

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Clark B. Whipple, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of John E. Smith for S² N¹⁶ W² Lot 1 & 2 18-20 1/4 - S² 7^{1/2} E⁴, testifies as follows:

- Question 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
 Answer. Clark B. Whipple, Age 57 years, 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 the claimant in this case and the land embraced 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?
 Ans. Said tract is not within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, nor is it in any way 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. Rolling prairie most suitable for grazing purposes.
- Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?
 Ans. Claimant settled some time in the fall of 1888, and established residence some time during the month of December 1888.
- Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)
 Ans. Claimant and family has resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing 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 not been absent from the land since making settlement, except to transact the ordinary business of a farmer.
- Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?
 Ans. Settler has cultivated ten acres of the homestead and has raised crops thereon for 12 years.
- Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land and what is their value?
 Ans. Good house 14 x 22 feet with ell 14 x 16 feet - a table 15 by 24 feet - one well, windmill, 125 rods of wire fence. Total value of improvements \$800.00.
- 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 of any kind on the homestead.
- Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?
 Ans. Claimant has not mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell any portion of said homestead to the best of 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?
 Ans. I have no interest in this claim and I think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry.

Clark B. Whipple

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 15th day of November 1891

E. S. DeLaMotte
 County Judge

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

(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.)