

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Edward J. Whipple, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Sarah A. Begg, Dec 12, 1891, for S. 12, T. 24, R. 18, testifies as follows:

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

Ans. My name is Edward J. Whipple age 27 yrs. Post Office Burlington

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

Ans. I am well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in this claim.

Question 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 an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, nor is it used for trade or business.

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

Ans. The character of this land is prairie, devoted to farming, grazing and

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

Ans. Sarah A. Begg settled upon the homestead in the Spring of 1889, and established her actual residence thereon at that time.

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

Ans. Sarah A. Begg is a widow, residing on the land a short time, then went to Iowa on a visit, and on her return at that time she also took all the improvements on the land, and she also died in August 1891.

Question 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. She went to Iowa in July 1890 was taken sick, she never returned but died in August 1891.

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

Ans. Sarah A. Begg and I have cultivated the land and raised crops on it each season since she settled on the land in the Spring of 1889.

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

Ans. There was a house built on the land in the Spring of 1889, value \$50.00.

Question 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead? (If so, describe what they are, and state whether the land is more valuable for agricultural than for mineral purposes).

Ans. There are no indications of coal, salines or minerals of any kind on this homestead to my knowledge.

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

Ans. She has been in possession of said homestead, mortgaged, sold or contracted for sale to my knowledge.

Question 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 think the claimant has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.) Edward J. Whipple

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 7th day of September 1897, at my office at Gering, in Scott Bluff County, Nebraska.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.] C. W. Foul

Clk. of the District Court

(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 mistake in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)