

COLUMBIA DIRECTORY,

FOR THE

Year Commencing January 1st, 1856.

MINING LAWS OF COLUMBIA DISTRICT.

ART. 1. The Columbia Mining District shall continue for want of water, or by sickness or unavoidable accident, the presence upon the ground embraced within the following bounds, viz: of the tom and sluices, or such machines as are beginning at a point on the upland, adjoining employed in working the claim, shall be considered as sufficient evidence that the ground is not the south fork of the Stanislaus River, opposite abandoned, and shall serve instead of other notice; the "Passo del Pino," running in an easterly direction, in a line with and including a ravine the bounds of the claim, still being defined, except so far as the marks may have been obliterated by the work that has been performed.

known as Experimental Gulch, to the head of said gulch; thence following the height of land, so as to include Yankee Hill diggings, to a point within fifty feet of Wood's Creek; thence down said creek to the road leading from Saw Mill Flat to Kelly's Ranch; thence north-westerly to a spring on a gulch running southerly from Santiago, which spring is the easterly corner of the Springfield district; thence in a direct line to the site of McKenney's old store; thence in a direct line to the Lawnsdale Saw Mill; thence following the height of land around the head of Saw Mill Gulch, so called, to the head of Dead Man's Gulch; thence following a small ditch of the T. C. W. Company to the point where it intersects the Gold Hill ditch; thence in a direct line to the head of Fox Gulch; thence down said gulch, in a line parallel with and including it, to a point within five hundred feet of the south fork of the Stanislaus; thence along the upland adjoining the south fork, to the place of beginning.

ART. 2. A full claim for mining purposes on the flats or hills in this district, shall consist of an area equal to that of one hundred feet square. A full claim on ravines shall consist of one hundred feet running on the ravine, and of a width at the discretion of the claimant,—provided it does not exceed one hundred feet.

ART. 3. No person shall hold more than one full claim within the bounds of this district; nor shall it consist of more than two parcels of ground, the sum of the area of which shall not exceed the area of one full claim; provided nothing in this article shall be so constructed as to prevent miners from associating in companies to carry on mining operations; such companies holding no more than one full claim to each member.

ART. 4. A claim may be held until three days after water can be procured at the usual rates, by distinctly marking its bounds by ditches; by sinking a ditch its entire length, suitable for toiling purposes, and for draining the ground; or by the erection of good and sufficient stakes at each corner, with a notice at each end of the claim, indicating the intention of the parties holding it, followed by the names of the claimants in their own hand writing.

ART. 5. When a party has already commenced operations upon a claim, and are obliged to dis-

continue for want of water, or by sickness or unavoidable accident, the presence upon the ground embraced within the following bounds, viz: of the tom and sluices, or such machines as are employed in working the claim, shall be considered as sufficient evidence that the ground is not abandoned, and shall serve instead of other notice; the bounds of the claim, still being defined, except so far as the marks may have been obliterated by the work that has been performed.

ART. 6. Claims shall be forfeited when parties holding them have neglected to fulfil the requirements of the preceding articles, or have neglected working them within three days after water can be procured to work said claims, at the usual rates, unless prevented by sickness or unavoidable accident, or unless the miners shall have provided by special law to the contrary.

ART. 7. Earth thrown up for the purpose of extracting the gold therefrom, shall not be held distinct from the claim from which it was taken, but shall constitute part and parcel of such claim, and shall be deemed equivalent to the number of superficial feet contained in the excavation; such earth may be held for the space of six months from the excavation, by surrounding it with loose stones, chapparral bushes or other agencies, and by the erection of a stake in the center, bearing a notice indicating the intention of the party holding it, followed by the name of the claimant in his own hand writing.

ART. 8. Earth thrown up under circumstances detailed in article 7th of the laws, and in conformity with the provisions of said article, shall be held as private property, and parties trespassing upon the same, shall be deemed guilty of petty larceny, and upon due conviction, shall be punished accordingly.

ART. 9. Water flowing naturally through gold bearing ravines, may not be diverted from its natural course without the consent of parties working on said ravine, and when so diverted, it shall be held subject to a requisition from any party interested.

ART. 10. None but Americans or Europeans who have or shall declare their intentions of becoming citizens, shall hold claims in this district. But foreigners shall have until the first of November next, to declare their intentions.

ART. 11. Neither Asiatics nor South Sea Islanders shall be allowed to mine in this district, either for themselves or for others.

ART. 12. Any person who shall sell a claim to an Asiatic or a South Sea Islander, shall not be allowed to hold another claim in this district, for the space of six months.

ART. 13. All Mining Laws heretofore in existence in this district are hereby repealed.