

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

An infamous bottle that contained a morphine based syrup that was alleged to have sent babies off to sleep never to wake up. The bottle has embossed wording : Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup Curtis & Perkins Proprietors, with The Anglo American Drug Co. Successors To ,Aqua in color , round, 5 inches tall; also smooth base. Mrs. Charlotte N. Winslow, mother-in-law of Jeremiah Curtis, for about 30 years was a physician and nurse, principally among children. She compounded a soothing syrup consisting of sulfate or morphia, sodium carbonate, spirits foeniculi, and aqua ammonia, likely to sooth any human or animal, regardless of age. In 1848, Curtis and Benjamin A. Perkins became partners in Bangor, Maine, and started bottling Winslow's Soothing Syrup in 1849. In 1911, the American Medical Association put out a publication called Nostrums and Quackery. One section called "Baby Killers" and incriminated Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, Monell's Teething Syrup, and others. A fascinating bottle with a controversial history .



An opium narcotic based teething syrup bottle for babies that we dug from an 1860's outhouse privy pit. **MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP CURTIS & PERKINS PROPRIETORS** (vertical in bold letters around bottle)....Early smooth base....crude rolled lip, which is uneven....aqua....cylinder...5" tall....EXCELLENT CONDITION with no chips or damage. Some light iridescent haze. This "Soothing Syrup" must have had a powerful effect on the babies that had to take it. It is often referred to as a "baby killer" because of the belief that babies died after becoming addicted to teething syrups such as this. Some Civil War soldiers returning home from the war wounded, and often addicted to morphine, would buy this Soothing Syrup when they could not readily obtain morphine.