

reported Farnsworth to the commanding officer at Fort Howard, as selling whiskey to the Indians contrary to the laws regulating the Indian trade. The commandant sent down an officer with a file of men to destroy Farnsworth's whiskey, and drive him out of the Indian country. Upon arriving at the place, the officer informed Farnsworth of the object of his visit; when the latter expressed his astonishment that any one should have made such a complaint against him; inviting the officer to search thoroughly and see if he could find any whiskey; that he freely confessed he kept a little good brandy for himself and friends, but that he never sold any, and concluded by inviting the officer to take a little of his choice liquor. He readily consented. Farnsworth then asked the officer if he might offer some to his men, which was granted; and he helped the soldiers to a bountiful supply. The officer stuck closely to the brandy, and sent the soldiers in search of whiskey; but they did not search very thoroughly, and after paying their respects once more to the brandy, reported that they could not find any whiskey, and that they believed that it was nothing but malice that prompted the Fur Company to charge Farnsworth with vending whiskey to the Indians. The report was perfectly satisfactory to the officer; and Farnsworth gave them all a good supper, lodging and breakfast, and plenty of the beloved brandy, and then parted good friends—the generous trader not forgetting to supply them with several bottles of the favorite beverage to last them on their return journey. During this farcical search, Farnsworth had four or five barrels of whiskey buried close by his house.

The Fur Company now hit upon another expedient to get Farnsworth out of the country. A large party of Indians was employed to go to his house and seize his goods and whiskey, if he declined to give them to them. So in the winter of 1820-21, they made their appearance, and frankly told their business, adding that they were brave men, determined to carry out their design. Farnsworth told them in