

The plaintiff in the action was James Hunter. From the date of the license to practise produced at the trial, he was, no doubt, the Dr. James Hunter, of Whitby, who was afterwards mixed up with the Rebellion of 1837. He was born in England in 1790, and came to Canada in 1823, settling in the Niagara district. He does not seem to have studied medicine in England, but on this side of the Atlantic he attended Fairfield Medical College. This college was organized in 1809 at Fairfield, a small village not far from Little Falls, New York State. At this college was given later on, in 1839, the first course of lecture of the celebrated Frank Hamilton. Most of its staff (including Hamilton) joined Geneva Medical College in 1840, and this college became the medical faculty of Syracuse University in 1872. At the period of Hunter's attendance, Fairfield Medical College had a very respectable standing as medical schools then went on this continent. He passed his examination before the Medical Board of Upper Canada and received his license to practice April 5th, 1826. The Board was composed of five gentlemen appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor, under the provisions of the Act of 1818 (59 George III., c. 13) to examine all applicants for licenses to practise "physic surgery and midwifery, or either of them." They were Christopher Widmer, F.R.C.S., "the father of surgery in Upper Canada," who survived till 1858; Robert Kerr, an old army surgeon, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Johnson and "Molly" Brant, sister of Joseph Brant;\* Grant Powell (a son of Chief Justice Powell), who studied at Guy's Hospital and passed the Apothecaries' Hall—after practising in New York State and in Montreal he became surgeon-general of the militia in Upper Canada; Robert Charles Horne, M.R.C.S., who afterwards became King's Printer, and finally chief teller of the Bank of Upper Canada; and the well-known William Warren Baldwin, M.D. (Edin.): he practised a short time in Ireland, and then came with his father to Upper Canada. He shortly afterwards (in 1802) opened a school in York (Toronto), and in 1803 was called to the Bar. He practised law with much success for several years.

At the trial Dr. Baldwin testified that Hunter has passed a creditable examination before the Board, particularly in anatomy and midwifery.

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\*His son, William Johnson Kerr, married his mother's cousin-german, Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Brant. He was an Indian chief and leader and became a member of the House of Assembly and a prominent man.