

ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS FROM THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM

The Horace Wells Pew in Trinity College Chapel



In 1937 in Hartford, Connecticut, the Horace Wells Club presented a pew to Trinity College Chapel to memorialize the dentist who popularized the anesthetic use of nitrous oxide, Dr. Horace Wells. A profile bust of Wells (*right*) is carved between pairs of dental silhouettes, "Horace" and "Wells" beneath and his years of life above, from "1815" to "1848." Wells' portrait faces a carved figure (*middle*) of Saint Apollonia, the martyred patron saint of dentistry. A carving of Asklepios (Aesculapius), the ancient Greek god of medicine, tops (*left*) this end of the pew. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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