

anxious to introduce this new method, I convened the notables of the town (Belleville) where I was then in practice—the mayor, the sheriff, barristers, doctors, etc. It being the first attempt, and unacquainted with the effect it might produce upon my patient, I candidly admit it was not without some misgivings, but I nevertheless put on a wise look and appeared self-possessed, which instilled confidence in my auditors. The operation was a perfect success, patient delighted, my auditors satisfied, and I proud of my achievement. An intelligent chemist and druggist who had quite a reputation in extracting teeth, remarked, “He was disgusted with his manner of extracting, and would henceforth give it up,” which he did, and I soon had the entire field for fifty miles north, south, east and west. Soon after the advent of ether came in chloroform, that great rival which soon put ether in the shade. Ignorant of its dangerous character, I administered it indiscriminately for many months, indeed, became “the chloroformist”—administered it for physicians in important surgical operations. Like a thunder-clap out of a clear sky came the report that a man had died in a dentist chair at Toronto from the administration of chloroform. I never after ventured to give it without a physician being present. Here let me say that during the administration of any anæsthetic, absolute silence should be maintained. There should be no talking save the gently repeated request of the administrator to the patient to keep his eyes shut and take long breaths.

Before administering any anæsthetic, educate your patient. While preparing the inhaler, address your patient after this manner: “You have some bad teeth there; they must have given you a good deal of pain.” (Next allow your patient to talk.) “You are here to get rid of them, and I am anxious to relieve you, but I cannot do it unless you assist me. You may be somewhat anxious, but it will take away the keenness of the pain; and remember to open your mouth, and I will do my best.” Since adopting this method I have been sometimes astonished at the success. In the administering of ether, no inhaler should be used the second time. Extemporize one by forming a cone of paper or a towel, and drop in a *clean* piece of sponge. When a mother or father comes to your surgery with a child, say five years of age, to have some temporary teeth or tooth extracted, and must be quieted with some-