

not be used on black; a rich red or peacock blue would be suitable. A red cover worked in greens and gold either in full embroidery or in appliqué would be very rich. A pretty pattern for an upright piano cover is to let the material be its full width in front, so hanging over the front about four inches. Cut away this strip on both ends so that the two ends will hang over the sides. The front lap may be embroidered and finished with a fringe. Also the ends. See also Colored Plate XXII in this issue,

EMBROIDERED LINEN CURTAINS.—Curtains of this linen are a fine opportunity for embroidery of a most artistic sort. Do not use any naturalistic design, but rather some old Portuguese or Florentine border worked in rich colors. Both curtains should be the same if they are to hang together. They may have a border twelve inches deep across the bottom, and in addition to this a scroll or narrow border down each side or along the sides which come together. Work of this sort should be done largely in outline and filling stitches with heavy silks. The Portuguese laid stitch is very pretty for those parts of such a design which carry the mass of color.

Appliqué is also an effective style of work on this linen. The design may be cut from a colored linen and applied with the heavy flosses. The French designs are pretty wrought in this way. One may say by way of suggestion after this style that a large vase or urn might be applied at the bottom of each curtain, and a floral design starting from it might be wrought through the middle of the curtain to the top. The border effect will, however, be more suitable to curtains which are to be washed, and a good part of it will be hand work—that is, not necessarily *frame* work.

HEMS AND MONOGRAMS OF TABLE LINEN.—The most elegant way to finish tablecloths and napkins is to hemstitch them, but few people go to so much trouble. Table linen, however, should always be hemmed by hand, and the most acceptable method is the "French hem." This is done by turning an ordinary hem first, then turn this back its exact width about one quarter inch, on the right side. Crease this firmly and top sew it all round the edge with fine stitches. This finished, turn the hem down again. This is the strongest and most satisfactory way to hem damask. It is also much easier to do than the usual hem. If the edges of stiff damask are dipped in scalding water it makes the work easier. Hems on napkins should be one quarter inch. Hemstitched hems on tablecloths may be an inch on one and one half an inch deep, but the top sewed hem should be as narrow as the one on the napkin. The monogram or the single letter is acceptable on napkins; either or both should be from one to two inches in height, and should be placed by creasing the square corner formed by folding the napkin twice one way and twice the other on the diagonal. It is better to place the letter square, not diagonally. The work should be done in French working cotton.

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