



LESLIE E. KEELEY, M.D., LL.D.

Dr. Leslie E. Keeley (1832-1901) a self-proclaimed Civil War Surgeon studied alcoholics among the Union soldiers. After the war, he went to Dwight, Illinois continued his study.

In 1879, in a small wooden frame building, the **Keeley Institute** was founded with the proclamation by Dr. Leslie E. Keeley that “*Drunkenness is a disease and I can cure it.*”

Late 1800 cure for addiction. This was used by some in San Diego County, including Judge Charles Monroe. FB Walker was on the coroner's Jury when the Judge committed suicide.

The treatment centered on a secret preparation that was said to contain bichloride of gold. However, chemical analysis revealed that the proprietary tonic contained 27.55% alcohol plus ammonium chloride, aloin and tincture of cinchona but no gold. His hypodermic injections contained sulfate of strychnine, atropine and boracic acid.

Keeley claimed that when his medicine was administered according to his directions, it had no injurious effects and that 95 per cent of the patients were permanently cured. If they did return to drinking, he insisted that they were cured but that they drank because they choose to do so, not because they were still addicted.