

ductor, which, in countries where thunder-storms are more frequent and violent than in our own, and at sea (where they are attended with peculiar danger, both from the greater probability of accident, and its more terrible consequences when it does occur), forms a most real and efficient preservative against the effects of lightning* :—the *safety-lamp*, which enables us to walk with light and security while surrounded with an atmosphere more explosive than gunpowder :—the *life-boat*, which cannot be sunk, and which offers relief in circumstances of all others the most distressing to humanity, and of which a recent invention promises to extend the principle to ships of the largest class :—the *lighthouse*, with the capital improvements which the lenses of Brewster and Fresnel, and the elegant lamp of lieutenant Drummond, have conferred, and promised yet to confer, by their wonderful powers, the one of producing the most intense light yet known, the others of conveying it undispersed to great distances :—the discovery of the disinfectant powers of chlorine, and its application to the destruction of miasma and contagion :—that of *quinine*, the essential principle in which reside the febrifuge qualities of the Peruvian bark, a discovery by which posterity is yet to benefit in its full extent, but which has already begun to diffuse *comparative* comfort and health through regions almost desolated by pestiferous exhalations† :—and, if we desist, it is not because the list is exhausted, but because a sample, not a catalogue, is intended.

(46.) One instance more, however, we will add, to illustrate the manner in which a most familiar effect,

* Throughout France the conductor is recognised as a most valuable and useful instrument; and in those parts of Germany where thunder-storms are still more common and tremendous, they are become nearly universal. In Munich, there is hardly a modern house unprovided with them, and of a much better construction than ours—several copper wires twisted into a rope.

† We have been informed by an eminent physician in Rome, (Dr. Morichini,) that a vast quantity of the sulphate of quinine is manufactured there, and consumed in the Campagna, with an evident effect in mitigating the severity of the malarious complaints which affect its inhabitants.