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"Grand River falls, &c." and the other in the Niagara District, Mr. Ryan made some statements to several persons which were supposed were against the influence of Mr. Madden. Some of these strictures were directed against the domestic economy of Mrs. Madden, and particularly, with reference to the dress of her children. Another statement was, that he, Mr. Ryan, had "agreed with Mr. Madden, when at Hallowell, to furnish Madden with a house," when he should remove to the Niagara District: and intimating an imprudence in Madden's settling his family in Niagara Village. This statement Madden said, was incorrect: Mr. Ryan had made no such agreement with him. In conversation together afterwards, the same assertions and denials took place between them, the one affirming, and the other denying any such agreement.

Mr. Culp, who was present at this dispute, having previously heard of the statements of Mr. Ryan about Mr. Madden, and believing it improper for one Preacher to take such liberties with the feelings of another, especially in a public manner: he then informed Mr. Ryan that he should bring the subject before the Conference, and notified him to prepare for trial.

It is proper here to premise, that, according to general usage in our Conferences, no person is to be put upon his trial before the Conference, without previous and timely notice. The case must be peculiar and urgent, where complaints are permitted to be named, without such notification: and even then the Conference does not proceed upon the trial, without the consent of the accused. We are now speaking of charges of an immoral nature. In cases of improprieties only, these improprieties are mentioned in the Conference with a view of correcting the infirmities of a Brother. But then, the offending brother must first be conversed with; and the case must be an extraordinary one, where, even infirmities are permitted to be named, without this gospel step being first taken.

The Conference of 1826 came on, and in the usual course of examination into the characters of all the Preachers, Mr. Madden's character was first called up. When the question was asked by the Bishop, "Is there any thing against brother Madden?" Mr. Ryan arose and preferred several charges against Mr. Madden. On inquiry, it was found that this was the first time Mr. Madden had heard that charges were to be brought against him: neither the charges, or notification that there would be charges, were given him till they were presented before the Conference. For this reason, proceedings were at first arrested, until, by the consent of Mr. Madden, Mr. Ryan was allowed to proceed in the prosecution. The trial proceeded, and decision was made accordingly.

The character of Mr. Ryan was next called up, when Mr. Culp proceeded in his charges; one of which was, that, Mr. Ryan had "made erroneous statements, injurious to the character of Mr. Madden."

The Conference now proceeded in the investigation of the sever-

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