

(4-300.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

James A. Nelson, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 2450, for Sec. 18, T. 20 N., R. 57 W. testifies as follows:

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

Ans. James A. Nelson, age, 71 years, Danvers, Iowa

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. 2450, at the land office on the 27 day of June

1897, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the same person; my claim is described as the North East Quarter, Section 18, Township 20 North, Range 57 West

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 first house was built in the fall of October, 1885, and was a small log cabin, 12 ft. by 14 ft., with a gable roof, and a chimney. It was built on a small patch of land, and was the only building on the land at that time. I have since built a new house, 12 ft. by 14 ft., with a gable roof, and a chimney. It was built on a small patch of land, and was the only building on the land at that time. I have since built a new house, 12 ft. by 14 ft., with a gable roof, and a chimney. It was built on a small patch of land, and was the only building on the land at that time.

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 myself. I and my family have resided continuously on the land since settlement, and for what purpose; and if temporarily absent, did your family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?

Ans. I have not been absent since settlement

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 20 acres each season, and have raised

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 claim is not within the limits of any incorporated town, or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade and 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 land is of the prairie character, and is most valuable for growing grain.

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 on the land.

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 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 no personal property except as the law requires.

Ans. James A. Nelson

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the claimant before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 6th day of June 1897

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

* (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.)