Belfast 10th August 1822

Dear Sir I intended to have written ere long ere this - but knowing you felt anxious as to my prospects I wished to defer till such time - as I had some good news to communicate - I find James Dunlop has good the lead of the Auction business, however I still get a small share - Finding I had too much idle time - I was induced to open a Register Office on the Newyorke plan) so far it has done pretty well - I think the manner I conduct it - aided by my Wife gives general satisfaction -

I have found a great many alterations here - in fact were you to return, you would scarce know this to be the same town, many you left opulent reduced comparatively very low - & those who were in moderate circumstancy, & young men = (in general) our leading men - although Business is very dull still Improvements are ~~carry~~ going on - to add to our comforts &c. Window Tax is repealed - & against us the Salt Tax is taken off in England & Scotland - which will materially affect our Provision trade - the distress is still great in the S. West of Ireland - although

Mr C. Birnie
Liverpool
Care Bruce
Near Innerstown Maryland

Liverpool 25th July 1822

Mr C. Birnie Liverpool 25th July 1822

Dear Sir

I am at a loss to know what to write you this having been the fourth Letter I have wrote you with out having the pleasure of receiving one from you. I cannot imagine that the former letters I wrote you could go safe to hand.

I will again repeat that I wrote you in June 1820 by Capt Webb of the Ship Athens of newyork who took a freight from here to Baltimore I sent by him I think it was one and a half Doz. pairs Cotton Stockings which in your last letter that I did you demand me

Mr C. Birnie
Care Bruce
Near Innerstown Maryland