Absconding and chasing across the Western Sephardic diaspora
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Oporto and Lisbon, Portugal, and Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Merchants of the Western Sephardic diaspora engaged in travels. Traveling, however, often raised question among their creditors whether the purpose of a travel was really for legitimate business interests or an attempt to abscond with their funds. By examining cases of creditors chasing absconding debtors and the surveillance of debtors in arrears who might be about to flee, my presentation discusses the concepts of residence and absence from one’s place of residence within a diaspora characterized by widespread mobility and secret identities and property. The Western Sephardic diaspora interwove extensive trading networks and early modern commercial techniques required traders to have resident agents overseas or agents to travel abroad. Merchants often travelled themselves for business, but usually to closer marketplaces. During their career, merchants occasionally relocated to different marketplaces for business or training purposes.

Differently from these legitimate business travels mentioned above, merchants who went bankrupt often left home to avoid being imprisoned. While absconding, they bought time and renegotiated terms with creditors in a better position. Meanwhile, creditors endeavor to imprison runaway debtors in arrear and sequester their goods across long-distances and borders. For that purpose, creditors resorted to local and foreign courts and to a wide-ranging information system. Enforcement required locating temporary addresses, containers, warehouses, ship holds, and disclosing business aliases and clandestine trademarks. Diaspora members also moved away for religious, cultural and social reasons. They left the Iberian World for places where Judaism could be openly practiced or at least tolerated and vice-versa.

Hence, a debtor in distress raised suspicion of being about to abscond; and those who could not be located became suspects of not only leaving for “Lands of Judaism” or for “Lands of Idolatry,” but also of commercial dishonest behavior. Both heretical and unethical absences were not clearly evident; and indebted merchants trying to recover assets from third-parties away from home were occasionally imprisoned for attempt to abscond. By analyzing sources from Portuguese Inquisition files, and notarial records from both Amsterdam and Oporto, this presentation examines the tension between legitimate and illegitimate mobility within the diaspora, and widespread surveillance of debtors across long distances.
Sources abbreviations:

Arquivo Distrital do Porto (Oporto District Archives, ADP), Fundos Notariais (Notarial Fonds, NOT), Primeiro Cartório (First Office, PO1), Segundo Cartório (Second Office, PO2). Offices’ abbreviation are followed by the book number.

Portugal National Archives (Torre do Tombo), Holy Office (STO), Inquisition of Coimbra (IC) and Inquisition of Lisbon (IL). Files’ numbers follow the abbreviations IC or IL.

W. C. Pieterse and E. M. Koen (eds.), “Notarial records [deeds] in Amsterdam relating to the Portuguese Jews in that town up to 1639.” In: Studia Rosenthaliana, from 1967 onward. The number given by the editors to each deed follows the abbreviation SR Nr.
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SR Nr. 461 - Protest of non-payment of a bill of exchange in the name of Gaspar Sanches to Garcia Gomes de Vitoria.

1611, February 10

Garcia Gomes de Vitoria, drawee, receives from Gaspar Sanches, payee, a protest of a bill of exchange drawn in Antwerp on January 23, 1611 by Andre de Azevedo for an amount of 102. 10. – p. Flem., to be paid after sight, the value received from Jan de Vooz. Vitoria accepted the bill of exchange on January 27, 1611 and declares to be willing to pay as soon as the distraint levied on the money by a few Portuguese merchants, will have been withdrawn. The notary registers a protest because complaints against the arrest should have been lodged with the judgement seat. Also, Vitoria registers a protest.

SR Nr. 571 - General power of attorney of Garcia Gomes Vitoria in Amsterdam to Abraham Pelt, merchant in Amsterdam to look after his affairs during the period of his stay in Emden and Hamburg.

1612, September 4.
*Not. Arch. 375, fol. 483-484v., Not. Nicolaes and Jacob Jacobs*

SR Nr. 572 - Abandonment of Garcia Gomes Vitoria to Arnout Cobbaut Junior and Anthoni van Diemen of insured goods loaded in the ship "Na. Sra. de Nazare".

1612, September 11.

Garcia Gomes Vitoria in Amsterdam, notifies Arnout Cobbaut Junior and Anthoni van Diemen, insurers, that he abandons to them the goods they insured for a
journey from Brazil to Oporto with the ship "Na. Sra. de Nazaré" of skipper Miguel da Rua from Miragaia, since the ship was seized by privateers.

ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 36, fols. 62-63 (1612-10-8):

Gaspar Marcos Mendes made and granted enough powers of attorney to Francisco Mendes Medeiros and to Cristovão Mendes, his brother, residents in Amsterdam, to allow both together or any one in solidum charge and collect all his debts [credits] and goods from any person and people, who owe him anything by any way be it money, goods from any sort, quantity and quality; and from everything they will charge and collect, any of them may give releases and quittances, public and private, in the manner that should be asked or needed for the security of the people and all will have the same strength in and out of court as if the grantor had received [the amount], given and signed them all; and he, Gaspar Marcos, said that empowered them in the aforesaid manner specially and expressly to charge and collect, and have in their hands, from Garcia Gomes, Portuguese resident in those parts of Amsterdam or wherever he might be, four consignments of goods that he, the grantor, had shipped from this city, and which are worth, in truthful and net account, 511,274 réis. In addition, 110 pounds Flemish that he [Garcia Gomes] collected from insurances. If his attorneys, or any of them, are to receive the aforesaid amounts, or any part of them, the may give to the said Garcia Gomes all the releases and quittances.

ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 36, fols. 63v.–64v. (1612-10-8):

Gaspar Marcos Mendes presented a power of attorney granted by Pedro Nunes Xabe, a resident of Torre de Moncorvo, registered there on February 16, 1611, which empowered Dr. Manuel Barretos, Alvaro Nunes, apothecary, João Martins, son of Marcos Martins, all of them residents of Torre de Moncorvo, as well as Gaspar Marcos Mendes, a merchant, resident of Porto. He empowered them to claim and demand all his rights in court or not, in all his causes, either already filed or to be filed in the future, charge and collect everything due or pertaining to him. Gaspar Marcos Mendes substituted the powers granted to him onto the brothers Francisco Mendes Medeiros and Cristovão Mendes, of Amsterdam, and Garcia Gomes Vitoria “senior” and Domingos Lopes Vitoria, of Porto, in order to to charge from Garcia Gomes, resident in the said Amsterdam, or wherever he might live or be found, both from him and from his goods, wherever these might be, scilicet, the content of a bill of exchange worth 1,306 cruzados that he [Garcia Gomes] drew against the sum received from Pedro Nunes Xabe on Fernão Gomes and Diogo Gomes, residents in this city [Oporto], and on him substituting attorney, Gaspar Marcos Mendes, the said bill of exchange goes protested and re-exchanged;
and to allow them also to charge from him, Garcia Gomes, or from his goods 1,197,572 réis, which he, Gaspar Marcos Mendes, remitted for the account of the said Pedro Nunes Xabe; they may in both *in rem propriam* and [each] *in solidum* charge in the best possible way both amicably or judicially, and all that they are to receive they should give all the releases and quittances, public or private, that might be requested and necessary as if he the substituting attorney or the grantor Pedro Nunes Xabe were present, and he substituted his powers also onto Garcia Gomes Vitoria [senior], citizen of this city and onto Domingos Lopes Vitoria, residents thereof, with the aforesaid powers to all of them ad *in solidum*. So, he wished and granted.

**ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 36, fols. 82v.-83 (1612-10-27):**

Domingos Lopes Vitoria empowered Manuel Lopes Nunes, resident of Amsterdam, and the Licentiates Onofre de Brito, Tome Vaz and Belchior Delgado, lawyers in Porto, as well as the merchants in Porto Fernão Gomes [Mendes], Diogo Gomes [Mendes] and Cristovão Rodrigues to demand all his rights in court or not, in all cases, either already filed or to be filed in the future; and specially he empowered any of these attorneys to charge and collect any amount of money owed to him by anyone in Amsterdam from the insurance that Garcia Gomes Vitoria, who was resident in the said city, made on the behalf of the grantor, Domingos Lopes Vitoria, on an amount of sugar that came from Brazil on his account [the grantor’s] in certain caravels, and which were lost; as well as to charge and collect from anyone all the money and papers these might have in Amsterdam proceeding from the said insurance or related to them.

**SR Nr. 587** - Notice served in the name of Miguel de Pas upon Francisco Mendes de Medeiros concerning the arrest of goods belonging to Garcia Gomes Vitoria.

1612, November 13.


Miguel de Pas, merchant of the Portuguese nation in Amsterdam, has the following notice served upon Francisco Mendes de Medeiros. That same afternoon the latter wanted to put an arrest on goods and moneys belonging to Garcia Gomes Vitoria. Pas answered the town messenger that he has no goods belonging to Gomes Vitoria. He now declares that he does not owe anything to Gomes Vitoria but that on the contrary, the latter has a debt with him. Mendes de Medeiros demands proof of this.
SR Nr. 588 - Notice of Francisco Mendes de Medeiros served upon Miguel de Pas that he is to give proof of his statement of November 13 last in the house of notary David Mostart or of Pieter Bruys, both of whom know Portuguese.

1612, November 14.

SR Nr. 604 - Deed in which Francisco Mendes de Medeiros removes the distraint he had put on goods of Garcia Gomes de Vitoria and in which he withdraws the power of attorney to Jeurian Iserman.

1613, February 5.¹

Francisco Mendes de Medeiros in Amsterdam has a power of attorney from Gaspar Marcos in Oporto to claim a sum from Garcia Gomes de Vitoria. In his place, he authorized Jeurian Iserman, merchant in Emden, to levy a distraint on the goods of Gomes de Vitoria. Since he has been paid by Gonçalo Lopes, the brother of De Vitoria, he declares to remove the distraint and to withdraw the power of attorney to Iserman.

ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 41, fols. 17-18 (1615-5-22):

Gaspar Marcos [Mendes], merchant in Porto grants a power of attorney to Henrique Zacuto, José Francisco, Miguel de Paz and Manuel Lopes, residents in Amsterdam, to charge and collect from Jerônimo da Costa, in Amsterdam, 29,000 réis, or what is to be found in a sentence that has been passed against him in this city [Oporto], which they will present. The deed was neither signed nor registered, and did not had effect.

IC 5593, Luis Nunes:

Confession session on November 2, 1596:

fol. 42
Seven or eight years ago, in the city of Oporto, on a day I cannot remember, nor the month, he was at the house of Bras Gomes, New Christian, surgeon, absent, resident in Lisbon, single, son of master Manuel, already dead, and he does not know in which part of that city he lives. He was in his office with him, and with
Tristão Rodrigues Vila Real, New Christian, merchant who went bankrupt in the city of Oporto and three years ago embarked to Flanders according to what he heard; and Simão Ribeiro, mercer, already dead, son of Panteleão Ribeiro, merchant. Being together the four of them, a woman farmer from outside of the city brought two rabbits to the said Bras Gomes, which she brought because he had treated a wound in the hand of her husband. When the woman was gone, the confitent and the others asked the said Bras Gomes whether he ate from those goods, and he replied that he did not but rather had them sold out, and on this occasion, they disclosed [...] 

IL 3068, Francisco de Caceres 

fol. 31v.

10 He will prove that Henrique Sinel, Flemish, resident in the city of Oporto was a trader and a merchant there, and that he made insurances on carracks and ships be contracted outside the Kingdom. He [the defendant] had the same trade, receiving many merchandise from outside the Kingdom, and prospering. The said Henrique Sinel seemed to resent that. Once, the defendant had a signed posted on the corner of the Rua Nova [main business street] saying that anyone who would like to have an insurance done should go to his place and he would have them done. When the said Henrique Sinel learned about that, moved by hatred and jealousy, he wrote under it that he should provide guarantees that he would not run away, mocking about the fact that he [the defendant] belonged to the [Jewish] Nation, to what he replied 

fol. 32 

to the people who read the said inscription, that he was not a heretic as a partner of the said Henrique Sinel, named Antonio Schot, about which he got very offended and became his enemy [...] 

IL 728, Alvaro de Azevedo 

Impeachment articles: 

fol. 56 

21 He will prove that in the month of August 1618, he, the defendant, was about to leave for this city [Lisbon], and the said Manuel de Andrade came to ask him to
pay a debt related to an insurance saying that he owed him, about which there were many qualms, he, the defendant, asked him to show the papers which mentioned what he owed. Since he had and showed none, he did not pay, about what the said Manuel de Andrade got very irritated with him, the defendant, and said that he already knew him [the defendant] as a thief, who wanted to maliciously default [or, go bankrupt and run away], and many other similar words [\ldots]

fol. 56v.

23 He will prove that Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, and his wife Antonia de Freire, and his brothers and cousins are very suspicious against him, the defendant, because owing the said Paulo Mendes 480,000 réis to him in a bill, the defendant sued him before the royal judge of the city of Oporto (juiz de fora), and after a sentence against him being passed, the judge confiscated a villa and the movable properties therein, which he [the defendant] won in the auction [\ldots]

fol. 57

25 He will prove that João Rodrigues Vila Real, his wife and children, and João Rodrigues, his son in law, are all very suspicious against him the defendant, because five years ago, more or less, owing the said João Rodrigues [Vila Real] to him 180,000 réis, the defendant had him summoned for that; and because the said João Rodrigues complained against that saying words against him the defendant, the defendant swore that he would charge all he could from him and he would not enter again in his account book; since some people asked the defendant not to destroy the said João Rodrigues but rather wait for some while, the defendant did so as long as someone else would pay to him because he would neither trade again with the said João Rodrigues nor would he enter his account book. Thus, he was given a bill from his son in law João Rodrigues [Preto], which he paid later under threat from the court, complaining about what the defendant had done to his father in law, being the cause of his absence, leaving for Brazil, and he [João Rodrigues Preto] having to pay the debt, or most of it. Because of all that, their testimonies should not harm the defendant.

fol. 127v.
Testimony of Manuel Travassos, solicitor, resident on the Rua de Santana, Old Christian, 34 years old.

- About the 23\textsuperscript{rd} article of impeachment, he said that he knew Alvaro de Azevedo for eight years more or less, and that he ran his business [lawsuits], and he know that he filed a lawsuit against Paulo Mendes de Carvalho [...] which he, witness, sued him for an amount of money, whose exact amount he does not remember,
owing to a sentence that the said Alvaro de Azevedo won against the said Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, in result of which, he, the witness, carried out the forfeiture of a villa in Germundi, in the council [district] of Paiva, and because of the litigation over the forfeiture, the said Alvaro de Azevedo and Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, who used to be friends and compadres, became different and did not speak any longer until the time that the said Paulo Mendes de Carvalho went bankrupt and absconded, he does not know where to. He did not know whether for the same reason the defendant stop speaking to his relatives [Paulo’s] as well. He did not say further, except that he has been solicitor of all the lawsuits that the said Alvaro de Azevedo had [..].

ADP, PO1, l. 40, fols. 195v.-196 (1615-7-24 [sic.])

Power of attorney granted by Alvaro do Azevedo, merchant in Oporto, to Father Luis de Bastos and to Licentiate João Pimentel, residents in the port town of Aveiro to defend his rights refering to sentence that the grantor sends with this power of attorney to carry out sequestration and distraint in fifteen cases of sugar or what is to be truly found to belong to Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, resident in this city [of Oporto], arriving to the town of Aveiro on the ship of master Antonio da Rua.

IL 1400, Diogo Lopes Pinto

He will prove that the said Paulo Mendes cousin of the said Paulo Lopes and Luis da Cunha owed many thousands cruzados to many people, and he, the defendant, was one of the firsts to sue him, and for that reason the other creditors rushed, and they also charged him for his debts, and pressed him for them in such a way that he went bankrupt of his credit, and defaulted over twenty five thousand cruzados; and complaining about this, the said Paulo Lopes and Luis da Cunha said that the defendant was the total cause for the said Paulo Mendes to break, and run out of any credit, which resulted great damage which thereon they had relating to the defendant, because He will prove that in addition to the money of the houses that were actioned out, the said Paulo Mendes remained indebted to the defendant and to his brother, Manuel Pinto, and wishing the said Paulo Mendes to settle with the defendant; and other parties; and because the defendant did not agree the other creditors did not
want the said settlement, and did not consent in it, for that reason he left the said city of Oporto, and with the passion [suffering] caused by the defendant he passed away, which increased the hatred his cousins had against the impeacher. For that reason, their sayings are legally null.

ADP, PO2, l. 57, fols. 131-134 (1620-8-3):

Diogo Homem Carneiro, gentleman (fidalgo), citizen of Oporto, and resident in the city on the Rua Nova, and his wife, Dona Ana Calvos, had 8,000 réis of emphyteusis and pension that Manuel Pinto paid them for the house in which he lived. One of the houses had been let in emphyteusis to Paulo Mendes de Carvalho. That house pays one tostão a year in perpetuity as tenure rights to the City Hall of Oporto. That Paulo Mendes de Carvalho turned down the house to merge it with a plot and ruined buildings on the corner of the streets of São Miguel and that which goes to the Taipas. On that place, he built the houses in which now Manuel Pinto and his wife live. Manuel Pinto has the possession of those houses by virtue of a title of the auction in which he won those forfeited houses made in 1615. As a result, Diogo Homem Carneiro and Dona Ana Calvos sell the pension and emphyteusis in the value of 128,000 réis [...]
Manoel Carvalho in Amsterdam, drawee, receives in the name of Miguel de Pas in Amsterdam, holder, a protest of a bill of exchange drawn on September 12, 1614 in Oporto by Paulo Mendes Carvalho, good for 675 crusados (at 110 gr. a crus.) to be paid to João de Pas and Andre de Azevedo for the account of Manoel Nunes from Rome. Carvalho answers that he does not have any goods or money from the drawer and refuses to accept the bill of exchange.

ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 40, fols. 48v.-49 (1615-1-26):

It was said by the him, Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, in my presence and of the witnesses undersigned that it was true that he had sent to Amsterdam, in the states of Flanders [i.e., the Netherlands], twenty cases of sugar, most of them white and the rest muscovados, on the ship Pexepando [sic.] of master Brino [sic.] Volcardsz. consigned to Manuel Carvalho, resident there. Since he had drawn a few bills of exchange on the said Manuel Carvalho, particularly one of 500 cruzados on behalf of Manuel de Andrade, he, Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, said that through this public instrument was content, wished and ordered, which in effect he ordered, the said Manuel Carvalho to pay and satisfy entirely and punctually the aforesaid bill of exchange before any other bills of exchange. And if money will lack, it should fall short in the [payment of the] others rather than of this, according to its content. Furthermore, he said that he granted powers of attorney to Manuel de Andrade and to Jorge and Andé Rodrigues de Andrade, his [Manuel’s] brothers, residents in Antwerp, and to Daniel de Olanda, resident in the said Amsterdam, or to the person who will be the commissioner of the said brothers whose names and aliases whose names will be declared. His attorneys may all together or each by himself in solidum to charge the said five hundred cruzados of the said bill of exchange from the said Manuel de Carvalho on his behalf, the grantor, Paulo Mendes de Carvalho. To everything they are to receive, they may give all the releases and quittances [...] For the fulfilment of everything [clauses of the contract] he, Paulo Mendes de Carvalho, bound his person and all his property, being movables or real estate, present or future, rights and claims about them, and in particular the said sugar he sent to Amsterdam; so that by one thing or another [property] the content of this deed will be fulfilled and will have his due effect, and Manuel de Andrade will be guaranteed on his rights related to it.

SR Nr. 836 - Agreement between Fernando de Valencia and Daniel d'Olanda with Manoel Carvalho concerning the payment of two bills of exchange.
1615, April 23.

Fernando de Valencia and Daniel de Olanda, proxies of Jorge and Andres d'Andrade in Antwerp, declare that they each have a bill of exchange payable by Manoel Carvalho, drawn in Oporto by Paulo Mendes Carvalho for sum of 500 ducats at a rate of exchange of 112 and 111 gr. a ducat, respectively. The bill of exchange of De Olanda was to be paid in Antwerp and a protest of this bill has been drawn up. Manoel Carvalho declares himself willing to pay a sum of 134.17.6 p.

**SR Nr. 1125** - Gaspar Fernandes Trancoso and Francisco Nunes Homem, Portuguese merchants in Amsterdam, declare that Mordechay Zacuto, Portuguese merchant in Amsterdam, owes them 450 and 670 pounds Flemish for delivered goods. Since Mordechay Zacuto is not able to pay, they allow him to pay the capital plus interest in a year, and request the States of Holland and Westfriesland to grant Zacuto “Sureté du corps”.

1617, March 14

**SR Nr. 1175** - Sibrant Cornelisz., also acting for Mardochay Zacuto, hands over to Willem van der Does, sheriff in Amsterdam, an authentic copy of a letter of safe conduct that Zacuto obtained from the States of Holland and Westfriesland on May 24, 1617, asking the sheriff to adhere to it.

1617, June 3

**SR Nr. 1341** - Samana Vides de Galilea, 50 years old, declares at the request of Daniel Perez that when she was in Posna (Poland) about six months ago Mardochay Zacuto took her to a ware-house stored with many bags of wool. Mardochay showed her some wool in a cloth, saying that the wool he had bought was of the same quality without saying from whom he had bought the wool.

February 14, 1618
*Not. Arch.* 381, fol. 65; *Not. J. and N. Jacobs.*

ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 15, fols. 111-112v. (1600-12-14):
Fernão Lopes Lamego, resident in Lisbon, staying in Oporto, arrested in the prison of that city, declared that Manuel Gomes of Aveiro owed him 33,700 réis or what is truly to be found relating to a lawsuit before the royal judge (juiz de fora) of the town of Aveiro. He granted a power of attorney to Domingos Gomes, resident in Aveiro, to claim all his rights in and out of court, in Oporto, Aveiro and elsewhere, and to charge and collect everything that the said debtor owes him.
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ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 36, fols. 62-63 (1612-10-8):

[Gaspar Marcos Mendes] fazia e constituía seus sufficientes e Em todo abundantes p. des ha f. co mendes medejros e ha Cristovão mendes seu irmão residentes em Amstradama para que ambos juntos e quada hum delles insollidum possão cobrar e arrecadar todas suas divididas fazenda de toda ha p. a e p. as que couza alguã per qualq. via lhe dever assj de dr. o como fazenda de toda sorte quanti. de e qualidade q seja e de tudo ho q cobrarem e arrecadarem podera quada hum dar ha[s] paguas e quitaçõens p. cas e razas e da maSR Nr. a q pedidas e necessarjas forem para segurança das p. as que tudo tera ho vigor Em juizo e fora delle q tivera se elle outorg. te tudo dera e assinara e recebera e disse elle g. ar marcos que hos fazia p. des seus na forma sobredita especial e expressamente p. a cobraren e arrecadarem e ha suas mãos haverem de garcia guomez portugues residente naquellas partes de amstradama ou honde quer que Esteja huãs quatro carguaçõens q elle outorg. lhe mandou desta cidade q importarão per verdad. ra e liquida conta quinhentos e onze mil e duzentos e setenta e quatro r´s e allem disso cento e des livras de grossos q elle cobrou dos seguros e sucedendo que recebão elles p. des seus e quada hum delles ha dia copia hatras e qualq. part de dellas poderão dar hao dito garcia guomez todas has paguas e quitanças.

ADP, NOT, PO2, l. 36, fols. 63v.-64v. (1612-10-8):

[...] poderem Cobrar de garcia gomes residente Em dita amstradama ou honde quer que residir e for achado assi delle como de sua fazenda honde quer q Estiver .ss. ho Conteudo Em huã letra que elle passou de contia de mil e trezentos e seis cruzados ha valor do dito p. o nuu´ xabe sobre fernão gomez e diogo guomez m. es nesta cidade e sobre elle sustitujnte g. ar marcos mendes ha quoa letra vay protestada e recambiada e para poderem majs Cobrar delle garcia gomez ou de sua fazenda hum conto e cento e noventa e sete mil e quinhentos e setenta e dous r´s q desta cidade lhe remetteo Elle dito g. ar marcos mendes per Conta do dito p. o nunez
xabe e poderão Caussa propria ambos e jn sollidum cobrar pello melhor modo q seja possivel assj por bem como per justiça e de tudo ho que receberen darão todas has paguas e quitanças p.ças e razas e q pedidas e necessarjas forem assj e da maSR Nr. a q se elle sustitujnte ou ho dito constitujnte p. o nuz´ xabe foram presentes e sustabelleceo majs elle g. ar marcos mendes ha garcia gomez vitoria [senior] cidadão desta cidade e ha d. os lopes victoria nella m. és ha todos e jnsollidum Com hos poderes hatras e assj ho quis e outorgou [...]
IL 3068, Francisco de Caceres

fol. 31v.

10 prov[ara] q Henrique Siner framengo morador na cidade do porto e era tratante e mercador nella e q fazia seguros em naos e navios p.ª fora do reino, e uzando elle do mesmo trato, lhe vinhão m.ª fazendas de fora do rejno e hia hem grande crescim.to o q o dito Henrique Siner tinha e mostrava sintir m.to e entanto q mandado elle r. por hum quartel na quina da rua nova q quem quizesse seguros fosse a caza delle r. e lhos faria e q sabido por o d. Henrique Siner, levado de odio e inveia, lhe pos por bajxo, q desse seegurança de não fogir remoqueandoo de ser da nação, ao q elle respondeu

fol. 32

a gente q lia o d. escrito q. não era erege como era hum compahejro do d. Henrique Siner q se chamava Ant.º Escotte do q m.º se agravou e fez seu imigo [...]

IL 728, Alvaro de Azevedo

fol. 56

21 Provara q no mes de Agosto de 618, estando elle Reo de Caminho para esta Cidade, o d. Manoel dandrade lhe veio pedir q lhe pagace huã divida de h¯u seguro q dis lhe devia, em q avia muita duvida, E elle Reo lhe pedio q lhe mostrasse papeis, pe onde constava q lho devia. E por elle os não ter nem lhos mostrar lhe não pagou, de q o d. M.º dandrade se agastou m.to contra elle R. e lhe dise q ia o conhecia por ladrão, e se queria alevantar cõ sua faz.da e outras palavras semelhantes, E elle R. o tomou pelo braço e o lançou pela porta fora, dizendo q o não castiguava, porq sabia q era h¯u grande tolo per onde por todas as vias seu test.º lhe não deve prejudicar.

fol. 56v.

23 Provara q Paulo mendes de Carvalho, e sua molher Antonia de freire, e seus irmãos E primos são m.º suspeito[s] a elle R, porq.to devendolhe o dito Paulo mendez quatro centos e oitenta mil r´s de sua letra, elle R o demandou por elles perante o Juiz de fora da Cidade do Porto, E depois de aver sentença contra elle, deu penhora a huã quinta E os bens moveis q nella estavão, os quais elle arrematou
a d. quinta, Se veo oponto a cauza D.º Jorge de ssa como 3.º possuidor, E ouve sobre o Cazo muitas demandas pela qual razão o d. Paulo mendes e seu mother E irmãos lhe ficarão cõ odio, e lhe são m.º suspeitos.

fol. 57:
25 Provara q Joam Roiz' villa Real, sua mother e filhos, E Joam Roiz' seu genro, são m.to suspeitos a elle Reo, porq.to avera sinco anos pouco mais ou menos, devendolhe o d. Joam Roiz' 180V – a elle Reo o mandou citar por elles E por o d. Joam Roiz' se queixar disssio dando alguãs palavras contra elle R., elle R. Jurou q avia de cobrar delle tudo enteiram.te como podesse, porq não avia de entrar mais no seu livro; E por alguãs pessoas rogarem a elle R. não não quisesse destruir o dito Joam Roiz', e que lhe eperace alg`u tempo elle R. o fez, cõ tanto que lhe dessem pesso a lhe pagasse porq cõ o dito Joam Roiz' não avia de correr mais, nem avia de entrar no seu livro. E assi lhe deu letra de seu genro Joam Roiz' [Preto], que elle lhe pagou depois, cõ ameaças de Justiça, queixando elle Reo do fez a seu sogro, por ser Cauza de se ausentar, E ir para o Brazil E elle pagar a divida, ou a mor parte della, pelo q seus test.ºs lhe não devem prejudicar.

fol. 127v.
Inquirição de Manuel Travassos, solicitador de causas, m.or na R. de Santana, xv de 34 anos:
- sobre o 23.º art.: “disse que haverá 8 anos que conhecia a Alvaro de Azevedo e lhe corría com seus negocios, E sabia que trouxera huã demanda cõ paulo mendes de carvalho [...] o qual Elle t.a solicitara sobre huã contia de dr.º, q En particular não Esta lembrado de quanto Era, E por virtude da sentença que o ditto Alvaro de azevedo ouve contra o ditto paulo mendes de carvalho E por virtude della [sic.] Elle t.a fazer Execussão En huã quinta sua que Esta en [f. 128] germundi do conselho de paiva E por Rezão da demanda que sobre isto ouve, sendo de antes amigos E compadres o ditto Alvaro de azevedo e paulo mendes carvalho fiquarão diferentes E não correrão mmais ate o tempo que o ditto paulo mendes de carvalho quebrara E se auzentou E não sabe pera onde, E que não sabia se pello mesmo respeito deixara de correr com alguns parentes seus E mais não disse E do costume que fora solicitador de todas as demandas que tivera o ditto Alvaro de Azevedo [...]”
ADP, PO1, l. 40, fols. 195v.-196 (1615-7-24 [sic.])

[...] pera com Elle fazer penhora e embarguo em quinze caxas de açuquar ou has q na verdade se acharem pertencer ha paulo mendes de Carvalho m. or nesta ci. de vindas ha dita villa de avejro no navio mestre ant.o da rua [...] 

IL 1400, Diogo Lopes Pinto

Pr. q o dito Paulo Mendes primo dos ditos Paulo lopes e Luis da cunha como devia tantos mil tt. dos a
4 m. tas pessoas, e elle R. ser dos prim. ros q o citou e damandou pella tal Resão acudirão os demais acreedores [sic.] a quem elle devia e por suas dívidas os demandarão também, e apertarão por ellles de sorte q quebrou de seu credito, e se alevantou com mais de Vinte, e sinquo mil tt. dos, e quaixandosse m. to disto os ditos Paulo lopes, e Luis dacunha, disserão q o R fora a causa total pera o dito Paulo Mendes quebrar, a fiquar de todo sem credito, de q Resultou grandes danos q dali por diante tiverão ao R., porq.

Pr. q alem de o dinheiro das casas em q forão arrematadas ficou o dito Paulo Mendes devendo ao R.
5 embar. te e a seu Irmão M. el pinto, e pretendendo o dito Paulo mendes fazer concerto com o R; e mais p. te, e por elle R o não concentrar da sua p. e as demais pessoas acreedores não quiserão o tal concerto, nem consentirão nelle por cuia causa se absentou da dita

Cidade do Porto, e com paixão q teve cusada pello R faleceo de q os ditos seus primos acrescentarão odio q ia tinhão ao embarg. te. Por onde seus ditos de dir. to são nulos.

ADP, PO2, l. 57, fols. 131-134 (1620-8-3):

Diogo Carneiro e Ana Calvos tinham 8,000 r’s de foro e pensão que Manuel Pinto lhes pagava das casas em que vivia; esta pensão puseram num prazo que fizeram a Paulo de Carvalho em relação a umas casas deles, das quais se paga 1 tostão, para sempre, à câmara do Porto. Este Paulo de Carvalho derrubou estas casas para as
juntar a uns chãos e pardieiros na esquina da R. de S. Miguel e R. que vai para as taipas, no qual local ergueu as casa sem que agora vive Manuel Pinto e a sua mulher. Estas casas possui agora Manuel Pinto por uma carta de arrematação dessas casas feita em 1615. Estando assim na posse das casas, paga de foro anual os sobreditos montantes. Neste seguimento, Diogo Carneiro e Ana de Calvos vendem-lhe esta pensão e foro no valor de 128,000 r’s [...]