



THE SCARLET LETTER



Merry It Is

From a 13th century
English lyric
(translated)

Merry it is while summer lasts,
With birds in song;
But now there threaten windy blasts
And tempests strong.
Ah, but the night is long.

EARLY AUTUMN 2016 NEWSLETTER

What's New



Catherine Buchanan



Ann Fleming



Rebekah Hacker



Ann Golding Antique Sampler



CATHERINE BUCHANAN



Catherine Buchanan was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, in 1786. She made, possibly, her first sampler- a simple alphabetic, numeric piece with verses- in 1796 when she was ten years old, and stitched this masterpiece two years later when she was twelve. Both sampler graphs are included in this booklet so that you can follow a girl's progress through her needlework tutorials. The kit contains materials for only the 1798 sampler, but both charts are printed in full color.



Catherine Buchanan

[More about Catherine Buchanan Kit](#)

[More about Catherine Buchanan Antiques](#)



ANN FLEMING



A classic Quaker sampler from the Delaware Valley, this sampler demonstrates the style and many of the motifs that make them so easy to identify. The inner oval vine-and-leaf cartouche surrounding the alphabets probably originated at the Westtown School in Chester County. It is worked in chain stitch with counted thread satin stitched leaves.



Ann Fleming

More about Ann Fleming



REBEKAH HACKER



Rebekah Hacker (1777-1799) was the daughter of schoolmaster Isaac Hacker (1750-1818) and Anna Estes Hacker (1754-1802) of Salem, Massachusetts. Rebekah was one of ten children, and died unwed at age 22. After her death, her sampler passed into the family of her brother, Jeremiah Hacker, who lived in Philadelphia.



Rebekah Hacker

This beautifully detailed sampler will be available in early December. Stay tuned to The Scarlet Letter!

More about Rebekah Hacker



ANTIQUES



Ann Golding June 1, 1835, Aged 13 years

This sampler is in nearly perfect condition, meticulously executed in cross stitch and petit point. It features an elaborate four sided floral border of roses and violet. The upper register includes butterflies and birds, centering a magnificent peacock. Below that are potted plants centering a basket of flowers. The lower register depicts an elaborate rambling mansion house with a tiled roof, flanked by towering trees, small cottages, and flying birds. The sprawling lawn in front of the house contains a lion on a pedestal, topiary, and other plants and animals.



Ann Golding Antique Sampler

[More about Ann Golding Antique Sampler](#)

More Reproduction Sampler Kits



MARY ANNE DROUGHT



Mary Ann Drought is a very unusual Irish sampler. The upper third could pass as Scottish with the illuminated alphabets and beautiful, delicate double running stitch motifs. Stitches used to execute the sampler include double running, half cross, counted satin, petit point, tent, outline and cross. The attention to detail is extraordinary. I wish to thank Kathleen Grigg for her excellent execution of the stitched model.



Mary Ann Drought

[More about Mary Ann Drought](#)



**BLESSED ARE
THE SONS OF PEACE**



Blessed Are the Sons of Peace is a needlework picture in the style of the middle eighteenth century. The title of this exciting and vibrant needlework picture comes from a psalm written by Isaac Watts (1674-1748), whose works inspired many verses stitched on samplers and needlework pictures during and long after his death. I wish to thank Sigrid Eckel for so beautifully stitching the model.

[More about Blessed Are the Sons of Peace](#)



Blessed are the Sons of Peace



THE MILKMAID



From before the early eighteenth century, a change in attitudes regarding nature in western art evolved, resulting in a bucolic, pastoral ideal: an inhabited landscape, lush with flowers and fruits, featuring shepherds and farming activities, usually with a hint at romance. The actual lives of the shepherds and farm workers depicted were exaggerated and romanticized to the extreme. This ideal sort of landscape as depicted in many eighteenth and early nineteenth century art works can be attributed to the Romantic movement, rather a broad artistic and aesthetic concept that appreciated a return to Nature in its purest elemental sense. Wordsworth defined Romanticism in reference to poetry as "emotion recollected in tranquility". It represents a place to escape from the rigors of the real world: an idealized world where roses grow as tall as trees, and sheep and cows munch languidly in ever-fruited orchards.



The Milkmaid

[More about the Milkmaid](#)



ANN WALTON



A year before Queen Victoria was crowned, Ann Walton stitched a pair of sweet little samplers depicting a young boy and a girl at play. The boy is holding a hoop and a stick, and the girl holds what appears to be a basket in one hand and a bouquet in the other.

[More about Ann Walton](#)



Ann Walton



This highly unusual Scottish sampler stitched by Margaret Muir retains its brilliant color on both front and back and incorporates many traditional motifs found on Scottish samplers as well as some unique variations.

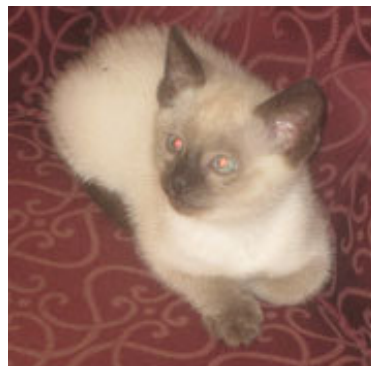
More about Margaret Muir



Margaret Muir's sampler, as stitched by Kathleen Grigg



My Silver Gray Dorking rooster, an ancient breed known even to the ancient Romans



The newest kitten, Hector



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