

# COAL STOVE INVENTED BY LANCASTER MAN

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**T**HE Lancaster Journal of Friday, March 26th, 1830, contained a news item, under the heading, "Saving of Fuel," which was as follows:

"Mr. Benedict of this city, has obtained a patent for a coal stove, answering all the uses and purposes of the common ten plate stove in a family. We understand that one of these stoves in constant use, as well in cooking as in warming a room during the last winter, has not consumed quite a ton of coal; and that a ten plate stove formerly in the same situation, and used for the same purposes, consumed from three to four cords of wood in the same space of time. Besides the great advantages resulting from the saving in the cost of fuel, and security from accident, there is yet another of some importance to the man of taste: The victuals cooked in one of these stoves, are free from the disagreeably smoky taste which they acquire when done in a stove heated by a wood fire."

It is to be regretted that we do not have information relative to Mr. Benedict,—who he was, in what part of the city he resided, and his occupation.

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## Minutes of The Lancaster County Historical Society January 2, 1931

The annual meeting of The Lancaster County Historical Society was held on the above date, at the Society's home, 307 North Duke street, and was called to order by the president, Herbert H. Beck. Thirty-four members were present.

The librarian reported the following donations: Pamphlet of the fifteenth reunion of the Landis family, from Mr. D. B. Landis; a watercolor painting of the old Mathiot house at the corner of South Queen and Vine streets, from Mrs. D. B. Landis; manuscript of anatomical lectures, by Dr. George B. Kerfoot, presented by the late Mrs. Eliza R. Eshbach, his daughter; a collection of letters and papers from Mr. C. H. Martin.

The treasurer reported a balance in the treasury, at the last meeting, of \$142.40. Received for Hiestand rent, \$10.00; payments, \$33.38; balance on hand, January 2, \$119.02.

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Worner.

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