Mr C. Birnie

Thos Thomson Esq
Feb 26th 1836
Q. B. Darby

Should his answer not be satisfactory, you will observe I have specified the sum which as a compensation I think would be liberal for any risk he might run by establishing me in business please to observe that I include the advance on purchases heretofore made, for instance should the profit accruing to him exclusive of interest not reach that amount, to add the whole thereby making it a common debt on which to pay him six per cent per annum, giving the business entirely up to me, I consulted a friend of mine in this place and a man of business who says a thousand dollars would certainly be more than any reasonable man would be willing to receive under existing circumstances, I wish to have your opinion previous to acting in the matter, as I have determined to act resolutely yet with due courtesy, either to batter to pieces the article of War formed by themselves or fall in the attempt, believing that common Justice demands it of me and a conviction of the importance of acting in the matter without delay, I would thank you to attend to this immediately and return the enclosed with your opinion.

I seen Col. Fitzhugh yesterday he stated to me that he had not yet seen Mr Swearingen but so soon as he does will endeavour to settle your business, he expressed a desire to see your flock of Sheep about the time of increase and intimated that he thought it probable he would pay you a visit, I, in your behalf invited him to do so insuring him an Irish welcome

Please remember me affectionately to Mrs Birnie and [illegible] individual of your kind family, in haste

I Remain Yours
Very Sincerely
Wm C. Thomson

NB perhaps you would advise not to specify any sum.

C. Birnie Esq
Bear Branch