# NOTES ON ANÆSTHETICS, WITH AN APPENDIX CONTAINING ILLUSTRATIVE CASES AND ENGRAVINGS OF ANÆSTHETIC APPARATUS

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Notes on Anæsthetics, with an Appendix Containing Illustrative Cases and Engravings of Anæsthetic Apparatus by Arthur S. Underwood

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## ARTHUR S. UNDERWOOD

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# NOTES ON ANÆSTHETICS,

WITH

### AN APPENDIX

CONTAINING ILLUSTRATIVE CASES AND ENGRAVINGS
OF AN #STHETIC APPARATUS.

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### PREFACE.

I real that the appearance of my name as author of a book on Ansesthetics requires some few words of explanation. It may seem at first sight an anomaly that such a work should not proceed from the pen of a specialist in this department of medicine, and, possibly, I may be taxed with presumption, on the ground that the task I have undertaken demands an extensive personal experience, in order that the statements advanced may carry with them the weight of authority.

This very natural criticism may be disposed of at once by the avowal that I have not relied upon my own resources. In this particular my friend Mr. Woodhouse Braine has been kind enough to read my manuscript and correct, modify, or endorse its statements of practical detail; it was the promise of his assistance that emboldened me to undertake the work, and it is the value of his authority that constitutes its principal claim to the notice of the profession.

I cannot sufficiently thank my friend Mr. Bailey for assistance and advice most readily given, of which I have taken full advantage, more especially in the Appendix. Finally, during the last few years of pleasant mutual work at Leicester Square, I have not failed to gather many valuable hints from my colleague Mr. Bird.

I have therefore no fear that the following pages will be found to lack the wisdom that is born of experience, or to contain matter in any sense unpractical. I have made free use of the standard literature on the subject, sparing no pains to search out much interesting matter, hitherto scattered through the pages of journals and hidden away in the transactions of learned societies.

I have thought it convenient to arrange such matter as quoted cases, illustrations, and descriptions of apparatus, and some other notes, which, although closely related to my subject, were not absolutely part of it, in a separate appendix at the end of the book, with the object of avoiding a continual interruption of the text, and of making the work readable and clear.

My thanks are due to the Secretary of the Royal Humane Society for the loan of plates Figs. 1 and 2, illustrating Dr. Sylvester's method of artificial respiration; to Messrs. Maw, Son, and Thompson for the engravings bearing their name; and to Messrs. Ash and Sons for the remainder of the blocks, and such descriptive matter relating to them as I have thought fit to use.

Having explained my indebtedness to others in the production of this little book, I have, I trust, made it plain that I must look for praise or blame rather as having discharged the duties, well or ill, of compiler than those of original author. My work has been principally one of selection and comparison, the weighing of opinions, the condensation of treatises, and the impartial statement of the views of various authorities, but not the putting forward of new and original views of my own.

If I have performed this task judiciously, I do not hesitate to say that the value of the book is enhanced by the fact that the author, not being a specialist, and having no pronounced views of his own to advocate, is content to sink his own individuality, and to discuss the views of others without bias or prejudice.

With these few words of explanation and introduction, I leave the book in the reader's hands, with the assurance that it contains to the best of my knowledge no statement without authority, and in the hope that, while the expert in the science and art of Anæsthetics will meet with nothing very new in its pages, it may prove of service to those who are not experts and feel in need of guidance.

ARTHUR S. UNDERWOOD.

 Bedford Square, W.C. September, 1885.



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