

their country, have never been paid for the property they then lost, and their representatives now stand where their fathers stood, at the doors of Congress, still waiting for tardy justice."

At the same session, the late Hon. George H. Pendleton, of Ohio, in his masterly and exhaustive report from the Committee on Foreign relations of the Senate, thus alludes to this claim:

"The event out of which the claim arose is most creditable to the valor and skill of American seamen, and in its remoter influences evidently secured victory to the American arms at New Orleans. The accompanying papers will give the narrative, which, in romantic incidents, almost equals a tale of the imagination."

The bill for the relief of the captain, owners, officers and crew of the brig General Armstrong finally passed at this session, April, 1882, appropriating the sum of seventy thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine dollars, which simply was for the actual loss of the owners for the brig, and for the personal loss of the effects of the officers and crew, without interest for sixty-eight years, the period for which the claimants had been awaiting the long delayed justice of this government, and which had been demanded from the government of Portugal.

It is a remarkable and astonishing fact, that through the blunders of the Department of State in illegally distributing this appropriation, a claim is still pending, unadjusted at this late day, for a portion of the sum thus awarded.

This case occupied the attention of all Europe at the time of the unjust award of Louis Napoleon, which was afterward denounced by the Baron de Cussy, of France, in his great work on "International Law and the Rights of Neutrals," in which this case is cited as the most remarkable of the *causes celebres*.