Contents

 List of Figures  ix
 Acknowledgements  xi
 List of Contributors  xiii

 Introduction: ‘It’s a Victorian Thing’  1
 HELEN KINGSTONE AND KATE LISTER

PART I
‘A Magic Cave’: Collecting Objects  15

1 The Bazaars of London’s West End in the Nineteenth Century  17
 ROHAN McWILLIAM

2 The Bric-à-Bracquer’s Étagère or Whatnot: Staging ‘Artistic’ Taste in the Aesthetic ‘House Beautiful’  37
 ANNE ANDERSON

3 Rossetti’s Things: The Artist and his Accessories  58
 THAD LOGAN

PART II
Ornaments: Defining Prosperity at Home  79

4 The Dark Side of the Tank: The Marine Aquarium in the Victorian Home  81
 SILVIA GRANATA

 RALPH MILLS
6 The Secret Lives of Dead Animals: Exploring Victorian Taxidermy 122
   JULIA COURTNEV

PART III
Decentring Meaning: Objects Becoming Things 141

7 Objects of Anxiety in Nineteenth-Century Children’s Literature: E. Nesbit and Frances Hodgson Burnett 143
   VALERIE SANDERS

8 Within ‘The Coil of Things’: The Figurative Use of Devotional Objects in the Poetical Works of Algernon Charles Swinburne and Oscar Wilde 161
   FRANCOIS ROPERT

PART IV
Object or Text? Reading the Body 177

9 Golden Lies? Reading Locks of Hair in Mary Elizabeth Braddon’s Lady Audley’s Secret and Tennyson’s ‘The Ringlet’ 179
   HEATHER HIND

10 The Art of Curling Up: Charles Dickens and the Feeling of Curl-Papers 193
   SOPHIE RATCLIFFE

PART V
Objects in Circulation: Print Culture 211

11 Woman’s Dress as a Polemical Object in the Mid-Victorian Period 213
   ODILE BOUCHER-RIVALAIN

12 Paper Love: Valentines in Victorian Culture 229
   ALICE CROSSLEY

13 Exotic Bodies and Mundane Medicines: Advertising and Empire in the Late-Victorian and Edwardian Press 244
   PETER YEANDLE

Index 265