Mr Birnie Esqr
Near Branch
Frd. Co. Md

Washington City Feby 14th 1826

Dear William

I have received your letter of the 31st ult urging for reasons therein assigned to concur in canceling the agreement subsisting between us and forming another on a different principle. — In the views you have presented I cannot perceive any thing to convince me of the expediency of altering the plan of our arrangement, nor indeed of the necessity for reducing the rate of the percentage, nevertheless if the latter be too high I shall not object to an adequate diminution of it on the fact being made manifest to me. The question whether it be so or not need not now be determined it can be more correctly decided at a future time when longer experience shall have been had — the reduction if any be requisite can be made to operate retrospectively. — To guide my judgment on this point it will be necessary that I should know the amount of all the money you have received or which is due to you for goods sold from the time you opened and of all your expenses distinguishing such of them as are of a nature not to be incurred again, from those incidental

Benj. G. Brent
Washington 23 Feby 1826

Mr Birnie
Near Branch
Frd. Co. Md

Garrison Forest Feb 25. 1826

Dear Father

I am sorry to heaar so many of your lambs are dead but I think if you raise so you will d pretty well I am in Reduction of decimals but we have begun to review for the examination which wile be ~~in a~~ on the ~~exam~~ 24 of next month I believe I have no time sarcely for to cypher because we have to say geography every evening but before I had every other evening to cypher I hope Worthy will not go to Fredrick until I come home I was hunting the other saturday with one of the boys and we caught a large wild boar he kept it again an old tree which it turned again to fight untill I got some body to help to kill it give my love to them all I remain your affect son

Rogers Birnie

Benjamin Brent Esqr
Garrison Forest
Mr Birnie