

Department notes

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as to a land of great fertility, but as an excellent place in which to make their homes; and minimized the inevitable presence of speculators and gamblers in the new settlements.

Rev. Harvey's article carries the survey of church development down to the establishment of Iowa Territory in July, 1838. To pursue such a survey on the same scale after this date would be an overwhelming task and would be beyond the scope of the Annals. The conscientious and readable survey of the five years prior to 1838 here given should suggest the course of development in the succeeding territorial years when the population at its close was five times the 22,500 enumerated in 1838.

DEPARTMENT NOTES

IN KEEPING with its regular policy, during the past quarter the department offered special exhibits on Lincoln's birthday and on Washington's birthday of letters and other historical material possessed by the department pertaining to these two men. A special exhibit of native Iowa birds was also held in observance of Wild Life Conservation Week, March 19-26. In addition the department assisted in a larger wild life conservation exhibit in the state house by contributing some of its mounted specimens.

THE DEPARTMENT acknowledges a gift from the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, of a splendid scale model of Independence Hall. The model is three feet long over all, and two feet high. For protection and for making it available for public display, it has been placed in a suitable glass case where it attracts the attention of practically all visitors to the department.

Labels in the case explain the high lights of the building and give points of historical information, as:

“East side room, first floor, is Declaration Chamber, in this room Washington was appointed Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, June 16, 1775

The Declaration of Independence was signed

The Articles of Confederation were signed, July 9, 1778

The 24 English flags taken at the surrender of Yorktown were laid at the feet of Congress and of the Ambassador of France, November 3, 1781

The Constitution of the United States was adopted and signed September 17, 1787 "

THE DEPARTMENT also acknowledges a splendid gift from Younker Brothers, Inc., of Des Moines. The gift consists of twenty-five lithograph pictures after the fashion of Currier and Ives prints, chiefly of Civil War scenes.

A 44 INCH fragment of a mammoth's tusk has been added to the museum collection of the department as a result of the discovery by W. P. A. workers under the direction of C. M. Corbin in the southeast corner of section 18, Jasper township, Carroll County, on Friday, March 6. On notification of Mr. Imel of Glidden the discovery was examined by the department and later brought back to form a permanent part of its display. The tusk was found at the depth of 18 feet in red glacial sand and gravel, above which were nine feet of gravel which also may have been of a glacial drift, on top of this was four feet of black soil. It is estimated to have been buried in the Wisconsin glacial period, or about 30,000 years ago. Unfortunately nothing more than the tusk was found of the pre-historic animal.

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