

Canterbury – Enfield Youth Meet At Andover

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The first fall of my being there an unusual excursion was planned. The youth and boys of the two societies of Canterbury and Enfield were to meet at Andover, midway between the two societies, and enjoy a visit together. We were informed of this proposition quite a little time in advance, and the anticipation nearly equalled (sic) the real event. The day at last arrived. The weather did not seem propitious at first, but it proved to be a fine day. Taking an early breakfast we started in the darkness; as we had forty-eight miles to drive with pretty heavy loads for our horses. Arriving at our trysting place no Enfield boys were in sight, and we drove on to meet them, but they did not come. It had seemed to them so very much like rain that they thought surely we would not venture out. We had no telephones those days, and our nearest telegraph office was eleven miles distant.

To say we were disappointed all around feebly expresses our feelings, but to our joy another attempt was planned and successfully carried out one week later, thus giving us two long rides. We all met on the plains of Andover. The dinners of both parties were untied and the feast enjoyed together. In accordance with the Shaker idea of the most refined enjoyment we held a regular religious service singing and marching as if in our own meeting rooms. Then followed the freest mingling and chatting until it was time to start for home. The acquaintance thus so pleasantly begun was continued by interchange of letters, in some cases for many years.