

REMONSTRANCE  
OF  
PHYSICIANS OF BOSTON  
AND  
ITS VICINITY  
AGAINST

*An award to W. T. G. Morton as the discoverer of the Anesthetic effects of Ether.*

*To the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled:*

The undersigned, residents of Boston and its vicinity, respectfully represent, that they have been familiar with the great discovery of the anaesthetic effects of Ether from its origin, and with the controversy following it. They now believe, and ever have believed, that Dr. Charles T. Jackson is its sole and veritable discoverer, and that any merit on the part of W. T. G. Morton, the Surgeons of the Massachusetts General Hospital, or of others, consists in taking his discovery after he had communicated it to many persons, in many places, known to some of us to be of unimpeached and unimpeachable characters, and subjecting it to additional employment. We therefore strongly feel, that any recognition of the comparatively insignificant connexion of others in bringing this great discovery into general use, on the part of your honorable bodies, without granting a proportionate award to its originator and discoverer, would work a wrong and injustice beyond parallel in the history of science.

We therefore feel bound earnestly and respectfully to remonstrate against the distribution of any national honors or rewards to any other person, which we believe to be due solely, (so far as the great fact of discovery is considered,) to Dr. Jackson, for we feel an assurance as strong as evidence, derived from the testimony of others, and our specific knowledge of Dr. Jackson's traits of character, can give, that had it not been for him this great contribution to humanity would be still among the things yet hidden.

And as in duty bound will every pray.

February 9, 1852.

Luther V. Bell, (physician and superintendent of the  
McLean Asylum for the Insane.)

C. H. Stedman, M. D., (late physician to the City In-  
stitute, S. Boston.)

Gideon, printer.

Edward Reynolds, M. D., (physician and surgeon to Eye and Ear Infirmary, and late surgeon to Mass. Gen. Hosp.)  
J. B. S. Jackson, M. D., (one of the physicians of the Mass. Gen. Hospital.)  
Silas Durkee, M. D.  
Ephraim Buck, M. D.  
Woodbridge Strong, M. D.  
William J. Walker, M. D.  
Samuel Morril, M. D.  
Horace Dupee, M. D., (one of the physicians of the Lying-in Hospital.)  
Henry Bartlett, M. D.  
Franklin F. Patch, M. D.  
E. J. Davenport, M. D.  
Henry A. Ward, M. D.  
John Flint, M. D.  
Josiah F. Flagg, M. D.  
Wm. P. Dexter, M. D.  
W. S. Coffin, M. D.  
E. Whitney Blake, M. D.  
J. M. Phipps, M. D.  
Geo. F. Bigelow, M. D.  
Joshua Tucker, M. D.  
Henry A. Martin, M. D.  
Charles M. Windship, M. D.  
Joseph H. Streeter, M. D.  
Horatio G. Morse, M. D.  
J. W. Warren, jr., M. D.  
John B. Alley, M. D.  
J. L. Williams, M. D.  
Geo. W. Otis, jr., M. D.  
George Russell, M. D.  
P. E. Molloy, M. D.  
James Hyndman, M. D.  
Hervey E. Weston, M. D.  
Abram Paige, M. D.  
Daniel Warwood, M. D.  
D. M. Parker, M. D.  
E. T. Eastman, M. D.  
S. S. Whipple, M. D.  
E. C. Rolfe, M. D.  
C. A. Walker, (physcian to the City institution.)  
Wm. H. Thorndike, M. D.  
Robert Greer, M. D.  
F. F. Chase, M. D.  
J. B. Taylor, M. D.  
Jona. W. Bemis, M. D.  
Jacob Hayes, M. D.

Luther Johnson, M. D.  
J. F. W. Lane, M. D.  
Wm. W. Morland, M. D.  
John Bacon, jr., M. D.  
F. S. Ainsworth, M. D.  
Nath. B. Shurtleff, M. D.  
Buckminster Brown, M. D.  
J. V. C. Smith, M. D., (late City physician.)  
W. G. Hanaford, M. D.  
E. Palmer, jr., M. D.  
James Ayer, M. D.  
Ira W. Tobie, M. D.  
Tytche Edw. Oliver, M. D.  
Le Baron Russell, M. D.  
A. A. Watson, M. D.  
Geo. H. Gay, M. D.  
Geo. Stevens Jones, M. D.  
John A. Tarbell, M. D.  
R. W. Newell, M. D.  
T. Fletcher Oakes, M. D.  
Henry W. Williams, M. D.  
John Odin, jr., M. D.  
Chas. W. Calkins, M. D.  
Howard Sargent, M. D.  
Horace Stacy, M. D.  
S. Cabot, jr., M. D.  
Robert Cassen, M. D.  
Benj. S. Codman, M. D.  
S. A. Bemis, Dentist.  
John Clough, M. D.  
S. L. Abbott, M. D.  
D. Humphreys Storer, M. D., (one of the physicians of  
the Massachusetts General Hospital.)  
J. Sydenham Flint, M. D.  
Henry S. Lee, M. D.  
Calvin Stevens, M. D.  
David Osgood, M. D.  
Elisha G. Tucker, M. D.  
Moses W. Weld, M. D.  
Henry James Martin, M. D.  
Thomas B. Wales, M. D.  
George Hubbard, M. D.  
C. G. Holbrook, M. D.  
J. E. Herrick, M. D.  
Alanson Abbé, M. D.  
W. W. Codman, M. D.  
John C. Hayden, M. D.  
William F. Channing, M. D.  
M. C. Greene, M. D.

E. D. G. Palmer, M. D.  
 D. M. B. Thaxter, M. D.  
 John S. H. Fogg, M. D.  
 P. M. Crane, M. D.  
 James J. Fales, M. D.  
 Daniel V. Folts, M. D.  
 Charles J. Putnam, M. D.  
 Moses Clarke, M. D.  
 Abraham R. Thompson, M. D.  
 Stephen Ball, M. D.  
 A. D. W. Martin, M. D.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled:*

The undersigned, members of the Massachusetts Medical Society, resident in Boston and its vicinity, respectfully represent, that they are familiar with the principal facts connected with the great discovery of Etherization, and its introduction into surgical practice; and they declare their full belief that Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, having inferred from his experiments and observations that sulphuric ether, free from alcohol and acids, has the power safely and effectually to destroy the pain of surgical operations, communicated that conclusion to various individuals, and, in February, 1846, recommended to one of them, Joseph Peabody, a student in his laboratory, the use of sulphuric ether as an anæsthetic agent; and, subsequently, on the thirtieth of September of the same year, to W. T. G. Morton, a dentist of Boston, giving him, at the same time, directions respecting the quality of the ether to be used, and the proper mode of administering it, and assuring him of the safety, and assuming the responsibility, of the application.

The undersigned further declare their belief that the merit, which they would by no means undervalue, of W. T. G. Morton and others, in relation to the discovery of Etherization, consists entirely in their having practically verified it, and zealously labored to introduce it into surgical practice.

The undersigned believing, therefore, that in relation to the great discovery of Etherization, Dr. Jackson was the *head* and W. T. G. Morton the *hand*, respectfully and earnestly remonstrate against any grant, by your honorable bodies, of honors or money to the latter, unaccompanied by the grant of a proportionate reward to the former, for the far higher agency he had in conferring the great boon of Etherization upon the human race.

Morrill Wyman, M. D.  
 Benj. D. Bartlett, M. D.  
 J. E. Stevens, M. D.  
 George Baker, M. D.  
 Wm. G. Wheeler, M. D.  
 Charles Chase, M. D.  
 A. B. Snow, M. D.

Herman B. Inches, M. D.  
C. D. Cleaveland, M. D.  
S. R. Philbrick, M. D.  
Jos. C. Sanborn, M. D.  
Henry Lyon, M. D.  
Edwin Adams, M. D.  
E. W. Gleason, M. D.  
Jno. C. Dalton, M. D.  
Henry A. Barrett, M. D.  
Josiah Bartlett, M. D.  
J. S. Calef, M. D.  
Andrew Alexander, M. D.  
Jonathan Ware, M. D.  
James A. Merrill, M. D.  
Charles F. Hoffendahl, M. D.  
T. J. Parker, M. D.  
Anson Hooker, M. D.  
Benjamin Seabury, M. D.  
A. L. Weymouth, M. D.  
William Ingalls, physician and surgeon, U. S. Marine  
hospital, Chelsea, (Mass.)  
Alexander Poole, M. D.  
B. P. F. Randall, M. D.  
G. C. Shattuck, jr., M. D., one of the physicians of the  
Massachusetts General Hospital.  
Henry G. Clark, M. D., one of the surgeons of the Mas-  
sachusetts General Hospital.  
E. A. S. Nichols, M. D.  
J. S. Nichols, M. D.  
Timo. R. Nute, M. D.  
H. D. Train, M. D.  
Chas. F. Foster, M. D.  
A. B. Malcolm, M. D.

Morton was credited with the application  
of ether as an anaesthetic by the  
medical profession of Boston (1856), New  
York (1858) and Philadelphia (1860).