

HOMESTEAD, PRE-EMPTION, AND COMMUTATION PROOF.
TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

(The testimony of two witnesses, taken separately, in addition to the testimony of claimant, is required in each case.)
(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.

Question 1.—What is your true name (christian and surname), given in full, your age, residence, and present post-office address?
(Give description of land on which you reside, quarter-section, township, and range.)

ANSWER. *Thomas Gifford — Age 65 years — Residence
P. O. Sec. 3 — Town 18 — Range 57 —
P. O. Clyde Banner County Neb.*

Ques. 2.—What is your present occupation, and where and by whom have you been employed since *Sept. 1886* the date of claimant's alleged settlement on said tract?

Ans. *Farmer — I have never been employed by any one since Sept. 1886.*

Ques. 3.—Are you related to claimant or to his wife, interested in this claim, or are you connected with him in business of any kind?

Ans. *No.*

Ques. 4.—How far from the residence of claimant, on said tract, do you reside, and how long have you lived there?

Ans. *One half mile — Sept. 1886.*

Ques. 5.—Give the names and residences of two or more persons living nearer to the claimant of this tract than yourself. If none are nearer than you, give the names of two or more next nearest, and state the land on which they reside.

Ans. *W. A. Gifford — Sec. 2 — T. 18 — Range 57 —
J. H. Hart — Twp. 18 — Range 57*

Ques. 6.—How long have you known *Richard Gifford*, the claimant, for whom you appear as a witness, where has he been living since you first knew him up to the present time, and is he the identical person he represents himself to be?

Ans. *Since Sept. 1886 — Res. Banner County — Yes.*

Ques. 7.—Are you well acquainted with the land embraced in this claim? Give correct description thereof; also state the extent of your knowledge, and how you know what you affirm.

Ans. *Yes —
South West quarter Sec. 35 — Town 18
Range 57. — By the section line*

Ques. 8.—How often have you been on this tract of land since claimant's alleged settlement thereon, at what time or times, and when did you last see him on the land?

Ans. *About every 10 days — Nov. 1886.*

Ques. 9.—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. *No.*

Ques. 10.—State specifically the character of this land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.

Ans. *General agricultural land.*

Ques. 11.—Are there any indications of coal, minerals, or salines on this land?

Ans. *No.*

Ques. 12.—Is it within any stock range or fence or other inclosure? If so, give the names of the parties owning or in any manner controlling such inclosure or range.

Ans. *No.*