

(4-369.)

# HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

George W. Kessler, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 11475, for S.W. 1/4 Sec 27 T.20 R.57 testifies as follows:

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

Ans. George W. Kessler Age 46 Post Office Dorrington, N. W.

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 was born in the State Ohio

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 11475, at the North Plain, Nebraska land office on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1896, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the same person the land claimed is the S.W. 1/4 Sec 27 T.20 R.57

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 house and established residence on March 20<sup>th</sup> 1897. Established actual residence at that time. Real house 14x24 ft. stable 14x30 2 cellars 12x14 1/2, also 2 porches.

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 two children have resided on the land continuously.

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. We have never been absent from the land since establishing residence on the land. The land has been cultivated each season.

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

Ans. Thirty five acres in six years and it is in crop at present.

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 Sir 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. Prairie and farming 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. None whatever.

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

Ans. None 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. No Sir.

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. None whatever.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the claimant before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1898.

[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 (see page) homestead cases.)