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Religious Society, has refused to listen to the
advice of Friends or to be controlled by the Body:
and under this specious pretence, various steps
have been taken at variance with our christ-
ian discipline and the long established order
of the Church.

Among the individuals that pursued
this unwarrantable course, was John Wilbur,
a member of Rhode Island Yearly Meeting
in the Station of a Minister, to whom we think
it right for us particularly to allude, as we
are aware that the eyes of many in different
yearly meetings have been turned to him: &
we regret to say, that from a want, as we
apprehend, of a correct knowledge of his case,
from some of these, we have cause to fear, he
has taken encouragement to maintain a stand
in opposition to Friends, that has finally resul-
ted in his disavowment from our Religious
Society. It was under the pretext of support-
ing sound doctrines, that this individual,
several years since, commenced a course which
brought uneasiness on the minds of many
concerned Friends in relation to him. We
do not conceive it to be necessary or proper
for us at the present time to enter into a
minute detail of his offences. We may how-
ever state, that he indulged in a continued

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course of detraction in speaking and writing by
which the religious character of divers Friends
in our own and other yearly meetings was
much misrepresented. On this account, and
in consequence of the violation of our Discipline
in various other respects, he was early treated
with in private, by different Friends: subse-
quently by a Committee of the Yearly Meeting
of Ministers and Elders of which he was a
member and afterwards by a Committee of
the Yearly meeting appointed on account of
the existing state of things among us to labour
for the maintenance of our christian princi-
ples and testimonies and the promotion of love
and unity among our members. For several
years, most tender and affectionate labor &
counsel were extended to him, through the
channels above indicated without producing
any sensible good effect. A determination
was openly manifested to resist the advice
of Friends, and pursue his own way, in which
he claimed to have the sympathy and support
of several members of different yearly meetings.
After this long continued, fruitless labor, it
being painfully evident that he had placed
himself above the judgment of the Body, and
was wholly disposed to reject the counsel of
Friends, his case was brought before the Month
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