

In the Matter of

A. P. Gump

Dec 8, 1894

To The Honorable, the Judges
of the Supreme Bench.

I feel it to be my duty as Auditor
and Master of the Courts of Equity,
to call the attention of this Honorable
Court to the conduct or practice
of a member of this Bar. Mr A
P Jump. He appears to have
adopted the habit of making
verbal contracts with Sutors
in divorce cases to conduct the cases
through the Court for a certain
definite sum of money \$35.00,
in most of the cases that have come
under my notice, and to pay all
court costs out of the same. For this
amount, whether paid in instal-
ments or in full, receipts are given
only "on account." I have seen no
receipts "in full." Sutors have called
at my office, from time to time
to enquire why their cases have been
delayed and not sent up. When told
that their cases are waiting on their
attorneys, they have made to me a state-
ment, substantially the same

as I have above indicated. It is necessary however, that this report should be more specific. I mention therefore, the case of William F Brooks vs Ella M Brooks, Circuit Court, Wis. The plaintiff called and enquired why his case was not reported to Court. I told him that his case was ready, and that his attorney had been written to about it. He then assured me that he had made a contract with M & P Jump to carry his case through the Court and obtain a decree of divorce for the sum of \$3500. if I remember correctly, and that he had a receipt in full. I told him to produce it. He did so, and it was "on account," and expected it would be. This man appeared to me to be a poor man but honest and truthful. He told me that he was an unlettered man and could not read writing. If this were the only case that raised the question of veracity between M & P Jump and a widow, I would hesitate, but it is far from it. This man (Brooks) told me that he earned seven dollars a week, and

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paid one dollar a week for the support
of an infant child and supported
himself from the balance. As Master
I wrote and sent a note to Mr. A. P. Gump
and called his attention to this case,
and waited on him a couple of weeks
and received no reply. I then
wrote to him again and told him
that if he treated this note as he
did the last, I would present the
matter to the reconsideration of
the Court. Having heard nothing
from him, directly and being
satisfied in my mind, that this
plaintiff, William F. Brooks has
paid his lawyer every dollar that he
contracted to pay him, and that
Mr. A. P. Gump did, in fact, pledge
himself to pay all costs in this case,
I concluded that I could no longer
hold his case in my hands, without
making the Court of Equity an
instrument of oppression, I have
therefore "waived" the masters fee
and reported the case, and I submit
this special report to this Honorable
Court.

J. M. C. King
December 8, 1894

Acced. lot & Master

John C King

vs

a P jump

Filed Dec 8th 1894