

The defendant was Dr. Cyrus Sumner, an American, who came to Canada in 1800. He passed the Board in 1804—the Board then being that constituted under the Act of 1795, (35 George III., c. 1.) He then settled at Twenty-Mile Creek (Jordan), called "Twenty" in the evidence, and made a considerable name for himself as a successful practitioner.

Dr. Sumner was proved to have said that Dr. Hunter had been stuffing Isaac Griffin, at the Twenty, with mercury till his mouth was all sore and his teeth all loose. But as Isaac Griffin testified that the plaintiff had left physic for him, yellow, with white powders, which was to be mixed with dry sugar and molasses, and that when he took it as directed for a fever he had, his mouth got sore and raw, his teeth loose and his breath bad, the plaintiff did not get much comfort or damages out of that charge.

Dr. Lafferty gave evidence for the defendant, saying that he himself used small doses of mercury for fever, but never to the extent spoken of by Griffin. This gentleman seems to have been an army surgeon also, and practised at Drummondville. He became a member of Parliament, had a large and lucrative practice, but was no lover of novelties. It is said that after seeing one of the new school use a stethoscope, he said that the sight of the doctor using a *telescope* was enough for him.

Dr. Tiffany thought that the salivation of Griffin, if done intentionally, could not be justified. Some gave mercury in fevers, but he himself seldom gave more than one dose. This witness may have been Dr. Oliver Tiffany,* who had been educated at the Philadelphia Medical College, or his nephew, Dr. Oliver F. Tiffany, educated at Fairfield, who in January, 1822, passed the Board. After practising for a time at Ancaster with his uncle, he went to Chicago and there spent the rest of his life.

But Dr. Sumner was charged with other statements concerning Dr. Hunter. He said that Dr. Hunter had destroyed Mary Gilmour;

*The uncle was a well-known Radical and a valued friend of William Lyon Mackenzie. He had got into trouble some years before for alleged sedition. I find the following in the Term Books at Osgoode Hall: Easter term, 37, George III., April 29, 1797. An information was read against O. Tiffany and one against Tiffany, Sr. In the case of the former, in the following term, July 19th, 1797, he was sentenced "to be fined £20 to the King and to be confined for one calendar month in His Majesty's ^{goal} ~~goal~~ [sic] at Newark, and to remain in confinement till the fine is paid, and afterwards to find securities for his good behavior for three years himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each."