Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Art Nouveau-Style Sterling Silver and Mother-of-Pearl Baby's Rattle and Teether

£165

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REF: 7734

Description

A charming American sterling silver and mother-of-pearl baby's rattle and teether by the Webster Company of North Attleboro, Massachusetts, dating to circa 1920. Combining practical purpose with refined decorative design, this delightful object is a fine example of the beautifully made nursery accessories produced in America during the early 20th century.

The rattle is crafted in sterling silver and enriched with mother-of-pearl, whose soft iridescence provides an elegant contrast to the polished silver. Its flowing, Art Nouveau-style ornament gives the piece a graceful and whimsical character, while the integrated teether reflects the thoughtful functionality expected of a cherished infant gift. The gentle sound of the rattle and the cool, smooth quality of mother-of-pearl made such objects both appealing and useful.

The Webster Company was a respected Massachusetts silversmith, well known for producing high-quality sterling silver hollowware, flatware, and small luxury objects. This piece reflects the firm's attention to detail and its ability to bring sophistication to even the most intimate domestic possessions.

Originally intended as a presentation gift for a newborn or christening, the rattle retains the sentimental appeal of a bygone era, when finely crafted silver nursery objects were treasured family keepsakes and often passed between generations. Today, it would make a lovely addition to a collection of antique babyware, American sterling silver, or Art Nouveau-inspired decorative arts.

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