

(4-360.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

Sylvester M. Dretter, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 2288, for S. E. 4 Sec. 23, T-20, R. 5-7<sup>W</sup> testifies as follows:

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

Ans. Sylvester M. Dretter - 26 yrs, Horryington, 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. Yes Iowa

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 2288, at the Sidney land office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Jan 1892 and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. Yes. S. E. 4 Sec. 23 - T-20<sup>W</sup> R. 5-7<sup>W</sup>.

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. In Jan, 1888, 4/10<sup>th</sup> Jan 12, 1888  
Sod house 16<sup>00</sup> 8<sup>00</sup> Stable 4<sup>00</sup> Breaking  
30<sup>00</sup> fencing 4<sup>25</sup> Other improvements 25<sup>00</sup> total value 300<sup>00</sup>

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. Unmarried, Yes

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. Not been absent excepting one period from Jan 13 to June 17, 1892, away to work.

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

Ans. Eight acres each year. - Five seasons

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. No No No

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. Prarie farming and grazing land

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,

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

Ans. No

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

Ans. No,

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. No,

Sylvester M. Dretter

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the claimant before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 18 day of February 1892

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

S. B. Shumway  
County Judge

\* (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.)