

# Trunk Contents

**Sad Iron** - This is the type of iron used by households from the early 1800s through as late as the 1940s. It was preferable to have at least three of these so there were two on the stove heating up while the ironing was taking place. Pads made of many layers of cloth were used to protect the hands from burns.



**Cast Iron Skillet** - Cast iron cookware was what most families used for cooking. This type of cookware can be used over the fire or beside the fire sitting on coals with a lid to serve as an oven. Pans used for this are called Dutch ovens.



**Darning Egg** - A darning egg is used to repair socks. Most socks of the time were handmade. When the socks started to show wear, the mother would use the darning egg and weave more yarn through the areas where they were thin so that a hole did not develop.



**Hog Bristle Brush and Comb** - Personal items such as these were made of bone, celluloid, wood, or other similar item. The bristles on the brush are hog hair.



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**Curling Iron** - This curling iron would be set on the stove and heated like the sad iron. Notice how small the barrel is. It would have to be re-heated after each use. Like the sad iron having more than one of these would have been beneficial. This could also have been used for crimping small lace or ruffles on clothing.



**Razor Strop** - The razor strop, sometimes called a razor strap, is used to sharpen razors, tools, and knives. It was essential to keep the equipment they were using very sharp to make doing their work as easy as possible.



**Child Classics: Fourth Reader** - This book was published in 1909. It is a collection of literature that was recommended during that time.

