

To secure the recognition of claims of the second class, the papers held by agents or attorneys must be forwarded to this Office in order that a critical examination of the same may be made, upon which, if found admissible, they will be returned to the proper parties duly certified as to their sufficiency, and may thereafter be accepted by Registers and Receivers when presented for location.

If it shall appear that the party has already used his additional homestead privilege, or if, from any other cause, the right cannot be admitted, the parties will be promptly advised of the facts in each case.

The third class embraces those rights yet remaining in the hands of the parties originally interested, which have never been presented for satisfaction or made the subject of transfer or agency. To secure these rights it is required that a full recital of military service be presented to this Office, with due proof of the identity of the party making the claim, and with proper reference to his original homestead entry, giving the name of the district office, date and number of entry, and description of the land. In addition, a detailed statement, under oath, must be filed by the party in interest, setting forth the facts respecting his right to make the entry, and containing his declaration that he has not in any manner exercised his right, either by previous entry or application, or by sale, transfer, or power of attorney, but that the same remains in him unimpaired. He must also declare, under oath, that he has made full compliance with the homestead law in the matter of residence upon, cultivation and improvement of, his original homestead entry; and should further recite whether or not he has proved up his claim and received a patent of the land.

When these papers are filed and examined, they will, if found satisfactory, be returned with a certificate attached recognizing the right of the party to make additional entry under the law; and when presented with a proper application at any district land office, either by the party entitled or his agent or attorney, they will be accepted by the Register and Receiver, and forwarded with the entry papers to this Office in the usual manner.

The fee for examination and certificate, under the seal of the office, will be one dollar, which must in all cases accompany the papers presented for approval.

Very respectfully,

J. A. WILLIAMSON,

*Commissioner.*