

of C. F. Theodor Steinway's attachment to the harp, but is also the natural outgrowth of their similar acoustical problems. Theodor painstakingly studied the harp in order that he might eventually develop the piano. As a result of his knowledge, the bent rim of the Steinway amplifies the vibrations of the strings.

No better example of this combination of arts can be found than the present White House piano. When Steinway and Sons replaced the Steinway accepted in 1903 by President Theodore Roosevelt, three eminent artists were engaged to produce the most beautiful and fitting thing that could be conceived for that purpose.

The case of the New White House Piano (presented December 10, 1938) is made of the finest Honduras mahogany, constructed on the chaste and simple lines of the old spinet. The legs, in the shape of three American eagles, are carved from solid mahogany blocks, covered with gold leaf and painted. The rich red of the mahogany and the soft gold decorations blend magnificently with the cream-and-gold walls and rich deep red hangings of the East Room of the White House.

The decorations represent the colorful variety of American musical sources—the Virginia reel, the New England barn dance, the chanting Indian, the spiritual-singing Negro cottonpicker, and the lonely cowboy.

In this incomparable White House Piano are combined the epitome of three major arts—the art of functional per-