

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Thomas Dretton, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of John M. Carley, former John M. Carley, for 200 Acres of 1/16th Section 18, T. 14 N., R. 18 W., testifies as follows:

Ques. 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?

Ans. My name is Thomas Dretton, my age is 63 years. My Post-Office address is Paul, Mo.

Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim?

Ans. Yes, well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim.

Ques. 3.—Is said tract within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade or business?

Ans. Said tract is not within the limits of any incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, nor is it in any way used for trade or business.

Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of this land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.

Ans. The character of the land is prairie, and has been used for growing crops for many years.

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead, and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?

Ans. Claimant settled upon the homestead, May, 16th, 1899, and she established actual residence, about September, 16th, 1899.

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)

Ans. Claimant and family have resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing actual residence thereon.

Ques. 7.—For what period or periods has the settler been absent from the land since making settlement, and for what purpose; and if temporarily absent, did claimant's family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?

Ans. Settler was absent from the homestead from July 12th, 1901, to October 14th, 1901. She was not absent at any other time except for a day or a day and night at a time occasionally for the purpose of getting supplies for her family, and to get medical treatment for her infirmities on the homestead, she did not leave at that time.

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated, and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?

Ans. Settler has cultivated 10 acres of the homestead, and attempted to raise crops thereon two seasons. She has used said land for growing crops, which

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land, and what is their value?

Ans. The improvements on the land are: 1. Log house 14x24 feet; 2. Log stable, 14x16 feet; 3. One room house, 8x10 feet; 4. Builder's workshop, 11x16 feet; 5. One room house, 10x10 feet; 6. One room house, 10x10 feet; 7. One room house, 10x10 feet. Their value is \$2,000.

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead?

Ans. There are no indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead.

Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?

Ans. Claimant has not mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead.

Ques. 12.—Are you interested in this claim; and do you think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry?

Ans. I am not interested in this claim, and I do think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.) Thomas Dretton

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed and was sworn to before me this 16th day of May, 1904, at my office at Saring in Rectorship County, Missouri.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.] C. D. DeLaughter County Judge

(The testimony of witnesses must be taken at the same time and place and before the same officer as claimant's final affidavit. The answers must be full and complete to each and every question asked, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)

Handwritten note: This is for going purpose only.