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and reading the defaming statements through their neighbourhood. But to the press it was a source of much pain and grief: and the more judicious put the papers immediately aside, or committed them to the flames.

The Conference, in September 1836, was held in Hamilton, New-Orleans District. Here Mr. Madden's character being under the usual examination, Mr. Ryan made some remarks, but preferred no charges. Explanations were given on both sides, but as no charges were preferred, the subject was dismissed.

During this Conference, the subject of the late anonymous circular was taken up; the same being read, the following resolutions were passed in reference to it.

Resolved, 1. That this Conference has read with much concern, an anonymous letter, signed, "A Methodist;" and that it is the opinion of this Conference, that the design of the author was to make a wrong impression on the minds of the people in general, and on the Methodists in particular, in this province: and to destroy the confidence and union which now exists between the preachers and the people. 2d. That this letter contains misrepresentations and false statements respecting the proceedings and decisions of the annual Conference of 1835. 3d. That it contains unchristian and false insinuations and statements respecting several respectable members of that body. 4th. That the Conference view with abhorrence the unchristian and invidious manner in which the author attacks and endeavours to injure the character and reputation of several respectable members of the Conference of 1835. These resolutions, the Conference directed should be read to the Official Brethren in the quarterly Conferences.

As the author of the circular had made his statements without giving any proof, therefore, all the Conference thought proper to notice of this singular production, was, to contradict the assertions, and give their opinion of the design of the author. Nor did the Conference deem it necessary to go abroad for proof, in a matter, all the particulars of which, they were themselves acquainted with. Al- though every member of the Conference had personal knowledge of the facts alluded to in the Circular, and knowing them to be falsely stated, they needed no further proof.

The next Conference was held at Hamilton Village, District of Gore, September, 1837. When Mr. Ryan's character was called in inquiry was made by several Brethren, relative to another printed circular, of which it had been reported Mr. Ryan was concerned. This was also under the guise of "A Lover of Truth." Several resolutions were offered unanimously, the purport of which was to induce Mr. Ryan to give the Conference satisfaction, whether, or not, he was the author; all of which were lost, on the ground of seeming to require a person to criminate himself.

Mr. Ryan, in his Address to the Conference, having expressed