

AN INTERVIEW WITH JAMES LEMON

I do not think that we had coal oil lamps before the Civil War. We used candles, which we molded ourselves in a candle mold. This was eight tubes in a frame with small holes in the bottom about like a nail. The wicks would be hung from sticks at the top and pulled through the holes at the bottom. This would keep the tallow from running out also. Then melted tallow was poured into these molds... When this cooled the candles were taken out.

FROM: American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 – 1940. www.memory.loc.gov/ammem Accessed 12/17/2012

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