“My son, although commerce is not an occupation which can with complete accuracy be called a skilled craft, yet properly regarded it has its laws just as the professions have. Clever men say that the root of commerce is established in venturesomeness and its branches in deliberateness, or, as the Arabs express it, "Were it not for venturesome men, mankind would perish". What is meant by these words is that merchants, in their eagerness for gain, bring goods from the east to the west, exposing their lives to peril on mountains and seas, careless of robbers and highwaymen and without fear either of living the life of brutal people or of the insecurity of the roads. To benefit the inhabitants of the west they import the wealth of the east and for those of the east the wealth of the west, and by so doing become the instrument of the world's civilization. None of this could be brought about except by commerce…”