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THE PRIVY COUNCIL AND GREEK CATHOLICS.

In 1908 the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council dealt with an appeal in a case of *Zacklynski v. Polushie* (1908 A. C. 65), which originated in the Courts of the North-West Territories. The decision turned on a pure question of fact and the circumstances of the case are not important. But in the course of their judgment, their Lordships make, obiter, certain incorrect statements which recent events have made it desirable to challenge. The headnote of the report reads as follows:—

"In Galicia the population is divided between Poles and Little Russians, the former being Roman Catholic, the latter Orthodox Greeks who, as a condition of being allowed to use their own liturgy and conduct their services in the old Slavonic language, are compelled to acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope, all else being allowed to remain Greek. There results a composite church known as the Uniate Church, liable in Galicia to taxation by the Pope, in consequence of its enforced union with Rome."

In the judgment their Lordships say that "the Orthodox Greek religion is proscribed in Galicia" and that the term "Greek Catholic" is ambiguous. With most of these statements I desire to take issue.

1. It is not true that the "Little Russians of Galicia," who are also known as Ruthenians and Ukrainians, are "Orthodox Greeks." By "Orthodox Greeks," is of course meant members of the "Orthodox Eastern Church," commonly called the "Greek Church." The Ruthenians of Galicia all belong to the Uniate or United Greek Church, which acknowledges the Pope as its head and forms an integral portion of the (Roman) Catholic Church. This Uniate or United Greek Church (so called from its union with Rome), uses it is true the same liturgy as the Orthodox Church, but it is in belief, identical in all respects with the Catholic Church. Nor is this Uniate Church a new thing or an invention of the Austrian Government. It is of more than three hundred years standing. In 1595 the Ruthenian bishops of the whole Ukraine, then under Polish rule, voluntarily concluded a union with Rome, which was confirmed by the Ruthenian Synod of Brest in 1596. With two exceptions all of the bishops, including the Metropolitan of Kiev, the head of the Ruthenian Church, accepted the union. The exceptions were the bishops of Lemberg and Przemyśl, and their successors did not adhere to the union until 1720. The Ruthenians, or Little Russians, of Galicia have all, since the latter date, been in union with Rome.

2. It is not true that these people, or any of them, "as a condition of being allowed to use their own liturgy and conduct their services in the old Slavonic language, are compelled to