

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

James E Beach, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 699, for W 1/2 SW 1/4, SE 1/4 SW 1/4, Sec 1, T24N, R37E, T3, N

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

Ans. James E Beach, age, 58 years, Po address, Mitchell, Nebraska

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 Ohio

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 699, at the Sidney land office on the 24th day of March 1898 and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the same person; my land is described as the W 1/2 SW 1/4, SE 1/4 SW 1/4, Sec 1, T24N, R37E, T3, 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 said tract in the month of August 1888 and I established actual residence therein. The 15th of said month, I put a well on said tract, 28 ft by 50 ft, 8 inches, 3 manholes. There are also 26 ft by 35 ft, and 28 ft by 150 ft, corn pits, 12 ft by 14, chicken house, 12 ft by 16 ft, corn crib, 12 ft by 18 ft, 18 ft by 20 ft, 60 ft by 90 ft, 60 ft by 100 ft, 14 acres, breaking

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 six children. My family have resided continuously on the tract. I have been away some

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 away during the last year, three months, to care for my family. My family resided on, and cultivated the land during my absence

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 14 acres each season; and have raised crops thereon

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. The tract is not within the limits of any town or city, or used in any way for trade and business

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 tract is of good prairie, and is most suitable for grazing purposes

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 on the tract

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 homestead

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 except what I keep on the tract

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the claimant before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 2nd day of December 1898

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.] W H Mitchell, U. S. Commissioner at Sidney, Nebraska

* (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.)

collected note of proof

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