

it could not be touched. After passing four days at *Hamburgh*, and with the aid of one of the most intelligent merchants of that city, being unable to effect any thing, 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 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. A copy of my letter to him will best explain my views, as follows.

“LANCASTER, 21st Sept. 1824.

“DON PEDRO ABADIA,

“Dear Sir,—By a letter from our mutual friend, Mr. C., I learn that after many perils and some pecuniary embarrassment, you have arrived safe at *St. Thomas*. On this event permit me to offer you my most hearty congratulations. It was reported last year, that you had arrived at *Porto Rico*; and knowing that you possessed a coffee plantation there, I thought this very probable, and directed several letters to you there, some one of which you may have received. These letters were written with the hope of inducing you to use some effort, or point out some means, by which the confidence I placed in the honor and integrity of your house should not be productive of my ruin. Among various other items, you must be aware that a sum of fifteen thousand dollars, charged me in account, as shipped for me, on board the *Macedonian*, and for which I hold duplicate acknowledgments of *Arismendi*, was never shipped. I will not attempt to describe to you my astonishment, when, after a great lapse of time, I received letters from *Captain Smith* informing me that I had been deceived, and that no property had been shipped with him, either for my account, or that of your house. Independent of other sums, this amount, with five years’ interest, will make an aggregate of upwards of \$20,000, as one item now due me from your house.

“Consider, my dear Sir, that this is the fruit of very hard labor, in the most toilsome profession; and that on the possession or loss of it, is dependent, a life of ease and comfort with my family, or protracted absence, care, and toil, for the rest of my life.