young mechanic, who to native ingenuity, had added a stock of scientific information. What was the result? The improvement may be called an original invention. From the broken model the mind of the mechanic brought forth an engine, which to use the language of his eulogist "is so regulated as to make it capable of being applied to the finest and most delicate manufacture, and its power so increased as to set weight and solidity at defiance. By his admirable contrivances it has become a thing stupendeous alike for its force, and flexibility with which it can be varied, distributed and applied. The trunk of an elephant which can pick up a pin or rend an oak, is as nothing to it. It can engrave a seal, or crush masses of obdurate metal before it like wax—draw out without breaking, a thread as fine as gossamer, and lift a ship like a bubble into the air. It can embroider muslin, and forge anchors, cut steel into ribbons, and impel loaded vessels against the winds and waves." Now let us observe the effects of ignorance. I knew a young mechanic who discovered some improvement in the plan of chairs, and accordingly half a dozen were made for trial, and to present for the purpose of obtaining a patent. They were neatly made, finely painted, and altogether seemed very pretty, but there was one defect, when set upon their legs they would immediately tumble backwards. It is not upon the works of the hands alone we can depend, the mind must be employed and properly directed.

How often are the labors of some entirely lost, for the want of reflection and some fixed leading principles to guide them.—The hands can work and produce a piece of mechanism.—When a model has been followed this may be all that is necessary; but it is certain that no improvement in the model can ever take place, unless the mind by a due course of reasoning, first discover the imperfection, and then the remedy. A steam engine is capable of making a knife, but is not capable of making any improvement in that knife, because it is not possessed of intelligence. So it is with many men like the engine, they go forward in the same way as long as they live.

There is another class of persons who have heads, but no hands. They are ever inventing, planning, and amusing themselves with splendid discoveries. Their minds are always active, and they are called ingenious. But with all their deep thinking, and fine reasonings, they fail in producing any thing useful, and their time is lost in fanciful speculations. When the means of performing any important work is placed in their hands, they outreason common sense, and fail in the undertaking. In both these instances it is plain that