

**COAL OIL JOHNNY;  
STORY OF HIS CAREER AS  
TOLD BY HIMSELF (JOHN  
WASHINGTON STEELE)**

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Coal oil Johnny; story of his career as told by himself (John Washington Steele) by John Washington Steele

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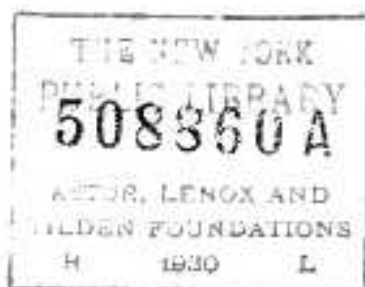
# Coal Oil Johnny

Story of His Career as Told  
by Himself.

(John Washington Steele.)



FRANKLIN, PA., 1902.



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## List of Illustrations.

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John Washington Steele (Coal Oil Johnny). Taken during Philadelphia Career.

Home of "Coal Oil Johnny" on the old farm. The Culbertson McClintock House.

Mouth of Oil Creek, next day after a pond freshet.

View of Oil Creek from Steele Farm. Looking towards Rynd Farm.

View down Oil Creek from Steele Farm, showing Rouseville on the left.

"Coal Oil Johnny" standing at the site of the famous Hammond Well.

Latest Photograph of Mr. Steele, "Coal Oil Johnny."





## Introduction.

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So much of a misleading nature had been written concerning my career, that I resolved, after earnest consultation with friends, to present this little volume. While visiting Franklin, Pennsylvania, several years ago the matter was definitely planned, and Mr. S. H. Gray kindly consented to assist me in the preparation of the volume; and to him I feel under many obligations for advice and help. He is the first man to whom I ever related those incidents of my life in which the people have always manifested so much interest. I am also under greater obligations to General Charles Miller, of Franklin, Pa., than I can find power to express. His kindly, helpful nature, which expresses itself in good deeds in so many ways, has proven a great encouragement to me while arranging this volume.

I present the narrative to the world with

*COAL OIL JOHNNY—HIS BOOK.*

no apologies whatever. In it I have tried to clearly and succinctly set forth some of the features which appear to have proven attractive when reference has been made to them in the newspaper press. It would be presumptions for me to predict the cordiality of the reception which this little volume will receive. It is published not so much for any benefit which may accrue to me as to set at rest many of the misrepresentations which have been set in circulation concerning my career; and I have tried to make the narration as accurate as the lapse of many years will permit. I remain,

Most sincerely,

JOHN WASHINGTON STEELE,  
Franklin, Pa. (Coal-Oil Johnny).  
April 22nd, 1901.