

ARTICLE XVII.—Period of Service for Officers.

The period of service of officers claiming shall commence from the date at which it can be shown that they were employed on duty by competent authority. Provided, always, that if more than one month intervened between the appointment of any officer and his embarkation for Portugal, such officer shall give satisfactory evidence of his having been detained on duty.

ARTICLE XVIII.—Exceptions to Article XVII.

Are excepted from Article XVII.

§ 1. Those who served under "Cotter's" Contract, who, it is therein stipulated, can claim only from the date of their disembarkation.

§ 2. Any officer serving under a special agreement or contract not herein specified, if any clause in such agreement should otherwise define the period of commencing service.

ARTICLE XIX.—Period of Service of Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.

The period of service for all non-commissioned officers and privates (excepting sailors and those engaged in the First Marine Battalion and who joined the fleet) shall commence from the date of their disembarkation in Portugal.

ARTICLE XX.—Form of Claim.

Every officer, non-commissioned officer, private, or sailor, shall present his claim in duplicate, according to the form No. 1, which will be delivered to each claimant on his applying at this office, either personally or by letter. And all documents or supporting vouchers are to be forwarded, together with a fair copy of the same signed by the claimant or his representative, by letter, and to be delivered at the office of the Commission. All letters addressed to the Commission must be pre-paid, or they will not be taken in.

ARTICLE XXI.—Receipt of Claim.

On the delivery of a claim, if in regular form, a receipt will be given for it, on which will be stated the day on which it was received, and the number attached to it on the register of claims.

ARTICLE XXII.—Registry of Claims.

All claims will be entered in the register in the order in which they are received, and they will be successively taken into consideration by the Commission, in that same order.

ARTICLE XXIII.—Days of Registry.

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays shall be allotted, exclusively, for the registration of claims; and no claim will be registered on any other day. Fridays will be allotted for the delivery of the titles to the claimants.

ARTICLE XXIV.—Periods for reception Claims.

The claims of persons residing in London must be sent in within two months from the 10th of July, 1841.

Those of persons resident elsewhere in the United Kingdom, within four months from the same date; those of persons resident in any other part of Europe, within eight months; and those of persons resident in any other part of the world, within twelve months from the above-specified date.

ARTICLE XXV.—Agents.

No agent will be allowed to present more than ten claims for registration on any one day; but, at the end of each of the respective periods of two, four, eight, and twelve months, severally assigned in the next preceding Article, (Article XXIV.,) a grace of ten additional days will be allowed for the reception of all claims, not previously registered, of parties residing within the limits to which each of such prescribed periods applies.

ARTICLE XXVI.—Final Limitation of such Periods.

When the periods defined in Article XXIV., and the ten additional days mentioned in Article XXV., shall respectively have elapsed, no additional claims of persons residing within those limits will be registered for adjudication by the Commission.

ARTICLE XXVII.—Evidence before the Commissioners.

The Commission will decide, in each case, whether they will or will not receive *viva voce* evidence, or explanations from claimants; and, in no case will any claimant or his representative be admitted to a personal interview with the Commission, unless the Commission shall have previously made an appointment with him for that purpose.

ARTICLE XXVIII.—Change of Residence of Claimant or his Agent.

Any change of residence on the part of a claimant or his agent, while his claim is pending before the Commission, must be immediately communicated to the Joint Secretaries to the Commission.

ARTICLE XXIX.—Officers receiving Public Money for Disbursement.

All officers who may have received public money, and have become responsible for the disbursement of such money, by the usages and regulations of military service, will be called upon by the Commission to render a satisfactory account of the application thereof, before their claims shall be taken into consideration, unless they shall have been recognized by the Portuguese Government as having already rendered such an account.