

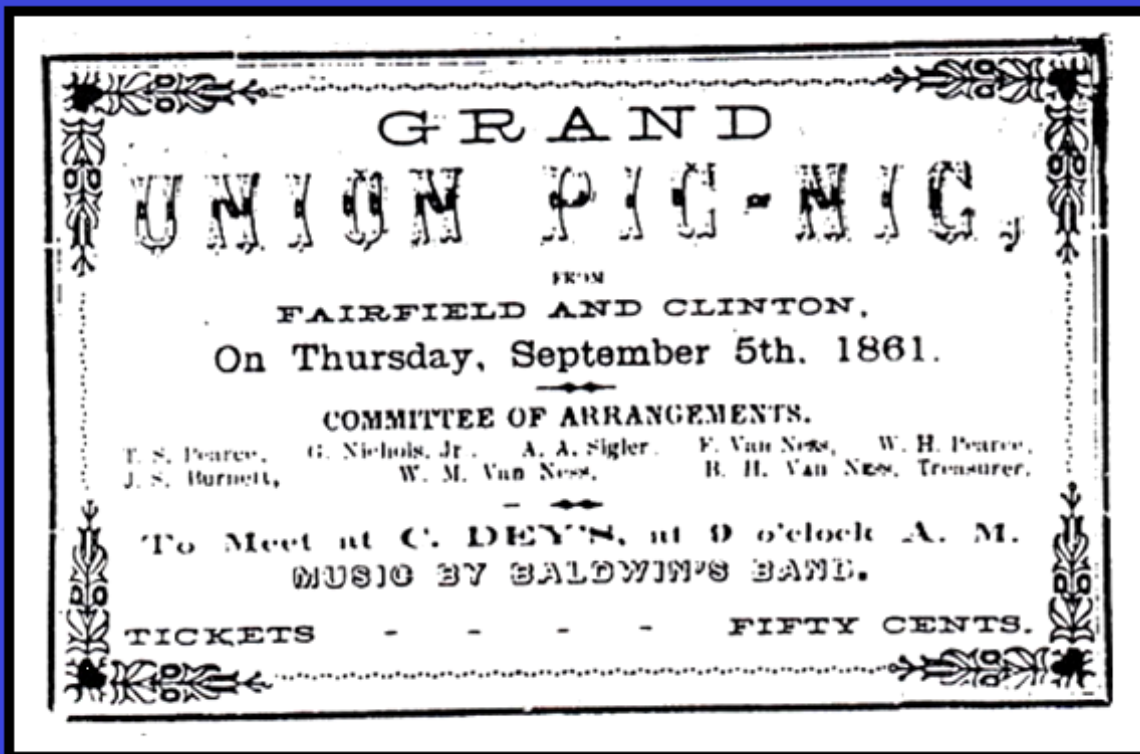
Chapter 00675 **1861**

FDRC UNION PIC-NIC

Fairfield, NJ

Thursday, 9/5/1861

3rd generation Joseph Pierce and Nancy Jacobus



Notice the organizers names, Theodore Sandord Pearce and William Henry Pearce, sons of Henry Harrison Pearce and Maria Bush.

At the corner of Passaic Ave and Fairfield Road owned by Dey.

8/24/2024



1861 Fairfield NJ
"Union Pic-Nic" Picnic

On Thursday 9/5/1861 at 9 am, Fairfield (Dutch Reformed) and Clinton (Fairfield Methodist) NJ celebrated a "Union Pic-Nic".

The site was Cornelius Dey's (age 21) land with music by the Baldwin's band. The 8- member committee was Theodore S. Pearce (age 27), brother William H. Pearce (25), G. Nichols jr., A. A. Sigler, J. S. Burnett, F. Van Ness, W. M. Van Ness and treasurer H. H. Van Ness. Tickets cost 50 cents.

A year later, many of these young men were in the Union Army.



This Fairfield NJ picnic was 6 weeks after an infamous 7/21/1861 Virginia picnic 285 miles away. Union speeches and recruitment efforts were made that 9/5/1861 day. And prayers.

Below is a sample of relatives who likely attended the 9/5/1861 pic-nic.

<u>Sample 1861</u>	BORN	Age
Joseph PIERCE	7/2/1814	47
Mrs. Nancy JACOBUS Pierce	2/1/1821	40
Albert Wesley PIERCE	7/16/1859	2
Mrs. Charlotte PEARCE Bush	1/29/1817	44
Henry Harrison PEARCE	1801	60
Mrs. Maria C. BUSH Pearce	9/4/1802	59
B. Collins PEARCE	9/16/1822	39
Mark PEARCE	1824	37
E. Elijah PEARCE	6/29/1837	24
William Henry PEARCE	11/1838	23
Theodore Sanford PEARCE	10/1839	22
Mrs Jane Maria PEARCE Mulford	9/1/1842	19
Evaline Aurilla PEARCE	2/12/1847	13
David Henry PEARCE	11/28/1851	10
Mrs. Sarah Ann Margaret PEARCE Speer	12/26/1818	43
Peter PEARCE	3/31/1819	42
Mrs. Mary Louise PIERCE Van Ness	9/28/1856	5
Elisha PIERCE	1/26/1817	54
Stephen Osborn PIERCE	2/4/1850	11

I bet Mrs. Maria C. BUSH Pearce celebrated her 59th birthday at the Pic-Nic.



7/21/1861: Battle of First Bull Run (Manassas , Virginia).
Named after the local Bull Run river.

A nice day for a picnic and a first Civil War battle. The poorly trained Union Army 35,000 soldiers led by Union General McDowell confidently engaged a 20,000 Confederate force which was led by General Beauregard and assisted by General Stonewall Jackson. The Union expectation was a quick battle to end the war.

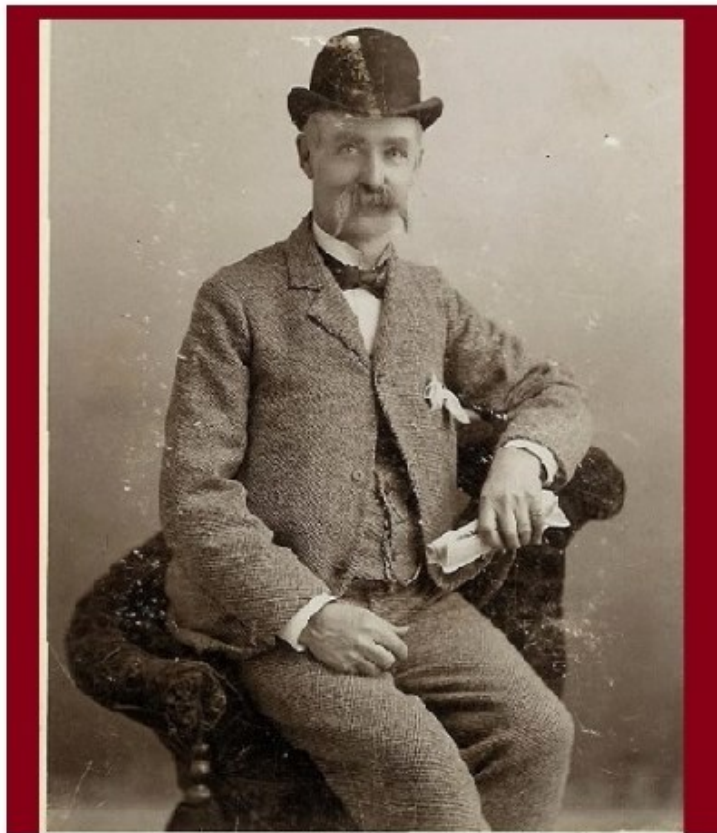
Somehow, Washington DC and Virginia well to do citizen's wanted to view a sporting battle while enjoying lunch in their horse carriages. The horrors of war were not considered much.

After initial success, the Union Army was routed and retreated into the startled Union civilians. The spectators clogged the roads. 480 Union and 390 Confederates soldiers died.

3rd generation **Henry Harrison Pearce and Maria Bush** were the parents of Theodore and William. That family took care of Hillside Cemetery from 1850s to 1916 in many ways. Of course, future **George Arnold Pierce** and his family excelled more so.

2nd generation Henry James Pearce and Henry Harrison Pearce are buried in the big tomb at Hillside. It is not clear if Henry #1 is buried in the tomb however, he is somewhere at Hillside per his 1788 Will. In 1994, Glen Pierce installed a tombstone nearby for Henry #1.

The Theodore noted here is the one who moved to Detroit Michigan.



Theodore Sanford Pearce 1839 - 1916.

Branch #2 generation 4.

Son of Henry Harrison Pearce and Maria Bush.

Emeline L. 'Emma' Wheaton
married 12/15/1867.

1839-1869 Fairfield NJ.

1870-80 Amboy City, Lee County, Illinois;

1893-1900 at 927 Quigley Ave, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Later a brick mason at 275 Jefferson St, Detroit, MI.

1914 living in Canada. 1915 living in Detroit MI.

Buried at Woodmere Cemetery, Detroit Michigan.

The Henry Harrison Pearce (1801-1859) family managed Hillside Cemetery. The family lived 1/2 mile away at 22 Horseneck Road. The home was demolished about 1998.



1973



1994

Theodore's brother William Henry Pearce appears to have joined the Union Army but not sure of the date or unit.

It appears that brother's Orestes and E. Elijah Pearce were not drafted.



Mrs. Jane Maria PEARCE Mulford
9/1/1842—3/9/1914 (71)

Theodore Sandford Pearce's sister Mrs. **Jane Pearce Mulford** died 3/9/1914 age 71 in Fairfield NJ. Jane lived near Hillside Cemetery which she managed for free for 35 years.

Sixteen months later, The 7/10/1915 Caldwell Progress newspaper said that Theodore of Detroit Michigan was visiting Fairfield.

He visited Jane's grave at Hillside Cemetery.

Also visited the FDRC church and remembered his 1861 Pro-Union picnic. Saw relatives. This was the last time to reminisce past events and family.

Only his older brother **Elijah Elston Pearce** and himself were alive; their 5 other siblings and parents had died by 1914. Theodore would die 2 years later in 1916 in Detroit Michigan. Elijah died 1925 in Upper Montclair NJ.