

REUNION WITH THE ORTHO-
DOX CHURCH

(From a Correspondent.)

PROFESSOR LAMPAKIS, Secretary to the Queen of Greece, a well-known Athenian archæologist, lately visited Smyrna, and was present at Friday Evensong at the English Church of St. John the Evangelist. He was greatly struck by the fine east window, designed, not long ago, by the late Mr. C. E. Kempe. It shows the Crucifixion, and below St. Polycarp is seen kissing the chains of St. Ignatius on the beach at Smyrna. The Professor wished to show the window to his Greek friends, and to give a lecture upon it, and the need of Christian reunion. The Church Council gladly placed the church at his disposal, and the Chaplain sent invitations to the Metropolitans of Ephesus and Smyrna, the Greek Consul, the Heads of the American and Scotch missions etc. At the time appointed, 4 30 p.m., Thursday, October 3, the church was full to overflowing. Many had to stand the whole service, whilst others could not even enter the church. Twenty priests of the Orthodox Church were present, and were provided with seats in the chancel, amongst them being the Archimandrite Damascenus, representing the Archbishop of Smyrna, and the Archdeacon of Ephesus. Many well-known members of the Greek community were also present, besides representatives of the English community. The meeting commenced with prayer, after which "Hail, gladdening Light" was sung, first by a Greek choir from one of the city churches and then by the English choir. Professor Lampakis then spoke eloquently upon the lives of SS. Ignatius and Polycarp, and spoke in glowing terms of the need of reunion with all Christians. He warmly commended the union of the Greek and English Churches. The meeting concluded with the singing of "The Church's One Foundation" and with prayer. A reception was then held at the Chaplain's house.

The following week a large meeting took place at the Greek Cathedral school. The Archbishop of Ephesus took the chair. Besides a number of Orthodox priests, three Roman Catholic priests attended, and sat among the clergy. The English Chaplain was given a seat next to the Archbishop. Professor Lampakis, in his speech, spoke in warm terms of the English Church, and advocated union. His speech was received with great enthusiasm.

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