



surgical instrument kit

<https://mhc.andornot.com/en/permalink/artifact14633>

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Description: Hinged wooden rectangular surgical case with brass banding along edges and across top of lid (a) with lift out drawer (b) both lined with purple velvet and two removable covers (c,d); contains two Liston (e,g) and one Catling (f) amputating knives of varying sizes; set of minor operating knives (h-k) along with two other scalpels (l,m); clear plastic spool of braided silk and another spool with no thread (n,o); curved surgical needles of varying sizes (p-r) and two hooked needles of different sizes (s,t); a needle holder (u); hand saw (v) with narrow (w) and wide (x) saw blades; hey saw (y); steel trephine handle (z); steel trephine (aa); black brush (bb); narrow retractor all metal one piece (cc); angled surgical scalpel (dd); curved director / dilator (ee); there are pieces missing; knives and scalpels with incised cross-hatched ebony handles.

Number Of Parts: 31

Part Names: a - wood case
b - lift out drawer
c - large removable cover
d - removable cover
e - surgical knife Liston 8 3/4"
f - surgical bistory Catling 7"
g - surgical knife Liston 6"
h - short surgical scalpel
i - short surgical scalpel J. J. TEUFEL
j - short surgical scalpel
k - short surgical scalpel
l - short surgical scalpel with worn handle
m - scalpel metal one piece
n - spool of braided silk
o - spool
p - curved surgical needle
q - curved surgical needle
r - curved surgical needle
s - hooked surgical needle
t - hooked surgical needle
u - needle holder
v - hand saw
w - narrow saw blade
x - wide saw blade
y - hey saw
z - trephine handle
aa - trephine
bb - brush
cc - narrow retractor all metal one piece
dd - angled surgical scalpel
ee - curved director/ dilator

Provenance: Originally owned by Dr. Peter William Reid (Reed) of Madoc, Ontario. Donated by great grandson.

Maker: Kuhlman

Site Made (City): [Detroit](#)

Site Made (State): [Michigan](#)

Site Made (Country): [United States of America](#)

Dates: 1860
1895
circa 1860 - 1895

Material: wood: brown
fabric: purple
metal: silver; brass
leather: black

Inscriptions: Stamped on neck of (e- f): "KUHLMANN"; (g-h): "A. KUHLMANN"; (i): "J. J. TEUFEL"; (j-l): "A. KUHLMANN"; (m); "GERMANY"; (u): "TIEMANN & CO"; (z): "H. McC. & D. // CHICAGO"; (dd): "CTRUAX & CO"

Permanent Location: Storage Room 0010
0010-E1-7

Temporary Location: For u, z-aa only: On exhibit "The Century: Medical Innovations of the 1800s" at Museum of Health Care, 25 June 2017.

Length: a - 41.0 b - 38.5 c - 38.6 d - 5.2 e - 36.1 f - 35.4 g - 28.5 h - 16.3 i - 16.5 j - 16.5 k - 15.6 l - 16.2 m - 16.8 n - 2.4 o - 2.5 p - 7.5 q - 5.0 r - 4.2 s - 5.4 t - 4.1 u - 11.5 v - 36.5 w - 26.2 x - 26.2 y - 17.3 z - 9.7cm aa - 10.5 bb - 9.6 cc - 13.3 dd - 20.2 ee - 24.6

Width: a - 16.5 b - 13.8 c - 13.9 d - 3.9 e - 1.9 f - 1.9 g - 1.9 h - 1.7 i - 1.7 j - 1.2 k - 1.6 l - 1.2 m - 0.9 p - 0.1 q - 0.1 r - 0.1 s - 0.2 t - 0.1 u - 2.0 v - 9.9 w - 1.1 x - 2.0 y - 4.8 z - 1.9 aa - 1.9 bb - 1.8 cc - 1.0 dd - 0.9 ee - 0.5

Depth: a - 8.7 b - 2.2 c - 0.5 d - 0.4 e - 1.4 f - 1.9 g - 1.8 h - 0.6 i - 0.6 j - 0.6 k - 0.6 l - 0.6 m - 0.4 p - 0.1 q - 0.1 r - 0.1 s - 0.1 t - 0.1 u - 1.0 v - 2.2 w - 0.1 x - 0.1 y - 1.0 z - 2.0 aa - 1.9 bb - 0.9 cc - 0.5 dd - 0.6 ee - 0.5

Diameter: n - 1.4 o - 1.3

Unit Of Measure: centimeters

Condition Remarks: Minor lifting of double decorative brass wire; discolourization of velvet to a light brown; lid warped does not fully close

Copy Type: original

Reference Types: Internet

Reference Comments: Dr. William Standish Reed.
Civil War issue U. S. Army Hospital Department set by Geo. Tiemann. American Civil War Surgical Antiques.

Research Facts: Dr. Peter William Reid (1827 - 1898) was born in Stirling Ontario and was an Empire Loyalist. Dr. Reid moved to the United States and due to a clerical error the spelling of his last name was changed to Reed.
The layout and instruments would indicate use as a field set as opposed to hospital use. Field sets are not as extensive as hospital sets and would have been used for initial treatment of war wounds as well as for treatment of day-to-day surgical problems.
The case has indentations for approximately 37 tools, but there is only 19 remaining instruments that fit into their designated areas. Three instruments do not appear to have designated spots within the case.

Images

