As a young boy, the future founder of the Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology (WLM), Paul Meyer Wood, was tutored in the art of designing bookplates by his mother, Louise Meyer Wood. Mrs. Wood would eventually be appointed as a professor of religious art and architecture at New York City’s Biblical Seminary. In designing his personal bookplate (above), Dr. Paul Wood included images of Morton's ether inhaler, three books, a portable anesthesia machine, and a syringe, four images symbolizing simultaneously his anesthetic innovations and his collections of anesthesia-related items. Could Dr. Wood have purposefully juxtaposed the “E” and “L” (of “EX LIBRIS”) with the H-like top of the keyed tank of the tallest machine cylinder—to artistically approximate (90 degrees clockwise) the “WLM” acronym of the Wood Library-Museum? (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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