in having a Cargo of Wheat & Flour home, by the Time the Isabella would have brought it, which could not have answered perhaps so well, if it had got to hand so much sooner; & as you left it to my Judgment I really thought from the Quantities that had been shipt & were shipping from different parts of the Continent to Britain, together with the advices from Spain Portugal & Italy of the amazing Fall of the Prices there, the Chance of Profit would be better on the Tob.° especially as it would get home early, than the other articles; nor did I expect till y.d Letters of June & July came to hand, the Flour in the Willm would do more than clear itself — upon the whole I must be of opinion nothing appears in y.r Letters, till the 25th May & even then it must be by implication to induce me in the least to alter the Load of the Ship as first directed, and after that Time, if you had expressly directed the alteration, I should have found great difficulty in doing it as there was little or no Wheat came to Market & the Quantity of Flour by no means in proportion to the demand; an Instance of which You'll meet with, if you enquire of Mr Reid, in the detention of his little Brig whose Load was laid in at the very Time, Before that is from the Sailing of the Snow the 1st May, If I had continued purchasing the Quantity might have been with ease procured

but as I could not possibly suspect the Isabella would be ordered back, or that you did not want any Tob.° in the Willm, I did not even purchase Flour for the last, but as I collected Money for debts, not choosing to draw, as I had a moral Certainty of receiving as much as would answer the Purpose without, by the Time the Ship would be ready to Load — with respect to the Isabella I again repeat, it was impossible to procure a Load of Wheat & Flour for her after the Time your Letter directing it came to hand; and for the Elizabeth I frankly own, it never came into my Head to put any of those articles in her, till her arrival, when the foregoing Reasons joined to the uncertainty of the Stay she would be under the Necessity of making for the remainder of her Load, made me quite give up all Thoughts of putting Wheat & Flour in her.

I am inclined to ~~think~~ suspect, Fear of the Williams not arriving in Time for the Convicts & Disappointment in not having so much Wheat & Flour shipped as you wished, might have put you a little out of Temper, at the Time of writing your last Letter: when ill Humour predominates I know from experience, it is impossible to attend to every con=sideration that ought to be made, before Conclusions are drawn, which upon a cooler examination will be found to be with foundation: The Truth of this observation I am the more convinced of from the present Instance, in which I flatter myself, you will

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