

This stove has been used continuously on the Lowe Farm for a period of five years and not one stick of wood nor one pound of coal has been used during the whole of that time for fuel for household purposes. It has been found perfectly satisfactory for both cooking and baking and warming, and for converting many tons of snow into water both for household uses and supplying the animals on the Farm.

The straw for this stove can be used either in the form of bales, or loose in the form in which it comes from the threshing machine. It has been used in the loose form at the Lowe Farm. It is thrown from the waggon into an adjoining shed, constructed of boards outside the house. The stove is placed near the wall, fitted with an iron entrance through which the loose straw is thrust into the stove by means of an ordinary pitchfork. An automatic acting iron door falls as soon as the straw is put into the stove. All danger of fire is thus obviated.

In this way no litter of straw is made in the kitchen or the dwelling-room warmed, and the stove at the Lowe Farm is so constructed that the ashes when shaken fall into an iron receiver in the cellar and there retain a considerable heat under the floor, which has a warming influence.

The straw used for fuel might, if thought desirable, be pressed into bales, which would burn slowly away, and retain heat for several hours, by regulation of the draught, thus warming the house at night.

The stove in use on the Lowe Farm is constructed to serve both for the purpose of a heater and for cooking and baking and for condensing water,—hot water being supplied by a tap. It can be apportioned to the requirements of the very finest cooking, either in boiling, frying, roasting meat or baking any kind of pastry, from small articles such as pie, tart, or biscuit to twelve loaves of bread at once in the oven.

The heat from this stove, even in very cold weather, is pleasant and satisfying for warming purposes. This fire can be at all times immediately lit by the application of a match and it at once burns up. The stove can, with equal facility, be used as a furnace, adapted to the circulation of hot water in pipes or the distribution of heated air.

The draught can be regulated by a damper to give the heat required. The attendance, even when burning loose straw, is about the same as that required by a common wood stove burning soft wood.

A stranger entering the kitchen or dwelling-room warmed by one of these stoves would not perceive from appearance what kind of fuel was used. He would simply note the genial warmth.

Weight for weight the amount of heat in a ton weight of straw is about the same as that in a ton weight of wood. The straw is very easily drawn from the stack to the spot where it is required to be burnt. The flame emitted being a light blue, something similar to that from anthracite coal, but without the unpleasant smell which often arises from the escape of gas from the latter.

With the use of this stove on the Lowe Farm and ample supplies of straw, Mr. Stephenson would not draw either wood or coal from Morris, if offered to him gratis; or undertake to saw and split wood for fuel, if teamed to the farm, in preference to using straw.