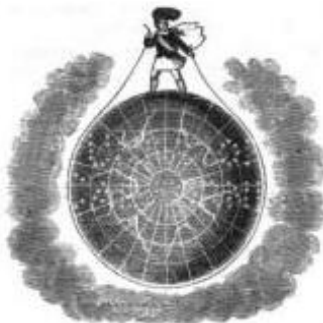




HISTORICAL SKETCH  
OF THE  
ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH:

INCLUDING ITS  
RISE AND PROGRESS IN THE UNITED STATES.

BY  
ALEXANDER JONES.



"To put a girdle round about the earth is forty minutes."—SOLARIS.

NEW-YORK:  
GEORGE P. PUTNAM, 10 PARK PLACE.  
M.DCCC.LII.

13. Interruptions from atmospheric electricity have been greatly reduced of late, and it is confidently expected that they will, at no distant day, be entirely overcome. One of the means used at present is, by putting on a lightning arrester near to the recording instrument. This arrester is formed of a little glass globe, surrounded by a semicircle of small points, like needles, that approach quite close to the ball. These points carry off the lightning to the earth before it reaches the instrument, causing but a momentary interruption. The diminution of interruptions by thunder-storms has been reduced thirty per cent. by this means alone. Other causes of inter-

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