

Boston Mass. April, 1861.

Sir, Your aid is respectfully requested, in promoting a plan for raising a Testimonial fund for Dr. Morton, the details of which, are sufficiently explained by the accompanying Circular.

As a member of the profession, whose labors have been lightened by the introduction of Etherization, and as one who has had the personal satisfaction of witnessing its beneficent influence, we trust you will feel sufficient interest in the undertaking to secure your cordial co-operation.

It is not intended to solicit large subscriptions from the profession, and if you are willing yourself to contribute any sum, from One to Five Dollars, or can induce others, especially those who have been themselves decidedly benefited by the discovery, to contribute a similar, or a larger sum, it is believed the purpose may be accomplished.

Such sums as you may be able to contribute, or collect, may be sent by mail in the enclosed envelope, with the names of the contributors.

Any further information, or additional Circulars and pamphlets, may be had, on application to the undersigned.

Francis Minot
Secretary.

John Ware
Chairman of the
Executive Committee.

TESTIMONIAL TO WM. T. G. MORTON.

BOSTON, MASS., U. S. A., 1861.

More than fourteen years have elapsed since the first application of Sulphuric Ether as an Anæsthetic agent. During this period its use has been extended over the whole civilized world ; it has been employed in private dwellings, in hospitals, and upon the field of battle, and has been hailed as the most beneficent gift conferred upon mankind since the discovery of Vaccination. It has enabled every human being to contemplate pain, disease and death, with comparative composure ; and its loss, were such a thing possible, would be universally regarded as a calamity to our race.

The Anæsthetic properties of Ether if before known, had never been before practically applied, and except for the courage, energy and perseverance of Dr. Morton, they would not probably have been applied to this day. The peculiar claim of Dr. Morton is not merely that he introduced the use of Ether, but that he first demonstrated the fact that the human system can be safely reduced to a condition in which it becomes unconscious of the sufferings of disease, the pain of surgical operations, and the pangs of childbirth. The same purpose has since been effected by Chloroform and other agents, but it is not assuming too much to say that except for the demonstration of this great fact of the possibility and safety of Anæsthesia, their employment would have never been suggested.

But while all mankind have been benefited, Dr. Morton has been a loser, to a large amount, by his discovery, in a worldly point of view ; and in consequence of the time consumed, the expenses incurred in its introduction, and the suspension of his professional labors, he is less advantageously situated than before. This does not seem just, and it is now proposed to procure and present to him an adequate testimonial, not as a compensation, for a full compensation is in its nature impossible, but as a remuneration for his expenditure, and an expression of the deep and grateful sense entertained by his fellow creatures of the inestimable benefit he has conferred upon them.

With the view of obtaining effectual co-operation in other places, a meeting of a committee of fifty gentlemen was held at the house of Dr. J. Mason Warren, January 26th, 1861, and as a result of this meeting, the following organization has been adopted. The aid of the medical profession, and the public in general, is now respectfully solicited to assist in carrying into effect this laudable purpose. It is proposed that a public subscription be instituted, the avails of which shall be paid into the hands of Amos A. Lawrence and John Lowell, of Boston, Trustees, to be held, appropriated, and invested for the benefit of Dr. Morton and his family.

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