

Before the U. S. Land Office, at Sidney, Nebraska.

State of Nebraska.)

(S.S.

County of Banner. )

Miss. Ida. L. Eckerson., being first duly sworn upon oath according to law, deposes, and says, that she is the same person who made Homestead Entry, dated March, 5th, 1889., for the South Half, of the South East Quarter, and the South Half of the South West Quarter, of Section 24, Township 19, Range 56., and that she entered said land for the purpose of taking up her residence thereon, and cultivating the same, and in all respects perfecting said Homestead Entry, under the laws of the United States, about the middle of August., 1889., and that she fenced about 140 acres of said land between the time of her entry thereon, and the following spring, to-wit: the spring of 1890., and that at the time of her entry she constructed thereon a house made partly of logs, and lumber, and partly dugout; and that she cultivated five acres of said land for two years successively, to-wit: in the years 1890, and 1891 and that during the year 1890 she sowed wheat in that land cultivated as aforesaid, but that owing to drouth the crop was a failure and that in the year 1891., she planted a crop consisting of oats, potatoes, and garden vegetables, and that in consequence of drouth all of said crop was a total failure: And Affiant deposes, and says, that owing to said failures, and her inability to support herself from the proceeds of said land she was obliged to abandon the same in the year 1892., since which time she has <sup>not resided upon, or</sup> exercised *any* control or right of possession over the same, nor derived any benefit therefrom, and owing to said abandonment has had no interest therein.

Affiant also avers that she has not relinquished said land for any compensation, or promise of compensation, but in good faith owing to her inability to support herself thereon, and for the purpose of exercising her right under the act of Congress relat-