San Francisco Chief of Police Department Correspondence

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San Francisco Chief of Police Department Correspondence

Collection number: MS 141

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Descriptive Summary

Title: San Francisco Chief of Police Department correspondence
Dates: 1868-1877
Collection number: MS 141
Collector: San Francisco Police Department
Collection Size: 1 box
61 items
Repository: University of California, Santa Cruz. University Library. Special Collections and Archives
Santa Cruz, California 95064
Abstract: Sixty one items mainly written by law enforcement officers and detectives to Henry H. Ellis, San Francisco Chief of Police from 1873 to 1877. Also includes a letter from Patrick Crowley and a list concerning number of Chinese arrests from 1875-1876.

Physical location: Stored in Special Collections & Archives: Advance notice is required for access to the papers.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
Collection open for research.

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Preferred Citation
San Francisco Chief of Police Department correspondence. MS 141. Special Collections and Archives, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Acquisition Information
Purchased in early 1960s from Argonaut Book Store, San Francisco, CA.

Biographies
Henry Hiram Ellis came to California in 1849 from Maine, was a gold miner and captain of several vessels before coming to San Francisco as policeman in 1855. He worked his way up in the Police Force and was elected chief of Police in 1875.

Patrick Crowley: Growing up in New York, Crowley gave up work as a printer in 1847 and volunteered to serve aboard the USS Macedonian during its relief mission to Ireland during the potato famine. Moving to California in 1850, he settled in San Francisco and in 1856 was elected a city constable. In 1866 he was elected Chief of the San Francisco Police Department serving until 1873. Following the creation of a Police Commission, Crowley was appointed Chief of Police again in 1879 and served until his retirement in 1897. He was the longest serving chief of the San Francisco Police Department.

Scope and Content of Collection
This collection contains fifty eight letters, two official documents, and one newspaper article, and mainly written by law enforcement officers from around the country to Henry H. Ellis, San Francisco Chief of Police from 1873 to 1877. Includes one letter addressed to Patrick Crowley, Chief of Police from 1868 to 1873, and one list giving the "Number & character of Chinese arrests for the 3 months ending 30 Sept 1876".

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

- Schick, George Dexter
- San Francisco (Calif.)--Police Dept.
- Crime--California--San Francisco
- Law enforcement--California--San Francisco
- Chinese Americans--California--San Francisco
- Ellis, Henry H.
- Crowley, Patrick

| box-folder 1:1 | Crowley, Patrick, 4/7/1872 |
| box-folder 1:2 | Ellis, Henry H., undated, 1873-1877 |
| box-folder 1:3 | Hawes, Horace, 9/16.1870 |
| box-folder 1:4 | List - "Number & Character of Chinese Arrests for the 3 months ending 30 Sept. 1876", 1875-1876 |
| box-folder 1:5 | "Miner's Dream" from *The Flag of Our Nation* - clipping, undated |