

[Pierce, Horace M.]

Horace M. Pierce

The death of Horace M. Pierce, a life-long resident of Otsego county, took place at his home on Chestnut street, Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Pierce, who was eighty-three years of age, had been an invalid from rheumatism for many years. His sister, Mrs. William Leis, of Chicago, who spent the summer here, was with him to the last. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Hardcastle, of Madison N.J., and one brother, A.C. Pierce of Junction City, Kan. For the past twenty years Mr. Pierce had been a resident of this village. The funeral will be held at the home on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the Rev. Charles Kramer officiating. Interment in Lakewood Cemetery.

*Otsego Farmer*, Cooperstown NY, Fri. 21 Sep 1917

Horace M. Pierce

The late Horace M. Pierce, whose death was recorded by *The Farmer* two weeks ago, was a native of Otsego county and a man well known by a wide circle of friends. He attended as a boy the public school until old enough to do light work on the farm of his father, one term at the select school of a Mr. Chamberlin and one term at the Cooperstown Academy. Discouraged because of the insistence of the teacher in writing compositions and declamating in public, he left school much against the advice of his father and in after years to his own oft-repeated regret.

In 1856 Mr. Pierce with a brother and two friends started West to seek their fortunes, but in the October following he returned to his home and in November cast his first vote for John C. Fremont for President.

Mr. Pierce was a successful farmer in early life. Moving to Cooperstown Mr. Pierce became interested in local affairs and in 1883 was elected president of the Otsego County Agricultural society. He served as secretary for five or six years and treasurer for four years. A mortgage of \$3,500 against the property was cleared away during his term of office and the amount of \$2,000 placed in the savings bank with which to build a new grand stand.

Unfortunately soon afterward illness cut short an active business career for which he had a great liking. In politics Mr. Pierce was a Republican until 1872 and then voted the Democratic ticket for Horace Greeley for President. Since that time he was an independent voter taking little active interest in politics. In religion Mr. Pierce was a regular supporter of the Universalist church.

*Otsego Farmer*, Cooperstown NY, 5 Oct 1917