

conscious energy was seen on his commanding brow. Well aware how much depended on his success, he felt it would prove the stepping stone to fame. But the moment approaches, and the operation commences. Anger and ill-suppressed jealousy were visibly depicted in the deportment of the engineer and many of his fellow workmen, which gave way to a shout of scorn as they perceived the failure of the apparatus. Like a lion at bay, goaded by taunts and his own inward consciousness of power, he surveyed the incredulous crowd, and as an immense fellow near him, famed for his bullying disposition, applied some sneering epithet to him, "I felt," says he, "at that moment a something rising within my breast—a feeling uncontrollable, and one which I never before or since experienced;" and grasping him with his powerful arm, he flung him from him, and turned to remedy the cause of failure, in a short time witnessing the complete success of his endeavors.

That was a proud moment in his life, as, amidst the acclamations of all present, he felt conscious of having achieved a complete triumph in the art of engineering. He was, in consequence, promoted to engineer, and rapidly advanced to fame. He obtained the sum of £500 for his engine "Rocket," and it seems that he even then contemplated the present advanced stage of perfection in the locomotive engine, evidently applying it to the new passenger train, but dared not openly express his sentiments, so insane was he thought upon the subject. When called before a Parliamentary Committee, he felt painfully his own deficiency in education; and as I have heard from one who had the privilege of his personal acquaintance, he said—"I saw they were incredulous; I watched the half-suppressed smile, the whispered taunt, 'is he mad?' 'is he a foreigner?' 'what is he?' but above all rose the sense of a power within which told me these very men would at some not very distant day ride in Stephenson's engine at the rate of 30 or 40 miles an hour." Feeling the want of words in which to express myself readily and fluently, I abruptly added, "I canna answer ye, but I will take care my son shall." His whole soul was bent on giving that son a liberal education; from school he passed to college, and we all know what that son now is, and how fully he has repaid his father's fondest hopes.

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*(To be continued.)*