

(4-369.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

Alfred Smith, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 2704, for E 2 3 2 1/4 Sec 34 T 21 R 58, testifies as follows:

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

Ans. My name is Alfred Smith, age 44 years, Post Office Caldwell, Mo.

Ques. 2.—Are you a native born citizen of the United States, and if so, in what State or Territory were you born?\*

Ans. I am a Native born Citizen of the Western State, and born in the State of Iowa

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 2704, at Sidney, Mo land office on the 1st day of April 1892, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the identical person who made homestead entry No 2704, at the Sidney, Mo. office on the 1st day of April 1892 for E 2 3 2 1/4 Sec 34 T 21 R 58

Ques. 4.—When was your house built on the land and when did you establish actual residence therein? (Describe said house and other improvements which you have placed on the land, giving total value thereof.)

Ans. My house was built on the land in July, 1892 and established actual residence therein at that time. My house is built of logs 12x24 with L 15x20 Sides of logs 14x22, Sheds 14x70. Some miles of wire fence, etc. value \$1000

Ques. 5.—Of whom does your family consist; and have you and your family resided continuously on the land since first establishing residence thereon? (If unmarried, state the fact.)

Ans. My family consists of wife and five children and my self and family have resided continuously on the land since first establishing residence thereon.

Ques. 6.—For what period or periods have you been absent from the homestead since making settlement, and for what purpose; and if temporarily absent, did your family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?

Ans. I have been absent six months each year during the years 1894, 1895 & 1896, for the purpose of earning money to run from this place and to support my family. It was impossible to support my family on this claim.

Ques. 7.—How much of the land have you cultivated each season and for how many seasons have you raised crops thereon?

Ans. I have not cultivated any land for the reason this land is not adapted to agricultural use. It is only fit for grazing purposes.

Ques. 8.—Is your present claim within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade and business?

Ans. My present claim is not within the limits of an incorporated town or site for a city or town or used in any way for trade or business.

Ques. 9.—What is the character of the land? Is it timber, mountainous, prairie, grazing, or ordinary agricultural land? State its kind and quality, and for what purpose it is most valuable.

Ans. The character of the land is rough grazing land, most valuable for grazing purposes.

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals, of any kind, on the land? (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 land to my knowledge.

Ques. 11.—Have you ever made any other homestead entry? (If so, describe the same.)

Ans. I made H. E. of E 2 3 2 1/4 Sec 34 T 21 R 58. I think that abandoned the same and received no benefit therefrom.

Ques. 12.—Have you sold, conveyed, or mortgaged any portion of the land; and if so, to whom and for what purpose?

Ans. I have not sold, conveyed, or mortgaged any portion of the land.

Ques. 13.—Have you any personal property of any kind elsewhere than on this claim? (If so, describe the same, and state where the same is kept.)

Ans. I have a milk and 8 horses in a pasture in the State of Missouri.

Ques. 14.—Describe by legal subdivisions, or by number, kind of entry, and office where made, any other entry or filing (not mineral,) made by you since August 30, 1890.

Ans. I have made no entry of any kind since August 30 1890, except this Homestead.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.) Alfred Smith

\* (In case the party is of foreign birth a certified transcript from the court records of his declaration of intention to become a citizen, or of his naturalization, or a copy thereof, certified by the officer taking this proof, must be filed with the case. Evidence of naturalization is only required in final (five-year) homestead cases.)