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had in Icaria. He said he never even considered that type of life again. Many of the descendents of the Icarian people have gone on to important positions all over the United States.

Although Icaria failed as a communal colony, it gave much to the development of the culture of Adams County and Corning. This was accomplished by their theatrical performances and through the private teaching that was done. In addition to this there were many plants that were first introduced into this section of the state in the Icarian Colony.

MUSEUM NOTES

Photos by Norma Brooks

Among the many items of historical significance donated to the museum in the past few months are the objects pictured below which have drawn much attention from visitors.

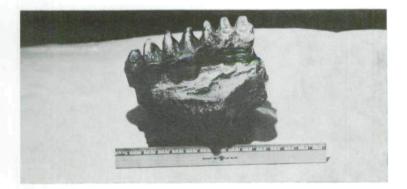
Shown here by Mr. Fred Voitel, Assistant to the Curator, is a brick mold used for making soft mud bricks. This mold is



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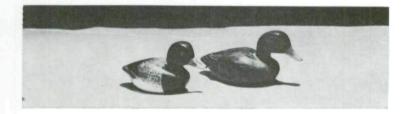
one of a set of ten made by Joseph Doane for James M. Fredrigill in the winter of 1893-94. The molds, made of Cherry wood, were soaked in water so that sand would adhere to them, preventing the mud from sticking when dumped in the drying yard. This type of mold was used in making the brick for the State House.



Of particular interest are these prehistoric Mastadon teeth found in sand excavated from the foundations of the Equitable Building at Des Moines in 1922. The teeth, now thoroughly mineralized, came from the lower right jaw of the animal and were probably pushed into the place of discovery by glaciers or washed there by glacial streams.

Also pictured are two miniature wooden duck decoys of extreme rarity. These decoys were used by salesmen at the turn of the century as samples for their products.

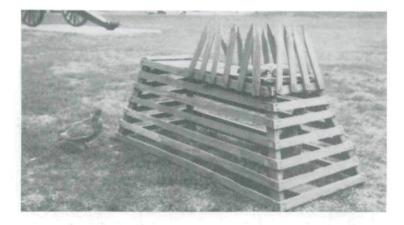
Representative of covered wagon days and early settlements in the Midwest is the prairie chicken trap. Prairie chickens



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once appeared on the Iowa scene in such great numbers that pioneers were forced to rid their lands of them through the use of this tricky device. This particular trap was remarkably preserved over the years quite by accident, having been discarded in an old machine shed during the 1890's. No other trap of this kind is known to still exist.



Seen also are sand shakers, inkwells, and quills dating from the 1700's. Below these are an early pioneer razor and an ivory needle case carved in the shape of acorns. In the bottom row



Museum Notes

of the picture are a lock and key dating from 1750 to 1800 and pegs used for husking corn.

The last picture shows a large, one gallon copper coffee pot, believed to have been used in 1851; a copper tea kettle belonging to a pioneer born in 1816; a pudding tin; an iron stew pan with legs; an 1860 waffle iron; and an iron kettle with wooden potato masher.



FROM THE RINGGOLD RECORD, MOUNT AYR, IOWA, 1879

Every one knows that the mustard for plasters should be mixed with the white of an egg, if you would avoid raising a blister. But there is still another method of arrving at the same result. Take a tablespoon of molasses, more or less as desired; stir thick with mustard, and having spread it on a cloth, apply it directly to the skin; it will not blister, even if kept on for an hour. Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.