

DIONYSIOS KLAVDIANOS
BRIEF REFERENCE : THE HISTORY OF THE PRESS OF THE
IONIAN ISLANDS

The subject that I have the honor to present today is difficult, mainly because it demands a lot of time and a lot of effort to present, in a few minutes, life time efforts of the people of the Press, who in extremely difficult years dared to write, to disagree, to dream!

Typography appears for the first time in the Ionian Islands in 1628, from Nikodimos Metaxas, and in 1784, Georgios Bendotis, from Zakynthos, publishes in Vienna the first Greek newspaper.

The first organized typing house of the Ionian Islands worked in 1798 on Corfu, during the French republicans, and there was printed *Thourios* of Rigas Ferraios, in June 1798.

On March the 15th, 1802, was published the newspaper *Gazzeta Urbana kai* in 1805 first appeared the literary and scientific magazine *Literary Hermes*. The most meaty magazine was the Ionian Anthology which in 1834, published for the first time *Lambros* of Dionysios Solomos.

But the years were incredibly difficult and tough for the people of the Press in the at the Ionian area. The situation was ironed-out in 1848 when the Freedom of the Press was allowed by the English, and of course it was improved after the Incorporation with Greece, in 1864. Since then the Radicats dominate and many meaty newspapers are published, such as *Omonoia*, *Elpis*, *Tharros*, *Fileleftheros*, *Anatoli etc.*

One could number for hours the newspapers and magazines that circulate now on the Ionian Islands. But something of the kind demands many hours and scientific research of months.

The news papers that circulate at the Ionian Islands nowadays are *Imera Tsi Zakynthos*, *Ermis*, *Eleftheria*, *Anexartitos*, *Imerisios*, *Kathimerini*, *Anagnostis*, *Gnomi*, *Enimerosi*.

I conclude with something said by our National Poet, something that we, the people of the Press should never forget: “*He that freely bethinks, bethinks well*”.