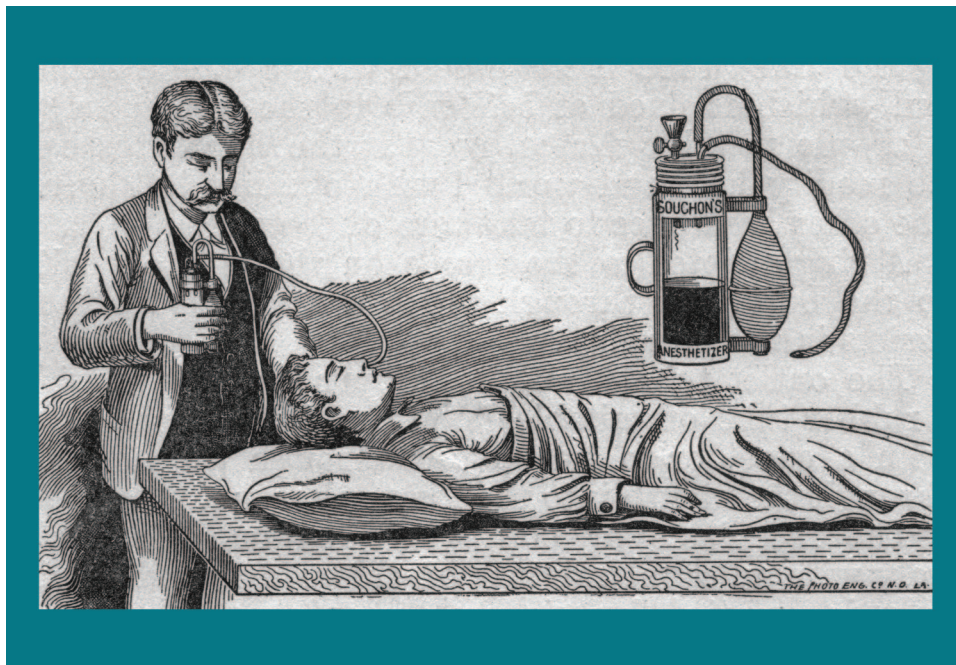


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ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS FROM THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM

The Souchon Anesthetizer



Tulane University's last professor of both anatomy and clinical surgery, Edmond Souchon, M.D. (1841–1924), designed his own “anesthetizer” in downtown New Orleans, Louisiana. Filled one-third full with a 50:50 mixture of ether and chloroform, Souchon's stoppered bottle was “traversed by . . . an inlet and an outlet tube, *neither of which dips into the liquid anesthetic, but stops close to the stopper.*” A diagram featuring the Louisiana professor using his invention (*above*) helped advertise the item for its New York manufacturer, Geo. Tieman & Co. Although Souchon was granted U.S. Patent No. 531,476 on Christmas Day of 1894 for his “Inhaler,” his Christmas present to humanity was waiving “all his rights and privileges in all cases where the patent is used for medical purposes only.” (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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