

For release            By Major A.H. Thiessen  
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Lightning and airships! Contrary to popular belief both airplanes and dirigibles are not liable to take fire upon being hit by lightning if the ship has an all metal frame. Many experiments have been made with airplanes and with heavier-than-air ships filled with highly inflammable hydrogen gas by passing electric charges through them. It seems that the charges pass through the metal parts and out again without in the least injuring passengers or ship. The metal frame should be welded or at least well riveted. Additional safety is obtained by connecting all metal parts with heavy copper wire, thus affording a safe and easy path for the electric charge. The entering flash may be localized by using pointed metal rods suitably placed.

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