~~The Vessel by notice a Sale at Auction at Office Room on the 27 Decr at 6 Furniture Shop goes after Xt~~

Mess Crawford & Lisburn } Belfast 25 Decr 1787

Gent = I am favd = with yours of the 25th The Vessel I am now loading has full Freight engaged and some goods will be left if therefore you have any goods worth notice ready for Shipping let me know & I think I can engage a Vessel at 10/ Tun for Residuum in Small Casks or in Bulk 8/ 9d for Bottles but less I write not promised for if this be agreeable let me know & I shall be govd = accordg

Sir
C Birnie

I am in a Vessel I have now in my power to engage

27

Mr Robt Hamilton Strabane } Sir I was duly favd = with yours of the 12th In consequence of what passed between you & Mr J. I had actually engaged a Vessel for Derry (at that time no other Vessels engaged) and sent to inform Mr Davis, who to my no small surprise received an answer that he had your order to land the goods over to another person of course I gave up the idea of forcing the business and consequently broke faith with the Mr

I had engaged an act that I am now guilty of but from absolute necessity — I could say a good deal on this subject but shall not demean myself by passing remarks on the conduct or character of individuals, I am not conscious of you having neglected your business but if you shall find a more active Faithful Agent you cannot be blamed for employing him — When it seems you must shall as usual attend to your orders being

Sir
your obt Servt
C Birnie

P.S. I have a Vessel of about 110 tons now loading for Derry that will probably will not be filled for several weeks, perhaps months

31

Mr James Mitchell Liverpool } Dear Sir I was favd = with yours of the 3rd = also your Invoice (see Invoice Book) of Stands &c I hope you will be able to sell at high prices that credits, as you need not be surprised if I take the liberty of drawing on you shortly for £100

When any thing occurs that you would think would be useful for me to know with me — as your prices for Bacon no bottles let me know how the sums are listed — yours truly

C Birnie