

(4-360.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

Washington S. Bookwalter, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 1278, for N.E. Sec 25, T. 20, R. 58, testifies as follows:

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

Ans. Washington S. Bookwalter, Age 35 years old, P.O. Hulls Nbr

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 United States and was born in the State of Ohio

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 1278, at the Sidney land office on the 12 day of November 1888, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the identical person who made said entry. The North East Quarter of Sec. 25, Township 20, Range 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. I built my house in February 1888. Established my actual residence therein on the 20th day of March 1888. I have a frame house 14 ft high, 20 ft wide, 12 ft deep, with corner 18 ft in cultivation. I have a well 50 ft deep.

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. I am unmarried. I have resided continuously on the land except about 4 times was away, but not to exceed 10 days.

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 was absent at 4 different times temporarily at work to get money to improve the place. I was never absent at any time for more than one or two months, as far as I can remember.

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 cultivated 13 acres in cultivation in 1888, and have planted crops each season for five years, raised one crop and planted by myself.

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. It is not.

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. Barren land, most valuable for grazing.

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. No indications of coal, salines or minerals.

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

Ans. I have never made any other homestead entry.

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 claim.

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 no personal property elsewhere than on this claim.

Washington S. Bookwalter

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the claimant before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 5 day of March 1888.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

A. M. Humphrey
County Clerk

* (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.)