

Wells was quite shocked when Dr. W. T. G. Morton and Professor Jackson announced the discovery of their 'compound letheon' (sulphuric ether aromatized) as an anesthetic after a successful demonstration in Massachusetts General Hospital on October 16, 1846. Soon after this announcement, Morton and Jackson quarreled as to who was the real discoverer, and who owned the patent rights, etc. . . . In May 1847, the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut passed resolutions stating that Wells was the discoverer of anesthesia. . . . It seems ironic that the fame and honor due Wells for arousing the medical and dental world to the discovery of anesthesia were not forthcoming until after his death. . . ." 25 references.

J. C. M. C.

KRAFKA, JOSEPH, JR.: *Long, Eve and Dugas: The Ether Controversy*. J. M. A. Georgia 33: 330-334 (Nov.) 1944.

"Few controversies in medical history have been accorded the attention given that of anesthesia. Except for an occasional dissenter, the medical profession now credits Crawford W. Long with the first use of ether in the performance of a surgical operation. . . . That his reputation had spread to some distance is shown by the fact that he was in 1848 called to Augusta by Dr. Paul F. Eve to address the medical students at the Medical College of Georgia. . . . To one acquainted with the medical history of Georgia during this period, Dr. Long's dereliction in delaying publication of his findings is not difficult to understand. . . . The Southern Medical and Surgical Journal was founded by Milton Antony at Augusta, Georgia. . . . Eve . . . assumed the editorship in 1845. . . . It is interesting to follow the ether-chloroform controversy during the period 1849 to 1853 as presented by the

data in this journal. The first publication on ether appears in the 1847 volume. As editor, Eve had a wide acquaintance with the leading physicians in the United States. . . . Eve does not seem to have become seriously interested in anesthesia until 1848 corresponding with the visit of Long. . . . It is doubtful if Eve recognized the significance of Long's claim. . . . With the resignation of Eve as professor of surgery in 1850, Dugas succeeded to the control of both the school and The Journal. He became editor in 1853 and at once wrote to Jackson for a paper on ether anesthesia. . . . Dugas, as editor, says: 'We regard it as an honor to be favored with the contribution of the great discoverer of anesthetic properties of sulphuric ether.' How he could have overlooked Long's claim is amazing since in his section on 'publications received' . . . he acknowledged the report of the Hon. E. Stanley's discovery of ether. . . . The A. M. A. refused to enter the dispute, which had become highly involved and ranking of charlatanism. The transactions of the A. M. A. for 1847 . . . carry an extensive account briefed from the report of Bigelow in which he lists, as an appendix, one hundred and fifty-four operations performed under ether and chloroform. Eve reported case histories but no mention of Long's claim was made. The Transactions for 1848-49-50-51-52-53-54 make no reference to Long. He was not to be recognized until Marion Sims, after an accidental meeting with Willhite, established his case of priority in 1877.

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THOMPSON, EDITH E., AND CULLEN, S. C.: *Anesthesia for the Woman About to Deliver*. J. Iowa M. Soc. 34: 487-490 (Dec.) 1944.

"The discussion of anesthesia for the obstetric patient is confined in this