

Scottish Airway Pioneers and Historical Accuracy

To the Editor:

In Dr. Bause's editorial in the February 2016 issue of *ANESTHESIOLOGY*,¹ he very appropriately draws attention to the issue's admirable historical review from Dr. Maticic, concerning "airway command" for the years 1700 to 1846.² The editorial refers to "Scotland's Tossach, Fothergill, and Buchan."¹ While both William Tossach (b. prob. Perthshire, c.1700, d. Alloa, after 1771) and William Buchan (b. Ancrum, 1729, buried Westminster Abbey, 1805) were certainly born in Scotland, Dr. John Fothergill, a Yorkshireman (b. Carr End, 1712, d. 1780) was not. I made this same mistake in my article "History of mouth-to-mouth rescue breathing Part 2: the 18th century,"³ which Dr. Maticic had kindly referenced (his Ref. 13). On learning of my error, I reported to the same journal's September issue⁴ that I had come to consider John and Anthony Fothergill as Scotsmen "from their both attending the Edinburgh medical school and both being known as Northerners—but obviously they were not northern enough." After my article went to press, I learnt of John Fothergill's birthplace as Carr End⁵ from the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (DNB). Christopher Booth states of John Fothergill, "He studied medicine at Edinburgh because, as a Dissenter (he was a Quaker), he would be refused admission to universities such as Oxford."⁵

Finally, on returning after almost a decade to Part 3 of a mouth-to-mouth trilogy, I see I also had an instance therein of misnaming Anthony Fothergill (bap. 1737, d. 1813, and relation to John⁵) as "Andrew."^{6(p224)} Apologies are offered for that further error.

Competing Interests

The author declares no competing interests.

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In Reply:

I thank Dr. Trubuhovich for reminding *ANESTHESIOLOGY*'s readership and me that the Doctors Fothergill were native Yorkshiremen and not Scotsmen. In preparing for my February 2016 editorial,¹ my files boasted a copy of Dr. Trubuhovich's² June 2006 article, but they lacked a copy of his September 2006 correction.³ That is certainly my failing and not Dr. Trubuhovich's.

Competing Interests

The author declares no competing interests.

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Proof of Concept—How to Bridge Proof with Concept and Linked to Reality

To the Editor:

We read the article by Avramescu *et al.* published in *ANESTHESIOLOGY* with great interest.¹ The authors investigated the effect of interleukin-1 β on the γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) inhibitory currents in hippocampal and cortical neurons after exposure to etomidate or isoflurane *in vitro*. They arrived at their findings with the use of a mice model of sepsis consisting of intraperitoneal lipopolysaccharide injection. They were able to show some interaction between lipopolysaccharide and some, not all, measures of behavioral effectiveness of two anesthetics. Overall, results described seem to offer insight on the potential relationship between inflammation and the amount of anesthetic needed