

was late in my transactions with the house before I discovered the peculiarity of the connexion. Abadia's relation to the Philippine Company did not admit of his engaging in a private mercantile house; hence, while a sharer in the advantages, he was exempt from its responsibilities; and hence, all the accounts and business documents were signed exclusively by Arismendi. Had this circumstance been known, as it ought to have been, it would have tended greatly to diminish the general confidence in the house.

Late in the summer of the year 1823, mention was made in one of the Boston newspapers, of the arrival of Senor Arismendi at Hamburg, in the Koscoe of Salem, freighted with a rich cargo for his account from Manila. As I had no doubt of this being my quondam friend, I flattered myself, that, starting immediately, and circumstances favouring, I might reach there before he should have left. Accordingly, in forty-eight hours after receiving the information, I was on my way to New York; and in thirty days more I arrived at Hamburg, *vid* Liverpool, London, Harwich, and Cuxhaven. But I had the mortification to find that my labour was in vain. Arismendi had been landed at Teneriffe; and the cargo of the Koscoe, yet unsold, was well covered, in the name of a Senor Zavaleta, a former clerk of Arismendi, who swore the property belonged exclusively to himself, that it could not be touched. After passing four days at Hamburg, and with the aid of one of the most intelligent merchants of that city, being unable to effect anything, I set out on my return by the same route I had come. Fortunately I arrived at Liverpool just as the packet I came in was hauling out of dock on her return, and, embarking on board, I arrived at New York on the seventy-third day after leaving it.

Towards the autumn of the following year, 1824, I received information of the arrival of Senor Abadia at St. Thomas, and immediately wrote him on the subject of my demand, at the same time apprising him of the means I had previously adopted to recover the amount from Arismendi, and of the failure of my efforts, as detailed above; but whether my letter was ever received by Abadia I have never been informed.

Scarcely two months had elapsed after writing this letter, when I received such information as could be depended on, that Arismendi was at the paternal residence at Zarauz, in Guipuzcoa. I had no hesitation, therefore, in embarking at New York, in December, in a brig bound for Bordeaux. Arriving there some time in the month of January, 1825, I proceeded, *vid* Bayonne, Passage, and Yrun, to San Sebastian. From hence a messenger was dispatched to Zarauz, who soon returned with information, that Arismendi was at Madrid, and with the name of the street where he resided. Taking the diligence, therefore, to Madrid, I had the

good fortune to arrive there without being robbed. The next day I succeeded, not without much difficulty, in finding the person of whom I had been so long in pursuit, and was actually once more in his presence. Had an apparition appeared to him he could not have exhibited greater evidence of astonishment and dismay, nor was it until the expiration of some minutes that he was able to converse rationally. Unfortunately, it required but little conversation to ascertain that my efforts would prove to be unavailing, and that I should recover nothing.

Arismendi had succeeded in obtaining what is termed a *moratoria*, which is a security against molestation of person or property, by creditors, for a certain period. His was for four years. He begged me not to press my demand; declared he had the control of no property, and the wretchedly mean, dirty, and obscure lodgings he occupied, would confirm the truth of such assertion, if made by any other than a very cunning man. But I had no belief in it, and therefore did not desist from the pursuit until satisfied, by repeated conversations with him, and the best advice I could procure, during a residence of a fortnight at Madrid, that there existed not a ray of hope of obtaining anything.

As some alleviation to my disappointment, so far as it tended, in a degree, to keep up hope, Arismendi gave me a power of attorney for the recovery of a large amount of property, alleged to be due to him from sundry merchants in the United States. From a cursory examination of these claims I was induced to believe, that a considerable sum might be recovered, and I therefore flattered myself that there existed some chance of indemnification for my trouble and perseverance.

Soon becoming reconciled to my disappointment, and burying it in the oblivion which screened such a multitude of its predecessors, I passed the time very agreeably at Madrid, in visiting the numerous objects of interest which that city abounds.

Taking leave of my kind friends at Madrid, I returned to Bordeaux by the same route I had passed over before, excepting not revisiting San Sebastian. On ascertaining at Bordeaux, that no opportunity would occur for the United States, for some weeks, I took the diligence to Paris, where, after passing a week, I proceeded to Havre, and took passage in the *Edwards* for New York, and arrived there in the month of April, 1825.

The agency for the collection of another debt is an unacceptable service, more especially when they are of a description susceptible of controversy; but in this instance there existed more than the usual inducement, for I hoped thus to cancel the debt due me. Upwards of one hundred thousand dollars were claimed of Boston merchant, the justice of which he denied, and refusal to pay any part of it. A demand on a merchant at Baltimore, for a much la-

amount, a debt acknowledged by a debtor, who could not pay, and who could not bearance, and would not to my friend's ment. An amount above me from A.

When I recovered to Arismendi Fausto Cornejo, pursuing him, never obtaining of an amount presented to this court person. This would do, from a large demand. Nearly two better, and I only, and my body, he was as himself, spoiled. They lodgings, key, chance, comb, letters, was a cent.

After the meeting had out of my ously been security, a recovery of n, I experienced he which it could as of man as, that is indebted right on a a merchant at any mien of it, t loved, that ayed. With papers, p y, with dir y, at the s receiving at an precipita d persuade giving Aris et of recove nrauit. Th e, was not for want ing from h tions on w