George in 1841 and settled in the small town of Jefferson, modestly avoiding the limelight that could have been his due. He spent the rest of his life as a simple and humble rural practitioner.

William Thomas Green Morton (1819-1868), a Boston dentist correctly concluded that the idea was right but the gas wasn't potent enough. Morton began experiments with another gas called sulfuric ether. After successful attempts on various animals and dental patients, on October 16, 1846, he publically demonstrated the application of ether to remove tumor from the neck of a young man who did not feel any pain. The operation was successfully painless. By the end of 1847 books and pamphlets about ether anesthesia appeared in the United States and many countries in Europe and for the first time, a safe and consistent "anesthesia" was established.

Research on modern techniques to reduce surgical pain began when an English scientist Joseph Priestley (1733-1804) discovered that inhalation of nitrous oxide might relieve pain. In Germany Johann Friedrich Dieffenbach (1795-1847), a pioneer in plastic surgery, wrote:

"The wonderful dream that pain has been taken away from us has become reality."

Crawford Williamson Long was born on November 1, 1815 in Danielsville, Georgia. His father was a wealthy merchant and planter who later became a State senator. At the age of fourteen Long returned to Georgia in 1841 and settled in the small town of Jefferson, modestly avoiding the limelight that could have been his due. He spent the rest of his life as a simple and humble rural practitioner.