



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Ionian Isles and Greece

Stock#: 89855
Map Maker: Tallis
Date: 1851
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 12.5 x 10 inches
Price: \$ 225.00



Description:

Ionian Isles and Greece, designed by John Tallis and published in London in 1851, encapsulates the rich topography and cultural landscape of Greece and the Ionian Isles during the mid-19th century. Set against the larger geopolitical background, Greece is defined to the north by its border with Turkey, a vestige of the lingering Ottoman dominion. This map is further accentuated by evocative vignettes, including an ancient war chariot, the Temple of Jupiter on Mt. Olympus, Greek Corsairs navigating near Corfu, a contemporary Greek figure, and a scene of wrestlers.

The mid-19th century was a pivotal moment for the region. The decades leading up to this period witnessed Greece's struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire, culminating in its recognition as a sovereign nation in 1832. This map, delineating the areas still under Ottoman influence, provides a nuanced depiction of the evolving nation-state boundaries. Interestingly, the Ionian Isles, shaded in pink, represent a distinct colonial past, as they were under British jurisdiction during this period. This colonial interlude is further hinted at by the incorporation of their Venetian appellations, such as Corfu, Val di Compare, and Santa Maura.

The map's aesthetics, under the artistic direction of John Tallis, elegantly intertwine with its topographical information. Tallis, renowned as one of the final luminaries in the era of decorative cartography, suffused his maps with detailed vignettes that offer glimpses into the indigenous customs, landscapes, and architectural wonders of the regions they depict. This particular work stands as a testament to Tallis's celebrated style, as it pairs geographical specificity with rich cultural depictions.

Integral to the map's historical context is its association with R. Montgomery Martin's *Illustrated Atlas*.



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Ionian Isles and Greece

Martin's atlas, known for its comprehensive coverage and visual richness, lends further gravitas to this specific representation of Greece and the Ionian Isles, framing it within a larger narrative of global cartography and exploration during the Victorian era.

Detailed Condition: