Register of the Lockeford (Calif.) Charitable & Temperance Papers, 1860-1895

Collection number: Mss112

Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections
University Library
University of the Pacific

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Biography
The first temperance society in the Lockeford area, The Dashaways, was established there at the instigation of Dr. Dean Jewett Locke in the late 1850s. This society had been founded by Frank Whitney, a San Francisco fire chief, and An Illustrated History of San Joaquin County (1890) asserts that Dr. Locke had been a San Francisco member since 1850. The impetus for founding a local chapter may have derived from a rash of alcohol-related killings that had taken place in the Lockeford area in 1855. The Dashaways are represented in this collection by one songbook. Their order was supplanted in January 1860 by the creation of the Live Oak Division no. 29 of the Sons of Temperance.

Most of the material in this collection relates to the activities of the Live Oak Division of the Sons of Temperance. It consists of minutes and account books of the order, correspondence, and published materials such as by-laws, tracts, and rituals. The Lockeford division of this national temperance organization, was launched in 1860 by John Griffith, Dr. Dean Jewett Locke, and Dr. William Kerr. The group began with nineteen members, and, at their second meeting, six women were
brought into the regular order.

A second chapter, New Era Division no. 71, was founded in 1861 at Athearn's School near present-day Clements. This group is represented in the collection by an 1861 minutebook. The New Era Division was probably absorbed into the Live Oak Division in 1862. Also represented by minutes in the New Era minutebook is the U.S. Sanitary Commission's Soldier's Aid Society of Lockeford, which flourished briefly in 1864-65.

The Live Oak Division met irregularly in the Lockeford Granary Hall, where they heard pro-temperance speakers, disciplined back-sliding members, and debated questions such as whether gambling ought to be condemned by their membership. At one meeting the Division passed a resolution forbidding the use of medications containing alcohol.

The Sons of Temperance also functioned somewhat like a fraternal order. They sang and chatted, undertook charity work, sported uniforms at community celebrations, and assisted members when they suffered illness, injury, or business reverses. The Lockeford organization lasted for five years.

In 1865 a chapter of the Independent Order of Good Templars replaced the Sons of Temperance. The Order of Good Templars operated in Lockeford as Rescue Lodge no. 115 for more than thirty years. This group included children in its activities. The juvenile auxiliary organization was known as the "Band of Hope." This group is represented in the collection by a volume of minutes (1868-1870). By 1874 most of the members of the Good Templars were juveniles. The adult organization is represented in this collection by a songsheet.

In 1889 Lockeford women established a chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. This organization was sufficiently active between 1891 and 1895 to operate a reading room in Luther Locke's butcher shop. The group sponsored speaking contests to popularize its views and organized a children's auxiliary. The WCTU is represented in this collection by a printed report (1892).

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**Box Box 1**

**MINUTE BOOKS; ACCOUNT BOOKS**

**Folder 1**


**Folder 2**


**Folder 3**


-Sons of Temperance, Live Oak Div. no. 29. [Account Book], 1860-1864. Accounts by name pp. 1-197 [lacks covers, alphabetical tab index]

**Box Box 2**

**CORRESPONDENCE & PRINTED MATTER**

**Folder 1**

Folder 1: Sons of Temperance--Rituals [printed on cardboard; 16 copies]

- Conductor [2 copies]
- Asst. Conductor [2 copies]
- Chaplain [2 copies]
- Inside & Outside Sentinels [2 copies]
- Past Worthy Patriarch [3 copies]

**Folder 2**

Folder 2: S.O.T.--Officers' Duties & Initiation Ceremonies [printed on cardboard]

- Grand Worthy Patriarch's Letters" [i.e. corresp. from head of Order in SF, 1861-1864; 6 items, incl. env.]

- "Promiscuous Letters" [i.e. misc. corresp., 1861-1865; chiefly courtesy notices from nearby chapters re expelled mem- bers; also incl. member resignation notes and speaker arrangements; 20 items, incl. env.]
  **Angry letter from member who resigns because chapter has admitted "illiterate indians"

- **Resolution honoring founder Dr. Wm. Kerr, d. 1861

- "Admission Cards" [10 items; incl. env.]
- Blue Book for the Use of Subordinate Divisions of the Order of the Sons of Temperance. NY, 1857. [2]

Folder Folder7
S.O.T.--Constitution & By-Laws (1860) [2 copies]

Folder Folder8
S.O.T.--Misc.BusinessPapers [6 items]
  - Membership reporting forms [3; 2 completed, 1 blank]
  - Rçpts.

Folder Folder9
Misc. Printed Matter, Other Temperance Organizations
  - Songs of the Dashaways. SF, 1860.
  - Independent Order of Good Templars Odes, n.d.[printed on cardboard]

Folder Folder10
Misc. Temperance Literature
  - Maine Temperance Journal [adv. circular]
  - Dead River Grand Trunk Railway [tract]
  - Plymouth Pulpit (8-27-70) [Henry Ward Beecher publ.]

Folder Folder11
U.S. Sanitary Commission Papers 1864-1865
  - O.C. Wheeler, Secty., Calif. Branch to local chapters [4 items] suggests concerts & monthly meetings to raise funds, 1-65 personal greetings to Delia M. Locke, 1-9-65 suggests using Washington’s Birthday as basis for fund-raiser, 1-20-65 re fund raising during holiday season, 12-3-65

Folder Folder12
Journal used by two charitable organizations for different purposes 1861; 1864-1865

Folder Folder13