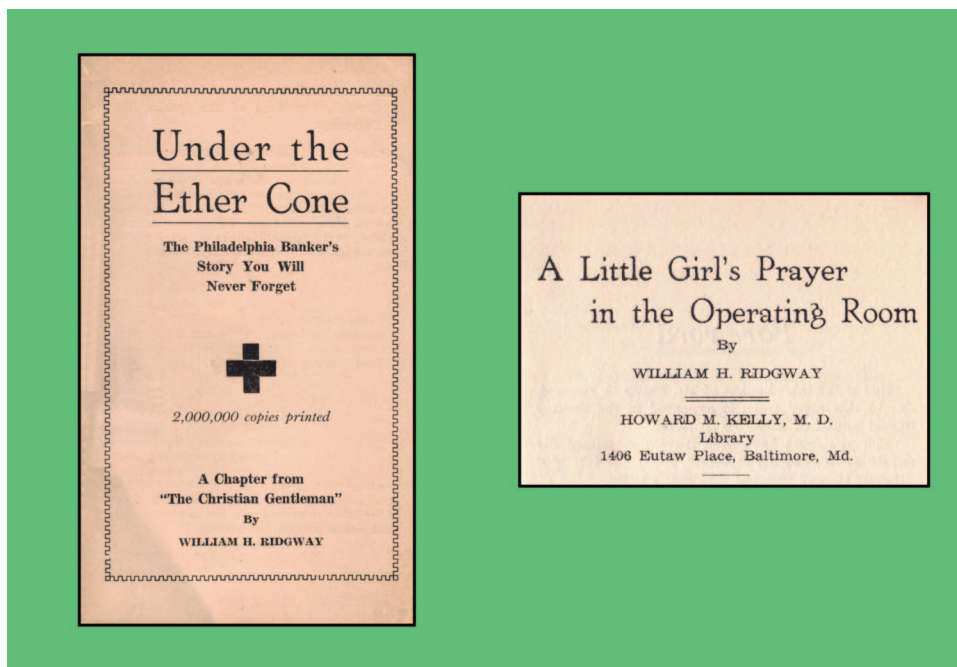


Ridgway's *Under the Ether Cone*



From his 1937 book *The Christian Gentleman*, author William H. Ridgway extracted one chapter as a pamphlet titled *Under the Ether Cone: A Little Girl's Prayer in the Operating Room*. In that pamphlet, Ridgway relates the story of a young girl informed in the operating room by her surgeon that she would go to sleep before he would begin working. "Why, doctor!" cried the girl. "I never think of going to sleep without first saying my prayers on my knees by the side of my bed." After kneeling in prayer, "she went under the ether cone" with a "sweet and peaceful smile upon her face." It is easy to understand why the pious Dr. Howard Kelly was interested in this story (*right*). The retired Johns Hopkins professor was infamous for startling anesthesia and nursing personnel by dropping to his knees to pray just before conducting surgery. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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