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A 'board game' map of Europe

SPOONER, William.
The Travellers of Europe; with Improvements and Additions.

London: William Spooner, 1852. Lithographic folding map with original hand colour. Dissected and laid on linen as issued, 500 x 630mm. With loose publisher's illustrated label.

£1,250

A curious and unusual map of Europe illustrated with vignettes of the most important cities of Europe, the Near East and North Africa. Where the cities thin out, for example in the steppes of Russia, there are vignettes of sledging, arctic animals and whale fishing. According to the Victoria and Albert Museum's catalogue, 'Five players take the parts of The Travellers, who are from different nations, Austria, Sweden, Russia, Prussia and England. They must make their way to their respective capital cities each starting from a different city in Africa, or on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea. This game is played with a teetotum or spinner with four sides marked N,S,E,W representing the directions they must move in'.

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