A Handsome Between-Meal Centerpiece
By Mrs. B.F. Dixon

This centerpiece has a border of imitation Cluny lace, in crochet, worked with No. 25 linen thread. The damask center is sixteen inches in diameter, the completed piece thirty-eight inches. If finer thread is used, the size will be diminished in proportion, unless, the diameter of the center is increased to correspond with the narrower border. One may easily arrange for any desired size, using also thread of any size or kind that is preferred. The center may be embroidered, if desired, but the plain damask with so elaborate a border is especially effective. It is better to not cut the circle of linen until you have completed the lace.

The work is begun in the center of the diamond, with a chain about three and one-half yards long, or according to size of centerpiece desired and quality of thread used. Join the ends, taking care the chain is not twisted.

1. Chain 3 for a treble, 2 trebles in same place, * chain 2, miss 2, 29 doubles in 29 stitches, chain 2, miss 2, 3 trebles in next; repeat around, joining last 2 chain to top of 3 chain.

2. Three trebles between 1st and 2d trebles of last row (chain 3 for 1st treble of the row), chain 2, 3 trebles between 2d and 3d trebles, chain 3, 24 doubles over 29 doubles, missing 1st and last 2, chain 3; repeat around, join.

3. Three trebles in 3 trebles, chain 2, 3 trebles under 2 chain, chain 2, 3 trebles, in 3 trebles, chain 4, 21 doubles over 25 doubles (missing 1st and last 2), chain 4; repeat.
4. Three trebles in 3 trebles, chain 2, 3 trebles in 1st of 3 trebles, chain 2, 3 trebles in last of 3 trebles, chain 5, 17 doubles over 21 doubles, chain 5; repeat.

5. (Three trebles in 3 trebles, chain 2) twice, 3 trebles under 2 chain, (chain 2, 3 trebles in 3 trebles) twice, chain 6, 13 doubles over 17 doubles, chain 6; repeat.

6. (Three trebles in 3 trebles, chain 2) twice, 3 trebles in 1st of 3 trebles, chain 2, 3 trebles in last of 3 trebles, (chain 2, 3 trebles in 3 trebles) twice, chain 7, 9 doubles over 13 doubles, chain 7; repeat.

7. (Three trebles in 3 trebles, chain 2) 3 times, 3 trebles under 2 chain, (chain 2, 3 trebles in 3 trebles) 3 times, chain 8, 5 doubles over 9 doubles, chain 8; repeat.

8. Chain 6, for a quadruple treble (over 4 times), a quadruple treble in each of 2 trebles, keeping the top loop of each on needle and working off together to form a cluster, * (chain 5, 3 quadruple trebles in next 3 trebles, keeping all on needle and working off as before) twice, chain 5, a cluster made as described, in 1st of 3 trebles, chains, a cluster in last of 3 trebles, (chain 5, a cluster in next 3 trebles) 3 times, chain 5, a cluster of 3 quintuple trebles (over 5 times) in center of 5 doubles, chain 5, a cluster of quadruples in next 3 trebles; repeat:

9. Slip to center of 5 chain, make a cluster as directed in 8th row (to *), close the cluster with 1 chain, * (chain 5, a cluster in center of next chain, close cluster with 1 chain) 3 times, chain 5, a cluster in same place, close, (chain 5, a cluster in center of next chain, close) 4 times, a cluster in center of next chain, close, chain 5, a cluster in center of next, close, and repeat from *.

10. Chain 6, * a treble in center of chain, chain 3, a treble in top of cluster, chain 3; repeat from *, putting a treble between the 2 clusters which come together; join to 3d of 6 chain.

11. Chain 3, a double in next treble, chain 5, a double in same place, chain 6, a double in same place, chain 5, a double in same place, forming a triple picot, chain 3, a double in next treble; repeat. This completes the outer edge. Break thread and fasten securely, then fasten in again on inner side of chain, in the stitch where 1st 3 trebles were made.

12. Chain 3, 2 trebles in same stitch, * chain 2, a double in each stitch of chain in which the doubles were worked on outer side, 29 in all, chain 2, 3 trebles in stitch with opposite 3 trebles; repeat.

13. Three trebles between 1st and 2d trebles, chain 1, 3 trebles between 2d and 3d trebles, chain 2, 25 doubles over 29 doubles, chain 2; repeat.

14. 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th rows, only making 1 chain between the groups of trebles, in order to narrow the fan, and increasing the chain between fan and diamond 1 stitch each row, If preferred a smaller hook may be used, making the work closer, with the same directions.

15. Same as 8th row.

16. Slip to center of chain, chain 9,* a treble in center of next chain, (chain 5, a double in center of next) twice, chain 5, a treble in center of next, chain 5, a triple treble (over 3 times) in center of next, chain 5, a quintuple in center of next and in center of next, no chain between, chain 5, a triple in center of next, chain 5, repeat from *, joining last 5 chain to center of 9 chain.

17. Chain 5, * a treble in center of chain, chain 2, a treble in treble, (chain 2, a treble in center of chain, chain 2, a treble in double) twice, chain 2, a treble in center of chain, chain 2, treble in treble, chain 2, treble in center of chain, chain 2, treble in triple treble, chain 2, treble in center of chain, chain 2, treble between 2 quintuples, chain 2, treble in center of chain, chain 2, treble in triple treble, chain 2; repeat, joining last 2 chain to 3d of 5 chain.

18. Chain 5, * treble in next treble, (chain 1, treble in next treble) twice, chain 2, treble in next; repeat from * around, joining to 3d of 5 chain.
24. Chain 5, 3 triple trebles in space, keeping top loops of all on hook and working off together, make a tight chain to close the cluster, chain 5, fasten in same space, chain 5, 4 triple trebles in same space, working all off together, as before, * miss 2 spaces, 4 triple trebles in next, working off together, chain 5, fasten in same space, chain 5, 4 triple trebles in same space, working all off together; repeat from *, joining to top of 1st cluster. By using 3 triples instead of 4 you have a less heavy cluster, and one which you may like quite as well.

25. Same as 24th row, working 2 clusters between the groups of clusters in last row-

26. Chain 5, miss 2 clusters, fasten in top of next 2; repeat.

27. Chain 5. * treble in center of chain, chain 2, a treble over clusters, chain 2; repeat from *, joining to 3d of 5 chain.

28. Chain 5, * treble in treble, chain 2; repeat around, join.

29. A double in each stitch, all around.

30 to 43. A double in each stitch, working in both veins or loops to avoid the rib.

44. A double in each of 45 stitches, then for the cloverleaf make a chain of 18 stitches, catch into a double of 31st row, about 7 doubles back from where chain begins, turn, miss 1st stitch, a double in next, half treble in next, a treble in each of 4, half treble in next, double in next, catch in 38th row of doubles, or so the leaflet will lie smooth on the surface, chain 10 stitches, catch in 34th row, 6th double back of last, turn, 1 double, 1 half treble, 5 trebles, 1 half treble and 1 double to form the leaf, catch at end of last leaf, chain 9, catch in 42d row, still in 6th double back of where 1st leaf was caught, turn, 1 double, 1 half treble, 4 trebles. 1 half treble and 1 double, catch in end of last leaf close by the stem, taking into the double beneath, slip up the chain or stem, and repeat. If desired, the cloverleaves may be made closer together.

45. Chain 5, * miss 2, 1 treble, chain 2; repeat, having a treble come at top of each stem, and join to 3d of 5 chain.

46. 47, 48, 49, 50, 51. Same as 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th.

52. Chain 3, a treble in each stitch, all around, join.

53. A double in each treble.

Strike a circle on your linen, of proper size, and stitch this line on the sewing-machine. Cut outside of the line, allowing for a narrow hem, then buttonhole closely over the edge, taking into every double of last row.