

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT

Henry Preston being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No. 3544, for N. 1/2 SE. 1/4 Sec. 7. T. 20. N. 1/2 SW. 1/4 Sec. 8. T. 20. N. R. 57. W. testifies as follows:

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

Ans. Henry Preston, age 50 years, Postoffice Hull, Nebr.

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 naturalized citizen of the United States.

Ques. 3.—Are you the identical person who made homestead entry, No. 3544, at the Sidney land office on the 26th day of December, 1895, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

Ans. I am the identical person who made H. E. 3544 at the Sidney Land office, December 26th 1895 for the N. 1/2 SE. 1/4 of Sec. 7. and the N. 1/2 SW. 1/4 Sec. 8. T. 20. N. R. 57 W.

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 on the land during the month of May, 1896. Log house 12x14, well, windmill and Reservoir, cattlesheds 17x9 yards in length, and one mile of 2 wire fence. I consider improvements worth \$400.00

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. I am unmarried, and have resided continuously on the land since first establishing residence thereon.

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 absent from the homestead only to transact the ordinary business of a ranchman and farmer.

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

Ans. land for 4 seasons since date of 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. My present is not in limit of town or selected site of city or town or used for trade or 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. It is ordinary 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. There are no indication of coal, salines or minerals on the land.

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

Ans. I made homestead entry in Sec. 33. T. 21. R. 57 in 1890 and relinquished the same to the United States.

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 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 cattle that runs on the range in the vicinity of my claim.

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 made no other entry of any kind since Aug. 30th 1890.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.)

Henry Preston

\* (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.)