

## 11/15 Anesthesia and the Rise of Surgery

### Puzzles from History of Psychiatric Surgery

- Rise and fall of lobotomy
- Lobotomy often done without general anesthesia
- Risk vs. Benefit? Expediency? Punishment?

### Origins of Surgery

- Trephining
- Prohibitions in the Hippocratic Oath, vs. success of Galen
- Early modern surgery: Royal College of Barber-Surgeons, 1540
- Louis XIV, Francois Felix, and anal fistulae
- Warfare and surgery: amputations

### Surgery c. 1800

- clip from *Master and Commander*
- Violent, gruesome, often deadly: 30-50% operative mortality
- Mix of practitioners, common and elite
- Pain and the culture of surgery: masculinity

### Surprising Histories of Anesthesia

- Discovery and priority: Wells, Morton, and Long
- Delayed adoption of anesthesia: calculus of suffering
- Anesthesia and dentistry
- Anesthesia in the marketplace: making treatment more appealing
- Mesmerism as precedent and threat
- Disparities: women more like, blacks less likely, to receive anesthesia

### Surgery after Anesthesia

- Initial increase in mortality: longer operations, more infections
- Laudable pus
- Lister, antisepsis, and asepsis
- Surgical successes in 1880s and 1890s
- Improving prestige of doctors and hospitals
- Persistence of a masculine culture