

Wood, Bishop & Co.

Henry A. and Charles C. Wood, tinsmith and sheet-iron workers, manufactured tin and iron ware and sold stoves in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1835. They moved to Bangor in 1839, starting their business at 2 Mercantile Block, under the name of Henry A. Wood & Co. until 1851 when the foreman of their work-shop, William H. Bishop, became associated with them; they then became Wood, Bishop & Co. In 1867, they bought the foundry property, including patterns, tools and machinery belonging to Eastes & Whittier. The *Wood, Bishop & Co Foundry* was located at 329-339 Main St. Employing about 60 men at the Foundry, Wood, Bishop & Co improved and enlarged, increasing its production three-fold over its former business. They not only made stoves but also skillets, kettles, and tinware. They sold their products all over Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont...the camp cooking equipment was a favorite among lumbermen all over the country.



**Early 19th Century Cast Iron Kettle
Wood, Bishop & Co.**



Wood, Bishop & Co. was, in fact, well known for their high quality stoves... one of special note was the Clarion. They provided Clarion stoves within the region and even shipping to other parts of the country. Today, many of their other wood burning stoves are also antique collectibles. The Clarion antique stoves were found in parlors and sitting rooms around the US up until the 1920's.



**Engraving of the Wood,
Bishop & Co insignia on the
side of a Home Clarion wood
stove**

The Clarions were smaller than a massive wood cook stove but they delivered plenty of heat. Some were ornately decorated with brass and tiles to give a room a glow of elegance. The urn on the top of the stove was likewise decorated with fancy trim. One would grab a hold of the urn to lift off the top and load in more wood. This was found to be much simpler than arranging wood in a fireplace. Sitting around the Clarion gave a clear view of the fire in the cast iron chamber.

Check *your* basement...perhaps you have a Wood, Bishop & Co. wood stove! There are several restoration companies in Maine or for the brave...numerous tips for restoring your antique stove online!



**1898 Front of ornate
Clarion Cook Stove**



**Home Clarion Wood Stove
from the Wood, Bishop & Co
of Bangor
in the basement
of a Second Street home**