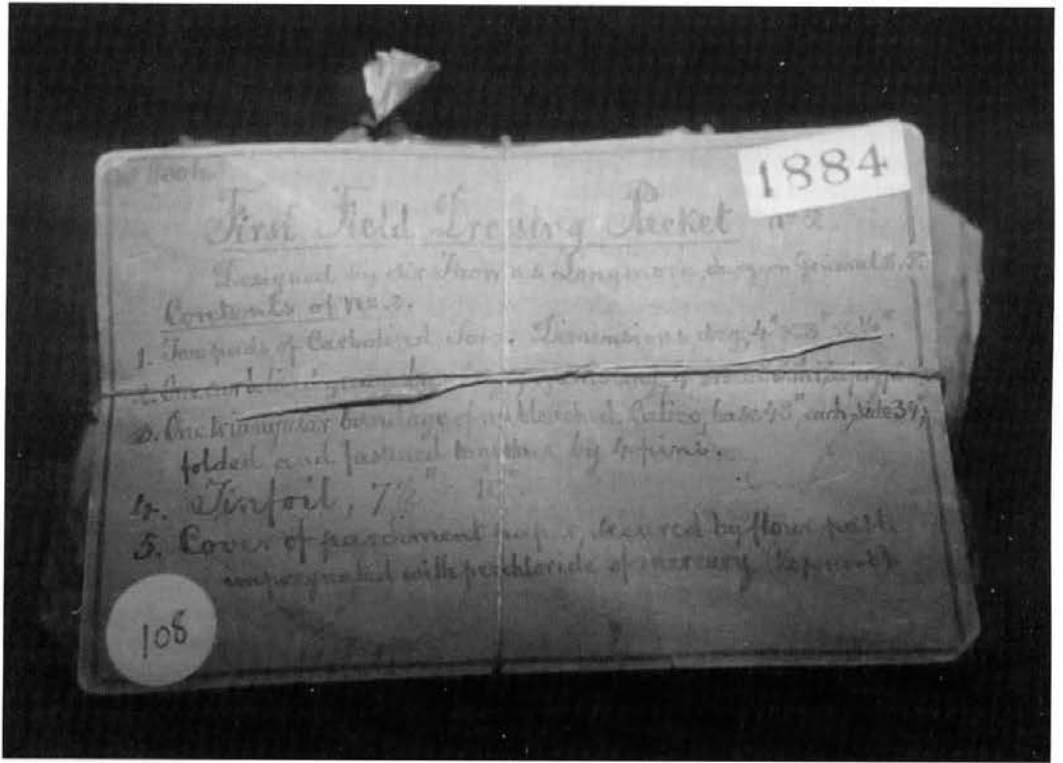


The First Field Dressing



An example of a first field dressing dated 1884

Every service person today carries at least one First Field Dressing on operations. Its origin can be traced back to the Crimean War when the secretary of State for War decided that a first field dressing should be part of every soldier's kit. It was not until 1st December 1884 that the dressing first appeared in List of Changes in War Material and is listed as:

*4584 Dressings Field
Antiseptic first field dressings have been
approved for issue on active service*

It is believed that this was the first officially issued dressing and an example is displayed in the Army Medical Service Museum. The dressing underwent many changes to result in the dressing carried today and many of these can also be seen in the museum.

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