

I remember. Do you?

Alice Warren.

I was asked to write about what  
 Maynard <sup>was like</sup> when I first came  
 to town. I was one of the many  
 school teachers who were hired  
 to teach in the public schools.  
 At that time it was customary  
 for the teachers to live here  
 during the school year.

The sun was shining  
 that Sept. Sunday when I  
 left the train at the station. I  
 was amazed at the crowd that  
 came ~~to see the train come~~  
~~to meet it.~~  
 to meet it.

There were many boarding  
 houses along Main St and on that  
 day the porches were filled with  
 inmates enjoying the comfortable  
 chairs and watching the crowds  
 go by. Everyone seemed to  
 be walking as there were <sup>very few</sup>  
 motor cars, ~~for the majority of~~  
~~people.~~  
 people.

(2)

I entered the school system under Mr. Brick and found my work most interesting.

I was surprised to see so many tow-haired children. They ~~were~~ were courteous, and the parents cooperative and it was a joy to teach here.

One of the out-standing clubs at that time was the Maynard Woman's Club which was at its height, ~~at that time~~ <sup>with</sup> two hundred members and a waiting list. Teachers were honored guests and were allowed to close school early so as to attend the ~~club~~ <sup>meetings</sup>. The programs were outstanding. The members dressed in their silk and satin <sup>gowns</sup> with hats and white ~~sock~~ <sup>high</sup> gloves. On looking over one of the old reports, I came across a notation where some one suggested that the Street Railway

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we asked to lower the step  
as the women were required  
to show too much of their  
limbs ~~in getting aboard~~.

The churches were very busy  
places in those days. With  
clubs for the young people it  
was an excuse to get out of an  
evening, and the rule was to  
get home right after Christian  
endeavor & ~~Concord League~~ <sup>Concord League</sup> the old  
day, you tried to put in some  
of the churches, and if the family  
was small you paid for half a  
pew.

The town seemed a very busy  
place to me with so many trains  
and street cars coming in and  
leaving. I sometimes think it was  
easier to get <sup>in</sup> out of town then,  
than it is now. Street cars went  
up Nasson St to the Actons and the  
length of Main St to Hudson and  
Concord. At times there would be  
standing room only and at ~~the~~

~~time~~ you could ride all day for a dollar. Many people went on excursions to the Street Railway parks in Lexington, Whalom ~~and Canabie's Lake~~ <sup>and Canabie's Lake</sup>. This was a great treat for many of the older folks and the Clinton Dam which was

As for recreation there <sup>was</sup> plenty to do. There were many ~~peo~~ Finnish people who put on their snow-shoes & skis ~~in those days~~ <sup>then</sup> and it was a happy sight to watch them come over the hills.

Long rides and sleigh rides in winter where the destination called for a good oyster stew or chowder to break up the ride. There were livery stables where one could hire a horse and buggy and take rides along the countryside during the different seasons. Bicycles had been at their height before I came here.

and I loved to hear of the Priest  
Bro. and their many friends  
and the ~~the~~ distances they made  
in a day. It almost seemed  
impossible. Canoeing on the  
river and at Lake Boone,  
skating on the mill pond, dances,  
balls, band concerts, base-ball,  
and basket ball games at the  
"Link" just added all kinds of fun  
for the young folks. Sice Shows, +  
Chit'ingha came regularly and  
once a real circus was re-roted  
into Maynard. The movie houses  
where the shows were changed  
twice a week and where all could  
attend without seeing any movie  
in bad taste.

Every nationality had its own clubs  
and organizations and entertained the  
people at least once a year. At that  
time there were quite a few Scottish  
people and I especially enjoyed their  
shows ~~each year~~. Everyone applauded the  
tale of an Harry Anderson.

I went away from Maynard for a while and came back as a housewife. In those days I did not have to go out and pick up groceries for good Mr. Morse, ~~came each~~ <sup>came</sup> from the Riverside Co., came in the morning to take your orders and bring it back by 4 o'clock in the afternoon. On Sunday morning a man came around with beans, brown bread, horse-radish + succotash? Fresh fish was brought into town twice a week and came to your door. Numerous cats followed the wagon and every once in a while a fish head would accidentally (?) fall off the tail-board to get rid of the animals.

I never knew what real fresh strawberries, corn and asparagus tasted like until I came to Maynard. Such a difference from produce brought from fruit stands. Farmers picked their corn, left it on the back door step, you helped yourself and left one cent an ear.

Many people bought flour (by the barrel) sugar and other items <sup>in large quantities</sup> whole scale + it was quite a sight at the railroad station when this landed at the depot.

any  
everyone who could bought their  
flour by the barrell and it was  
quite a task to deliver it. ~~Some~~ <sup>7.</sup> those  
who could, baked their own bread.  
It was a poor home <sup>wife</sup> keeper who  
bought her bread. It was 5 + 10¢ a loaf  
<sup>at the store</sup> and pretty poor stuff.

over



We did have excellent stores, Case's, a large department store, where you could purchase anything from a collar button to a pair of shoes, and many other good stores to take care of all our needs ~~with~~ with never a ~~need~~ <sup>necessity</sup> to go out of town. We didn't have motor cars, planes, supermarkets, and five and ten cent stores, but we did have a library, good schools and all those beloved people who gave of themselves to make our town a blessed place to live.

As I reread this it makes me think of the little lad who looked up in my face and said, "Mrs. Warren, did you really know Abraham Lincoln?"