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**PROGRESS AND COMPLETION OF THE LIVERPOOL
AND MANCHESTER RAILWAY.**

THE completion of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was not more celebrated on account of its being a stupendous triumph of art, than that it occasioned the death of one of the ablest of British Statesmen. Mr Huskisson was long the friend and forwarder of this great work ; how unseen in human calculation was the melancholy fact, that the entire success of the project, should be accompanied by the violent death of its Patron !

In the year 1822, the project was entertained of connecting Liverpool and Manchester by a rail road ; one gentleman, who had seen locomotive engines in operation, suggested his sentiments on the subject to a second ; this second caused a survey to be made at his own responsibility—and by thus stirring the matter, and feeling forward, a number of influential individuals joined in opinion of its practicability, and in efforts to forward the object. We cannot avoid remarking, here, how generally praiseworthy it is to lend a willing ear to any beneficial speculation, however bold and improbable it may appear. We would just allude to the numerous disgraceful losses which a narrower spirit has occasioned to nations, and individuals ; and to the large class which at the present day sneer at every enterprize beyond the common occurrences of life. Such a class perhaps may be useful, as a drag on the onward roll of genius, which else might rush at a destructive pace ; and if they are the cause of evil, their punishment attends them—they are the crying philosophers of the age ; when others rejoice at a Godlike achievement, they are but feeding on their own disappointed spleen ; they give up the unearthly joy of enthusiasm in this life, and the chance of appearing to posterity as benefactors of their race.

The noble few in Liverpool and Manchester—who through a long vista of difficulties, saw a possible and noble object before them—held their way, gaining inch by inch, on their seeming interminable road. In 1824 a declaration was published, setting forth the inconveniences and delays of the existing modes of con-