

## IONIAN ISLANDS -- the adhesive stamps

### 2d STAMP USED FOR REVENUE PURPOSES

This fragment is from an unidentified official document, handstamped "POLIZIA ESECUTIVA" (executive police) at the bottom. It is written in Greek, and appears to be the upper left portion of the document.

At the top there is a printed circular mark, showing the Ionian emblem, with the words "2DA CLASSE" (second class) and indicating a payment of an administrative charge of 1 shilling and 10 obols (see one obol coin below).

Under the circular mark there is an Ionian 2d adhesive, stamped with the boxed Zante (Zaphiriou p.213) "FRANCA" (paid) mark. Apparently this indicates a revenue charge in addition to the 1shilling 2 obols charge noted above. (The Ionian Islands did not issue revenue stamps as such.)

Under the adhesive stamp there is an embossed oval mark showing a British coat of arms (with lion and unicorn) and the words "UNITED STATES OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS".

Under the fragment we show (since this is the first mention of the Ionian obol currency in this exhibit), an Ionian one obol coin, dated 1862. It features the same Ionian emblem first mentioned above.

