

Out of that Eastern obscurity one man at least comes to us with overtures of peace. We meet and greet his message with joy, and in true Wesleyan fashion we say, "If thy heart be as mine, give me thy hand." Cyrillus Lucaris—that is, Cyril, son of Lucar—was born about 1570 in the Island of Crete. He bore a name honoured in Eastern history by the distinguished lives of Cyril of Jerusalem, who died in 386; Cyril of Alexandria, who died in 444, and the eminent missionary to the Slavs, Cyril of the Ninth Century. In 1593 he was ordained a priest of the Greek Church,

and afterwards made an Archimandrite. He soon became rector in the Russian Seminary of Ostrog in Volhynia. He thus for a short time had connection with the "Holy Orthodox Eastern Catholic Church of Russia," which has similar relations to the "Holy Orthodox Catholic Apostolic Oriental Church" of Turkey, and to that of Greece, as exist between American, British and Canadian Methodism, these three Churches being one in faith and historical antecedents, but separate in organization.

In 1595, Cyril went as Exarch to Poland to oppose the union of the Greek and Latin Churches. The policy of the latter was that, by alliance with Oriental Churches, Protestantism, which was then in its infancy, might be crushed, beneath the upper and the nether millstone of Latin and Greek prelacy. But the Russian Church had no liking for the alliance. Since the Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon in 451 declared the equality of the



GENOESE TOWER,
CONSTANTINOPLE.

See of Constantinople with that of Rome; since the Latin Church tampered at Toledo in 589 with the Nicene Creed by the *Filioque* addition; since the learned Photius in the ninth century boldly combated the theology and claims of the Western Church; since the two sections of Christendom had taken with such fervour and frequency to anathematize each other; since the Union Council of Florence, in 1439, served only by misunderstanding and recriminations to increase the spirit of disunion and occasioned the cruel murder of three Eastern Patriarchs on their return home by their co-religionists; since Russia has persisted, then as ever since, in persecuting the Roman