

PROSPECTUS  
OF  
**THE NATIONAL  
FLOATING BREAKWATER  
COMPANY,**

**CAPITAL, £250,000. IN 25,000 SHARES OF £10. EACH. Deposit £2. per Share.**

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THIS Company is formed for the purpose of bringing into operation the invention secured by Letters Patent, granted by Her Majesty to Capt. J. N. TAYLER, R. N. C. B., for his Floating Breakwater for the improvement of Harbours.

It is universally admitted that there has long existed a grievous deficiency of shelter on our coasts; and the imperative necessity for the prevention of shipwrecks, and the immense annual loss of life and property, has recently drawn the attention of our statesmen and the public to the evil. Government, with the sanction of parliament, very lately appointed commissioners to visit and survey a part of the coast, and report on the state of the existing Harbours, with reference to their being made available as places of shelter in case of distress from weather, as also places of refuge for Merchant vessels from enemy's cruisers in time of war; and especially as to their being made stations for armed vessels, employed for the protection of our trade in the narrow part of the channel.

It will be seen by the Report of those Commissioners presented to Parliament, that they found *no one Harbour capable, in its existing state, of answering the purposes of Government*; and that they strongly recommended that the present harbours be kept up and improved, and also that other harbours of refuge be immediately formed and made available. And they certify, that upon the old principle of the Stone Breakwater, *three of such harbours will cost the nation £6,000,000 sterling.* [See the Extract of this Report at the end.]

The labours of these Commissioners were limited to a small portion only of the coasts of England; but it is equally known and admitted that many other portions of the British coasts, as well as of Ireland, are alike destitute, and imperiously require similar protection for our trade; and for the security and preservation of all that constitutes the main pillar of our national greatness and naval superiority, two hundred and fifty of such new harbours and places of refuge, at the least are required, independent of the vast improvements which are also needed in those at present existing; the immense cost of which upon the hitherto known methods renders such national works impossible. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, feeling the pressing importance of the subject, declared in a very recent debate in the House of Commons that, *anxious as this Government is to establish a number of Harbours, it is prevented from doing so at present by the state of the public revenue.*

Happily, however, Capt. Tayler's invention entirely removes all difficulty, and effective and capacious Harbours can now be made on every part of our coasts at a comparatively trifling expense; so much so, that, startling as the assertion may seem, *the present Company can by their method form one hundred and eighty such harbours and places of refuge at a cost of less than the sum estimated by the Government Commissioners, as the outlay requisite (by the old modes) for the construction of three.*

The principle upon which this Invention acts so effectually is simple, and carries conviction with it even to minds the least scientific; it is that of yielding and giving way to the force and violence of the sea, instead of opposing to it a fixed and solid resistance, by means of floating sections of timber, which at the same time they yield to the shocks of the sea and the violence of the winds, also admit the waves to pass under, over and through them, and thus, while giving vent to the fury of the waves, so dividing and breaking them, as to reduce them to an open and harmless state, thereby converting all within the inner circumference of the Break-