



THE SCARLET LETTER



Roses are blooming, the vegetable garden is growing, it's a beautiful late spring/early summer at Smoke Ham Farm, home of The Scarlet Letter. A productive winter has resulted in a bumper crop of new samplers, with even more to come before the summer's gone.



With every order of more than \$25.00, placed between now and the end of August, I will include the charts of two "balloon girls", reproduced from mid 19th century antique samplers formerly in the collection of The Scarlet Letter.

If you are in the vicinity of Madison, Wisconsin, please visit Lynn's of Madison at 5928 Odana Road to see many of The Scarlet Letter's finished models. Lynn has framed many of my models and offers a fantastic selection of moldings, and professional service including lacing your sampler as well as archival framing services, in addition to a huge inventory of sampler charts. "The Manifesto" is on

display there in addition to many other TSL designs.

Wishing you a lovely summer,
Marsha



Beppo poses beside the Tiger sampler

What's New



ELIZABETH HICKS

1765



Elizabeth Hicks

This beautiful, petite, energetic sampler expressed three fine verses and, at the end, one of the truest "signatures" I've ever read on a piece of needlework. More about Elizabeth Hicks

[More about Elizabeth Hicks](#)



SAXON ALPHABET

circa 1760



Saxon Alphabet

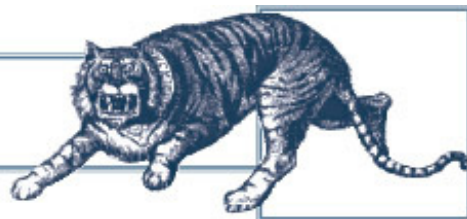
This partial German band sampler (the lower half was evidently removed at some point in its journey to the 21st century) was probably made in Saxony, in the area of Dresden, as the style resembles others that The Scarlet Letter have reproduced from that region More about Saxon Alphabet Sampler reproduction.

[More about the Saxon Alphabet Sampler](#)



M. REES

1849





M. Rees

This elaborate English sampler features a fearsome tiger beneath a tropical plantation house or gazebo, covered in lush trellises and vines. This was probably stitched in either Africa or India (more likely the latter) by a British girl whose father was in the employ of an enterprise such as the East India Company, as the sampler was made before British rule in India but during the period when the EIC flourished there (1757-1858). More about M. Rees reproduction.

[More about M. Rees](#)



MARY HOOD

1768



Coming in August 2017 !

Original antique sampler pictured

Coming in August 2017 !

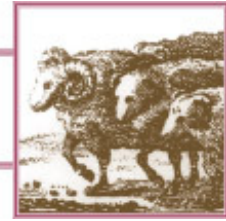
Original antique sampler pictured



Mary Hood



ESTHER CHARLTON



Esther Charlton

This English sampler features imposing, symmetrical red brick mansion houses flanking Adam and Eve and the Tree of Life in the upper register. Esther Charlton finished her sampler when she was fourteen years old.

[More about Esther Charlton](#)



MOSES IN THE BULLRUSHES

AN EARLY 18TH CENTURY ENGLISH NEEDLEWORK PICTURE





Moses in the Bulrushes

This beautiful depiction of the Old Testament story of Moses was likely made in the late seventeenth or very early eighteenth century. The lively mix of biblical story has been interpreted by the needle worker through her contemporary lens (note the rambling red brick late Tudor/early Stuart buildings and the fashionable clothing of the women-apart from their rather clumsy sandals) as they gather the baby from the river.

[More about Moses in the Bulrushes.](#)



“PALLA” Chalice Cover



Palla Chalice Cover

This small textile originally made in the late 15th or early 16th century, is called a "palla" (chalice cover), stitched on a linen ground. The center show the face of Christ with a golden halo, framed by a narrow guilloche band and a large Latin inscription in Gothic lettering which translates as "Hail the holy face INRI the Redeemer." More about Palla.



Darning



Susana How Whitchurch



Fanny Peachey



Unsigned Pictorial Sampler



Whitework Band Sampler



Elizabeth Hicks



M. Rees



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