



**OBADIAH GORE.**

Obadiah Gore, of Wyoming Valley, was born April 7, 1744. Died March 22, 1821. It was he and his brother Daniel who discovered that Anthracite coal would burn, and consequently made known its value. At the time it was known simply as "black rock." The picture here given is from a portrait taken at the time when Obadiah Gore was about thirty years of age, or say at the time of the American Revolution. It is evident from his appearance that the old stock of settlers of the Wyoming Valley were persons of refinement and culture. Daniel Gore had a residence three miles north of Wilkes-Barre, then called Jacob's Plains. On a farm adjoining his to the north was a bed of rock which came to the surface, and as stated before was known as black rock. A question arose as to whether it was a form of coal. It was tried in fire places on wood fires and failed to be of use. The Gores experimented with it in a blacksmith's forge and fully established the possibility of its combustion.