

The Mechanics' Institute and Atheneum, which afterwards amalgamated with the Natural History Society to form the present Literary and Scientific Society, occupied for their quarters at that time the upper story of an addition which Mr. Geo. Hay had made to his block, 58 and 60 Sparks Street.* In the absence of convenient places for holding meetings, this lecture hall was frequently sublet.† On this occasion it seems to have been given free by the kindness of H. J. Friel, Esq., President of the Mechanics' Institute. For those days it was a very roomy and convenient hall, with a platform at the Sparks Street end. I was present at this first meeting and have been at every annual meeting since.

Those present, as given in the minutes and in the report of the meeting in the *Citizen*, were Mesdames Spence, Sewell, Armstrong, Coffin, H. O. Burritt, A. Burritt, H. V. Noel, E. Griffin, J. Skead, Garvey, S. Howell, R. Skead, R. Lees, Hunton, A. Patrick, Durie, Stevenson, Clemow, Laver, Pattée, Patton, Perkins, Cox, Bronson, Blackburn, J. Thorburn, Rochester, Langrill, Cressall, McLean, Brennan, Robertson, Johnston, Sinclair, and Misses Skead, Smith, Clement, Grant, Foster, Foote, Garvey, Farish, Lyon, Helliwell and Wardrope. The gentlemen present were Rev. A. Spence, Rev. J. Elliott, Judge Armstrong, Dr. Sewell and Mr. G. H. Perry. Rev. Dr. Spence opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. G. H. Perry acted as secretary. It was not customary then for women to occupy places on platforms and carry on the business of

* Sold in 1903 to Messrs. Ahearn and Soper.

† It was in this room that Bank Street Presbyterian Church was organized, and here the Rev. Dr. Moore was ordained and inducted into his charge in 1866.