

were seized and confiscated, I made sixteen thousand dollars. In the William, which was wrecked on Jutland, I made a profit of five thousand dollars. These sums were embarked in a voyage from Copenhagen to Riga and back, which was performed successfully. Afterwards I was interested in several cargoes of wheat from Holstein to England, which yielded a handsome profit; so that I had once more a capital of about thirty-five thousand dollars. This was embarked in an adventure from England, destined for Hamburgh, and which, owing to the defeat of Napoleon in Russia, turned out nearly a total loss.

Returning home penniless, I had to begin the world again. The peace between the United States and England having been ratified soon after my return, and the then pacification of the world rendering commercial adventures little productive, I gained only five thousand dollars as master and supercargo of a ship to Batavia. By my next voyage in the Beaver, in the years 1817 to 1820, I made seventy-five thousand dollars; and after my return, in an adventure to Peru, in the ship Tea-Plant, with Messrs. LeRoy and Bayard, I made eight thousand dollars. The greater portion of the amount acquired in the Beaver was swept off as detailed, before it reached the United States, and most of the remainder in an unfortunate voyage to China. On my return from Havana, in 1835, I had yet about sixteen thousand dollars. This was all swallowed up in an unsuccessful speculation in 1836, and I was thus a third time left destitute.

On making an estimate of my losses of the twenty years between 1805 and 1825, I find their aggregate amount to exceed two hundred thousand dollars, although I never possessed at any one time a sum exceeding eighty thousand dollars. Under such losses, I have been supported by the consoling reflection, that they have been exclusively mine, and that it is not in the power of any individual to say, with truth, that I have injured him to the amount of a dollar.

With a small annual sum from the Neapolitan indemnity, I have been enabled to support myself, till this was on the point of ceasing, by the cancelling of that debt; when I was so fortunate as to obtain an office in the custom-house, the duties of which I hope to perform faithfully, and in peace, during the few remaining years, or months, or days, which may be allotted me on earth.