

in him as a Christian? If not, cannot I renounce as consistently as he?"

"With him it was a peculiar and trying case, It was a choice between his duty as a Christian, or his obligations to a vile organization. Beside the obligations he had taken were extorted from him before he knew what they were. He answered them unsuspectingly, and in full belief that they were innocent, and righteous; and when he found they were not, he had the same right to renounce them, that a man would have to violate pledges extorted from him by a highwayman, when purloining his purse: pledges simply given to save his life."

"Well, admitting all that to be true, father, would not the same state of facts apply to me, under the same circumstances?"

"Yes, but the circumstances cannot be the same, for you are forewarned and he was not. What you do, you do with your eyes open, knowing what is before you."

"But was he not forewarned, in the same sense, if not in the same way. Had not Morgan's book been published when he joined? And had not others made the same renunciation he has? He went forward because he did not believe them; I do the same thing. I cannot see why the cases are not exactly parallel."

This was a drop too much for the bucket of the good man's temper. "You do not believe!" said he with emphasis. "Then you mean to charge Bro. Snyder, a member of your own church, and class; with lying; and you have lost all confidence in the warning voice, and counsel of your own father?"

"But, father, you forget that this is a matter about which you know nothing, of your own knowledge," humbly responded the young man; "and that, according to their own confession, Morgan, and all his followers in the line of renunciation, are convicted of voluntary perjury. On the contrary, you seem to ignore the fact that I do know, in part, for myself. Is it not you who are losing all confidence in me, who never willfully deceived you? and never will, If I find what you suspect, I will back squarely out."

"I want to hear no more of your arguing," now almost thundered the enraged father; "it is enough for you to know that I object to, and protest against, your advancing another step: and if you do, I shall set you down as a wilful, disobedient son, and you and I will dissolve partnership, at once, and forever."

"Hear only one word more," pleaded the now anguished young man; "do not forget, dear father, that I am now of age: remember your own feelings when you reached that important period in your life; it is possible that you may bind burdens so heavy on my shoulders, that the most filial affection and obedience may stagger and fall under them."

(To be continued.)

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TRIENNIAL GATHERING.—The next Triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States, and Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, will be held at the City of Baltimore, Maryland, on the fourteenth and fifteenth of next month. It is anticipated that there will be a very large attendance.