

tribunal entirely unknown in the church. Still more extraordinary indeed, that he should conceive the wild design of bringing a Conference of forty ministers to an account before a tribunal of twelve lay men! But this was Mr. Ryan's next plan.

At the late Conference held in Ernest Town, October 2d, was received from Mr. Ryan a proposal, with petitions to support it, purporting to be an offer that Mr. Ryan and the Conference should choose, each, six lay members, or ministers, to whom the differences between him and the Conference should be referred; and that their examination and decision should be open and final. The papers containing this proposal were referred to a committee of the following persons, viz. W. Chamberlayne, Andrew Prindle, William Brown, James Richardson, and Franklin Metcalf, who were instructed to take into consideration the above papers, and to report thereon. The report of this committee was, That they had examined the papers and petitions submitted to them, and were of opinion that the Conference could not concede to Mr. Ryan's proposals.

1. Because they were not sensible that the Conference had done Mr. Ryan any injustice.
2. Because he voluntarily left the Conference, and disowned their authority.
3. Because, that after he withdrew from the connexion, there remained nothing to be settled between him and the Conference.
4. Because, if any member of the Conference had injured him, either before or since he withdrew, our Discipline prescribes the proper and only legal course of prosecution and trial; consequently they do not feel themselves at liberty to submit to a form of trial so unprecedented and unconstitutional in itself, as his proposals contain.

Finally, the committee recommend that a proper address be made, by a pastoral letter, to our friends on this subject.

The Report was adopted by the Conference:

A motion was now carried, that if Mr. Ryan have any further proposals for the Conference, that he be requested to make them in writing. Mr. Ryan then handed in the following: "If the Conference will rescind that vote which was the cause of my withdrawing, I will give them a pledge in writing, that I will agitate nothing among the people respecting former difficulties; provided they will give me a written pledge, that their members shall not, with impunity, attack my character. On that principle I propose that former differences, by both parties, come to an end."

"H. RYAN."

To this the Conference did not think proper to concede.

It appears to have been the endeavour of Mr. Ryan to lead the community to believe that the Conference, who had examined a charge brought against one of its members, had become a party in a quarrel with that member, and that they were wishing to oppress, persecute, and ruin that member. This is the ground of most of his appeals. The Conference, he pretends, is the cause of all these