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TIFFANY & CO.'S DISPLAY OF THE BEAUTIFUL SILVER SERVICE JUST COMPLETED FOR THE GREAT BATTLESHIP "INDIANA."



TIFFANY & CO., the New York gold and silver smiths, have placed on exhibition for a few days, in their establishment on Union Square, the beautiful silver service which they have just completed for the battleship "Indiana," and tendered a private view to the press of what will probably rank in history as the richest silver service ever presented to a United States battleship or cruiser.

The success of the public subscription to the fund under the auspices of the Indianapolis *News* was so pronounced that when the committee called for designs all the leading silversmiths of the country responded. It was stipulated that, to insure absolute impartiality, all designs should be submitted with no mark upon them other than a secret symbol, the identity of which was to be revealed only upon the opening of the sealed envelopes containing same after the committee had reached a decision regarding the designs.

The committee not only unanimously selected the Tiffany designs, but declared that they excelled in every respect, and that nothing approaching them had been offered by any of the competitors.

The service, with the massive oak-bound chests, makes a brilliant display. The entire service is of sterling silver, 925, 1000 fine, and consists of about forty pieces. Almost all the pieces are large ones, as experience has demonstrated that forks and spoons and other similar small objects, when used aboard ship, develop an incurable tendency to disappear; and as no part of the money appropriated was diverted for the purchase of the ordinary individual pieces, the generous fund enabled Tiffany & Co. to give the fullest play to their artistic abilities; and to their credit it must be said that the richness and beauty of the service far exceeds the most sanguine expectations aroused by the effective designs offered. Tiffany & Co.'s assurances regarding substantiality and weight are also more than realized.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE.

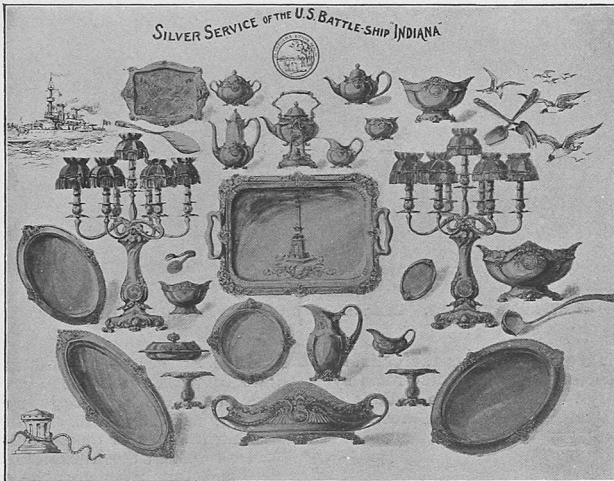
The decorations symbolize Peace and Home.

The keynote of the artistic and graceful decorations is the beautiful centrepiece. This superb piece is a large flower or fruit-dish, measuring twenty-eight inches, and some ten inches in height. Its graceful rolling

form suggests the rolling swell of the sea; but, while giving due recognition to the nautical claims of the subject, any tendency to overburden this beautiful and costly service with purely nautical subjects has been studiously avoided. In the centre, on either side of the centrepiece, are large medallions, one bearing in relief the seal of the State of Indiana, and the other, also in relief, a facsimile of the famous Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Indianapolis. Similar medallions are introduced upon all the pieces of the service. Surrounding the medallions are nautilus shells and seaweed, and depending from these are garlands of wild roses or eglantines, which, with the oak, sycamore acorns, and shrubs, symbolize the principal flora and trees of the State.

The centrepiece weighs two hundred and ninety-seven ounces, or nearly twenty-five pounds. It is richly gold-lined, and over the top is a silver-gilt wire network covering for cut flowers, which can be removed and the dish used as a jardinière; or, if the lining is taken out, it will also serve as a fruit-dish. Ranking next to this in richness of effect come the massive candelabra; these have

nine lights each, and stand twenty-two and one-half inches high, exclusive of candles and shades, and weigh over thirty-six pounds. The arms of the candelabra are gracefully twined, and the sconce cups and saucers are formed by the eglantine flowers. The large salver, another of the pieces, is oblong in form, twenty-four inches long, and weighs over two hundred ounces. The salver has two handles, and in the large open centre space there is a fine etching, measuring eleven inches, of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument.



DESIGNED AND EXECUTED BY THE TIFFANY CO., NEW YORK.

The remaining pieces consist of a twenty-four-inch meat-dish, intended for a large roast; a twenty-six-inch fish-dish; an eighteen-inch meat-dish; two round thirteen-inch entré-dishes; two gravy-boats; two double vegetable-dishes, arranged so that by unlocking the handles from the top the covers are converted into dishes; four compotiers, each gilt in the centre, standing six and one-quarter inches high; two large fruit-dishes; one very handsome ice-cream dish, with richly decorated lattice-work drainer; one ice-cream slicer; one salad-bowl, spoon and fork, all lined with gold; one ice-bowl and tongs, four *hors d'œuvre* dishes, gold lined; and one water-pitcher with a capacity of ten pints.

The service was designed by Mr. John T. Curran, of Tiffany & Co.'s silver factory, and in its entirety contains nearly two hundred pounds of sterling silver 925, 1000 fine.

The silver is fitted into three handsome and substantial oak chests lined with red chamois and bound with brass, and bearing brass plates suitably inscribed.