert Pearce

Dayton, Ohio

2915 *Albert Pearce*

MILITARY HISTORY.

Time and Place of Each Enlistment.	Company and Regiment.	Time and Place of Discharge.
<i>Apr 28. 1863 Napoleon King. Co Q</i>	<i>F. 68. Ohio Volunteers</i>	<i>July 10. 1865</i>

Causes of Discharge.	Kind and Degree of Disability.	When and where Con- tracted and Received.
<i>Order from War Dept</i>	<i>Disorder of the kidneys and of vertebrae Insanity</i>	<i>Contracted after leaving the service</i>

DOMESTIC HISTORY.

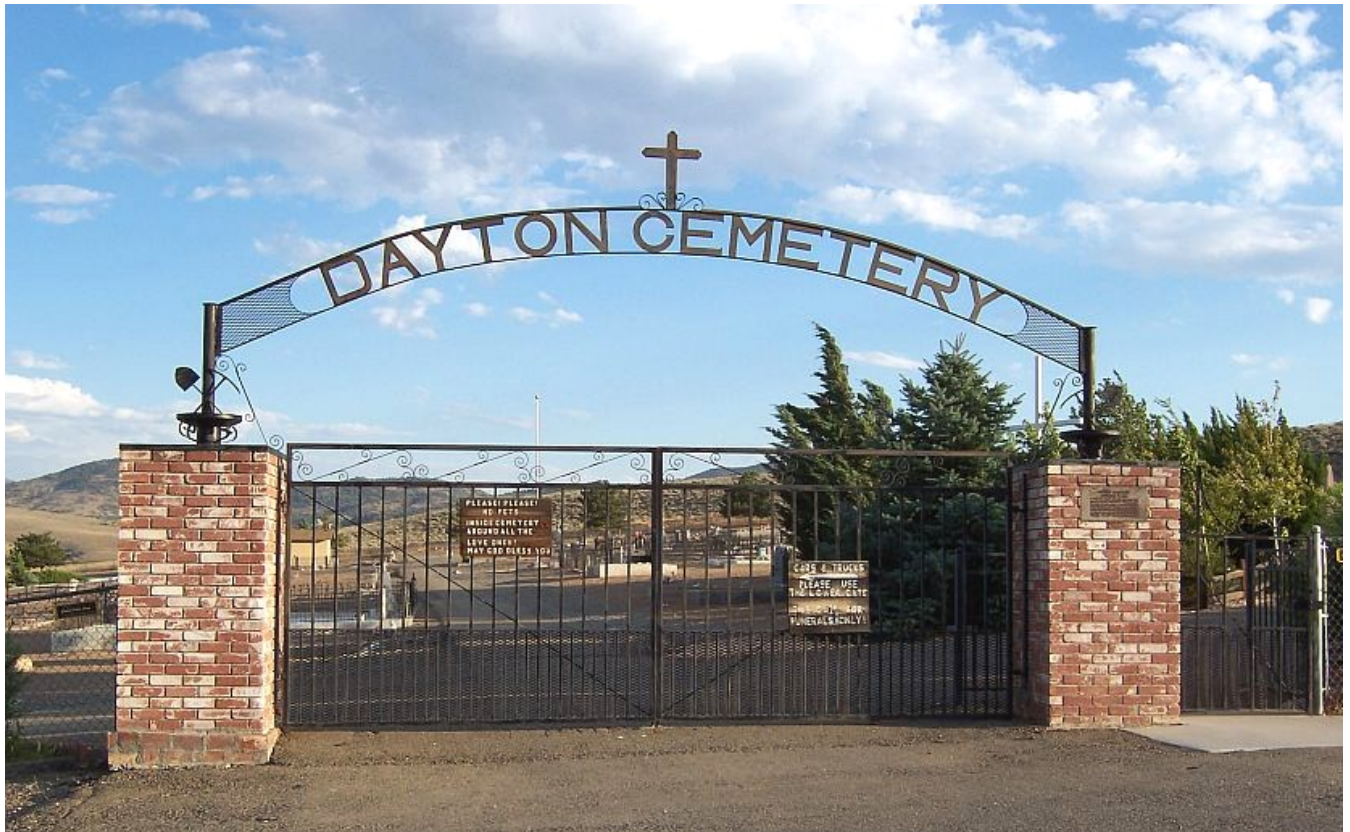
Where Born.		Age.	Residence subsequent to Discharge.
State or Country.	Town or County.		
<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Hung. Co.</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>Stapleton.</i>

Occupation.	Social condition
<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Single</i>

HOME HISTORY

Date of Admission and Re-admission.	Date of Death.	Cause of Death.
<i>August 31 1871</i>	<i>Dec 19. 1871</i>	<i>A - 12. Grave 32.</i>

Muster Out Place: Louisville, Kentucky

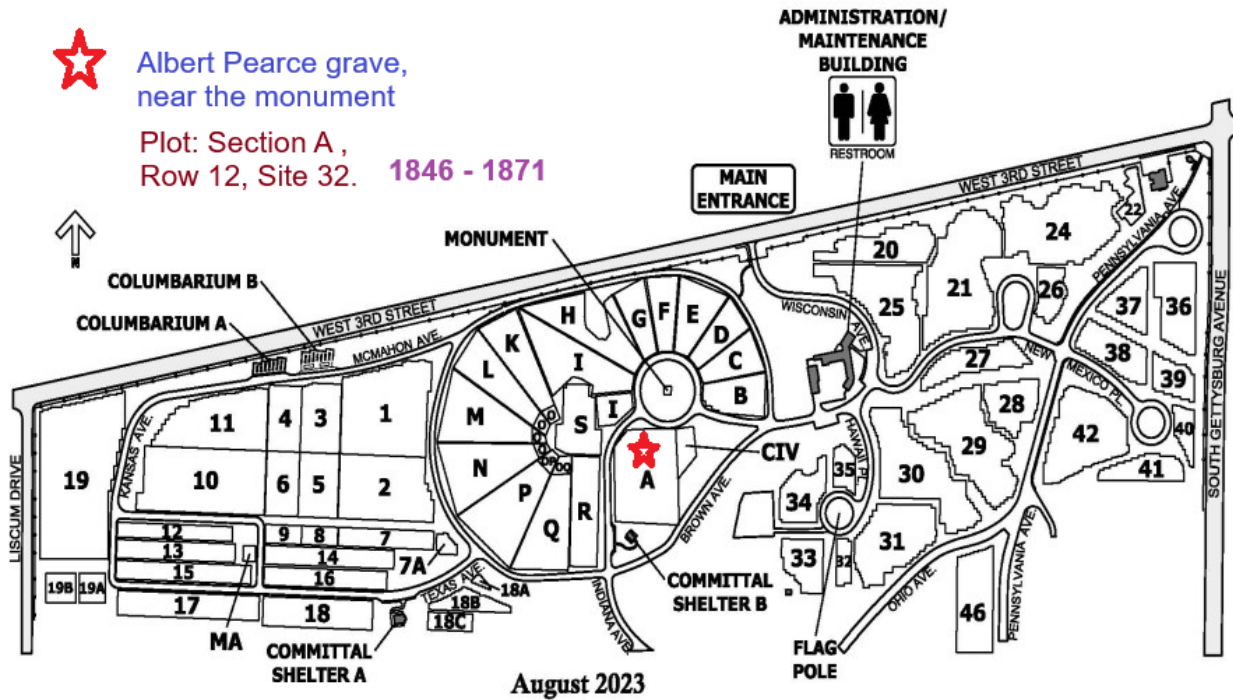


**Dayton National Cemetery, Ohio.
Albert Pearce at Plot: A, 12, 32**

Albert is buried close by this monument.

Dayton Ohio National Cemetery

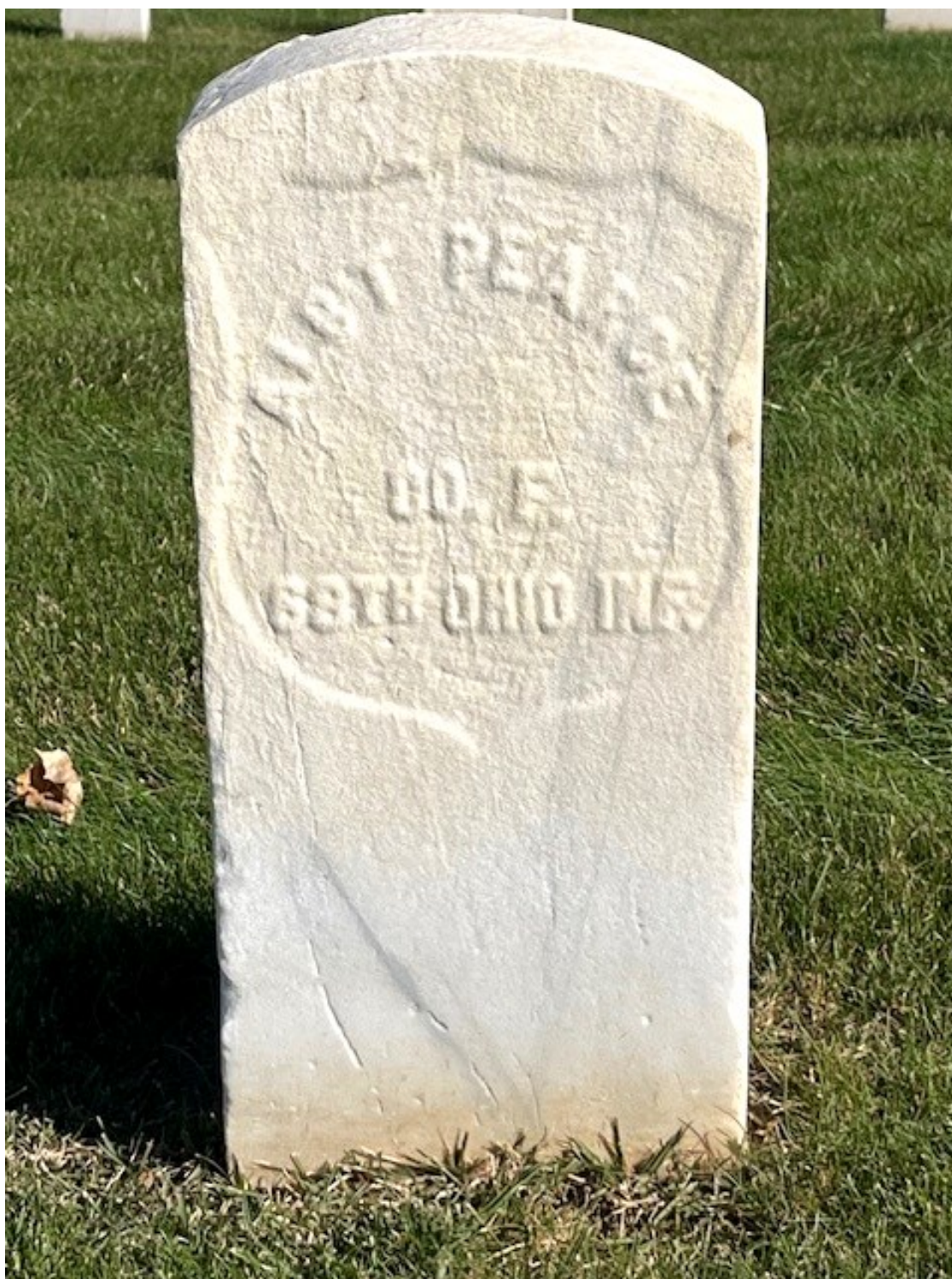
VA Medical Center 4100 West 3rd Street,
Dayton, Ohio 45428.



Albert rests near the big monument that is guarded by 4 soldier statues.



Albert Pearce 1845—1871. 68th Ohio, F



Albert received a permanent stone in 1890.

Tearce Albert

Regt. co. 2, 68th Regt.

Ohio Infy

Cemetery *Nathl Mil Home No 5*

at *near Dayton*

Ohio

Grave *See A*

Date of death *Dec 19 - 1871*

Headstone supplied by

Cross Brothers,

Lee, Mass.

Contract dated *June 1, 1890.*



Dayton Ohio National Cemetery





Albert Pearce

Dayton Ohio National Cemetery

Administrator [Ron Galyon](#) of the Dayton National Cemetery took these photos on 10/22/2024.



Dayton Ohio National Cemetery



PD
Pearce Albert
Co. *F* '68 Ohio Infantry.

PD | *PD*

REFERENCE CARD.

Original filed under

PD
Pierce Albert

GENERAL INDEX CARD.

This card must not be taken from the files.
(381)

Notice that after the war, the National Archives corrected Albert's lastname from Pierce to Pearce.

Family Summary in death order.

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Andrew Edward PEARCE	12/3/1806 Fairfield NJ	1848 (41) Napoleon OH	6/16/1830 NJ	Maria LOW
Unknown PEARCE	Abt 1838	Abt 1839 (0)	No	
Joseph Henry PEARCE	3/31/1834 Pequannock NJ	5/12/1863 Grand Gulf, Miss.	No	
Maria LOW	11/9/1810 Montville NJ	6/21/1865 (54) Napoleon OH	6/16/1830 NJ	Andrew Edward PEARCE
Albert PEARCE	6/19/1846 Napoleon OH	12/19/1871 Dayton National Cem, Dayton, OH	No	
Edward W. PEARCE	6/1/1840 Pequannock NJ	3/9/1909 Highland Cem, Hamilton. Missouri	12/21/1865 Napoleon OH	Mariah M. 'Mittie' KEYES
Lewis PEARCE	4/19/1843 Napoleon OH	1/21/1921 Swartz Cem, La Salle, MI	No	
Cornelia Louisa 'Louisa' PEARCE	11/8/1835 Pequannock NJ	??	6/22/1861 Napoleon OH	William M. Simpson
Josiah PEARCE	1/16/1831 Newark, NJ	??	??	

Edward had 10 children. Not sure about Louisa or Josiah.

I see records of a Josiah Pearce who lived in Indiana. He may or may not be ours. I have chatted online with a researcher who tries to link their Josiah to our tree. But I question this, so far.