Guide to the Henry S. Bloom papers

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Guide to the Henry S. Bloom papers

Collection number: MC 30

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Henry S. Bloom papers
Dates: 1851-1968
Collection number: MC 30
Creator: Bloom, Henry S.
Collection Size: .1 linear ft.(1 folder)
Repository: Sacramento Public Library. Sacramento Room
Sacramento, California 95814

Abstract: Henry S. Bloom worked in the gold fields in California during the Gold Rush from 1850 to 1851. The collection is comprised of one folder correspondence and printed material, including newspaper clippings and a check (1851-1968, bulk 1851-1899).

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please contact the Sacramento Room.
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English
Access
Collection is open for research.

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Biography

Bloom wrote about his time spent searching for gold in California from 1850-1851 in a diary which Burt E. Burroughs described in the Kankakee Republican News in the 1930s. In his diary, Bloom depicted the highs and lows of daily life in a mining camp as he worked in the hotel his father (who had come to California in 1849) owned. He also tended bar, worked in the post office, and mined for gold. Bloom's gold mining efforts were relatively successful, and he returned to Illinois with several thousand dollars' worth of gold.

Bloom was one of Kankakee County's earliest pioneers. In 1853, he served as one of the commissioners who organized the county. He held a variety of minor offices in Rockville Township. He served as justice of the peace for fourteen years after having been elected at the age of twenty-two. He was also appointed postmaster and served in that position for some time.
Bloom worked as a farmer until he moved to the city of Kankakee. Towards the end of his life, Bloom was known for possessing a wealth of memories about the early days of the county, many of which were listed in the Atlas of Kankakee County. Bloom passed away on February 3, 1899 in Kankakee County at the age of 78.

**Scope and Content Note**
The collection is comprised of one folder consisting of correspondence and printed material, including newspaper clippings and a check (1851-1968, bulk 1851-1899). The correspondence covers such topics as family and friends, life in California, farming, the Post Office and Christmas celebrations. The newspaper clippings are funeral notices for Henry S. Bloom and Thomas Bloom and an article about Henry S. Bloom's diary about life in California during the Gold Rush. Photocopies of the clippings are also included.

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Bloom, Henry S.
Gold mines and mining--California--Sources