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Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse

Stock#: 67507
Map Maker: Tallis
Date: 1851
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 14 x 11 inches
Price: \$ 175.00



Description:

A striking and detailed town plan, with vignettes of Plymouth Sound, The Column, and Plymouth Harbor. The map is attractively colored and shows a large amount of detail about the city including railroads, ramparts, government offices, and much more.

Plymouth was one of the most important ports on the British mainland. While not as protected as Bristol or Portsmouth, it was strategically located on the southwestern coast, facing France. It had fallen out of favor during the 17th century due to its remote Devon location and the cost of transport, but the development of railways and increased New World trade brought it a new status. Perhaps most importantly for the continued significance of the city, the Royal Navy had a major base in Plymouth Dock, renamed to Devonport in 1824 and shown on this map. The three urban centers shown on this map, Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport, would not merge to form the city of Plymouth until 1928.

Plymouth remains an extremely attractive city and a popular holiday destination, as well as being a primary economic center for the southwest. The Column still stands near the docks in old Devonport, and the edges of the sound still remain agricultural. Drake's Island, pictured in the Plymouth Sound vignette, remains little changed.

Tallis was one of the last great decorative map makers, and his maps were prized for their attractive vignettes and imagery. This example was engraved by H. Bibby and J. Rapkin.

Detailed Condition:

Engraving on mid-19th-century wove paper. Very faint staining in bottom left of image.