

THE SCOTTISH PEOPLE IN MAYNARD

The Scots along with the English were the original settlers of Assabet Village (incorporated as Maynard in 1871), starting in the seventeenth century. Many Scottish names appear among the seventy-one incorporators of the town. Being English-speaking, the Scots apparently did not have any need for clubs or organizations basically Scottish, unless one of the two Odd Fellows Lodges instituted in 1884 might have been. Besides that, ties with the old country were weakened by many generations of living in a foreign clime, America, as was not the case with the later immigrants.

However, a national pride did assert itself for a short period as a Maynard and Concord Robert Burn's Club was organized in February 1917. This became known simply as the ^{Caledonian} ~~Caledonian~~ Club. We do not know where the club had its quarters, but a Hallowe'en party was held at Masonic Hall with one hundred and fifty in attendance on November 3, 1911. Names mentioned at that affair were James Dunlop, Chief, and a committee of Mungo Bain, Roderick McIver, Robert Alexander, George McInnes, Alexander Bailey, John McKenzie, Mrs. Ann Bell, Mrs. George Stockwell, Charles Higgins and Gordon Wilson. A second anniversary concert and ball was held at Music Hall on February 9, 1912 with over 800 people in attendance. The Club officers in 1914 were Chief Alexander Baillie, Vice-Chief Edward Miller, Secretary J.C. Pringle, Treasurer Mungo Bain, Trustee 1 year James Baxter, Chaplain J.R. McKenzie. A football team known as the Caledonian Foot Ball Club of Maynard was organized around this time from the club members. This was soccer football, not our American brand. The games must have been played at the Maynard Cricket Club grounds (present location of the Green Meadow School) for we have no

record of another soccer field in town.

No record of the demise of the Caledonian Club exists, so it is our assumption that the first World War, 1917-18, dealt a death blow to its existence, as to so many others.

I am sure that much could be written of individual Scots and their descendants in reference to the political ,social and economic life of Maynard, but that will be left to some person of Scottish descent. I will remain thrifty with my words!