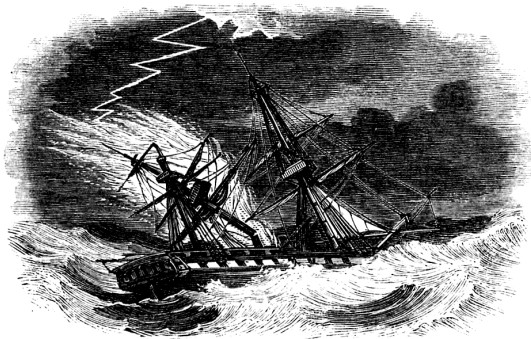


STEEPLE OF THE CHURCH OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, LONDON.

ON THE NATURE  
OF  
THUNDERSTORMS;  
AND ON THE MEANS OF  
PROTECTING BUILDINGS AND SHIPPING  
AGAINST THE  
DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS OF LIGHTNING.



By W. SNOW HARRIS, F.R.S.

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TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR GEORGE COCKBURN, G.C.B., F.R.S.,

ADMIRAL OF THE RED, MAJOR-GENERAL OF THE ROYAL  
MARINES, ONE OF THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE ADMIRALTY,  
*&c., &c., &c.*

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DEAR SIR,

Having been honoured by your permission to dedicate to you the following pages, I avail myself of the opportunity to express publicly my sense of the full consideration which, so long since as the year 1830, you gave to my proposals for defending Her Majesty's ships from the destructive effects of Lightning.

Your anxious regard for the national welfare, and especially for the interests of the Navy of England, would necessarily have ensured a patient investigation of such proposals; but the kind attention with which you received my statements, and the candour and fairness with which you inquired into the many objections that were urged against them, have rendered the distinction of your approbation most valuable to me.

That your opinion of the propriety of giving my method of fixing conductors in ships an adequate trial