France’s Experimental Chloroformist M. J. P. Flourens

A disciple of Francois Magendie, French physiologist Marie Jean Pierre Flourens (1794–1867) is best known among anesthesiologists as the scientist who demonstrated chloroform’s anesthetic effects on animals. His report in March of 1847 to the French Academy of Sciences was largely ignored until Professor James Young Simpson’s discovery in November of that year—that humans could be chloroformed. Both sides of this photograph advertise that it was taken by the famous Parisian studio of Reutlinger. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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