

(4-369.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Benjamin F. Stone, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of John Lewis for 6² S W 4 Lots 3 & 4, Sec 34 46 20 R. 57, testifies as follows:

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

Answer: Benjamin F. Stone Age 55 years 16, P. O. Hartington Neb.

Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim?

Ans. Yes

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. It is not

Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of this land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.

Ans. It is prairie farming & grazing land.

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?

Ans. He settled on the land in March, established his actual residence in his home about the 17th day of March 1893

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)

Ans. He is unmarried, he has lived on the claim continuously except about 2 months

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. He was temporarily absent about two months at one time

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?

Ans. He has 15 acres in cultivation and has raised crops thereon each season since being

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land and what is their value?

Ans. Brick house 14 x 20 ft. Stable 16 x 24, corn crib, well, all the place under fence, 15 acres in cultivation. I value the improvements at \$2100.

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. None

Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?

Ans. He has 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?

Ans. Settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry

(Sign plainly with full christian name.)

Benjamin F. Stone

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 12 day of November 1894, at my office at Hartington in Banner County, Nebraska

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

A. H. Humphrey
County Judge

(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 in each and every question asked, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)