

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Edwin J. Whipple, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Baltzer Eikenberry for NW. 1/4 Sec. 32 T. 21. R. 57, testifies as follows:

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

Ans. Edwin J. Whipple, age 51 years, Postoffice Gering, Nebraska.

Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim?

Ans. I am well acquainted with claimant and land in his claim.

Ques. 3.—Is said tract within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade or business? Said tract is not in limit of incorporated

town or selected site of city or town or used for trade or business

Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of this land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.

Ans. It is ordinary prairie land, most valuable for grazing purposes.

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead, and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?

Ans. The settler settled on his homestead and established his actual residence thereon during the month of April 1895.

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)

Ans. Settler and family have resided continuously on the land since established his residence except a portion of each year.

Ques. 7.—For what period or periods has the settler been absent from the land since making settlement, and for what purpose; and if temporarily absent, did claimant's family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?

Ans. On account of great age the settler has resided with his children during the winter months

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated, and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon? Settler has cultivated and raised crops on the homestead for

two seasons since date of entry; On account of drought farming was not a success, and he afterwards used the land for pasture.

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land, and what is their value?

Ans. Log House 8x12, Log stable 14x14, well and land all fenced. Improvements are worth about \$150.00

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead? (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.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?

Ans. Claimant has not sold, contracted to sell or mortgaged any portion of the land to my knowledge.

Ques. 12.—Are you interested in this claim; and do you think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry? I am not interested in this claim and think the settler has acted in good faith in perfecting his entry.

Ans. Settler has acted in good faith in perfecting his entry.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.)

Edwin J. Whipple

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed and was sworn to before me this 18th day of November 1901, at my office at Gering in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

J. M. Hunt

Clerk of District Court.

(The testimony of witnesses must be taken at the same time and place and before the same officer as claimant's final affidavit. The answers must be full and complete to each and every question asked, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)