

Recently the University of Pennsylvania has done honor to Dr. Crawford Williamson Long, who undoubtedly used ether for anæsthetic purposes in 1842. This has been established beyond a shadow of doubt. Credit is, therefore, due to his memory. He was then practising in Jefferson in Georgia. The Medical Society of Georgia has erected a statue to Long in Jefferson.

But there is a name that comes many years ahead of these. It is that of Henry Hill Hickman, who practised in Ludlow, England, and later in Shifnal. He produced anæsthesia by the use of carbonic acid gas, and also by nitrous oxide in 1824. He gave these gases to animals and performed a number of operations on them. He tried to have his views taken up by other professional men, but met with no success. In 1828 he wrote to the King of France, asking him to urge that the Academy of Medicine in Paris take up his researches. This was done, but the Academy did not give his views much attention with the exception of Larrey.

He was discouraged and died at the age of 29, in 1829. Of Hickman it can be said without the slightest fear of contradiction that he was the first to produce general anæsthesia in animals and perform operations without pain to these animals. Had he met with encouragement he would have shown that he had made one of the greatest of the world's discoveries, but full justice has now been done to his memory.

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#### TORONTO ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

The fifth annual meeting was held in the Academy's building, 13 Queen's Park, on 7th May, 1912.

The report of the Trustees, read by Dr. R. A. Reeve, showed that the assets of the Academy, exclusive of books, prints, periodicals, paintings, pictures, etc., were \$20,468.91. Mention was made of the urgent need for an auditorium in which the meetings of the Academy could be held. The late Dr. Ross had this very much at heart, and hoped to have been able to do something towards securing the needed accommodation.

The Treasurer's report, submitted by Dr. W. A. Young, was a very satisfactory one. It showed that the income from fees on a total of 349 fellows, amounted to \$3,288. This did not include income from investments. The expenditures were \$3,063. The savings account showed a balance of \$1,616. This shows a net gain of \$452 over previous year.

The report of the Council, read by Dr. N. A. Powell, the President, was one of progress. It referred to the location of the Academy's building as being an ideal one. Reference was made to the stockhouse for