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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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LIGHTNING'S TARGET

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An excellent illustration of the fact that lightning, despite the popular notion to the contrary, can strike more than once in the same place is given by Messrs. Caldwell and Lundeen in their recent book about superstitions, entitled "Do You Believe It?" They write:

"The Empire State Building in New York City is the tallest building in the world, and also a very effective lightning rod. It is often struck by lightning whenever a thunderstorm passes over the lower part of Manhattan Island, and sometimes is struck more than once during a single storm. It is probably as safe as any place in the city during an electric storm. Flashes of lightning which have a potential of perhaps several million volts strike the lofty mooring mast of the building but the occupants are not aware of it. These great electric sparks are safely discharged to the ground by the vast and intricate steel framework of the building, and no shock is felt."

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