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Charles A. Frazee

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BY

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CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	page vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	viii
1 The Patriarchate and the Church under the Ottomans	1
2 Prelude to Revolt	9
3 The Year of Revolution—1821	15
4 The Church and the War of Independence, 1822–1827	49
5 The Greek Church under the Presidency of Ioannis Kapodistrias	71
6 The Regency of King Otho and the Establishment of the Autocephalous Church of Greece	89
7 The Greek Church under the Independent Synod, 1835–1850	125
8 The Synodal Tomos and its Reception in Greece	171
<i>Conclusion</i>	196
<i>Bibliography</i>	198
<i>Index</i>	213

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PREFACE

WHILE the ancient and medieval periods of the Byzantine church usually receive a great amount of attention from western scholars, ecclesiastical history after the Turkish conquest tends to be neglected. There is a prevalent feeling that not much of importance happened during these centuries of isolation, and yet it was during this time that the Orthodox church as it presently exists in Greece and Constantinople was formed.

The purpose of this study is to trace the history of the church as it emerged from the Ottoman period in independent Greece from the opening of the Revolution in 1821 until 1852. These thirty-one years cover the period when relations were severed between the church in Greece and the patriarchate of Constantinople. Then in 1852 the two churches were reunited with the reception of the Patriarchal Synodal Tomos by the government in Athens, and a new period of history begins.

The sources for this study have been the published works concerning this period, contemporary government publications and newspaper accounts, and the diplomatic correspondence between the western embassies in Athens and Constantinople and their governments. Unfortunately, it was not possible to consult the archives of the Foreign Ministry in Athens since these have not been rehabilitated following the events of World War II. The two standard histories of this period, written in Greek, are the books by Konstantinos Oekonomos and Metropolitan Chrysostomos Papadopoulos. Both can be recommended and were very helpful in the preparation of this work.

In the spelling of Greek names, I have attempted to remain as faithful to the original as possible. As a general rule, the dates given are those of the Julian calendar, which was in use in Greece during the period which this study covers. The one exception is the dating of the dispatches of the western ambassadors in Greece. In the nineteenth century the Old Style calendar was twelve days behind the Gregorian.

C.A.F.

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I am most grateful to the directors of the British Museum and the Public Record Office, their counterparts in Paris at the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Archives du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, and in Vatican City at the Archivio Segreto Vaticano and the Archivio della S. Congregazione di Propaganda, and at Munich in the Geheimes Staatsarchiv. In Athens my work was done mainly at the Gennadion Library and my thanks go to all who work there, especially Miss Eurydice Demetracopoulou. I am also grateful to the directors of the National, the Benaki, and Parliamentary Libraries in Athens.

Correcting the manuscript and suggesting stylistic revisions was done by my colleague, Gilbert Tutungi, who contributed a great deal of time and effort to this task.

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C.A.F.