

(4-300.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

William J. Merrihue, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Washington S. Bookbinder for N. 6 Sec 25 T. 46 R. 58, testifies as follows:

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

Answer William J. Merrihue, Age 48 years, P.O. Hall, Neb.

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

Ans. I am.

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.

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

Ans. It is prairie land but adapted for grazing.

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

Ans. He settled on the homestead and established his actual residence thereon on March 2^d 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 is an unmarried man, he has resided continuously on the land except was absent three or four times.

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. He was absent three or four times from one to five months at a time only temporarily at work to secure means to improve his claim.

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

Ans. He had 13 acres in cultivation in 1884 and has planted from 13 to 18 acres each season for five seasons has raised any crop and failed by reason of drought four seasons.

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

Ans. Frame house, 14 by 18 ft. Dwell. Stable, 12 by 20 ft. Corn crib, 18 ft. 6 in. in Cultivation. I value total improvements at \$400 to \$500.

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. No indications of coal, salines, or minerals.

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

Ans. He has not.

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 have no interest in the claim, and think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry.

William J. Merrihue

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 5 day of March 1894.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

J. M. Montgomery
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.)