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Silverplating by electricity spawned a new industry in America in 1847. By the 1880's, over forty firms centered largely around Meriden, Connecticut, produced ornate objects of silverplate which have become highly prized. Today these are studied and collected as representatives of an interesting period of American history. The designs drew

heavily on nature and the articles are ornamented with flowers, twigs, nuts, birds, bees, butterflies, squirrels, cows, goats, dogs, lizards, fish, young boys and girls, fairies and cherubs. In this book, the forms of American silverplate are identified, illustrated and grouped together; ice pitchers, card receivers, tea sets, baskets, butter dishes, napkin rings, toilet stands, flatware, and specially commissioned pieces. Closely related pewter, glassware, and silver are discussed as they affect the silverplate industry.