

TITLE XV.

THE NAVY.

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Grades of line officers.

16 July, 1862, c. 183, s. 1, v. 12, p. 583.

21 Dec., 1864, c. 6, s. 1, v. 13, p. 420.

25 July, 1866, c. 231, s. 1, v. 14, p. 222.

SEC. 1362. The active list of the line officers of the Navy of the United States shall be divided into eleven grades, as follows, namely :

First. Admiral.

Second. Vice-Admiral.

Third. Rear-admirals.

Fourth. Commodores.

Fifth. Captains.

Sixth. Commanders.

Seventh. Lieutenant-commanders.

Eighth. Lieutenants.

Ninth. Masters.

Tenth. Ensigns.

Eleventh. Midshipmen.

Provided, That vacancies occurring in the grades of Admiral and Vice-Admiral shall not be filled by promotion, or in any other manner; and that when the offices of said grades shall become vacant, the grade itself shall cease to exist.

SEC. 1363. There shall be allowed on the active list of the line officers of the Navy one Admiral, one Vice-Admiral, ten rear-admirals, twenty-five commodores, fifty captains, ninety commanders, eighty lieutenant-commanders, two hundred and eighty lieutenants, one hundred masters, and one hundred ensigns; and no promotion to the grade of lieutenant-commander shall be made until the number of such grade is reduced below eighty.

SEC. 1364. The provisions of the foregoing section shall not have the effect to vacate the commission of any lieutenant-commander, lieutenant, master, or ensign appointed according to law, in excess of the respective number therein fixed; nor to preclude the advancement of any officer to a higher grade, for distinguished conduct in battle, or for extraordinary heroism, under the provisions of sections fifteen hundred and six and fifteen hundred and eight.

SEC. 1365. During war rear-admirals shall be selected from those officers on the active list, not below the grade of commanders, who shall have eminently distinguished themselves by courage, skill, and genius in their profession; but no officer shall be so promoted, under this provision, unless, upon recommendation of the President by name, he has received the thanks of Congress for distinguished service.

SEC. 1366. During peace, vacancies in the grade of rear-admiral shall be filled by regular promotion from the list of commodores, subject to examination according to law.

SEC. 1367. The Admiral and Vice-Admiral shall each be allowed a secretary, who shall be entitled to the rank and allowances of a lieutenant in the Navy.

2 March, 1867, c. 174, s. 1, v. 14, p. 516. 25 July, 1866, c. 231, s. 6, v. 14, p. 223. 16 May, 1866, c. 84, v. 14, p. 48. 21 Dec., 1864, c. 6, s. 2, v. 13, p. 420.

SEC. 1368. The active list of the Medical Corps of the Navy shall consist of fifteen medical directors, fifteen medical inspectors, fifty surgeons, and one hundred assistant surgeons.

SEC. 1369. All appointments in the Medical Corps shall be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

21 April, 1806, c. 35, s. 3, v. 2, p. 390. 16 April, 1814, c. 58, s. 5, v. 3, p. 125. 24 May, 1828, c. 121, s. 3, v. 4, p. 313.

SEC. 1370. No person shall be appointed assistant surgeon until he has been examined and approved by a board of naval surgeons, designated by the Secretary of the Navy; nor who is under twenty-one or over twenty-six years of age.

SEC. 1371. No person shall be appointed surgeon until he has served as an assistant surgeon at least two years, on board a public vessel of the United States at sea, nor until he has been examined and approved for such appointment, by a board of naval surgeons, designated by the Secretary of the Navy.

SEC. 1372. When any assistant surgeon was absent from the United States, on duty, at the time when others of his date were examined, he shall, if not rejected at a subsequent examination, be entitled to the same rank with them; and if, from any cause, his relative rank cannot be assigned to him, he shall retain his original position on the register.

2 March, 1867, c. 174, s. 1, v. 14, p. 516.
24 Jan., 1873, c. 62, v. 17, p. 418.

Number on the active list.

25 July, 1866, c. 231, s. 1, v. 14, p. 222.

15 July, 1870, c. 295, ss. 9, 10, v. 16, p. 333.

When exceeded.

25 July, 1866, c. 231, ss. 1, 2, v. 14, p. 222.

16 July, 1862, c. 183, s. 9, v. 12, p. 584.

Selection of rear-admirals during war.

16 July, 1862, c. 183, s. 7, v. 12, p. 584.

Promotion of rear-admirals during peace.

16 July, 1862, c. 183, s. 7, v. 12, p. 584.

Secretaries to Admiral and Vice-Admiral.

Medical Corps; number of.

3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 5, v. 16, p. 535.

Appointments in, how made.

Appointment of assistant surgeons.

24 May, 1828, c. 121, s. 1, v. 4, p. 313.

3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 5, v. 16, p. 536.

Appointment of surgeons.

24 May, 1828, c. 121, s. 1, v. 4, p. 313.

Rank of assistant surgeons in case of delayed examination.

3 March, 1835, c. 27, s. 1, v. 4, p. 757.

Surgeon of the fleet.

24 May, 1828, c. 121, s. 2, v. 4, p. 313.

Duties of surgeon of the fleet.

24 May, 1828, c. 121, s. 2, v. 4, p. 313.

Details of medical officers to Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

16 July, 1862, c. 183, s. 18, v. 12, p. 587.

Pay Corps, number of.

3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 6, v. 16, p. 536.

No promotion in certain grades until number is reduced.

15 July, 1870, c. 295, s. 11, v. 16, p. 334.

Appointments, how made.

30 March, 1812, c. 47, s. 6, v. 2, p. 699.

Qualifications of assistant paymasters.

17 July, 1861, c. 4, s. 2, v. 12, p. 258.

Order of promotion.

17 July, 1861, c. 4, s. 5, v. 12, p. 258.

3 May, 1866, c. 72, s. 1, v. 14, p. 43.

Acting appointments on ships at sea.

17 July, 1861, c. 4, s. 4, v. 12, p. 258.

Paymasters of the fleet.

21 Apr., 1864, c. 63, s. 7, v. 13, p. 54.

Bonds.

20 March, 1812, c. 47, s. 6, v. 2, p. 699.

1 March, 1817, c. 24, s. 1, v. 3, p. 350.

22 June, 1860, c. 181, s. 3, v. 12, p. 83.

14 July, 1862, c. 175, s. 1, v. 12, p. 575.

17 July, 1861, c. 4, s. 5, v. 12, p. 258.

3 May, 1866, c. 72, s. 2, v. 14, p. 43.—U. S. vs. Tingey, 5 Pct., 115.

SEC. 1373. The President may designate among the surgeons in the service, and appoint to every fleet or squadron an experienced and intelligent surgeon, who shall be denominated "surgeon of the fleet," and shall be surgeon of the flag-ship.

SEC. 1374. The surgeon of the fleet shall, in addition to his duties as surgeon of the flag-ship, examine and approve all requisitions for medical and hospital stores for the squadron or fleet, and inspect their quality. He shall, in difficult cases, consult with the surgeons of the several ships, and he shall make, and transmit to the Navy Department, records of the character and treatment of diseases in the squadron or fleet.

SEC. 1375. A surgeon, assistant surgeon, or passed assistant surgeon, may be detailed as assistant to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

SEC. 1376. The active list of the Pay Corps of the Navy shall consist of thirteen pay directors, thirteen pay inspectors, fifty paymasters, thirty passed assistant paymasters, and twenty assistant paymasters.

15 July, 1870, c. 295, s. 11, v. 16, p. 334.

SEC. 1377. Until the number of passed assistant paymasters shall have been reduced below thirty, there shall be no promotion to that grade, nor any appointment to the grade of assistant paymaster.

15 July, 1870, c. 295, s. 11, v. 16, p. 334.

SEC. 1378. All appointments in the Pay Corps shall be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

22 June, 1860, c. 181, s. 3, v. 12, p. 83.

3 May, 1866, c. 72, s. 1, v. 14, p. 43.

SEC. 1379. No person shall be appointed assistant paymaster who is, at the time of such appointment, less than twenty-one or more than twenty-six years of age; nor until his physical, mental, and moral qualifications have been examined and approved by a board of paymasters appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, and according to such regulations as he may prescribe.

SEC. 1380. Passed assistant paymasters shall be regularly promoted and commissioned from assistant paymasters, and paymasters from passed assistant paymasters; subject to such examinations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy.

s. 1, v. 14, p. 43.

SEC. 1381. When the office of paymaster or assistant paymaster becomes vacant, by death or otherwise, in ships at sea, or on foreign stations, or on the Pacific coast of the United States, the senior officer present may make an acting appointment of any fit person, who shall perform the duties thereof until another paymaster or assistant paymaster shall report for duty, and shall be entitled to receive the pay of such grade while so acting.

SEC. 1382. The President may designate among the paymasters in the service, and appoint to every fleet or squadron a paymaster, who shall be denominated "paymaster of the fleet."

24 May, 1828, c. 121, s. 2, v. 4, p. 313.

SEC. 1383. Every paymaster, passed assistant paymaster, and assistant paymaster shall, before entering on the duties of his office, give bond, with two or more sufficient sureties, to be approved by the Secretary of the Navy, for the faithful performance thereof. Paymasters shall give bonds in the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, passed assistant paymasters in the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, and assistant paymasters in the sum of ten thousand dollars.

14 July, 1862, c. 175, s. 1, v. 12, p. 575.

17 July, 1861, c. 4, s. 5, v. 12, p. 258.

3 May, 1866, c. 72, s. 2, v. 14, p. 43.—U. S. vs. Tingey, 5 Pct., 115.

SEC. 1384. Officers of the Pay Corps shall give new bonds with sufficient sureties, whenever required to do so by the Secretary of the Navy.

New bonds.

26 Aug., 1842, c. 206, s. 4, v. 5, p. 535.

SEC. 1385. The issuing of a new appointment and commission to any officer of the Pay Corps shall not affect or annul any existing bond, but the same shall remain in force, and apply to such new appointment and commission.

Bond, not affected by a new commission.

3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 6, v. 16, p. 536.

SEC. 1386. Paymasters of the fleet, paymasters on vessels having complements of more than one hundred and seventy-five persons, on supply-steamers, store-vessels, and receiving ships, paymasters at stations and at the Naval Academy, and paymasters detailed at stations as inspectors of provisions and clothing, shall each be allowed a clerk.

Clerks, when allowed.

14 July, 1862, c. 164, s. 3, v. 12, p. 565.

26 May, 1864, c. 96, v. 13, p. 92.

SEC. 1387. No paymaster shall be allowed a clerk in a vessel having the complement of one hundred and seventy-five persons or less, excepting in supply-steamers and store-vessels.

Clerks, when not allowed.

26 May, 1864, c. 96, v. 13, p. 92.

SEC. 1388. Passed assistant paymasters and assistant paymasters attached to vessels of war shall be allowed clerks, if clerks would be allowed by law to paymasters so attached.

Clerks of passed assistant and assistant paymasters.

3 March, 1863, c. 118, s. 5, v. 12, p. 818.

SEC. 1389. It shall not be lawful for any paymaster, passed assistant paymaster, or assistant paymaster, to advance or loan, under any pretense whatever, to any officer in the naval service, any sum of money, public or private, or any credit, or any article or commodity whatever.

Loans to officers by paymasters.

26 Aug., 1842, c. 206, s. 6, v. 5, p. 536.

22 June, 1860, c. 181, s. 3, v. 12, p. 83.

SEC. 1390. The active list of the Engineer Corps of the Navy shall consist of seventy chief engineers, who shall be divided into three grades, by relative rank, as provided in Chapter Four of this Title;

Engineer Corps, number and rank.

3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 7, v. 16, p. 536.

Ten chief engineers;

Fifteen chief engineers; and

Forty-five chief engineers, who shall have the relative rank of lieutenant-commander or lieutenant.

And each and all of the above-named officers of the Engineer Corps shall have the pay of chief engineers of the Navy, as now provided.

One hundred first assistant engineers, who shall have the relative rank of lieutenant or master; and

One hundred second assistant engineers, who shall have the relative rank of master or ensign; and the said assistant engineers shall have the pay of first and second assistant engineers of the Navy, respectively, as now provided.

SEC. 1391. Engineers shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Appointment of.

279, s. 6, v. 5, p. 577. 3 March, 1845, c. 77, s. 7, v. 5, p. 794. 25 July, 1866, c. 231, s. 7, v. 14, p. 223.

SEC. 1392. No person under nineteen or over twenty-six years of age shall be appointed a second assistant engineer in the Navy; nor shall any person be appointed or promoted in the Engineer Corps until after he has been found qualified by a board of competent engineers and medical officers designated by the Secretary of the Navy, and has complied with existing regulations.

Qualifications of

3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 8, v. 16, p. 536.

SEC. 1393. The President may designate among the chief engineers in the service, and appoint to every fleet or squadron, an engineer, who shall be denominated "engineer of the fleet."

Engineer of the fleet.

21 April, 1864, c. 63, s. 7, v. 13, p. 54.

SEC. 1394. Cadet engineers who are graduated with credit in the scientific and mechanical class of the Naval Academy may, upon the recommendation of the academic board, be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate as second assistant engineers.

Cadet engineers.

4 July, 1864, c. 252, s. 2, v. 13, p. 393.

31 Aug., 1842, c. 279, s. 6, v. 5, p. 577.

- Chaplains, number and appointment of. SEC. 1395. There shall be in the Navy, for the public armed vessels of the United States in actual service not exceeding twenty-four chaplains, who shall be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.
 21 April, 1806, c. 35, s. 3, v. 2, p. 390. 16 April, 1814, c. 58, s. 5, v. 3, p. 125. 4 Aug., 1842, c. 121, s. 1, v. 5, p. 500.
- Qualifications of. SEC. 1396. A chaplain shall not be less than twenty-one nor more than thirty-five years of age at the time of his appointment.
 14 July, 1862, c. 164, s. 7, v. 12, p. 565.
- Form of worship. SEC. 1397. Every chaplain shall be permitted to conduct public worship according to the manner and forms of the church of which he may be a member.
 1 June, 1860, c. 67, s. 1, v. 12, p. 24.
- Annual report. SEC. 1398. Chaplains shall report annually to the Secretary of the Navy the official services performed by them.
 1 June, 1860, c. 67, s. 1, v. 12, p. 24.
- Professors of mathematics, number of. SEC. 1399. The number of professors of mathematics in the Navy shall not exceed twelve.
 3 Aug., 1848, c. 121, s. 12, v. 9, p. 272. 31 May, 1872, c. 240, s. 1, v. 17, p. 192.
- Appointment. SEC. 1400. Professors of mathematics shall be appointed and commissioned by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.
 3 Aug., 1848, c. 121, s. 12, v. 9, p. 272.
- Duties. SEC. 1401. Professors of mathematics shall perform such duties as may be assigned them by order of the Secretary of the Navy, at the Naval Academy, the Naval Observatory, and on board ships of war, in instructing the midshipmen of the Navy, or otherwise.
 3 Aug., 1848, c. 121, s. 12, v. 9, p. 272.
- Naval constructors, number and appointment of. SEC. 1402. The President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may appoint naval constructors, who shall have rank and pay as officers of the Navy.
 25 July, 1866, c. 231, s. 7, v. 14, p. 223. 3 March, 1871, c. 117, s. 9, v. 16, p. 536.
- Assistant naval constructors. SEC. 1403. Cadet engineers who are graduated with credit in the scientific and mechanical class of the Naval Academy may, upon the recommendation of the academic board, be immediately appointed as assistant naval constructors.
 4 July, 1864, c. 252, s. 2, v. 13, p. 393.
- Duty. SEC. 1404. Naval constructors may be required to perform duty at any navy-yard or other station.
 3 March, 1845, c. 77, s. 2, v. 5, p. 794.
- Warrant officers, number and appointment of. SEC. 1405. The President may appoint for the vessels in actual service, as many boatswains, gunners, sailmakers, and carpenters as may, in his opinion, be necessary and proper.
 21 April, 1806, c. 35, s. 3, v. 2, p. 390. 4 Aug., 1842, c. 121, s. 1, v. 5, p. 500. 3 March, 1847, c. 48, s. 1, v. 9, p. 172.
- Title. SEC. 1406. Boatswains, gunners, carpenters, and sailmakers shall be known and shall be entered upon the Naval Register as "warrant officers in the naval service of the United States."
 2 July, 1864, c. 219, s. 2, v. 13, p. 373.
- Promotion of seamen to warrant officers. SEC. 1407. Seamen distinguishing themselves in battle, or by extraordinary heroism in the line of their profession, may be promoted to forward warrant officers, upon the recommendation of their commanding officer, approved by the flag-officer and Secretary of the Navy. And upon such recommendation they shall receive a gratuity of one hundred dollars and a medal of honor, to be prepared under the direction of the Navy Department.
 17 May, 1864, c. 89, s. 3, v. 13, pp. 79, 80.
- Seamen may be rated as mates. SEC. 1408. Mates may be rated, under authority of the Secretary of the Navy, from seamen and ordinary seamen who have enlisted in the naval service for not less than two years.
 3 March, 1865, c. 124, s. 3, v. 13, p. 539. 17 May, 1864, c. 89, s. 3, v. 13, p. 79.
- Rating shall not discharge from enlistment. SEC. 1409. The rating of an enlisted man as a mate, or his appointment as a warrant officer, shall not discharge him from his enlistment.
 3 March, 1855, c. 124, s. 3, v. 13, p. 539. 17 May, 1854, c. 89, s. 3, v. 13, p. 79.

SEC. 1410. All officers not holding commissions or warrants, or who are not entitled to them, except such as are temporarily appointed to the duties of a commissioned or warrant officer, and except secretaries and clerks, shall be deemed petty officers, and shall be entitled to obedience, in the execution of their offices, from persons of inferior ratings.

SEC. 1411. The Secretary of the Navy may appoint, for temporary service, such acting assistant surgeons as the exigencies of the service may require, who shall receive the compensation of assistant surgeons.

SEC. 1412. Officers who have been, or may be, transferred from the volunteer service to the Regular Navy shall be credited with the sea-service performed by them as volunteer officers, and shall receive all the benefits of such duty in the same manner as if they had been, during such service, in the Regular Navy.

SEC. 1413. The President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may appoint a civil engineer and a naval store-keeper at each of the navy-yards where such officers may be necessary.

SEC. 1414. The Secretary of the Navy may appoint citizens who are not officers of the Navy to be store-keepers on foreign stations, when suitable officers of the Navy cannot be ordered on such service, or when, in his opinion, the public interest will be thereby promoted.

SEC. 1415. Every person who is appointed store-keeper under the provisions of the preceding section shall be required to give a bond, in such amount as may be fixed by the Secretary of the Navy, for the faithful performance of his duty.

SEC. 1416. The Secretary of the Navy is authorized, when in his opinion the public interest will permit it, to discontinue the office or employment of any measurer and inspector of timber, clerk of the yard, clerk of the commandant, clerk of the store-keeper, clerk of the naval constructor, and the keeper of the magazine employed at any navy-yard, and to require the duties of the keeper of the magazine to be performed by gunners.

SEC. 1417. The number of persons who may at one time be enlisted into the Navy of the United States, including seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, mechanics, firemen, coal-heavers, apprentices, and boys, shall not exceed eight thousand five hundred.

SEC. 1418. Boys between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years may be enlisted to serve in the Navy until they shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years; other persons may be enlisted to serve for a period not exceeding five years, unless sooner discharged by direction of the President. [See § 1624; Art. 19.]

SEC. 1419. Minors between the age of sixteen and eighteen years shall not be enlisted for the naval service without the consent of their parents or guardians. [See § 1624; Art. 19.]

SEC. 1420. No minor under the age of sixteen years, no insane or intoxicated person, and no deserter from the naval or military service of the United States shall be enlisted in the naval service.

SEC. 1421. Any person enlisted in the military service of the United States may, on application to the Navy Department, approved by the President, be transferred to the Navy or Marine Corps, to serve therein the residue of his term of enlistment, subject to the laws and regulations for the government of the Navy. But such transfer shall not release him from any indebtedness to the Government, nor, without the con-

Petty officers.

17 July, 1862, c. 204, s. 13, v. 12, p. 610.

Acting assistant surgeons.

15 July, 1870, c. 124, s. 6, v. 13, p. 539.

Volunteer officers transferred entitled to credit for volunteer sea-service.

2 March, 1867, c. 174, s. 3, v. 14, p. 516.

Civil engineers and store-keepers at navy-yards.

61, s. 1, v. 15, p. 69. Store-keepers on foreign stations.

3 March, 1847, c. 48, s. 3, v. 9, p. 172.

17 June, 1844, c. 107, s. 1, v. 5, p. 700.

Store-keepers' bond.

3 March, 1847, c. 48, s. 3, v. 9, p. 172.

17 June, 1844, c. 107, s. 1, v. 5, p. 700.

Civil offices at yards may be discontinued by Secretary of the Navy.

10 Aug., 1846, c. 176, s. 1, v. 9, pp. 98, 99.

Enlisted men, number of.

17 June, 1868, c. 61, s. 2, v. 15, p. 72.

Thompson, 2 Spr., 103.

Term of enlistment.

2 March, 1837, c. 21, s. 1, v. 5, p. 153.

Consent of parents and guardians.

2 March, 1837, c. 21, s. 1, v. 5, p. 153. 3 March, 1865, c. 79, s. 18, v. 13, p. 490.

Persons not to be enlisted.

3 March, 1865, c.

Transfer from military to naval service.

1 July, 1864, c. 201, s. 1, v. 13, p. 342.

sent of the President, from any penalty incurred for a breach of military law.

Men sent home at expiration of term.

17 July, 1862, c. 204, s. 17, v. 12, p. 610.

Wilkes vs. Dinsman, 7 How., 125.

Subject to regulations while sent home or detained.

17 July, 1862, c. 204, s. 17, v. 12, p. 610.

Limit of detention.

17 July, 1862, c. 204, s. 17, v. 12, p. 610.

What to be contained in shipping articles.

17 July, 1862, c. 204, s. 17, v. 12, p. 610.

Honorable discharge, to whom granted.

7 June, 1864, c. 111, v. 13, p. 120. 2 March, 1855, c. 136, s. 1, v. 10, p. 627.

Form of honorable discharge.

2 March, 1855, c. 136, s. 1, v. 10, p. 627. 7 June, 1864, c. 111, v. 13, p. 120.

SEC. 1422. It shall be the duty of the commanding officer of any fleet, squadron, or vessel acting singly, when on service, to send to an Atlantic port of the United States, in some public or other vessel, all petty officers and persons of inferior ratings desiring to go there, at the expiration of their terms of service, or as soon thereafter as may be, unless, in his opinion, the detention of such persons for a longer period should be very essential to the public interests, in which case he may detain them, or any of them, until the vessel to which they belong shall return to such Atlantic port.

SEC. 1423. All persons sent home, or detained by a commanding officer, according to the provisions of the preceding section, shall be subject in all respects to the laws and regulations for the government of the Navy, until their return to an Atlantic port and their regular discharge.

SEC. 1424. Persons so detained by a commanding officer, or re-entering to serve until the return to an Atlantic port of the vessel to which they belong, shall in no case be held in service more than thirty days after their arrival in said port.

SEC. 1425. The shipping articles shall contain the substance of the three sections next preceding and of section fifteen hundred and seventy-two.

SEC. 1426. Honorable discharges may be granted to seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, firemen, coal-heavers, and boys who have enlisted for three years.

SEC. 1427. Honorable discharges shall be granted according to a form prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy.

CHAPTER TWO.

GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO OFFICERS.

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SEC. 1428. The officers of vessels of the United States shall in all cases be citizens of the United States.

Citizenship. 28 June, 1864, c. 170, s. 1, v. 13, p. 201.

Report of men entitled to honorable discharge.

2 March, 1855, c. 136, s. 1, v. 10, p. 627.

SEC. 1429. It shall be the duty of every commanding officer of a vessel, on returning from a cruise, and immediately on his arrival in port, to forward to the Secretary of the Navy a list of the names of such of the crew who enlisted for three years as, in his opinion, on being discharged, are entitled to an "honorable discharge" as a testimonial of fidelity and obedience; and he shall grant the same to the persons so designated.