

A MEDICAL SLANDER CASE IN 1831.

BY THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE RIDDELL, LL.D., Etc.

IN *The Canada Lancet* of January, 1913, appears an account of a medical slander case in Upper Canada in 1827. It was tried before Mr. Justice James Buchanan Macaulay, who was himself the son of a medical man.

Four years afterwards in the same Court House at Niagara, before a different judge, another medical slander case came on for trial, which is of some interest,—perhaps more to the legal than to the medical profession.

Dr. Raymond received from the Governor a licence to practise, November 13th, 1825. As no record appears of his passing the examination of the Medical Board, it is probable that he was otherwise qualified, either by holding a diploma from a British institution or otherwise under the Act of 1827, 8 George IV., c. 3.

Dr. Truman Raymond was the sixth in lineal descent from William Raymond, who came to Little Harbour, New Hampshire, in 1630, as “steward,” *i.e.*, agent for “The Company of Laconia,” a colonizing and trading company formed by Sir Fernando Gorges and Capt. John Mason, of London, grantees of all the land between the Merrimac and Sagadahoc Rivers.

Truman Raymond was born in 1783 in the United States and emigrated to Canada: he first settled at Fort Wellington where he married Elizabeth Dulmage, daughter of Major John Dulmage, U.E.L., and Sophia Heck (a relative of Barbara Heck). During the war of 1812 he was surgeon of the forces at Gananoque; shortly afterwards he removed to Niagara, and later, in 1840, to St. Catharines. He died at Welland (Merrittsville), in 1861, and his remains lie in the Fonhill Cemetery, about four miles northwest of that town.

At the time of this action he was living at Niagara and had a large practice throughout the district, including the neighbouring towns.

His son, Lorenzo Dulmage Raymond, was for many years County Crown Attorney at Welland, and two of the sons of this Crown officer are prominent members of the Bar of Ontario, W. B. Raymond, of Toronto, and Lt.-Col. L. C. Raymond, of Welland.

He was in June, 1831, called on to attend one John Cain, at Armstrong, near Niagara. He found him suffering from an abscess in the knee, which the doctor treated properly. But the patient had a much