

Recent Acquisitions

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napolis; following his graduation he rose to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Navy, the first man born west of the Mississippi to achieve that rank. In addition to these dresses of Mrs. Remy, two of a later period were exhibited in this display by Mrs. Louis B. Schmidt of Ames. Other exhibits commemorating Iowa's one hundredth year were the exhibition of dolls and needle work of the early days, and, on the third floor, the display of certain select documents from the public archives, relating to the government of the Territory of Iowa.

The museum arranged a special exhibit of birds showing those species that were common to Iowa in the territorial days, but which are now rare or extinct. These included wild turkey, several species of duck, passenger pigeons (now completely extinct), and the upland plover.

The attendance at the building during the state fair week was somewhat larger than a year ago, achieving a grand total of 18,000 people.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

A number of gifts have been received by the department in the last several months which will interest friends and visitors to the department:

A flag with thirteen stars was donated by Miss Mildred Clark of Saint Louis, Missouri. It had formerly been the property of her grandfather, Captain Benjamin Clark, who had brought the flag from his New York home to Buffalo, Iowa, in the spring of 1833. It had been in the Clark family prior to that time, having served as a company flag in the war of 1812-15.

From the trustees of the J. G. Edmundson estate, Des Moines, the department has received Mr. Edmundson's brougham carriage, which was manufactured in the early '90's at a cost of approximately \$850.00. The carriage is in excellent condition and makes a very valuable addition to the transportation exhibits in the basement of the building.

A side saddle, a large copper kettle and a stirrer was received from Harry C. Brewer of Adel; several spurs of chased

silver, including bits for riding bridles, were received from F. C. Hubbell of Des Moines.

A trundle bed of solid walnut, made in approximately 1858, and a stirring plow (a one-horse plow), with an eight inch bottom was received from Miss Ida Hamilton of Indianola. The plow was brought from Ohio by Miss Hamilton's grandfather who settled in Henry County, Iowa, in 1850.

A baby buggy of 1876 and two baby dresses of the same period were donated by Miss Grace Harsh of Creston.

While the department has several grain cradles, it has not heretofore possessed the wooden rake used to rake the bundles after the grain had been cut by the cradle. After extensive search such a rake was finally located; it was generously donated to the department by Worth A. Roebuck of Knoxville.

Another fine addition to the collection of agricultural implements possessed by the department is a check row corn planter, the second series manufactured by the Brown Manufacturing Company. It was donated by John Flynn of Decatur County. It has been in active use for more than forty years, and is still in good usable condition. Visitors to the department should compare this planter with the still earlier wooden wheeled planter already on display with the other agricultural implements in the basement of the building.

Those who visited the exhibit of the International Harvester Company's machinery in their building at the state fair grounds this year will recall the exhibit of the replica of the first reaper made by Cyrus McCormick. This entire exhibit, including the cardboard horse and scenic background, has been donated to this department by the International Harvester Company, who have consented to store it for the department until next May, by which time we hope to have enough space to exhibit this splendid item.

A set of carpenter tools such as were used by carpenters before millwork came into general use was donated by Mrs. Howes of Indianola, and may be seen in the Pioneer Room, second floor. A complete set of glass blowing tools was received from Joseph Slight of Columbus, Ohio.

Judge George Bedford of Morris, Illinois, presented to the Curator ninety specimens of the famous Mazon Creek coal

fossils. These show the pinnules from the leaflets of the giant tree ferns which grew in abundance near the present site of Morris, Illinois. They are now rare. The Curator in turn presented these to the museum. Additional fossils of coal plants of a later period, found near Pella, were presented by Charles Baker of Audubon.

From the daughters of John J. Freeman, Miss Eleanor M. Freeman and Mrs. Winona F. Andrew, the department received the collection of Indian relics belonging to their father. This collection included many specimens of arrowheads, axes, and celts (stones used for scraping skins, etc.), found in Warren, Polk, Dallas, and Guthrie counties.

The famous collection of bird paintings made from life by Miss Althea Sherman of National, Iowa, were also presented to the department, together with a number of other paintings. These will be noticed at greater length in a later issue of the *Annals*.

Through the courtesy of Hon. C. C. Dowell, congressman from the sixth district, the department has received a map of the United States issued by the Department of Interior in 1927. This map is valuable because it shows the townships in the land surveys, as well as many other items which would appear on such a map.

Another fine addition to the map collection of the department was the recent acquisition of G. W. Boyington's map of the Iowa region, 1838, before it had become the Territory of Iowa. This rare map, in excellent condition, shows the counties of the "Iowa District" as created by the act of the First Assembly of the Territory of Wisconsin at its Belmont session. Not alone because of its early date, the inaccuracies as well as the accurate representations on this map make it interesting to the student of Iowa history.

A new Testament, in excellent condition and published in 1837, which was carried for awhile in the Civil War by Benjamin Bilbo of Union County, was donated by his sister, Mrs. Barber of Afton. Other Civil War relics added were the dress sword worn by Lieutenant Holmes, formerly of Davenport, presented by Mrs. F. O. Green; the Civil War sash worn by Nicholas Clair, First Lieutenant, Co. I, 22nd Iowa Volunteers,

was also received, from his daughter, Edith Messenger, San Antonio, Texas. Lt. Clair served, while wearing this sash, as messenger for staff officers in the battles of Port Gibson, Raymond, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, and in an assault on Vicksburg, where he was wounded and captured. Later he served with General Sheridan in the battles of Winchester, Fisher Hill, and Cedar Creek.

Walter Butler, Esq. the gentleman who is engaged in building the house for the reception of the next Legislature, has it under cover and enclosed, (in which the Court is now setting) and is in a progressing state of completion. The building is large and commodious, and it will be finished long before the Legislature meets. *Iowa City Standard*, Iowa City, June 3, 1841.

LOAN TO IOWA. We learn, says the Gazette, that Col [Jesse] Williams, the Territorial Agent, has obtained a loan of \$5,000 for the Territory from the Miner's Bank of Dubuque, at an interest of seven per cent, per annum, payable in New York in 18 months. A loan could not possibly have been obtained on better terms. This will enable the Territory to go on with the improvements of the Capitol. *Iowa City Standard*, Iowa City, Iowa, July 30, 1841.

Fearing from the exposed condition of the basement of the Capitol, that accidents might happen from fire, I had it enclosed. I have also had a door put in the East front of the Capitol; but for the want of funds and proper materials, nothing further has been effected in the completion of the capitol.

(Signed) Morgan Reno
Territorial Treasurer

From the last paragraph of the Treasurer's Annual Report, December 10, 1845, in the Public Archives division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Dept.

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