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ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS FROM THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM

The Summer of 1884: Nitrous Oxide from Drs. Gross and Basehore



This early color-free image of two well-dressed girls (*left*) is the obverse of a trade card from the Wood Library-Museum's Ben Z. Swanson Collection. "Gross & Basehore, Dentists" advertised dental extraction services in York, Pennsylvania "without pain, using nitrous oxide gas." A shoemaker-turned-dentist, Milton H. Gross (1857 to 1935) earned his D.D.S. in 1880 from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. Related to one of Dr. Gross's dental school classmates, Horace E. Basehore (1862 to 1931) abandoned bartending to become Gross's preceptee. Analysis of newspaper advertisements helps date this trade card to the summer of 1884. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists' Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology.)

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