With these advices in my hand, I could do no other, than endeavour to secure a Freight for the Elizabeth, with which I hoped you would be contented ~~considering all things~~ for the above Reasons. They really appeared to me Sufficient to Justifie a breach of yr. Directions, and which you may be assured Never shall be the case with. more, equally as good, accompanied with as early advices of them as possible to obviate any Disapprobation that may ~~arise~~ Otherwise am I have seriously reflected on the Footing our trade at present is carried on & weighd every Circumstance attending it; The advantages which have accrued, I'm certain cannot be adequate to the Sum employed, Owing entirely to the Large Debts made in the Country with. a Punctual Remittance. The great Number of Stores which have increased within these few Years much more in proportion than the people, ~~have~~ Obliges the Owners of them for fear of having their goods Stick on hand, to give an unlimited Credit not only to those, who are really good at Boston, but very

Often

Often to others by whom there is approbability of Losing; this has induced even those who Deserve Credit to run in Debt much more than ~~than~~ their Yearly crop even when good, is able to Discharge; ~~This~~ which Obliges the Merchant to fall behind hand in his Remittances, as it's ten to One if he Doesn't Depend entirely On the sale of those goods to pay for them, his Own money if he has any, being employed to the full in Some Other Scheme which at times May break in upon that fund he Designs for his Correspondent at home; this is absolutely the case with 9/10th of the Merchants in the province, for from the best Enquiry I can make, and I have taken Some pains to inform myself, there is hardly any of them but what are much in Debt to the Merchts. with whom they are connected: Formerly a ~~merch.~~ Storekeeper could afford to lay out of One half his Money 3 or 4 years, the Profit was so great; but now the large Quantity of Goods has reduced it from what it was even when I came first in the Country at least 70 pct.; this fall in 8 years is amazing and is One great cause of the Complaint of Want of Punctuality in Remittances more than ever told, tho' it was always

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