An Unusual Design that is Delightfully Oriental

A SERF designed especially for a bride-groom, but equally suitable for any little informal affair, or for the family breakfast or lunch, shown an embroidered design quaint and unusual, and decidedly colorful. If one is looking for a piece of work which will serve to utilize odd ends of embroidery-floss, this set will be welcomed on that account, also. The stitches are simple—outline, loop-stitch, French knots, and a touch of padded satin-stitch; the colors, which may be varied at pleasure of the worker, although those suggested give a most harmonious effect, are yellow, blue, red, green, three shades of terracotta, and black—which adds so much to embroidery of this class, as it brings out the vivid colors and blending them into a perfect whole.

The design is delightfully Oriental, with its suggestion of Japanese lanterns and cherry-blossoms, and the set would seem especially appropriate for a little out-of-door festivity or porch luncheon. The large circles at each side of the cloth are outlined with black, as are the parallel lines connecting these motifs, and most of the shorter ones; the flower-arrays, graceful and pretty, have the leaflets in loop-stitch of green, the stems outlined with the same color, the blossoms forming the three shades of terracotta, in French-knot stitch. The embroidered figures of the motif are crowned with red—that nearest the edge—a part of the outline forming a portion of the large circle—yellow and blue, the latter overlapping the second figure; qualit Japanese—or Chinese, as you please—characters are worked in padded satin-stitch, using yellow, green and blue for the first, medium terracotta for the second and blue and red for the third, from which radiate lines of yellow and the darkest shade of terracotta, in alternate motifs. The cross-lines are of black throughout.

The napkin—corners carry out the same decorative scheme, with the curving sprays each side of the outlined—blue and yellow motifs. The arrangement of the colors may be varied as desired; every needleworker will enjoy giving the set her own individual touch. And it is safe to say it will not be possible to get any other than a pleasant effect, always if the work is well done. Even with the simplest stitches, employed in a design that is quickly executed, pains-taking is of the great essential. The edges of the luncheon-set and napkins are finished with machine hem-stitching. In case one finds it inconvenient to have this done, or prefers her work to be "every bit handmade," our old-time punchwork or "big-needle work" may be brought into play. Run a line of stitching close to the edge, leaving a few threads outside, and follow this line on the inside with the hemstitching. Using your punch-needle—or, lacking this, a large darning—threaded with strong, rather fine thread, tied in, bring it up through directly inside the line of stitching, put it back the length of the stitch—say one eighth inch—bring it up where it first came out and put it down again where it first went down, making two binding stitches, which should be drawn (tight enough to hold the opening made by the needle) now bring it out again one eighth inch, or the length of your stitch, in advance of where it first came up, put it down in the first opening back, make the two binding stitches as before, and repeat. If preferred the holes may be punched with a stiletto, and the binding-stitches put in with a sewing-needle.

For the edging:

1. Using No. 60 crochet-thread, fasten in a hole; make 2 double crochets (d) in each hole all around.
2. Chain (ch) 7, a treble (tr) in same place. * ch 3, miss 7 d c, a tr in next, 4 ch, 4 tr in same place; repeat around, joining last 3 ch to 3d of 7 ch.
3. Take a d c back under 3 ch, * 3 tr under 4 ch, d c under next 3 ch; repeat around, join and fasten off.

In working the edging for napkins miss but 4 d c each side of corner, making 2 f t, 4 ch between, in corner d c.

The luncheon-set is of generous size, about one yard in diameter, and the napkins are twelve inches square.

Scarf-End, Insert and Lace, Horn-of-Plenty Design

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Two scallops (space between scallops of 1st row and end of 2d row), * chain 3, 3 trebles in side of last double made, miss 1 row, 4 doubles under chain at beginning of next row back, repeat from * 7 times. Now make 3 chains. Fasten off, with 4 doubles each side, instead of missing a row.

Insertion—Make a chain of any number of stitches, turn.

1. A tr in 8th st, 1 more sp. 4 tr, 27 sp. edge.
2. 2 tr, 3 edge.
4. Edge; 3 sp, 4 tr, 23 sp. edge.
5. Edge; 18 sp, 10 tr, 3 sp, 4 tr, 2 sp. edge.
6. Miss 1 row of lace to *. 2 sp, edge.
7. Edge; 3 sp, like 7th row of lace from *.
8. Like 8th row (of lace, always) to *. 3 sp, edge.
9. Edge; 2 sp, like 8th row from *.
10. Like 10th to *. 2 sp, edge.
11. Edge; 3 sp, like 11th from *.
12. Like 12th to *. 7 sp, edge.
13. Edge; 4 sp, like 13th from *.
14. Like 14th to *. 3 sp, edge.
15. Edge; 6 sp, like 15th from *.
16. Like 16th to *. 7 sp, edge.
17. Edge; 8 sp, like 17th from *. 15 sp, turn.
18. Like 18th to *. 4 sp, edge.
19. Edge; 4 sp, like 19th from *.
20. Like 20th to *. 5 sp, edge.
21. Edge; 14 sp, 24 tr. 4 sp, edge.
22. 25. Like 20. Repeat from 2d row to length required.

Inset—Make a chain of 101 stitches, turn.

1. A tr in 8th st, 31 more sp. turn.
2. Thirty-two sp, turn.
3. Two sp, 25 tr, 2 sp, turn.
4. 5. 6. Edge; 20 sp, edge.
7. Like 4th row of insertion, ending with 22 sp, edge.
8. Like 5th row of insertion, beginning with edge, 17 sp.
9. Continue in this way, repeating directions for insertion from 6th to 21st row, only remembering to make 1 space less preceding the spaces of end of odd rows and following the edge at beginning of even rows.
10. Finish with 5 rows of spaces, with edge each side, then reverse from 5d to 1st row. There are many ways in which these designs may be used to charming advantage. A buffet-scarf or table-runner may have the insertion through the middle, a strip of hemstitched linen each side, and ends trimmed with the lace from other scarf may have the insertion with hemstitched ends or the small inset may be placed cornerwise, serving either as a border or insertion. For curtains this may be used in the same way, singly, at a little distance apart. If you wish to curve the face for a centerpiece to make 4 more d c, turn, and half trebles instead of trebles at upper edge. There are many other ways of employing this motif prettily well occur to the interested worker.

I AM sure some contributor will always send a cross-stitch or filet-crochet design for a tray, using the Willow pattern of Canton china or pillowware. I shall gratefully—Mrs. F. A. R., L. icemar.