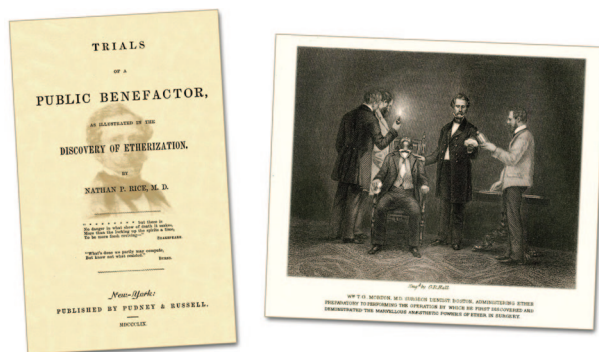


Hall's Engraving of Morton Etherizing Frost



The title page (*above left*) of the 1890 edition of *Trials of a Public Benefactor*, introduces readers to Dr. Nathan P. Rice's efforts to credit dentist William T. G. Morton as the world's first surgical etherizer. The book features G. R. Hall's classic engraving (*above right*) with a caption reading "Wm T. G. Morton, M.D. Surgeon Dentist, Boston, administering ether preparatory to performing the operation by which he first discovered and demonstrated the marvellous [sic] anaesthetic powers of ether in surgery." That caption is not exactly accurate. Indeed, Morton's etherization of the seated merchant, Eben Frost, for dental extraction occurred on September 30, 1846, 6 yr before Morton, a medical school dropout, received his honorary M.D. from the Washington University of Baltimore, Maryland. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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