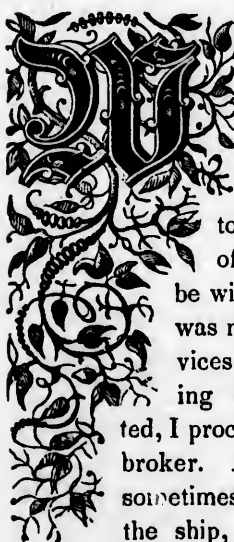


CHAPTER XXXVII.

Visit my Family in Massachusetts—Return to New York—Owners object to my Commission—Left to Arbitrators—Deduct therefrom two and a half per cent.—Disappointed in promised Remuneration—Letter to the President—No Reply—Comparison of this Company with others—Not attributable to the President—Observations on Corporations—Close of my Voyaging—Remarkable fact as respects Loss of Men and Sickness—Loss of Property—Don Pedro Abadia—Don Jose Arismendi—Proceed to Hamburg—Return—Letter to Abadia—Proceed to Bordeaux and Madrid—Interview with Arismendi—Viceroy—Return via Paris and Havre—Arismendi in Boston—Imprisoned—Escape by the aid of a Merchant—His Cunning—Proceed to Havana—Death of Mr. Shaler—Effort to obtain the Consulate—Disappointed—Return to Boston.



WITH the satisfaction naturally resulting from the abundant evidence I had received, that my services were duly appreciated, and during the time the ship was unloading, I absented myself a week to visit my family in Massachusetts. On my return, I found that an objection was made to my charge of ten per cent. on the nett proceeds of freights. I was aware that such a charge might be without precedent; but I was equally aware that it was no more than a just proportion, with the extra services I had rendered; since, independently of obtaining a restoration of the ship, in the manner adopted, I procured all the freights without the intervention of a broker. And when, for collecting their amounts, I was sometimes compelled to employ an agent rather than detain the ship, the commission paid for such service was not charged to account of the owners. Besides, had the graduation of my emoluments been made with any reference to what they would have been, but for the seizure, they would have much exceeded the ten per cent. charged.