

peared on November 10, 1884; ensembles from the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philharmonics Club; the Melrose Musical Society that in 1881 presented the great oratorio "Stabat Mater"; musical instrument soloists such as Walter Emerson, a Melrose resident who was one of the world's greatest cornetists; and Leland T. Powers, dramatic impersonator and founder of the Leland Powers School in Boston.

Mary A. Livermore, a Melrose resident for thirty-five years, appeared at the Lyceum several times, speaking mainly on behalf of woman suffrage and the temperance movement. She was nationally recognized as a writer and lecturer, and travelled extensively.

In late 1893 the Lyceum sponsors began to use the old Catholic Church building on Dell Avenue for some of their programs, and it then became known as Lyceum Hall. The small frame building was originally a Baptist Church that was erected in 1842 at the corner of Upham and Main Streets, where now stands the present Baptist Church. When the Baptists decided to build a new edifice in 1873, the original building was sold to St. Bridget's Catholic Church (later St. Mary's) and moved to the east side of Dell Avenue, just in from Upham Street.

In 1893 the present St. Mary's Catholic Church was built at Herbert

and Myrtle Streets, and the Dell Avenue building became the location for some of the Lyceum programs. Lyceum activities were discontinued entirely in 1895, and then revived on a modest basis in 1898. In the early 1900s the old building was destroyed by fire, and interest in the Lyceum began to wane again. By 1910 it had lost its identity.

In 1912, the Reverend Harold Marshall, pastor of the Universalist Church, revived the Lyceum under the name of Social Service Mass Meetings. These were first held at the Universalist Church on Essex Street, and later at Memorial Hall. The meetings of the group continued until 1920, and at one of the last programs Calvin A. Coolidge, then governor of Massachusetts, gave the address.

Some of the outstanding speakers presented by the Lyceum from its beginning in 1865 to 1900 were: Henry Ward Beecher, Charles Bradlaugh, George W. Cable, George W. Curtis, William Lloyd Garrison, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr., Wendell Phillips, John L. Stoddard, Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens) and Edwin P. Whipple.

Since the 1920s various local organizations such as the Women's Clubs, Pond feilde, Rotary and Lions Clubs, Amphion, the Orchestral Association, and the Beethoven Society have sponsored programs that carry on the Lyceum tradition.