

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Overview of the  
Collection](#)

[History](#)

[Scope and Content](#)

[Arrangement](#)

[Restrictions](#)

[Index Terms](#)

[Related Material](#)

[Administrative  
Information](#)

[Detailed  
Description](#)

[Series I:  
Meriden  
Britannia  
Company,  
undated, 1853-  
1899](#)

[Series II:  
Rogers  
Manufacturing  
Company,](#)

# International Silver Company Records

Finding aid prepared by James W. Campbell.

Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center  
405 Babbidge Road, Unit 1205  
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-1205

© 2004 University of Connecticut

## Overview of the Collection

**Repository:** Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

**Creator:** International Silver Company.

**Title:** International Silver Company Records.

**Dates:** undated, 1853-1931.

**Quantity:** 48 linear feet.

**Identification:** MSS19800008

**Language:** English.

[undated, 1885-1900](#)

[Series III: Other ISC Predecessors, ca. 1880-1901](#)

[Series IV: International Silver Company, undated, 1899-1931](#)

[Series V: Unidentified Volumes, undated, 1875-1906](#)

[Series VI: Non-ISC Volumes, undated, 1899-1916](#)

## Abstract:

The International Silver Company was organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey on November 19, 1898. Within the next year, seventeen companies were purchased. By the early 1900s, it had become a large industrial corporation. Its operations centered at Meriden, Connecticut, would prove to be the major producer of silver products in the United States.

## History

The International Silver Company was organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey on 19 November 1898. Immediately upon organization, the company bought the total capital stock of the following companies: Barbour Silver Company (Hartford), \*Holmes & Edwards Silver Company (Bridgeport), \*Manhattan Silver Plate, (Lyons, New York), \*Meriden Britannia Company (Meriden), \*Norwich Cutlery (Norwich), \*William Rogers Manufacturing Company (Hartford), Rogers Cutlery (Hartford), Rogers and Brothers (Waterbury), Rogers and Hamilton (Waterbury), Wilcox Silver Plate (Meriden), Watrous Manufacturing Company (Wallingford), Standard Silver Company, Ltd. (Toronto, Canada).

During the first six months of 1899, an additional four companies were purchased. Derby Silver Company (Derby), Simpson, Hall, Miller & Company (Wallingford), Simpson Nickel Company (Wallingford), Middletown Plate Company (Middletown).

In January of 1903, the stock of the United States Silver Corporation was acquired, thereby gaining indirect ownership of: \*C. Rogers & Brothers (Meriden).

Thus, in the space of a few years, there came into being a large industrial corporation, worth \$20,000,000 at organization, which, with its operations centered at Meriden, Connecticut, would prove to be the major producer of silver products in the United States.

(\* ) indicates companies represented in this collection.

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

## Scope and Content

With only a few exceptions, the collection consists of bound volumes of financial records and other materials relating to the business of silver products manufacturing in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The record is by no means complete. In addition to financial matters, researchers may find materials of interest to broader social history in the Rogers Manufacturing Company correspondence volumes, and the time records and advertisements of the Meriden Britannia Company.

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement

**Series I: Meriden Britannia Company** (undated, 1853-1899) consists of 38 volumes including financial records (blotters, cashbooks, ledgers, and indices), time records, advertisements/catalogues, and memoranda. Although gaps appear in the cashbook collection, nonetheless, a reasonably complete record is provided in this category for the period 1853-1874, with an additional volume for 1893-1899.

**Series II: Rogers Manufacturing Company** (undated, 1885-1900), consists of 16 volumes of financial records (ledgers and journals), records of the New York store, correspondence, and one volume of electrotypes illustrating Rogers' products. As mentioned above, the correspondence is illustrative of the business conditions of the period and consists of copies of outgoing letters from the company officers.

**Series III: Other ISC Predecessors** (ca. 1880-1901), consists of a few volumes from four companies which later became part of International Silver: Manhattan Silver Plate Company, (1 volume, cash book 1880s), Holmes and Edwards Silver Company, (1 volume, scrapbook, 1890s) Norwich Cutlery Company, (2 volumes, cashbook and daybook, 1890s), and C. Rogers and Brothers, (1 volume, private ledger, 1899-1901).

**Series IV: International Silver Company** (undated, 1899-1931), consists of 4 volumes from the early years of the company including order books and circulars.

**Series V: Unidentified Volumes** (undated, 1875-1906), consists of 8 volumes of material which cannot be identified as to origin. It appears that much of this may be from Meriden Britannia, but precise identification has not been possible.

**Series VI: Non-ISC Volumes** (undated, 1899-1916), consists of 5 volumes from silver manufacturing companies which do not appear to have been a part of International Silver Company. Represented here are Oneida Community Silver Company, (2 scrapbooks, 1910s, from the publications *Jewelers Circular* and *Keystone*), Maltby Henley Company, (2 volumes of financial records, 1900s), and E. G. Webster & Son, (1 volume of electrotypes, undated).

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

---

## Restrictions

### Restrictions on Access

There are no access restrictions on this collection.

### Restrictions on Use

Permission to publish from these Papers must be obtained in writing from both the University of Connecticut Libraries and the owner(s) of the copyright.

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

---

## Related Material

Archives & Special Collections has a substantial collection of Connecticut business records. For detailed information on these collections please contact the [curator](#) or ask at the reference desk.

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

## Index Terms

This record series is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Organizations:

Bridgeport (Conn.)--Business, industries, and trades--Silver.  
Connecticut--Business, industries, and trades--Silver.  
Hartford (Conn.)--Business, industries, and trades--Silver.  
Lyons (N.Y.)  
Meriden (Conn.)--Business, industries, and trades--Silver.  
New York (State)--Business, industries, and trades--Silver.  
Norwich (Conn.)--Business, industries, and trades--Silver.  
Silver industry--Connecticut.  
Silver industry--New York (State)  
Silver-plated flatware--United States.  
Silverware--United States.

### Document Types:

Administrative Records.  
Advertisements.  
Catalogs.  
Correspondence.  
Financial Records.  
Fliers. [printed matter]  
Indexes.  
Scrap-Books.

### Occupations:

Manufacturer of silver products.

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

[Item description, #:#], International Silver Company Records. Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut Libraries.

### Acquisition Information

The collection was transferred to the University of Connecticut from Yale University in three shipments that were completed on 15 January 1980.

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

---

## Detailed Description

[The majority of the collection is shelved by volume number, only the volumes with a box number indicated are located in boxes.]

### Series I: Meriden Britannia Company, undated, 1853-1899

#### Blotters

1:1	#16, 1860-1863
1:2	#[18], 1868-1869
1:3	#20, 1870-1871
1:4	#21, 1872

#### Cash Books

1:5	1853 January
6-11	1853 - 1857 July
12-17	1865 August - 1868 November
18	1869 May - October
19	1870 March - September
20	1871 September - 1872 February
21-22	1874 April - December

- 2:23 1893 January -1899 April
- Ledgers
- 24 1855-1857
- 25 1860-1862
- 2:26 Supply Purchase—Machinery, undated
- 27 Early financial volume, 1854-1856
- Indices to Financial Volumes
- 28 Index to Ledgers EE and FF
- 29 Index N-W
- 30 Index P
- 31 Index U-X
- 32 Index Y-Z
- Time Records
- 33 Time Book (includes unbound materials), 1869-1884
- 34 Machine Room Employees, 1872-1878
- Advertisements/Catalogues
- 35 Catalogue List, 1889-1897
- 2:36 National Advertisements, 1890
- 37 Contracts for advertising, 1893-1916
- Memoranda
- 38 Consignment to Chicago store, undated
- Order Books
- 3:39 1906 January - 1922 September
- 3:40 1909 January - 1931 December
- Series II: Rogers Manufacturing Company, undated, 1885-1900**
- Financial Records
- 4:41 Expenditures (includes unbound materials), 1881-1882
- OS42 Purchase Ledger, 1893
- 4:43 Sales & Purchase Ledger (with index), 1898-1899
- OS44-45 Sales Ledger, 1898-1899
- 46 Journal, 1893-1899
- 3:47-48 Account Ledgers, 1893-1899
- New York Store
- 4:49 Financial Records (includes unbound materials), 1865-1894

## Correspondence

- 4:50 "W.H.W." [W.H. Watrous], 1887-1888  
 5:51 F. William Rogers, Secretary, 1885-1886  
 4:52 William Rogers Manufacturing Company, 1890  
 5:53 William Rogers Manufacturing Company, 1894  
 5:54 William Rogers Manufacturing Company, 1897-1898  
 4:55-56 William Rogers Manufacturing Company, 1898-1899  
 4:57 William Rogers Manufacturing Company, 1899-1900

## Electrotypes

- 58 Illustrations of Rogers products, undated

## Sales Price Books

- 3:59 Price Book (includes unbound materials), undated

**Series III: Other ISC Predecessors, ca. 1880-1901**

## Manhattan Silver Plate Company

- 7:60 Cash Book, 1885-1888

## Holmes and Edwards Silver Company

- 7:61 Scrapbook, undated, 1891

## Norwich Cutlery Company

- 62 Cash Book, 1890-1895

- 63 Day Book, 1894-1896

## C. Rogers and Brothers

- 7:64 Private Ledger, 1899-1901

**Series IV: International Silver Company, undated, 1899-1931**

## Order Books

- 65 1901 September -1902 January  
 66 "Foreign", 1908 January - 1909 January

## Circulars

- 6:67 #1-I through #218-I, 1899-1931  
 6:68 Letters #599 - #741, 1917-1921

**Series V: Unidentified Volumes, undated, 1875-1906**

## Journals

- 69 1863 January - 1868 November  
 70 1872 March - 1874 September  
 71 1890 December - 1899 April



	Time Records
72	1894-1900
	Cash Books
73	“EE”, 1875-1876
	Bills Payable
74	1869-1871
	Index
75	Index volume, undated
	Inventories
3:76	General inventory of machinery, 1906
	<b>Series VI: Non-ISC Volumes, undated, 1899-1916</b>
	Oneida Community Silver Company
77	Scrapbook of advertisements, 1907-1916
78	Scrapbook of advertisements, 1907-1916
	Maltby Henley Company
7:79	Cashbook, 1900-1903
7:80	Financial records, 1899-1903
	E.G. Webster & Sons
81	Electrotypes, undated