

Guide to the Dr. David Sherwood Kellogg Collection

70.8

Special Collections
Benjamin F. Feinberg Library
SUNY Plattsburgh
Plattsburgh, N. Y. 12901

By
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July 1997

Introduction

David Sherwood Kellogg was born in Essex, Vermont on October 21, 1847. He attended the University of Vermont (UVM), receiving his A.B. degree in 1870 and his M.D. in 1873. He taught at various schools and interned at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut for a brief period before moving to Plattsburgh, New York on April 7, 1874.

In 1875, Dr. Kellogg married Elizabeth Stafford Smith of Burlington, Vermont. They raised five children: Robert, Nelson, Elizabeth, David, Jr., and Francis Fellows. In addition, the doctor and his wife inherited guardianship for his sister's three children. Theodora, Helen, and Francis Kellogg Kyle went to live with their "Uncle Wood" after their parents, Fannie and Osceola Kyle both had passed away.

From 1874 until his death in 1909, Dr. Kellogg had a prominent medical practice in Plattsburgh, with the delivery of babies constituting the majority of his professional calls. He was a member of the Board of Pension Examiners for local veterans and several times acted as interim Post Surgeon at the Plattsburgh Barracks.

In addition to his professional duties, Dr. Kellogg had a wide range of other intellectual interests. He was a well recognized authority on Native-American and military archaeological sites in the Champlain Valley region. He had a large collection of artifacts which he later donated to the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He made major discoveries at Cumberland Bay near Sconoton (Scomotion) Creek, and his knowledge of local sites was highly regarded by the archaeological experts Parker and Beauchamp.

Dr. Kellogg was also interested in other aspects of local history. He interviewed elderly citizens and former soldiers and he wrote essays and gave lectures to historical societies in the region and as far away as Montreal. He was active in several historical and medical societies and was the initiating force behind the establishment of the Plattsburgh Institute. The primary objectives of this organization were to preserve and memorialize local historic sites and to hold bi-weekly historical lectures for the public.

Dr. Kellogg began a limited biography of his medical colleagues and he collected local folklore and anecdotes. His journals include descriptions of some of Plattsburgh's citizens and events, his philosophies about life and death, and weather conditions and natural

phenomena. Many entries reflect the doctor's interest in old and rare books while others contain his critiques of contemporary literature and authors.

Dr. Kellogg's papers are located in Special Collections at Plattsburgh State University's Benjamin F. Feinberg Library. Items of special interest in this collection include several journals, genealogical materials, archaeological studies and manuscripts, various family documents and letters, Dr. Kellogg's correspondence with the War Department, his interviews with local citizens and veterans, his addresses on medical, archaeological, and historical subjects, a scrapbook of local history and Native-American artifacts, a paper about Jesuit priests, and a collection of folk and children's stories.

Dr. Kellogg's memberships in Societies and Organizations

Medical Society of Clinton County
Northern New York Medical Association (president after 1891)
Massachusetts Medical Society
Vermont State Medical Society
New England Historical Genealogical Society
Prince Society
American Association for the Advancement of Science
Sigma Phi Society
Society of Colonial Wars
Sons of the Revolution
Vermont Historical Society
Plattsburgh Institute

Background Sources in Special Collections

Everest, Allan S. *A Doctor at all Hours: The Private Journal of a Small-Town Doctor's Varied Life, 1886-1909*. Brattleboro, VT: Stephen Greene Press, 1970.

Everest, Allan S., ed. *Recollections of Clinton County and the Battle of Plattsburgh 1800-1840: Memoirs of the Early Residents from the Notebooks of Dr. David S. Kellogg*. Plattsburgh, NY: Clinton County Historical Association, 1964.

W. Lansing and Sons, eds. *The Souvenir Industrial Edition of Plattsburgh, 1897*. Plattsburgh, NY: Corner-Stone Bookshop, 1978.

Various newspaper and journal articles listed in the card index under the heading "Kellogg, David Sherwood."

For more detailed information regarding the contents of the Kellogg Collection, see "Catalogue of Miscellaneous papers of Dr. David S. Kellogg," in collection file cabinet under "Kellogg, David S."

See also this item located at the Plattsburgh Public Library:

Everest, Allan S. "David S. Kellogg, M.D., Plattsburgh Physician," in *Fourth Champlain Valley Symposium Proceedings: Bicentennial of William Beaumont, M.D., 1785-1853*. Plattsburgh, N.Y., Oct. 4-5, 1985.

Contents

The contents consist of 416 items, housed in thirteen flat storage boxes. Items contained in the collection include personal journals and transcripts of these journals, medical notes, family correspondence, children's stories, genealogical information, historical notes, archaeological documentation and drawings, newspaper clippings, and a typescript copy of Dr. Allan S. Everest, ed. *Memoirs of a Small-Town Doctor*.

Box 1: Personal Journals

- Folder 1: 12/12/1885-2/18/1892 (141 pp.)
- 2: 2/20/1892-3/29/1898 (144 pp.)
- 3: 3/30/1898-8/16/1909 (144 pp.)
- 4: Notes about local doctors (21 pp.) & 3 letters

Box 2: Transcriptions of Journals

- Folder 1: 1885-1887 (197 pp.)
- 2: 1888-1889 (137 pp.)
- 3: 1890-1891 (137 pp.)
- 4: 1892-1894 (173 pp.)

Box 3: Transcriptions of Journals

- Folder 1: 1895-1897 (147 pp.)
- 2: 1898-1901 (175 pp.)
- 3: 1902-1909 (154 pp.)

Box 4: Typescript copy of Dr. Allan S. Everest, ed. *Memoirs of a Small-Town Doctor* (658 pp., includes footnotes)

Box 5: Hard-bound volumes

- Folder 1: Stories and Sketches (434 pp.)
- 2: Recollections of Plattsburgh Place Names
- 3: Notes and Journeys, 1886-1905 (85 pp.)
- 4: Military Journal and Orderly Books, 1756-1818 (264 pp.)

Box 6:

- Folder 1: Notes on genealogy; Gravestones; Plattsburgh history; Letters from Europe, 1879 (143 pp.)
- 2: Book of folklore, weather lore, aphorisms (40 pp.)
- 3: "Narrative of Capture, Prison Life, and Escape during the War of the Rebellion in 1864" (Morris C. Foote, aide de Camp) (42 pp.)

Box 7: Kellogg Family

- Folder 1: Genealogical Data (Kellogg, Sherwood, Otis, Thacher, Fellows)
2: Misc. Family Papers, 1790-1898
3: Letters Re: Family Genealogy, 1840-1963
4: Kellogg Family Receipts, 1826-1895
5: Misc. Family Papers, 1826-1939 (**items 7 and 8 missing in July 1997)

Box 8: Correspondence

- Folder 1: Kellogg Family Letters, 1865-1957
2: D.S. Kellogg Correspondence, 1875-1895
3: D.S. Kellogg Correspondence, 1896-1900; 1904-1908
4: D.S. Kellogg Letters to Mrs. Theodora Kyle Chase, 1904

Box 9:

- Folder 1: Notes about Local Doctors (19pp.)
2: Medical Journal, 1885-1886 (6pp.)
3: Notes about Dr. Isaac Platt Foote (3pp.)
4: Fee Bill of Clinton County medical Society, 5/1/1867
5: Medical Case Histories, 1893, 1898
6: D.S. Kellogg Addresses
7: Membership Cards, UVM Course Cards, 1779, 1808, 1872-1891

Box 10:

- Folder 1: Plattsburgh History Scrapbook (newspaper clippings)

Box 11:

- Folder 1: D.S. Kellogg Lectures & Essays, 1879-1901
2: Misc. Historical Notes

Box 12: Archaeological Materials

- Folder 1: Archaeological Notes, Typescript and Illustrations (copy 1: complete copy—99pp.; copy 2—86 pp.)
2: Archaeological Notes without illustrations (47 pp.)
3: Amherst List of the Kellogg Collection (3 copies--22pp. each)

Box 13:

- Folder 1: Description of "Stories Written for my Children by Their Father" (8pp.)
2: D.S. Kellogg Notes, 2/28/1870 (27pp.)
3: Typed copy of "Discovery of One of the Vessels of Arnold's Fleet at Whitehall, NY in Summer of 1910" (5pp.)
4: D.S. Kellogg Correspondence with War Department, 1877-1898
5: Allan S. Everest Correspondence re Kellogg Collection, 1957-58, 1964-5
6: Documentation and news articles of Culver Hill Memorial Proceedings, 1894
7: "Champlain Valley Pioneers"--News articles from the *Plattsburgh Sentinel*, 1891
8: Misc. News clippings, 1895-1906
9: Misc. Printed material, 1874-1904