

(4-360.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

Benjamin F. Stone, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 1860, for SW 1/4 Sec 29, Twp 29, R. 57, testifies as follows:

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

Ans. Benjamin F. Stone, Age 54, Russell P.O., Harrington, Neb.

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 of Indiana

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 1860, at the

Sidney land office on the 30 day of

July 1889, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the identical person who made said entry South West Quarter, Sec. 29, Twp 29, R. 57 or

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 my house in August and established my actual residence therein September 9th 1889. Log house 16x26 ft. Log stable 16x30 ft. shed, log corral 40x40 ft. well 30 ft. deep in cult. 130 acres, valued at \$2500. Improvements near \$800.

Ques. 5.—Of whom does your family consist; and have you and your family resided continuously on the land since first establishing residence therein? (If unmarried, state the fact.)

Ans. Myself, wife and one child, we have resided on the homestead continuously since first establishing same.

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 never been absent, only temporarily on business for a day or two at a time.

Ques. 7.—How much of the land have you cultivated each season and for how many seasons have you raised crops thereon? 30 acres in cultivation, and have raised 30.

Ans. At 25-30 of crops for my family and occasional, raised one crop before making entry.

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. 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 farming and grazing 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. No indication of coal, salines, or minerals.

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

Ans. I filed one homestead in 1883 on 1/4 Sec 35, Twp 29, R. 11—(Oto Co. Neb.)

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 this 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 elsewhere.

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 not filed, or made an entry of any kind since August 30th 1890.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.)

Benjamin F. Stone

* (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.)