

concerning whom there may exist scandal or evil report, he shall issue a commission under his hand and seal to five Presbyters of not less than seven years' standing, and the Commissioners so appointed, or any three of them, shall enquire into the truth of the charges alleged against the party accused, as set forth in their commission; notice of the time and place of such enquiry having been given to the party accused, and to the party, if any, upon whose application or complaint the commission may have been issued, not less than thirty days before the time appointed for the commencement of the enquiry.

And, in the course of such enquiry, the Commissioners shall receive all such evidence as may be tendered to them, whether for or against the party accused.

And the said Commissioners shall report in writing, under the hands of at least three of them, whether, in the opinion of the majority of those present, there be or be not sufficient *prima facie* ground for instituting further proceedings; which report shall be accompanied by a copy of the evidence on which it is founded.

II. And in all cases when the Commissioners shall have reported that there is *prima facie* ground for further proceedings, the Bishop, with the written consent of the party accused, may pronounce judgment without further proceedings.

III. If the Commissioners shall report that there is *prima facie* ground for further proceedings, and the party accused shall not consent to have judgment pronounced as aforesaid, then, but not otherwise, three Clerks in Holy Orders, or three Clerks and three Laymen, shall be nominated as hereafter provided, to sit with the Bishop or his Commissary, specially appointed for this purpose, to hear the cause.

IV. Notice of the Bishop's intention to institute further proceedings shall be delivered to the person accused, together