

CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
QUINEBAUG GOLD COMPANY,  
OF KILLINGLY AND NEW LONDON.

[February 22, 1849.]

Whereas the recently acquired Territory of California offers to the adventurer an ample field for enterprise and industry, and whereas we the undersigned having concluded upon an expedition to that Territory, to the intent of there engaging in such pursuits as may be most profitable and for the advancement of our interests, —having also purchased the Schooner ALFRED, of New London, for the purpose of conveying us to that distant region, now then in order to secure to each of our number by the combined energies of all, the protection of life, health and property, do hereby mutually agree each with the other, to unite ourselves into a joint stock company, and for our Government do adopt and ratify the following Articles of Association:

1st. This Association shall be called the "*Quinebaug Gold Company*," and shall consist of not less than twenty-five nor more than thirty members, who shall each contribute to the general fund the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars.

2d. A good moral character and a good physical condition shall be essential qualifications for membership in this Association.

3d. The officers of the company shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Directors, who shall be chosen from among the members of the company, by a majority of all the

votes cast, and whose term of office shall continue for the space of one year from the date of their election.

4th. The officers of the vessel shall consist of a Captain, Mate, Second Mate and Supercargo, to be chosen from among the members of the company, and shall possess the same powers guaranteed to officers at sea, by the maintained laws and regulations of the United States.

5th. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the company, to see that all the officers of the company perform their respective duties, to give the casting vote on all matters or questions before the meetings of the company, and to draw upon the Treasurer for such sums and at such times as the Board of Directors shall require.

6th. The Vice Presidents shall assist the President in the performance of his duties, and in case of his absence or inability, the discharge of his duties shall devolve upon the 1st Vice President, and in case of the absence or inability of both President and 1st Vice President, they shall devolve upon the 2d Vice President.

7th. The Secretary shall keep the accounts of the company, and a true record of the proceedings of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may require.

8th. The Treasurer shall receive all monies due this company, and shall hold and safely keep subject only to the order of the President, all monies and other valuables belonging to the company, and shall keep a full and correct account of all monies received and expended.

9th. The Board of Directors of which the President shall be the chairman, shall

have the general management and supervision of the business of the company.— They shall see that all the regulations of the same are enforced and observed, and as often as the company may require, shall report the financial condition of the same. They shall have power to call a meeting of the company at any time they may deem necessary, and shall at any time call a meeting at the written request of five members.

10th. The books of the Secretary and Treasurer shall at all times be open to the inspection of each member of the company.

11th. Each member of the company shall on or before the 5th day of February, A. D. 1849, pay to the Treasurer the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, and the money thus raised shall constitute the capital of the company, and each member shall be entitled to an equal share of the profits of the company, and shall be a joint and equal owner in the vessel and property purchased with the money thus raised.

12th. Members of the company taking goods to California for the purpose of trading, shall pay to the company the freight on the same, and in the disposal of them, shall submit to such regulations as the company shall require.

13th. Any member who shall voluntarily leave the company on the voyage to California, or after our arrival there, without the consent of two-thirds of the members, shall forfeit to the company all right and title to any and every interest in the company or the property thereof.

14th. The company shall have power by a two-thirds vote of all the members, to expel any member for drunkenness, dishonesty, or other immoral conduct, and



when any member shall be thus expelled, shall pay to him the amount estimated to be due him at the time of his expulsion—the same to be decided by a committee of three, chosen from among the members of the company.

15th. In case of the sickness of any member, it shall be the duty of the Board of Directors, at the expense of the company, to see that all proper care be taken of him, and everything in their power done that will tend to his comfort, and the re-establishment of his health.

16th. In case of the death of any member of the company, his accounts shall be made up to the date of his decease, and the amount due him be transmitted to his heirs, executors or assigns without delay.

17th. If any individual furnishing funds for another person to become a member of this company, in order to share the profits of the same, his interest shall be recognized and protected by the company, provided a copy of the contract between the parties is deposited with the Secretary.

18th. The company shall make a settlement of its affairs at the end of three months after commencing operations in California, and at that time, each member may draw one quarter of the nett profits due him at that time, and at the end of every succeeding three months a like settlement shall be made.

19th. The Sabbath day shall be observed as a day of rest, and no unnecessary labor shall be performed therein.

20th. These articles shall remain in full force for the space of two years from the date hereof, unless altered or amended, which may be done at any time by a vote of two-thirds of all the members.