

2. And also for heresy, or teaching or maintaining heretical doctrines; or for teaching or inculcating doctrines contrary to those of the Church; such teaching or maintaining being by way of writing, or printing, or preaching, or public teaching, or circulating books containing unsound doctrines.

§ 2.

1. If any Clergyman has committed, or, on reasonable grounds is believed to have been guilty of, any of the foregoing ecclesiastical offences, committed within this Diocese, the Bishop, on the written application of any party complaining thereof, or of his own mere motion, may summon the party to appear before him in private, and, upon confession of the offence alleged, may pronounce such sentence as may be proper.

2. If the Bishop should consider the matter to be of such a character or magnitude as to require it to be placed on record, in such case the accusation shall be reduced to a definite form; there shall be added the confession signed by the party, and the same, with the sentence pronounced, shall be recorded in like manner as other sentences are hereinafter directed to be recorded.

3. If the accused party shall not admit or confess the offence alleged, and the Bishop be of opinion that there are grounds for further inquiry, the Bishop may issue a commission under his hand and seal to five Priests, of whom one shall be an Archdeacon, within the Diocese, who shall make inquiry into the truth of the accusations, and report the facts, as well as the evidence taken, and whether, in their opinion, there be sufficient *prima facie* evidence to justify further proceedings.

4. In such case, the accusation shall be reduced to form in writing, and a deposit placed in the hands of the Bishop, to his satisfaction, for the costs of the proceedings, if the accusers be laymen; such deposit to be applied in payment of the expenses of the party accused if acquitted, and the balance if any, to be repaid to the depositor; and notice of