Born in Ralston, Pennsylvania, and medically educated at the City University of New York, Joseph McIntyre Patton, M.D. (1860–1930), practiced in Chicago the rest of his life. As “Professor of Physical Diagnosis and General Anaesthesia” in the College of Dentistry at the University of Illinois, Patton published in 1903 the first (above) of at least three editions of his landmark text Anaesthesia and Anaesthetics, General and Local, for Practitioners and Students of Medicine and Dentistry. In the preface of his 204-page octavo, Patton stated his modest goal of providing a book “sufficiently concise to fit the opportunities of the average student or busy practitioner, yet complete enough to afford a fair and impartial resume of our present knowledge of the subject.” (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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