

SKETCHES

OF THE

WORKS

FOR THE

TUNNEL UNDER THE THAMES

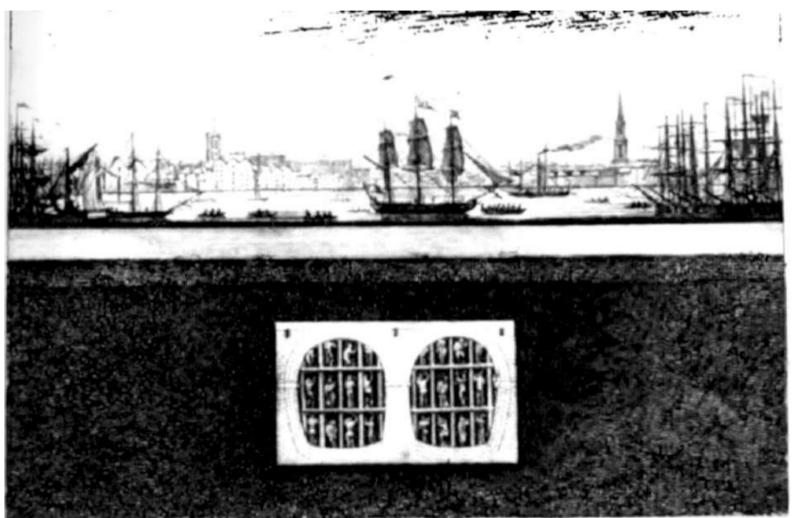
FROM

ROTHERHITHE TO WAPPING.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE SKETCHES.

The attempts at Tunnels projected under the River Thames, one at Gravesend in 1799, the other from Rotherhithe to Limehouse in 1809, were soon abandoned. The undertaking to which this collection of Sketches relates, was projected by M. I. Brunel, Esq. c.e. F.R.s. whose works for Government have been equally creditable to his scientific abilities, and to his personal character.

The Thames Tunnel Company having been incorporated by Act of Parliament, the work was begun in 1825, by sinking a shaft or tower of considerable magnitude, for the purpose of preventing the influx of water from the land springs with which the soil abounds. At the bottom of this shaft a lateral excavation was made for commencing the Tunnel, and from thence the constant protection and support of the soil (with the great weight of water upon it) was effected by means