

(4-369.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Simon Ritchie, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Mary J. Wagy formerly Mary J. Wagy ^{Widow of} James Wagy ^{deceased} S.W. 1/4 Sec 10, 20-6-7, testifies as follows:

- Question 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
 Answer. Simon Ritchie age 62 P.O. Hull Nebraska.
- Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in ^{her} ~~his~~ claim?
 Ans. I am well acquainted with both
- 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 within the corporate limits of a city or town or selected site of a city or town and is not 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. It is Prairie farming & Grazing land
- Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?
 Ans. She established her residence on the land about 6 years ago or a little over.
- Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)
 Ans. She has resided continuously on the land since date of entry
- 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. They have not been absent from the place more than a few nights about 3 different times since making settlement. She has resided there continuously since settlement.
- Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?
 Ans. She cultivated 12 acres of the land to crops and raised crops each year since 1897
- Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land and what is their value?
 Ans. Well there's a frame house 14 x 18, log house 12 x 14, stable, barn & wire fences breaking 12 acres. Well 52 ft of the value of 300.00
- 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, salines, or minerals on the land
- Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?
 Ans. She has not mortgaged, sold or contracted to sell any portion of the land 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 the claim, and think she has acted in entire good faith in perfecting the entry.

Simon Ritchie

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 9th day of July 1894. at my office in Scotts Bluff County Nebraska

O. W. Gardner
 County Judge

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]
 (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.)