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times spring out of the water like a flock of birds; and, if crossing over a ship, they chance to strike against the sails or rigging, they instantly fall down on deck, give one shake, and then appear quite dead.

As to their size, they are no larger than a Herring; and the reason assigned for their getting out of the water, and taking wing, is, that they may escape the Dolphin, who, (as an enemy,) pursues and devours them in great numbers, and being an eye witness to the following facts, I the more readily believe it.

A DOLPHIN that kept company with our ship for a considerable way, darted as quick as lightning through the water; and when my eye lost sight of him, I observed a Flying Fish spring up, to avoid, as I supposed, the Dolphin; who finding himself disappointed, immediately came back to his former station; along side of us.

At another time, being on deck, I saw a Dolphin spring nine or ten feet perpendicular above the the surface of the water, at one of these fishes passing by on wing; he struck him with his head, and threw him down, but did not catch him. Afterwards, I saw another of these fishes fly out of the side of a high sea in a straight line across the trough, and into the opposite; but he was hardly out.