



THE CASE FOR CHARLES JACKSON

No one had before Jackson ever conceived the idea of using sulphuric ether to prevent pain in surgical operations. Dr. Jackson personally instructed Mr. Morton respecting the anaesthetic properties of ether, and how to perform the experiment committed to him. Further, his induction was made almost exclusively from his own original observations. It is undeniable that Dr. Jackson communicated to Dr. Peabody and others, in February 1846, his induction regarding the anaesthetic properties of sulfuric ether, and gave to him complete instructions for verifying it and that too several months before Mr. Morton's alleged experiments with sulfuric ether. All that remained in order to verify the discovery, was, to perform with the hands a prescribed act, and watch and report the result. The most Mr. Morton can claim is, not in any degree discovery, but performance, verification, endeavors to introduce into practical use the discovery of another man.

I have been prompted to make this effort in behalf of what I deem the cause of truth and justice, by my sympathy for Jackson as an injured man and benefactor of his race; and by my conviction that a conspiracy, unparalleled in the history of scientific discovery, and so far successful as to have deceived many upright and honorable men, has been formed to rob Jackson, not merely of his rights of discovery, but of his fair fame as a man.

A synopsis of the words of Joseph Hale Abbott, member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, in *Littell's Living Age* magazine, 1849.