gow to settle in England, he had assisted some of his friends in the establishment of a pottery there, to the success of which his experiments and advice had greatly contributed, and in which he afterwards continued a partner. At a later period, he occupied himself much upon a composition hav­ing the transparency, and nearly the hardness, of marble, from which he had many casts. This promoted, if it did not create, a taste for sculpture and statuary, and led to his employing himself, during the last years of his life, in the contrivance of a machine for multiplying busts and other carved work, which he left in a very forward state.

Mr Watt did not escape the common lot of eminent men, that of meeting with pirates of his inventions, and detractors from his merit. The latter indeed were but few, and their efforts transitory ; but the former were numerous, and in proportion to the benefits expected to arise from an evasion of the patent-dues claimed by Boulton and Watt ; though these were established upon the liberal footing of receiving only one third of the savings of fuel compared with the best steam-engines previously in use. In consequence, the attention both of Mr Watt and Mr Boulton was greatly oc­cupied, from the year 1792 to the year 1799, in defending their patent rights against numerous invaders, the principal of whom were supported by a portion of the mining inte­rest of Cornwall, although the respectable part of it refused to concur in their measures. The admission of their re­spective sons into the partnership in 1794, infused vigour into their proceedings ; and after repeated verdicts, esta­blishing the novelty and utility of Mr Watt’s inventions, the validity of his claim was finally confirmed in the year 1799, by the unanimous decision of all the judges of the Court of King’s Bench.

In 1800, upon the expiration of the act of parliament passed in his favour, he withdrew from business, resigning his shares to his two sons, of whom the youngest, Mr Gre­gory Watt, died soon after, having given splendid proofs of literary and philosophical talents, and left a durable record of the latter in his paper on Basalt in the Philosophical Transactions. Mr Watt continued to the close of life to interest himself in the pursuits of his former associates, and to maintain an uninterrupted friendship with Mr Boulton, whom he survived several years.

On two occasions afterwards, in 1811 and 1812, he gave proofs of the undiminished powers of his mind in his former profession. In the one instance, he was induced, by his grateful recollections of his residence in Glasgow, to assist the proprietors of the water-works there with a plan for supplying the town with better water, by means of a suc­tion pipe with flexible joints, laid across the bottom of the Clyde, accompanied with instructions for insuring the sup­ply of water on the opposite side ; a plan which answered completely, and for which the proprietors presented him with a handsome memorial of their gratitude. In the other instance he was prevailed upon, by the earnest solicitation of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to attend a deputation of the Navy Board, and to give, with his friend Captain Huddart, and Mr J. Jessop, an opinion upon the works then carrying on at Sheemess dock-yard, and the further ones projected by Messrs Rennie and Whidby. On this occasion, he no less gratified the gentlemen associ­ated with him, by the clearness of his general views, than by his knowledge of the details, and received the thanks of the Admiralty. In 1814, he yielded to the wishes of his friends in undertaking a revision of Professor Robison’s articles on Steam and Steam-Engines in the Encyclo­pædia Britannica ; and enriched them with valuable notes, containing his own experiments upon steam, and a short history of his principal improvements upon the engine itself.

His originally infirm health had been subjected to severe trials by the great exertions of his mind, during the period of carrying into execution his improvements on the steam- engine, and had with difficulty resisted the cares and anx­ieties attending upon business, and those created by the subtilties of the law, during the protracted proceedings of seven long years. There appears to have been an organic defect in his digestion, and its effects were intensely severe sick headaches ; but by continual temperance, and good management of his constitution, which he treated with much medical skill, it improved as he advanced in years; and with faculties little impaired he reached his eighty-fourth year, when, after a short illness, rather of debility than of pain, he expired in the bosom of his family at his house at Heathfield, in the county of Stafford, on the 25th August 1819.

His remains are deposited in the chancel of the adjoining parochial church of Handsworth, near those of Mr Boulton. An excellent bust had been made of him some years before his death by Mr Chantrey ; and a statue was afterwards finish­ed by the same great artist, intended by filial piety to be placed upon his tomb, and to convey to distant ages a faith­ful representation of those features in which the lines of intense thought were blended with the mild expression of benevolence.

Mr Watt was elected a member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1784, of the Royal Society of London in 1785, and a corresponding member of the Batavian So­ciety in 1787. In 1806, the honorary degree of LL. D. was conferred upon him by the spontaneous and unanimous vote of the senate of the university of Glasgow; and in 1808, he was elected, first a corresponding, and afterwards a foreign member, of the Institute of France.

In this brief narrative of his long, busy, and useful life, we have endeavoured to confine ourselves to a statement of the principal facts, and shall now add the character drawn up soon after his death, by a distinguished writer, who knew him well, and enjoyed a large portion of his esteem.@@1

“ It is with pain that we find ourselves called upon, so soon after the loss of Mr Playfair, to record the decease of another of our illustrious countrymen, and one to whom mankind lias been still more largely indebted—Mr Janies Watt, the great improver of the steam-engine.

“ This name fortunately needs no commemoration of ours ; for he that bore it survived to see it crowned with undisputed and unenvied honours ; and many generations will probably pass away before it shall have ‘gathered all its fame.’ *We* have said that Mr Watt was the great *improver* of the steam-engine; but, in truth, as to all that is admirable in its structure, or vast in its uti­lity, he should rather be described as its *inventor.* It was by his inventions that its action was so regulated as to make it capable of being applied to the finest and most delicate manufactures, and its power so increased as to set weight and solidity at defiance. By his admirable contrivances, it has become a thing stupendous alike for its force and its flexibility—for the prodigious power which it can exert, and the ease, and precision, and ductility with which it can be varied, distributed, and applied. The trunk of an elephant that can pick up a pin or rend an oak is as nothing to it. It can engrave a seal, and crush masses of obdurate metal like wax before it,—draw out without breaking, a thread as fine as gossamer, and lift a ship of war like a 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

@@@, This article was written for and published in the *Supplement* to the preceding editions ; the editor, as is stated in a note appended to it, having received it from a quarter entitling him to aver that it contains an accurate and faithful account of Mr Watt. It was written, in fact, by his son. The brilliant eulogium with which it concludes was written by Mr, now Lord Jeffrey. An admirable account of Mr Watt and bis discoveries has lately been given to the world by Μ. Arago, of the National Institute of France.