

SETTLE A DISPUTE



Since there were no laws set up in California before the miners came out, there were many disputes between the settlers. Help settle this dispute between a hardworking miner and Sam Brannan the businessman!



SAM: You owe me money because you found gold on my property. According to this contract I wrote up, I am to be paid twenty percent of the worth of any gold found on my land.*

JONAS THE MINER: I don't owe you nothin'! I got here first and had been mining in this here spot for weeks before you set up your store just inches away from my tent. I never agreed to anything!



In your opinion, who is right?

Sam

Jonas the miner

If this dispute were to go to court, who do you think would win?

Sam

Jonas the miner

Circle your answer.

Come up with a compromise that both Jonas and Sam can agree on.

Run out of space? Feel free to continue on the back of this page.

*Fun fact: Sam Brannan is real, but this situation isn't. Sam sure was ruthless, but we just made this scenario up. We wouldn't put it past him to do something so lowdown, though.

