

**WHAT IS CONGELATION? OR, THE
BENUMBING INFLUENCE OF COLD
IN PRODUCING INSENSIBILITY TO
PAIN IN DENTAL OPERATIONS
POPULARLY EXPLAINED**

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What Is Congelation? Or, the Benumbing Influence of Cold in Producing Insensibility to Pain in Dental Operations Popularly Explained by R. E. Harrison

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R. E. HARRISON

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THE BENUMBING INFLUENCE OF COLD IN PRODUCING
INSENSIBILITY TO PAIN IN DENTAL OPERATIONS
POPULARLY EXPLAINED.

WITH REMARKS ON THE INTRODUCTION OF A
"PAINLESS SYSTEM" IN DENTAL SURGERY.

By R. E. HARRISON,
SURGEON DENTIST;
MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE OF DENTISTS OF ENGLAND.

TO WHICH IS ADDED
AN INCIDENTAL APPENDIX.

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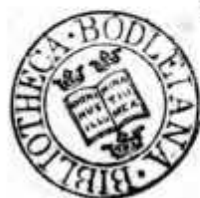
160. c. 26.

"What! must our mouths be cold?"

Tempest.

"I'll give thee England's treasure,
So thou wilt let me live and feel no pain."

King Henry VI.



P R E F A C E.

WHILE trusting that no apology is required for introducing the subject of this pamphlet to notice, the author feels that one is undoubtedly demanded for the cursory and incomplete manner in which it is treated.

In undertaking this task he is fully aware of the difficulties that are concurrent with the introduction of a novel appliance. Yet having been the first to introduce into this county the "process" of Congelation, now two years ago, he feels it is almost a duty owing to explain and publish the principles

upon which that process is conducted, as well as the results obtained, not merely to disseminate information, but also to counteract some utterly erroneous impressions.

Several works on Congelation have already been published for professional and scientific readers. None appear to be sufficiently lucid and concise for popular acceptance—or why to so many is the subject still a *terra incognita*?

The continually recurrent appeals for an explanation of the action and effect of benumbing cold, as applied in dental surgery, having at last made the “oft-told tale” and *vivâ voce* description tedious and prosy, the present typographical remedy was naturally suggested.

The following pages, including the obvious truisms on dental polity, contain the gist of what has been daily enunciated by the writer to his patients and other ex-

plorers who sought to break the ice in which the subject appeared to be frozen up.

In giving these humble opinions a more extended sphere, he is unconscious of other motive save the furtherance of scientific pursuit in one of its most exalted missions—the diminution of human suffering.

"Held within modest bounds, the tide of speech
Pursues the course that truth and nature teach."

So, in accordance with the poet's sentiment, an attempt is made in the present treatise to explain and make more popularly readable than has heretofore been done, what must of necessity be considered a cold and unpalatable topic.

The use of electro-galvanism for mitigating the shock of extraction is just now advocated by many who are unaware of the superiority, or ignorant of the best means, of applying COLD as a benumbing agent.