

mater, the Washington University of Medicine (afterwards merged into the College of Physicians and Surgeons), of Baltimore, Md.

On September 30, 1846, at his office in Boston, he administered sulphuric ether to Eben Frost, and extracted a tooth without pain to the patient.

Securing permission from Dr. John C. Warren, Senior Surgeon of the Massachusetts General Hospital, on October 16, 1846, he administered ether to a patient at the hospital, and Dr. Warren performed a severe surgical operation, the patient remaining unconscious during the operation.

He was now twenty-seven years of age and still a medical student in the Harvard Medical School. The discovery now announced brought with it overwhelming labors, and he was compelled to discontinue his studies from that moment onward.

From this crucial demonstration in October, 1846, dates the immediate and universal adoption of the practice of anæsthesia throughout the civilized world. The event marked the advent of a new epoch in the world's history, namely, the epoch of practical painless surgery.

Over Dr. Morton's grave in Mount Auburn Cemetery, near Boston, a monument has been "erected by citizens of Boston," including names the most respected and most honored among them, bearing the following inscription, written by the late Dr. Jacob Bigelow, of Boston :

"WILLIAM T. G. MORTON,

INVENTOR AND REVEALER OF ANÆSTHETIC INHALATION.

BY WHOM PAIN IN SURGERY WAS AVERTED
AND ANNULLED.

BEFORE WHOM, IN ALL TIME, SURGERY WAS
AGONY, SINCE WHOM SCIENCE HAS CONTROL
OF PAIN."

A monument in the Public Gardens in Boston is erected "To commemorate the *discovery* that the inhalation of ether causes insensibility to pain. First proved to the world at the Massachusetts General Hospital, in Boston, October, 1846," the date of Dr. Morton's successful demonstration at the hospital.

No other date is upon this monument except the date of its erection, 1867, and no other reference, except biblical quotations, to anæsthesia. It can therefore refer to no one but to Dr. Morton.

Dr. Morton received a divided Montyon prize from the French Academy of Sciences, the "Cross of the Order of Wasa, Sweden and Norway," the "Cross of the Order of St. Vladimir, Russia," and a silver box containing one thousand dollars from the trustees of the Massachu-

setts General Hospital, "in honor of the ether discovery of September 30, 1846." The trustees in their report, subsequently reaffirmed, unanimously accorded the honor and credit of the discovery to him.

He made several appeals for remuneration, for the use of his discovery in the army and navy, to the Congress of the United States; and although committees to whom the subject was referred made majority reports that he was entitled "to the merit of the discovery and to substantial reward," yet no reward was ever voted to him. At two sessions of Congress, bills in his favor were passed, and on one occasion the President of the United States held his pen in his hand to sign a bill, and paused to consult Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, with the result that the bill was never signed.

Announcing his discovery at the age of twenty-seven, and dying at the comparatively early age of forty-eight, his twenty-one years of adult and active life were entirely consumed with the turmoil and pain of the controversy forced upon him by claims not one of which had ever appeared in print until *after* his initial announcement in 1846.

He died poor, and "*he became poor in a cause which has made the world his debtor.*"

THE TREATMENT OF GONORRHOEA BY IRRIGATION OF THE URETHRA.

By H. M. CHRISTIAN, M.D., Chief of Genito-Urinary Dispensary, University of Pennsylvania, service of Dr. Edward Martin.

It is proposed in this article to give the results obtained by the writer in the treatment of gonorrhœa by daily irrigation of the urethra.

A large majority of the cases treated were patients at the Dispensary for Genito-Urinary Diseases, University Hospital; a few are taken from the case-book in private practice.

The remedies used for the purpose of irrigation were bichloride of mercury, nitrate of silver, permanganate of potassium, and trikresol. The irrigator employed was the ordinary glass-jar irrigator used in surgical clinics, and was suspended by a rope, working over a pulley, at a height of six feet above the penis, the patient standing.

The Kiefer nozzle was used in all cases, except in those instances where it was found to be too large to enter the meatus properly; in such cases the soft-rubber catheter was employed. In irrigating the urethra, one quart of the solution—warm, not hot—was used daily for a period of two weeks. In a few cases treatment was continued for three weeks; it was, however, observed that no permanent benefit resulted from this extra week's treatment. In other words, whatever result was