

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 11, 1843.

Ordered to be printed.—To accompany bill S. 74.

Mr. HUNTINGTON submitted the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Commerce, to which was referred the memorial of William Russell, report :

That the petitioner, with a crew of six men, sailed from Portsmouth, N. H., on the 21st day of April, 1842, in the schooner Perch of 47 $\frac{2}{5}$ tons, on a fishing voyage, for the season, the said vessel being furnished with salt and other articles necessary for the cod fishery, and in all respects well found and manned for the voyage ; that on the 12th day of the following May, she struck on a ledge, unshipped her rudder, became water-logged, both her masts were cut away, and there were saved about one third of the salt, the sails and rigging, one barrel of flour, one barrel of molasses, and half a barrel of pork. The petitioner asks that he may be allowed the same bounty he would have been entitled to receive, had the schooner completed her fishing voyage and returned to port.

The general, if not invariable practice of Congress, has been to grant relief in such cases. The voyage has been broken up by inevitable accident, the vessel has been lost at sea, and the loss has been nearly total, and public policy and private justice require that the sufferers should not be deprived of the bounty to which they would have been entitled, had no such casualty put an end to the voyage. They accordingly report the accompanying bill.

Thomas Allen, print.

