

Nitrous oxide gas has been gradually introduced as an anæsthetic agent for the removal of teeth and surgical operations. It was first known as laughing gas. As early as 1849 it was administered at entertainments for the amusement of the public, and its effect on individuals, as given at that time, produced oftentimes strange and peculiar results, showing the disposition very markedly of the individual under its influence, and his pugilistic tendencies. As early as 1850, it fell to my lot, at Wolfville, to test its peculiar qualities previous to an entertainment to be given on the following evening by a certain professor who was travelling the country.

The Colten Dental Association of Boston was the first to use the nitrous oxide gas extensively for the removal of teeth, and later on, Dr. Thomas, of Philadelphia, made a specialty in that way.

From anæsthetics, the average death rates are said to be as follows :

One.	in	100,000	from	Nitrous Oxide Gas.
"		10,000	"	Ether.
"		1,000	"	Chloroform.

During the last twenty years, from 1872 to 1892, schools, colleges, societies, journals, books and periodicals have largely increased, and the latter more generally read and circulated. All these have a tendency to advance and educate, especially the younger members of the profession, and stimulate the older ones, so as to keep pace with the times.

In looking over the list in the Dental Necrology for the past twenty years, we find some 364 men of more or less prominence in dentistry have passed away, some just entering the profession, others of long standing and residents of the United States, while scores of names not enumerated, in England and the Dominion, have gone to their long home. The Abbeyes, Abotts, Allens, Ambler, Atkinson, Parmley, Riggs, Webb, Harvard, Knapp, McQuillan, Kingsley, Neal, Chandler, names familiar to many, all had their day, and each and all have left names to be honored and revered, and whose works still live, and who have left their "foot-prints on the sands of time."

With all the improvements made in the profession during the past forty years, those who remember what facilities were offered them then in practice, and the present opportunities and methods of working, both in mechanical or prosthetic dentistry, as well as conservative dentistry, have no reason to feel ashamed of their professional skill, and while many who have now passed away have done much to elevate and advance the profession, by their skill and honest worth, as well as by their professional and gentlemanly deportment, gentlemen, let us not forget that to be members of a profession conveys with it certain privileges and rights that should be respected by each and every member. As a Dental