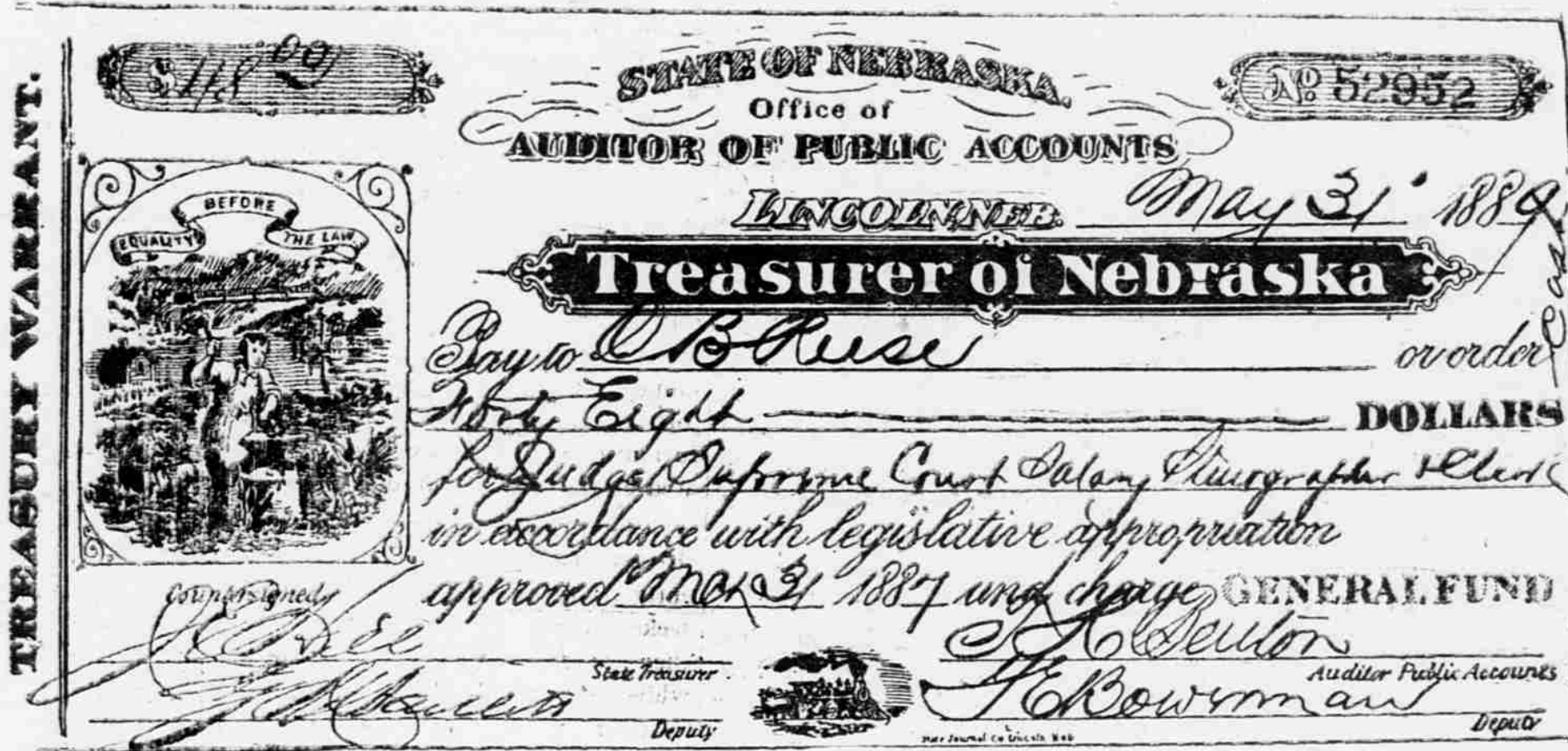


# REESE'S RAKE-OFF

## How Chief Justice Reese Raided the State Treasury

### ASK HIS FRIENDS TO EXPLAIN

#### THE WARRANT



Read what the Grand Island Independent, a republican newspaper, said in its issue of July 1, 1899:

"Supreme Judge Harrison has acted sensibly in stating in an interview that he would not be a candidate for re-election, because he realizes that there is a sentiment in the state opposed to his renomination. He probably could not be renominated even if he wanted to, because it would be inviting defeat, and he certainly could not be re-elected. He killed himself when he unwisely appointed his step-daughter as his clerk or stenographer with a \$1,000 salary."

Mr. Reese has read this. He knew that Harrison was defeated for renomination for the reason, as stated by the Grand Island paper. Mr. Reese knew also that where Harrison was the feeble imitator Reese was the original sinner: Mr. Reese knew that where Harrison simply placed his stepdaughter on the pay roll and permitted her to draw the money that Reese placed both his son and wife upon the pay roll and REESE DREW THE MONEY HIMSELF!

Harrison "Killed himself."  
Is Reese entitled to honor where Harrison was entitled to degradation?

#### QUESTIONS FOR REESE.

1. Do you believe the legislature of Nebraska can, without violating the constitution, appropriate public money to pay for "stenographic" or clerical assistance to the judges of the supreme court?

2. If your answer be "yes," could such

an appropriation be used legally for any other purpose except that named in the appropriation bill? For instance, could an appropriation for clerical assistance be used to pay one's wife for doing her own housework. Or to one's son for properly applying himself to his studies at school?

3. Now, Judge Reese, if the appropriation for stenographic or clerical assistance to the judges of the supreme court should be drawn and used only in the payment of bona fide claims for clerical or stenographic assistance actually rendered such judges, how do you explain the fact that state general fund warrants to the amount of \$746 were drawn in favor of C. B. Reese, your wife, and H. A. Reese, your son, in the years 1888, 1889 and 1890, against two appropriations made by the legislature to furnish you stenographic or clerical assistance?

4. Did C. B. Reese, your wife, actually perform the duties of stenographer or clerical assistant to you in the years 1889 and 1890?

5. Was C. B. Reese, your wife, a competent stenographer in the years 1889 and 1890, or was she competent to perform only merely clerical work in those years?

6. Did she as a matter of fact, render you any assistance whatever, during the years mentioned, other than to attend to her household duties?

7. If C. B. Reese, your wife, was competent to assist you, and really did assist you, as a stenographer or clerk, why was she wholly incompetent to sign the ten different vouchers, amounting to \$472,

drawn in her name, signed by "C. B. Reese, by (or "per") M. B. Reese?"

8. If C. B. Reese, your wife, actually rendered you stenographic or clerical assistance in the performance of your duties as chief justice, why was she not allowed to draw the money on the ten warrants, amounting to \$472, which were issued to C. B. Reese?

9. The records show that you not only made out and signed the voucher for the alleged claims of C. B. Reese, your wife and clerk, but that you also in every instance endorsed her warrants "C. B. Reese, by (or "per") M. B. Reese," and that you drew from the state treasury upon such warrants so endorsed the sum of \$472. Did you as a kind and indulgent husband, and honest and upright judge, turn over to your faithful wife and clerk this \$472?

10. If C. B. Reese, your wife, did not

render you the assistance aforesaid, who, if anybody, did?

11. If some other person actually performed the duties for which C. B. Reese, "per M. B. Reese," drew \$472 of the taxpayers' money from the state treasury, why was not such other person allowed to draw that money in his or her own name.

12. If neither C. B. Reese, your wife, nor any other person actually rendered the services for which the state paid \$472, and you pocketed the same, are not you guilty of a misuse of public funds? Haven't you violated Section 14 of Article IV, of the Constitution of Nebraska, which declares that "no judge of the supreme or district courts shall receive any OTHER COMPENSATION, perquisite or BENEFIT for and on account of his office in any form whatsoever?" And in any event, aren't you the original ginner the "father of nepotism in Nebraska?"

#### THE ENDORSEMENT

*C. B. Reese  
per M. B. Reese*

### READ THE OTHER SIDE