

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

Edwin J. Whipple being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 3172, for S. 71st Lots 1, 2, 3 & 6 of 20th Range 57th N. testifies as follows:

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

Ans. My name is Edwin J. Whipple Age 27 years Post Office address Evening

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 Illinois

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 3172, at the Evening land office on the 17th day of May 1893, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the identical person who made Homestead entry No 3172, at the Evening, Mo. Land Office on the 17th day of May 1893 for the S. 71st Lots 1, 2, 3 & 6 of 20th R. 57th N.

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 house was built on the land in September & October 1893 and I established my actual residence thereon at that time. Said house is built of logs with thing lumber 14x18. Other improvements are Stables 14x26, Chicken House 8x12, Cornshells, well, Cane

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 one child. My self and family resided continuously on the land up to June 1st 1893 I was appointed Deputy Co. Treasurer and my duties as such

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 have been absent from the Homestead since June 1st 1893 I was appointed Deputy County Treasurer of Scott Bluff County, Mo. and my absence has been for the purpose of performing my duties as such officer

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 22 acres of the land for two seasons and 4 acres one season and raised corn thereon two 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. My present claim is not within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town

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 character of this land is prairie devoid of timber, grazing land suitable for agriculture

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 of any kind on the land to my knowledge

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 of any kind elsewhere than on this claim except some household furniture which is in Evening, Missouri

Ques. 14.—Describe by legal subdivisions, or by number, kind of entry, and office where made, any other entry or filing (not mineral,) made by you since August 30, 1890.

Ans. I have made no other entry of any kind since August 30 1890

(Sign plainly with full christian name.)

Edwin J. Whipple

* 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.