Reflective Understanding

of the empirical motives for the judgment. It lies in the accumulation of a insights over a life-time; to set them forth abstractly is to misregresent them; to deny them validity is to ignore the fact that they have been subjected over years to constant checks and to frequent adjustments. It lies in the habitual possession of a host of/concrete judgments that form the context and explain the meaning and limit implicitly the implications of the present judgment. So much, then, for the first point, namely, that the evidence for concrete judgments does not admit adequate expression in propositions. There is a second point. We have argued that the same criterion and the same type of act underlies every judgment, namely, the grasp of the virtually unconditioned in the evidence. It seems to be this grasp that Newman means by the act of the illative sense. It is the final summa review and summary of the evidence. It is the necessary and sufficient condition of the judgment. Newman rightly contended that it is not subject to logic; indeed, as we have argued, the logical conclusion just as any other judgment is subject to it. There is a third and final point. From the use of reflective understanding and its criterion there is no escape. Whether or not one does use it, whether or nor one uses it wisely, is the individual's responsibility to truth and to reasonableness. That is where the burden lies, and there is no alternative.

In the eleventh place, since concrete judgments, as all judgments, are the responsibility of the individual that makes them, since it is only the individual that can make them, it is just silly to suppose that philosophic authors are aver to be expected to assume a duty they cannot perform. Mnatever may be the function of philosochy, it is not to instruct the ignorant on the fact of a difference between does and catas, not to reassure doubters that they can be quite confindent on the point. The milk-maid laughed at Thales for falling into a well while trying to see the stars. But modern philosophers have been engrossed in the problem of a catching up with the wisdom of the milk-maid. More accurately, they have suffered from the split personality. They are quite as wise as the milk-maid when it comes to eating their meals, drawing their salaries, claiming their royalties. But they have been misled by some stronge aberation to philosophize in some other, radically different universe in which the existence of means, salaries, and royalties was a very debatable question. Our present point is that there is an aberration and that its solution lies in Newman's contentions concerning concrete judgments. There is the evidence for them; we know there is the evidence for them; but if we attempt the impossibility of expressing the evidence in propositions, then we come to doubt what we know to be so.

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