

Substance of
Claim laws

July 14th
1837

Digest of Club Laws
of "Bellevue Settler Club"

Sept 23rd 1854 } Bellevue club law required claimants to register their claims with a description of the same as near as may be - To state them in the Prairie & blaze in the timber - No claim recognized, that was made before the ratification of the "Treaty" - A claim shall not consist of more than 320^{acres} -

Any person not occupying his claim shall within six months from the time of the right of Occupancy be required to have done fifty dollars worth of work, & the succeeding twelve months an additional quantity of \$100 worth of work - And any claimant failing to comply with the above shall be deemed to have abandoned his claim - And no person shall be allowed to hold a claim unless he shall within eighteen months become an actual resident of this Territory - And no person can hold by proxy, or hold more than one claim -

October 28th 1854 } All claimants were required to register their claims within thirty days from this date, And all claims hereafter made within thirty days from the time of making - And in case of failure, said claims shall be deemed vacant & liable to be taken by any other person entitled to hold a claim -

Feb. 10 1855 } Same Club laws; would recognize no claim right made prior to the ratification of the Treaty - And recognized the right of every resident of the United States, of lawful age, or who may be the head of a family,

Adopted 10th Feb 1855

or who may be by a vote of the club admitted as a member, to select Mark & claim three hundred & twenty acres of land & who shall within four months from this date, or from the time of making the claim proceed to erect thereon a cabin, or such other improvements as he may deem best, (And shall within four months thereafter move upon & make his home upon said claim) claims to be well stated & blazed, & a description registered. (Claims forfeited if not entered upon & improved within four months as above) Claimants to deed & re-deed so as to leave the land as near as possible as claimed. — These parts within brackets, were repealed June 30th 1855 So that it shall be sufficient for a claimant if a resident of the Territory to improve his claim from time to time to entitle him to hold it.

The foregoing were the laws of the Bellevue club, But there was a split in the club, & a new constitution & former club called the & called "The Platte Valley Actual Settlers club" Adopted Feb 17th 1855

Rules &c

A claim shall not consist of more than 320^{acs} but may be held in two parts, with not more than 80^{acs} of timber, no one to hold more than one claim, or to hold by proxy — All residents of the Territory of lawful age may hold claims — claims to be well marked — the corner states having claimants name, time of making & number of acres — claimant shall have begun to mark

Feb 17th 1835

improvements thirty days after making claim
& within thirty days more shall reside on his
or her claim, unless excused by a vote of the
club & shall continue to improve &c.

The New Clubs at a Mass Meeting
were united, & the old clubs dissolved
since die - And the Mass meeting
accepted their rules &c July 14th 1835

July 14th 1835 } Club laws &c A claim not to
} consist of more than 320^{ac} & may
} be held in two parts, & not more than 80^{ac}
} of timber, except those heretofore made,
} No one allowed to hold more than one claim
} or to hold by proxy - All residents of the
} Territory of lawful age may hold claims -
} Claims to be well staked in the Prairie, &
} blazed in the timber - Corner stakes to be
} marked with claimants name, number of
} acres & time of making - & within thirty
} days from time of making, or from this
} date claimant shall have begun his or
} her house, & within thirty days thereafter
} shall reside on his or her claim or some
} good citizen instead - unless excused by a
} special vote of the club, & after residing thereon
} shall not leave it more than six days at any one
} time - & shall continue to make ^{such} improvements
} as will indicate claimants intention of making a
} permanent home - Club to protect members
} in the possession of their claims - Claims to be
} recorded if allowed by a vote of the club - at the first
} meeting after being presented -

Dec 1835 } Members agree to deed & rededeed

July 17th 1877

So that the lines shall conform as near
as may be to the present claim lines

The lines of the present claim are
as shown on the map attached
to the application for a patent
for the same filed July 14th 1877

July 14th 1877
I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the
12th inst. in relation to the
claim for a patent for a
certain improvement in
the construction of a
certain article of
machinery - I have
examined the same and
find that the same
is a new and useful
invention and that
it is entitled to a
patent. I have
therefore issued
a patent for the
same in accordance
with the provisions
of the act of March
3rd 1877. The
terms of the patent
are for the term
of years therein
expressed.

1877