Let this Frame Stand, 1812

With straw and iron,
to spell his craft’s demand
Jack framed Lud’s icon,

*Let this frame stand.*

Jack’s Enoch stove
only among the wide
machines such as wove
to smash his trade.

On every fellow loom
Jack wrote: *Let this*
frame stand. The law’s frame
shapes treacherous

machineries for man’s
oppression. They transmit
the state’s corruptions.
Only by deceit
does that frame stand.
For Lud, fourteen
lieutenants shuddered
on one gallows. When men

seek monuments to mark
injustice, *Let this*
frame stand. But Jack
frames a new justice

and capital’s leprosy
abolished in a land
clean for democracy.
*Let this frame stand.*

From *Daft Jack’s Ideal Republics*

*by Keith Howden*