

**HINTS ON SEA-RISKS, CONTAINING  
SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR  
DIMINISHING MARITIME  
LOSSES BOTH OF LIFE AND PROPERTY;  
ADDRESSED TO MERCHANTS, SHIP-  
OWNERS, AND MARINERS**

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Hints on Sea-Risks, Containing Some Practical Suggestions for Diminishing Maritime Losses Both of Life and Property; Addressed to Merchants, Ship-Owners, and Mariners by Edward Jennings

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**EDWARD JENNINGS**

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*Presented by the author*  
*Insurance, Marine*

## HINTS

ON

# SEA-RISKS,

CONTAINING SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS  
FOR DIMINISHING MARITIME LOSSES  
BOTH OF LIFE AND PROPERTY;

ADDRESSED TO

MERCHANTS, SHIP-OWNERS, AND  
MARINERS.

BY

LIEUT. EDWARD JENNINGS, R. N.

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"England expects every man will do his duty."

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AND BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.

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## P R E F A C E .

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In the report\* of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Shipwrecks, presented August 15th, 1836, under the heading—

1.—“ Extent of Loss in Property and Lives at Sea,” it appears—

“ 9.—That the whole loss of property in British shipping wrecked or foundered at sea, may be assumed as amounting to nearly THREE MILLIONS STERLING PER ANNUM ; the value of which property, though covered by insurance to certain parties, is not the less absolutely lost to the nation, and its cost paid for by the *British public, on whom its loss must ultimately fall.*”

“ 10.—That the annual loss of life, occasioned by the wreck or foundering of British vessels at sea, may, on the same grounds, be fairly estimated at *not less than ONE THOUSAND PERSONS* in each year, which loss is also at-

\* A copy of this report will be found in the Nautical Magazine for 1836, page 588—599.

“tended with increased pecuniary burdens to the British  
“public, on whom the support of many of the widows and  
“orphans left destitute by such losses must ultimately fall.”

Further, from returns made before the Committee of the House of Commons, it appears that, upon the average of 1841 and 1842, six hundred and eleven ships have been lost in each year.

And lastly, the shipwrecks in only three days between the 13th and 17th of January of the present year, (1843,) were stated in the newspapers to amount to *two hundred and forty vessels*, with a *loss of five hundred lives*, and *property* valued at about £825,000.

With such statements on record, every one is called upon to assist, as far as he individually can, with any information which may be made available to diminish sea-risks.

It is truly said that “prevention is better than cure,” and in all cases of emergency “to be forewarned, is to be forearmed.” Besides, suggestions may induce reflection on different cases of accident, so as to prepare the persons exposed to them for acting on the spur of the moment when there is but little time left for thinking.

The Author’s objects in this small publication are, first, to encourage a more general use of the *Marine Barometer* in merchant vessels, and, by offering some remarks on that valuable instrument, principally grounded on many years experience at sea, to shew how *certainly*



in all climates it *forewarns* mariners of storms, and consequently enables them to be better prepared against them ;

And, secondly, to offer a few general observations to induce more caution and attention to navigating, and adding some suggestions in cases of accident and emergency.

The whole he sincerely trusts may be found to be practically useful ; and in order to its becoming so, he hopes that a copy may be in every vessel, as remedies for sea-risks must depend principally on those on board.

In conclusion, he solicits merchants and ship-owners to render their valuable assistance towards the attainment of objects of such great consequence ; and he hopes that the public will not view with indifference, subjects of so much national importance.



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