Belfast 8th October 1819

Dear Birnie

My last I believe was favoured by William Brown, who sailed hence for Philadelphia, in June last, which I hope you have are this received — It is with sorrow I have on this occasion to communicate to you the death of honest David Birnie, perhaps some of your Friends had wrote you before, least that should not be the case, I embrace this opportunity to say, he died suddenly about the middle of last month, while attending his Shearers in the fields, his death, I am told was occasioned by Apoplexy, I can not give you any more particulars, enough however is said in confirmation of the melancholy event, I have also to mention the death of Robert Bradshaw of the Commercial Bank, who was much esteemed also to your own knowledge, and I may add to this list of mortality, the late Wm. Thomson Linen Draper, also John Stoupe of Suffolk, these I believe includes all your old acquaintances, thus have paid the debt of nature, since I last wrote you,

As to public news, our papers abounds with it, you will no doubt have learned are this, of a reform meeting held in Manchester on the 16th August last, where the famous Henry Hunt presided, and was attended by 80.000 People at least, the Magistrates of Manchester, in their great wisdom, took it into their heads, to disperse this meeting by force, and without any intemation what ever, charged this vast multitude who were legally met, with a strong body of Horse and foot, the consequence was, that not less than 500 People have been killed and wounded, the principal actors, were the

Colonel Birnie Esqr.
Bear Branch Farry Town
Friends County
Farry Land
America

Q Hope
Cap. Gourney

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