

**ANAESTHESIA AND
ANAESTHETICS, GENERAL AND
LOCAL FOR
PRACTITIONERS AND STUDENTS
OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY**

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Anaesthesia and Anaesthetics, General and Local for Practitioners and Students of Medicine and Dentistry by Joseph M. Patton

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ANÆSTHESIA AND ANÆSTHETICS

GENERAL AND LOCAL

FOR PRACTITIONERS AND STUDENTS
OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

BY

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PREFACE.

This book is not intended as a treatise on anæsthesia, or anæsthetics, its limitations being too pronounced. Neither has it anything original to set forth. Its production was impelled rather from the want of a work on this subject sufficiently concise to fit the opportunities of the average student or busy practitioner, yet complete enough to afford a fair and impartial resumé of our present knowledge of this important subject.

The rather extensive literature of the past decade on the subject of anæsthesia attests a growing realization of the importance of more accurate knowledge of anæsthetics and their administration. The growing tendency to relegate the administration of anæsthetics to those who are more or less expert in their administration is even now extending beyond hospital service and into private practice, and the necessity in our medical colleges of both instruction and practice in the administration of anæsthetics is being recognized. Instead of regarding the anæsthetist as the least important factor in the successful outcome of a surgical procedure, it is understood that in some instances, at least, his may be a responsibility equal to, if not greater than, that of the operator himself. In other words, many of the accidents and complications of, and sequences to, the administration of anæsthetics may be avoided by intelligent and skillful administration.

Credit is given in the text to those whose authority has been abstracted. It remains only for the author to acknowledge the courtesy of Dr. Elgin MaWhinny, of the Northwestern Dental School, who has written the chapter on Local Anæsthetics in Dentistry; and that of Dr. L. L. Skelton, professor of physiology in the Chicago College of Dentistry, for revising and offering suggestions to the chapter on the physiology of anæsthesia.

J. M. P.

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