

“ bauble in the air. It can embroider muslin and forge anchors,
“ —cut steel into ribbands, and impel loaded vessels against the
“ fury of the winds and waves.

“ It would be difficult to estimate the value of the benefits
“ which these inventions have conferred upon the country.
“ There is no branch of industry that has not been indebted to
“ them ; and in all the most material they have not only wid-
“ ened most magnificently the field of its exertion, but multi-
“ plied a thousand fold the amount of its productions. It is our
“ improved Steam Engine that has fought the battles of Europe,
“ and exalted and sustained, through the late tremendous con-
“ test, the political greatness of our land. It is the same great
“ power which enables us to pay the interest of our debt, and
“ to maintain the arduous struggle in which we are still engag-
“ ed, with the skill and capital of countries less oppressed with
“ taxation. But these are poor and narrow views of its impor-
“ tance. It has increased indefinitely the mass of human com-
“ forts and enjoyments, and rendered cheap and accessible, all
“ over the world, the materials of wealth and prosperity. It
“ has armed the feeble hand of man, in short, with a power to
“ which no limits can be assigned ; completed the dominion
“ of mind over matter, and laid a sure foundation for all those
“ future miracles of mechanical power which are to aid and re-
“ ward the labors of after generations. It is to the genius of
“ one man, too, that all this is mainly owing ; and certainly no
“ man ever before bestowed such a gift on his kind. The
“ blessing is not only universal but unbounded ; and the fabled
“ inventors of the plough and the loom, who are deified by the
“ erring gratitude of their rude contemporaries, conferred less
“ important benefits on mankind than the inventor of our pre-
“ sent Steam Engine.

“ This will be the fame of Watt, with future generations ;
“ and it is sufficient for his race and country.”