

that profound jurist, Judge Simple, and a few others of lesser note. Besides, and most potent of all, there is my own self-made popularity. Ha, ha, old Father Stubborn, I'll pounce upon you with all my forces at my next and last Quadrantal Synod, before your gray hairs know what you are about, and smash you and your moral philosophy into a nonentity.

And having, as was supposed, and as shown by the sequel, arranged matters with and within himself, the hour for action was left to come around according to the usual course of time.

After a certain lapse of time had passed, the time for the great Mufti's Quadrantal Synod arrived; and although it was as many centuries ago as the month of May, 1858, yet the Legend records a few of the important incidents of that Synod. It was held in the business chamber of the Mosque.

### CHAPTER III.

*Meeting of the Quadrantal Synod—The Mufti attacks Stubborn—The Mufti's great power—Justification of Sanctity—The Fatherless Girl—Stubborn's valuation of Sanctity's account—Sanctity's Stewardship—Mr. Crabnarl—Judge Simple and others—Great Noise—Dublin—The war dance—Judge Simple's appearance—His Oration—Faith—Justification—Condemnation of Stubborn—Stubborn prevented Speaking—Crabnarl's Oration—Proves the Sanctification of Sanctity—Condemns Stubborn—Sanctity's Statement—Stubborn—Breaking up of the Synod.*

The Synod having convened, as mentioned at the close of the last chapter, and a few items of routine business disposed of—some of which will be referred to in a future chapter—sure enough, the great Mufti arose from his chair of Ecclesiastical State, and, in language not to be misunderstood, charged old Father Stubborn with having grievously sinned against his Saintship, Mr. Sanctity, and roundly asserted that, inasmuch as he had prevented Sanctity from appropriating to himself a very small share, or portion, of the estate of his dear departed brother, and had also protected his Saintship's fatherless niece against his pious, philanthropic designs. That although he, the great Mufti, had seen the account, and the correspondence, and other documentary evidence relative thereto; that, although, according to Stubborn's crude logic, there was sufficient evidence of dishonesty and meanness to condemn his saintship in a legal tribunal; yet, what of that, said he, as near as could be remembered from his rapid eloquence. I am the great Mufti; all government is in my hands; I interpret civil and religious law; and those who will not submit to my profound opinion and judgment, shall be made to feel the weight of my popularity; and, as might begets right, I do positively, and inherent in my own consequential personal self, possess the absolute right of dispensation and judgment. I do, therefore, in virtue of my right inherent, and of my unheard-of popularity and high position as Mufti of this congregation of the faithful, declare and pronounce that Sanctity has done no wrong in aspiring after the protectorate of the estate of the dead and the fatherless. It was highly becoming a saint of his magnitude, to make whatever charges he pleased against the inheritance of his fatherless niece. "For," said he, "It is no harm to make up wrong accounts; it is done almost daily by business men. The Mufti's often do the same thing. All a person has to do is to give up his wrong charges, if they are disputed. His saintship therefore has done no wrong, for he abandoned the wrong charges in his said account, on their being disputed, and proven to be false, by Stubborn and others." But, on the contrary, he had made a great personal sacrifice. For who or what is that snip of a fatherless child, that her hereditary rights should stand in the way of the pious yearnings of his saintship's devotional soul, after her inheritance. Old Stubborn "must be compelled to give up his saintship the said account, and all evidence of its untruthfulness and injustice; so as that no legal evidence may hereafter be brought against him on account thereof; but that the legal evidence against his saintship's wrong-doing being destroyed, he and all of us who are true and faithful Musselmen may be able to say, and testify with clear consciences, that his saintship never made up any such account; or else Mr. Stubborn, gray hairs and all, must be banished from the society of the sanctified. "I therefore recommend that this Synod forthwith put Stubborn to the rack, or send him into banishment." "The grey headed old imbecile had the assurance to say he would not take five hundred