



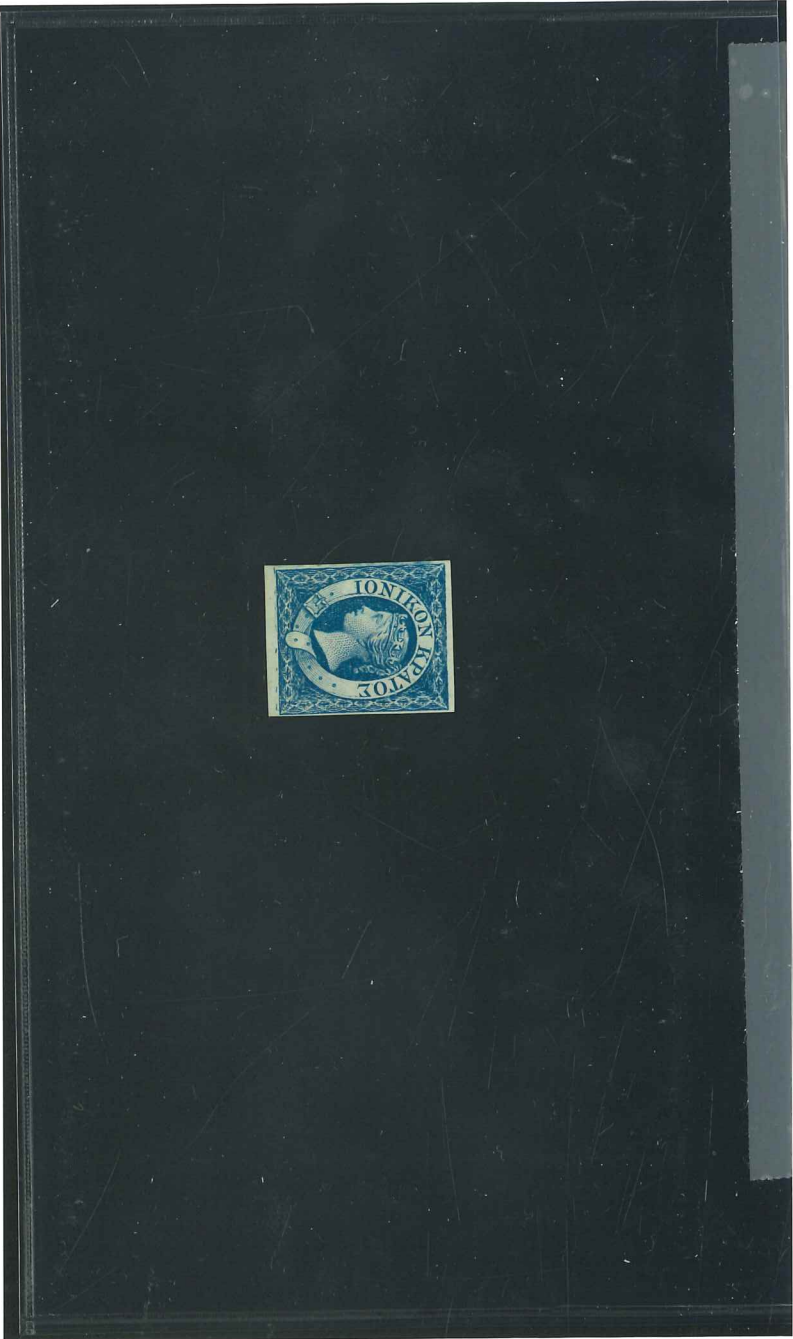
**David Feldman**  
INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS

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1859 Issue (S.G. 1-3)



**AFTER UNION WITH GREECE**

**FORGERIES AND CINDERELLAS:**



Forgeries by the famous forger Spiro, one of which has a forged cancellation.



Artistic versions of Ionian stamps, apparently done in 1861.  
The person shown on the stamps is definitely not Queen Victoria!

## UNION WITH GREECE

### COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS ISSUED BY GREECE IN 1939:

On May 21, 1939 the Greek postal authorities issued five stamps on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the union (Greek ενωσις, or enosis) of the Ionian Islands with Greece.

The one drachma stamp (perforated 12 ½ x 12 ½) shows the coat of arms of the Ionian Islands.

The four drachma stamp (perforated 13 ½ x 12 ½) shows the castle in Corfu.

The other three stamps (all twenty drachma, and perforated 13 ½ x 12 ½) are in the colours of the 1859 stamps, and feature the likenesses of King George the first of Greece, who was on the throne when the islands were turned over, and, of course, Queen Victoria.



It would seem unusual for Britain to freely turn over a possession to another power during the Victorian era. The story is that the Greeks had deposed the unpopular King Otto in 1862, and had installed a pro-British Dane to replace him. This was George the First, whose brother-in-law was the British Prince of Wales and future King Edward VII, and one of whose descendants is Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Apparently the transfer of the islands was made in order to support the new king,

UNION WITH GREECE

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS – FIRST DAY COVER:

This cover, featuring all five of the Ionian Islands union commemoratives, is dated May 21, 1939, the first day of issue. It is postmarked Athens (ΑΘΗΝΑΙ).

