

"PIETY."

REV. D. INGLIS TO REV. JOHN JENNINGS:

HAMILTON, October 19th, 1861.

The Rev. JOHN JENNINGS, D. D.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—On Thursday last, the Rev. Duncan McRuar, of Ayr, informed me that, in a conversation which you had with him some weeks ago, you had stated and mentioned that Mrs. Gale and Mrs. Inglis' were the persons mentioned by Mr. Guinness, in a printed correspondence between that gentleman and the Rev. Dr. Irvine, as having informed Mr. Guinness that "Dr. Irvine was not a Christian;" also, that in another conversation which you had with Mr. McRuar, a few weeks ago, you had stated to him that, in an interview which you had recently had with Mr. Guinness, this statement had been made by you, and Mr. Guinness had denied it. That you had stated to Mr. Guinness that you had frequently asserted it as a fact, which you had on good authority, and asked if you were at liberty, on Mr. Guinness' authority, to deny it—and that to this he readily assented. Also, that you then wrote to Mr. James Walker, of this city, who was your informant, and that he had sent to you three questions to be put to Mr. Guinness, but that, at the time of your last interview with Mr. McRuar, you had not received Mr. Guinness' answers to these questions.

I have Mr. McRuar's authority for making use of what he told me. I have since been informed by another clergyman of our church that you had been active in circulating the statement on Mr. James Walker's authority.

I do not for a moment think you are capable of having circulated the *untruth*—knowing it to be untrue. I am ignorant of the amount of evidence which induced you to believe and circulate this report; but you certainly have done so without any effort to ascertain the truth, by having both sides of the question.

I have to acknowledge the promptness with which you contradicted to Mr. McRuar, on Mr. Guinness' authority, what you had formerly asserted on that of Mr. James Walker. I have known that such a rumor was in circulation, but, until now, I have never been able to hear of any one who had expressed belief in it, or who had given any reliable authority for it.

I have now, on behalf of these ladies, to ask, as a simple act of justice, that you will inform me of the whole facts in this matter.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience,

I am, Rev. and Dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

DAVID INGLIS.