



Woodcut broadsheet, three figures showing the tunnel's length, a cross section, and its means of construction, plan of the tunnel and its environs below, old folds reinforced.

## RARE BROADSIDE ADVERTISING PUBLIC TOURS OF THE THAMES TUNNEL

**Open to the Public Every Day (Sundays excepted) from Seven in the Morning, until Eight in the Evening, The Thames Tunnel.**

### Author

TEAPE, H., & Son

### Publication date

1827

### Publisher

H. Teape & Son, Printers Tower Hill,

### Publication place

London,

### Physical description

Woodcut broadsheet, three figures showing the tunnel's length, a cross section, and its means of construction, plan of the tunnel and its environs below, old folds reinforced.

### Dimensions

240 by 265mm (9.5 by 10.5 inches).

### Notes

The Thames Tunnel was the brain child of Marc Brunel and Thomas Cochrane. In January of 1818,

Brunel and Thomas Cochrane patented the tunnelling shield (illustrated in Fig.3), a revolutionary advance in tunnelling technology. In 1823, Brunel produced a plan for a tunnel between Rotherhithe and Wapping, which would be dug using his new shield. Financing was soon found from private investors including the Duke of Wellington and a Thames Tunnel Company was formed in 1824, with the project beginning in February 1825.

As the construction work was so slow – at some 3-4 meters a week – it was decided, in 1827, to allow public tours of the tunnel. The general public were charged 1 shilling per person; viewing times were from Monday to Saturday seven in the morning till eight in the evening. The scheme proved to be popular and an estimated 600-800 visitors per day came to marvel at its construction.

## **Bibliography**

## **Provenance**

## **Price:**

**Inventory reference:** 1677