

*Committee of Inventions, Sept. 12th, 1826.*

The committee of inventions, who, at the request of Mr. James Vaux, of this city, have examined his kitchen grate, and other arrangements, for the burning of anthracite coal,

Report, That the object which Mr. Vaux had in view, in the experiments which he has made, was to ascertain, whether anthracite might not be burnt in an ordinary, open fire place, and applied to all the purposes of domestic economy, for which wood, or bituminous coal, is generally used. As it is the intention of Mr. Vaux to describe his apparatus, and to communicate his observations to the public, the committee deem it unnecessary for them to enter at large on the subject, and they will therefore, merely state, that, in their presence, fires were readily kindled, without using a blower, both in a grate constructed for cooking, and other purposes, and standing in an open fire place in the kitchen; and also, in a common, cast iron, English grate, placed in a parlour fire place, without altering the existing size or form, of the opening or throat of the chimney; and that it appeared evident to them, that all the purposes proposed by Mr. Vaux, were perfectly attained. It was not pretended by the experimenter, that he had made any discovery, which could be denominated new, but, only that he had succeeded in proving erroneous, an opinion, which is still generally prevalent, viz. that anthracite, cannot be used for cooking, excepting in a stove; a grate, forbidding its convenient use, in consequence of the supposed necessity for bringing forward the back, and closing the throat of the chimney.

The committee believe, that Mr. Vaux has perfectly succeeded in proving the incorrectness of this opinion.

By order,

THOS. P. JONES, *Secretary.*

---

*Proposed Geological Survey of the State of Pennsylvania.*

A public address, intended to promote a Geological and Mineralogical survey of this state, was delivered in the Hall of the Franklin Institute, on the 30th of September, by Peter A. Browne, Esq.

The meeting was very respectably attended, and when the address was concluded, Dr. R. M. Patterson, was called to the chair, and Gerard Ralston, Esq. appointed secretary. Resolutions were then passed, approbating the proposition, and complimenting the gentleman, who had delivered the address. A committee was appointed, consisting of Peter A. Browne, C. C. Biddle, E. S. Burd, Stephen Duncan, John Wurts, Dr. R. M. Patterson, Gerard Ralston, and Henry S. Tanner. This committee, was requested to report to a future meeting, a plan for carrying the proposition into effect; for which purpose, they were authorized to call another meeting of the citizens.

The address has been published, and a short abstract of it, will undoubtedly be acceptable to our readers.