

**Specification of Charles Thomas Robert Prynne : apparatus for benumbing the human frame previous to the performance of surgical operations.**

**Contributors**

Prynne, Charles Thomas Robert.

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A.D. 1857 . . . . . N° 1173.

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SPECIFICATION

OF

CHARLES THOMAS ROBERT PRYNN.

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APPARATUS FOR BENUMBING THE HUMAN  
FRAME PREVIOUS TO THE PERFORMANCE  
OF SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

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A.D. 1857 . . . . . N<sup>o</sup> 1173.

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**Apparatus for Benumbing the Human Frame previous  
to the Performance of Surgical Operations.**

*(This Invention received Provisional Protection, but notice to proceed with the application for Letters Patent was not given within the time prescribed by the Act.)*

**PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION** left by Charles Thomas Robert Prynne at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 25th April 1857.

I, CHARLES THOMAS ROBERT PRYNN, of Newton Abbot, in the County of  
5 Devon, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**AN IMPROVED APPARATUS TO BE USED FOR TOTALLY OR PARTIALLY BENUMBING ANY PART OF THE HUMAN FRAME PREVIOUS TO A SURGICAL OPERATION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERFORMING THE SAID OPERATION WITHOUT PAIN,**" to be as follows:—

This Invention consists of an improved apparatus of the construction  
10 herein-after described, adapted for forcing an inexhaustible stream of freezing liquid through thin tubular metal, lined outside with sponge, shaped according to the part of the human frame to be operated upon, the use of said tubular metal being to produce either total or partial insensibility at the part it is applied to.

15 I am aware of apparatus having heretofore been employed for benumbing parts of the human frame, but such apparatus have, I believe, failed in practice, on account of the large quantity of freezing mixture required to keep up a continual stream being soon exhausted, whereas by this Invention the stream is inexhaustible, and only a small quantity of freezing mixture is required.



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*Prynn's Apparatus for Totally or Partially Benumbing the Human Frame, &c.*

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The above improved apparatus is light and portable, and for operations of short duration will be found to make a sufficient quantity of ice to supply itself.

The construction of the above-mentioned improved apparatus is as follows:—  
Within a wooden or other case, and at a short distance from the bottom thereof, 5  
I fix two small metal pump barrels, each fitted with a solid plunger, working  
water-tight through a gland or stuffing box of the ordinary kind. These two  
barrels are connected together and terminate in one common outlet, to which  
an elastic tube or tubes is or are connected, and to the upper ends of these  
said tubes thin tubes of metal and sponge are affixed and connected thereto, 10  
as before stated. The before-mentioned plungers are respectively connected  
by rods to a two-throw crank shaft, upon one end of which a winch handle is  
fixed for imparting rotatory motion thereto; the barrels of the pumps are  
also provided with suitable valves. One half of the case of the apparatus  
contains the freezing mixture to be used, and has a rotatory agitator placed 15  
therein, which receives motion from a winch handle placed on the axis or  
spindle thereof.

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1857.