

I saw you in the house of Rev. Mr. Inglis, on Saturday, 4th, for the purpose of obtaining from you a public service in Knox's Church, on the following Sabbath, or a week-day evening service, you stated that you did not know Dr. Irvine or anything of Knox's Church, and enquired if the congregation was connected with the Irish Presbyterian Church? And, in declining to make an appointment on Monday night, 9th instant, you said it would have been interesting to you to have preached to that congregation, composed of so many of your countrymen, leaving on my mind the impression, which I have stated without reserve, that if Mr. Guinness takes further church service it would be, I believed, tendered to us.

You will please to oblige me by giving a written explanation of this change of arrangement, bearing such apparent inconsistency.

I should have made the enquiry on Saturday, but did not wish to interrupt your Sabbath preparation.

Faithfully yours,

JAMES WALKER,

To Rev. H. G. GUINNESS.

Deacon Knox's Church.

HAMILTON, May 13, 1861.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter of to-day, I beg to state that I intended to confine my preaching to the open air (after Friday last,) but have been prevented doing so by the unsettled state of the weather.—Yours sincerely,

H. GRATTAN GUINNESS.

MANSE OF KNOX'S CHURCH, May 13, 1861.

REV. SIR,—I have been informed that you have stated to a clergyman in this city that "Dr. Irvine is not a Christian." As I am unwilling to take up an evil report against any one, but especially against one who comes amongst us, as you professedly do, in the name of Christ—I beg to request that you will let me know whether my information is correct, and if so, upon what authority you have deemed it your duty to circulate, if not to act upon such a statement.

From my friend, Deacon Walker, I have learned that when he called at the residence of the Rev. David Inglis, whose guest you are, on the 4th inst., you told him that you had never before heard of me, nor of Knox's Church; and as I had only a brief interview with you at the Congregational Church, on the evening of the 8th inst., it must have been impossible for you to form a definite idea of my character on that occasion. From these facts I would infer that your judgment of me, if correctly reported, must have been formed since the above dates, and could not have been the result of personal observation.

The bearer will wait for your reply, as I wish to lose no time in having matter of so much importance adjusted.

I am, Rev. Sir,

Yours respectfully,

To the Rev. H. G. GUINNESS.

R. IRVINE.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter has been just received by me, in which you mentioned having heard that I said to a clergyman in this city that "Dr. Irvine is not a Christian." This is *untrue*. I have only met you once, and that for a few minutes, and have not made any considerable inquiries about the present difference between yourself and Mr. Inglis; in fact, with Mr. Inglis I have had but one brief conversation upon the subject. So far from Mr. Inglis having prevented my preaching in your chapel, he pressed me to consent to preach for you; but I have thought, for several reasons, that it would be best I should not do so. I am grieved at the sad state of affairs I find existing here. I trust God will mercifully deliver his people from it, and over-rule it for good.

Yours very sincerely,

MR. IRVINE.

H. GRATTAN GUINNESS.