

(4-300.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Leonard Sparks, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Clarence H. Johnson for W. S. Decker's Township 20th Twp. 45th R. testifies as follows:

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

Answer. Leonard Sparks, age 45, Post Office Hull

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

Ans. Yes well acquainted with claimant and his land

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. It is not on any city or selected site or 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. Land is prairie & grazing

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

Ans. Claimant settled upon land and established actual residence in part of 1884

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 family has resided continuous on land

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 has not been absent over a month each year, but he provides for his family. Family resides on land & cultivated land.

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 15 acres and raised crops each year

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

Ans. House 10x30, value \$200. Stable 10x16, value \$75. Cows 200. Well & land hull \$150. Fence 100. Total value \$595

Ques. 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 or mineral

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

Ans. Claimant has not mortgaged or sold to my knowledge

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 claim. Think settler has acted in good faith

(Sign plainly with full christian name.) Leonard Sparks

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 8th day of April 1896, at my office at Harrisburg, in Banner County, Nebraska.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

Dustin E. Shafte
Not. Pub. & Dist. 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 mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)