

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Edwin J. Whipple being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Henry Preston N. 1/2 Sec. 7. S. 1/4 of Sec. 7. S. 1/2 SW. 1/4 Sec. 7. T. 20. R. 57. testifies as follows:

Ques. 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
 Ans. Edwin J. Whipple, age 30 years, Postoffice Gering, Nebr.
 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 entry.
 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 in not in limit of town or select-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 grazing land.

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead, and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?
 Ans. Claimant settled on his homestead and established actual residence thereon during the month of May, 1896.

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 is unmarried, and has resided continuously on the land since establishing his residence thereon.

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. Settler has only been absent to transact the ordinary business of a farmer or ranchman.

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 five acres of the land for 4 seasons since making entry.

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land, and what is their value?
 Ans. Log house 12x12, cattle sheds 26 yards long, well windmill and reservoir, and one mile of 2 wire fence, all worth \$450.00.

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. Not 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.

(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 19th day of April, 1901, at my office at Gering in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

Edwin J. Whipple
 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.)