STOREY COUNTY. – GOLD HILL MINING DISTRICT.

MINERS' MEETING AT GOLD HILL

At a meeting of the miners of Gold Hill, held on Saturday, June llth, 1859, A. G. Hammack was appointed Chairman, and V. A. Houseworth, Secretary.

The Chairman briefly explained the object of the meeting, after which, Judge Crane, in a brief and cogent speech, gave an account of his labors and exertions as Delegate of Nevada to Congress.

On motion of V. A. Houseworth, it was unanimously

resolved, that we fully endorse the citizens'proceedings of Carson City, of June 6th.

On motion of B. F. Little, it was unanimously

resolved, that the Chair appoint five Delegates to meet at Carson City, Eagle Valley, on June 20th, to appoint Delegates of this District to be elected by the people, to the Convention to be held at Genoa, Carson Valley, on the 18th day of July ensuing, to consider the public good.

The Chair appointed V. A. Houseworth, J. A. Osborn, Jas. F. Rogers, L. S. Bowers and Capt A. A. Parker said Delegates

It was unanimously

resolved, that we, the miners of Gold Hill, in demonstration of respect to Judge Crane, for his manly and distinguished services as Delegate to Congress, entitles him to our highest considerations.

The following preamble, rules and regulations were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The isolated position we occupy –far from all legal tribunals, and cut off from those fountains of justice which every American citizen should enjoy, renders it necessary that we organize, in body politic, for our mutual protection against the lawless and for meteing out justice between man and man. Therefore, we the citizens of Gold Hill and vicinity do hereby agree to adopt the following rules and laws for our government:

ARTICLE lst. There shall be elected one Justice of the Peace, one Constable, and one Recorder of this District, for the term of six months.

ARTICLE 2d. The duty of the Justice shall be to issue all subpoenas, summons', warrants, attachments, etc., as may be required, to try all civil and criminal cases, and award such judgments as the evidence of the case or the decision of the jury may require.

ART. 3d. The duty of the Constable shall be to serve all precepts emanating from the Court, keep in Custody all prisoners for crimes or misdemeanors until convicted or acquitted, act as a conservator of the peace and inflict all penalties that may be awarded against offenders.

ART. 4th. The duty of the Recorder shall be to keep in a well bound book a record of all mining claims, that may, be presented for record, with the names of the parties locating or purchasing, the number of feet, where situated, and the date of location or purchase; also, return a certificate for said claim or claims.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 1st. Any person who shall wilfully and with malice aforethought take the life of any person, shall, upon being duly convicted thereof, suffer the penalty of death by hanging.

SEC. 2d. Any person who shall wilfully wound or maim another, shall, upon conviction thereof, suffer such penalty as the Jury may determine.

SEC. 3d. Any person found guilty of robbery or theft, shall, upon conviction, be punished with stripes or banished, as the Jury may determine.

SEC. 4th. Any person found guilty of assault and battery, or exhibiting deadly weapons in a threatening manner, shall, upon conviction, be fined or banished, as the Jury may determine.

SEC. 5th. No banking games, under any consideration, shall be allowed in this district, under the penalty of final banishment from the district.

SEC. 6th. The same fees shall be allowed in the Justice and Constable as those allowed in California, the fees to be paid by the parties litigant, and the Court by the laws as laid down in the California Statutes, so far as applicable.

SEC. 7th. Evidence of record of claims shall be considered title in preference to claims that are not recorded, nor shall the Recorder record more than one hill, dry gulch or ravine claim in the name of an individual, unless the same has been purchased.

SEC. 8th. All claims shall be carefully defined by a stake at each end of the claim, with the number of members forming said company and the number of feet owned.

SEC. 9th. All claims shall be worked or the notice renewed in sixty days from the day of record, and no claim shall exceed two hundred feet square, hill claims excepted, which may reduced to fifty feet front.

SEC. 10th. The Recorder shall be allowed the sum of twenty-five cents for recording the claim of each individual or member of a company.

SEC. 11th. No Chinaman shall be allowed to hold a claim in this district.

SEC. 12th. This district shall include all the territory from the meridian of John Town to Steamboat Valley.

SEC. 13th. All quartz claims shall not exceed three hundred feet in length, including the depths and spurs.

SEC. 14th. Any person or persons discovering a quartz vein shall be entitled to an extra claim, on all veins he or they may discover.

SEC. 15th. All persons holding quartz claims shall actually work to the amount of $15 to the share, within ninety days from the time of locating.

SEC. 16th. All persons holding quartz claims and complying with Section 15th, shall hold the same for the term of 18 months as actual property.

SEC. 17th. All quartz claims shall be duly recorded within thirty days from the time of locating.

SEC. 18th. No person shall locate more than one claim on a vein discovered.

SEC. 19th. Any and all persons locating for mining purposes shall have the same duly recorded within ten days from the time of locating.

SEC. 20th. *Resolved,* that the above rules and regulations shall be signed by the citizens of this district, and all who may locate hereafter.

On motion, it was unanimously

resolved, that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the "Territorial Enterprise," in Carson Valley.

J. A. Osborn was duly elected Justice of the Peace; Jas. F. Rogers, Constable; V. A. Houseworth, Recorder.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

A.G. HAMMACK, Chairman.

V.A. HOUSEWORTH, *Secretary.*

FIGURE 1. — Record of proceedings of miners' meeting at Gold Hill, Storey County, 1859 (King, 1885, p. 508-509)