

**TREATISE ON STAY-SAILS FOR
THE PURPOSE OF INTERCEPTING
WIND BETWEEN THE SQUARE-
SAILS OF SHIPS AND OTHER
SQUARE-RIGGED VESSELS**

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Treatise on Stay-Sails for the Purpose of Intercepting Wind Between the Square-Sails of Ships
and Other Square-Rigged Vessels by Sir Henry Heathcote

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SIR HENRY HEATHCOTE

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J. H. 1825.

TREATISE ON STAY-SAILS

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

INTERCEPTING WIND BETWEEN

THE SQUARE-SAILS OF SHIPS

AND OTHER

SQUARE-RIGGED VESSELS,

MATHEMATICALLY DEMONSTRATING THE DEFECTS OF THOSE NOW
IN USE, AND THE EMINENT SUPERIORITY OF THE

IMPROVED PATENT STAY-SAILS,

RECENTLY INVENTED

By CAPTAIN SIR HENRY HEATHCOTE, R. N.

ILLUSTRATED BY SUITABLE DIAGRAMS,

AND TWO PLATES OF SHIPS,

One representing a Frigate close-reefed, carrying all the Old Stay-sails;
the other, a Royal Yacht in the same position, carrying all the Patent
Stay-sails, &c.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED, SOME

REMARKS ON PROPORTIONING THE JIBS, &c.

AS EXHIBITED IN THE PLATE OF THE ROYAL YACHT: AND
SUBMITTED (TOGETHER WITH THE PATENT STAY-SAILS)
TO THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY.

"Train'd to command, and range the various sail,
Whose various force conforms to every gale." FALCONER.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY BALDWIN, CRADOCK, AND JOY.

1824.

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C. Baldwin, Printer,
New Bridge-street, London.

TO HIS MAJESTY
GEORGE THE FOURTH,
THE FOLLOWING NAUTICAL WORK
IS,
WITH PERMISSION,
MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,
BY
HIS DUTIFUL SUBJECT AND SERVANT,
HENRY HEATHCOTE.

May it please your Majesty,

From the remotest period of my services in your Majesty's Royal Navy, at which I was capable of reasoning on the matters appertaining to it, my observations on the stay-sails used for intercepting wind between the square-sails of ships, and other square-rigged vessels, having convinced me they were radically defective, I have at sundry periods employed my leisure hours in attempting to correct the erroneous principles which render them objectionable.

Public duties, however, or private cares, have so frequently obstructed those efforts, as to postpone the accomplishment of my object until the present moment : but Providence (who with unerring wisdom, inscrutable judgment, and eternal justice, irresistibly controls the destinies of all his creatures) has at length been pleased to permit its completion.

A love of the service I belong to kindled in my breast at a tender age that spark of professional emulation, which, notwithstanding it may, for a season, have been smothered by many and grave obstacles to my fame, has never been extinguished ; but fervently, though secretly glowing there, and acquiring elasticity from compression ; the humble hope that it would one day burst forth into light has consoled me in the hour which had otherwise been fraught with despondency, and preserved to my imagination, unimpaired by exterior circumstances, the prospect of meritorious distinction.

Whilst, too, the surreptitious foot of time has silently invaded the span of my earthly existence, an ardent desire of bequeathing to my numerous offspring honour and independence, has warned me of the enemy's incursions, and (I feel assured I may avow it, without offence to your Majesty, or disho-

nour to myself), added a still more powerful incentive to the utmost exertion of my slender talents.

As a reward for my endeavours to improve the particular branch alluded to of your Majesty's Royal Navy, and to promote the commercial interests of the kingdom, your Majesty having been graciously pleased to grant me your Royal Letters Patent for my invention of "An Improvement of the Stay-sails generally in Use for the Purpose of intercepting Wind between the Square-sails of Ships, and other Square-rigged Vessels;" the duty imposed on me by gratitude must outweigh every other consideration: besides which, your Majesty's flattering regard for the British Navy, which, amongst other great traits of national character, has distinguished the present glorious reign, renders it imperious on me to lay this little Nautical Work at your Majesty's feet.

In so doing, I am emboldened to rely on your Majesty's accustomed urbanity, that the motives by which I am actuated will induce your Majesty to look indulgently on my labours, replete as they doubtless are with literary imperfections. And that should they (as it may not be presumptuous to express a hope) afford some proof of naval talent, your Majesty will

deem them not wholly unworthy of being dedicated
to the Monarch of the first maritime country in the
world. In that hope,

I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Your Majesty's dutifully devoted Subject
and Servant,

HENRY-HEATHCOTE.

