## **ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS**

## Underwood's Inspirator



Before extending short-lived corporate branches to Canada and England, New York's G.B. Underwood Inspirator and Oxygen Company had popularized heating and medicating oxygen for treating an astonishing array of afflictions: anemia, asphyxia, asthma, blood poisoning, bronchitis, catarrh, cholera, consumption, croup, diabetes, diphtheria, hay fever, laryngitis, otitis media, pneumonia, tinnitus, typhoid fever, and even tuberculosis (both pulmonary and laryngeal). Advertisements assured that "oxygen heated by the Underwood 20th Century Pulmonary Inspirator is assimilated three times more readily and plentifully than when given cold." Noting that "one cylinder heated will do the work of three cold," G.B. Underwood underscored the economy of the Inspirator for rural physicians, "who have to pay a heavy freight on the oxygen they use in their cases." (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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