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## ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS FROM THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM

### Missouri's New York Dental Rooms: Advertising Laughing Gas in English and German



Although born in Philadelphia, Dr. Robert T. Sanders (1830 to 1898) spent most of his dental career in Missouri. In 1871 he began practicing dentistry in St. Louis under his trademark of “New York Dental Rooms.” As imprinted up the right side of this trade card’s obverse (*left*), his office was on Washington Street. He practiced at that location from 1875 to 1888, which helps in dating this trade card. Fluent in English and German, Dr. Sanders promised, for 50 cents, painless dental extractions either “with gas” or “von gas” (both *right*). This made him particularly popular with the waves of German immigrants working in the city’s papermaking and tobacco processing factories, flour mills, and breweries. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists’ Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology.)

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