



Engraving, with original hand-colour, dissected and mounted on linen, folding into original, red marbled paper slipcase with publisher's label, rubbed.

## **"PROBABLY EDWARD WALLIS'S MOST BEAUTIFUL PRODUCTION" (WHITEHOUSE)**

**Wallis's Elegant and Instructive Game exhibiting the Wonders of Nature, in Each Quarter of the World.**

### **Author**

WALLIS, Edward

### **Publication date**

[c.1818].

### **Publisher**

E. Wallis, 42 Skinner Street, Snow Hill,

### **Publication place**

London,

### **Physical description**

Engraving, with original hand-colour, dissected and mounted on linen, folding into original, red marbled paper slipcase with publisher's label, rubbed.

### **Dimensions**

480 by 620mm (19 by 24.5 inches).

## Notes

This turn-based game consists of 26 vignettes depicting different natural wonders and hazards from around the world, these include the delights of Niagara Falls, the Cave of Antiparos in Greece, and the Devil's Bridge in Switzerland; to the natural hazards such as the sand storms of Arabia, and the Moskstraumen, or whirlpool off the coast of Norway. Curiously, Wallis includes an historic natural disaster - the Lisbon earthquake of 1755 that resulted in over 70,000 deaths. Various forfeits and rewards are granted to the player depending on which square they land. For example, in the 'Ice Mountains of the North Pole': "whoever [the player] is so daring as to go venture amidst these awful scenes, must be frozen in, while the other players spin thrice round".

Edward Wallis (1787-1868) is described in contemporary street directories as a 'Dissected Map & Puzzle Maker'. His father John Wallis was a very successful games and map publisher until his death in 1818, when the business was inherited by his two sons. Edward retired from business in the mid-1840s, by which time he also owned a timber-yard in Clerkenwell, presumably for the production of puzzles.

## Bibliography

Whitehouse, p.38.

## Provenance

**Price:** £3500

**Inventory reference:** 20580