

# **MID AUTUMN NEWSLETTER**



There are only a few trees left with bright autumn colors here on the farm. The shed is filled with oak, maple and hickory firewood, the gardens have been put to sleep. My old tom turkey, Hansel, is about to survive his twelfth Thanksgiving along with his three brides .



Hansel and one of his brides

Four "new" antique samplers have recently come to roost in our gallery. Photos of the samplers along with a brief description are shown below. Additional information and more photos are available on the Scarlet Letter website.

Sales of antiques have been very soft for the past year, including samplers. Now is the time to buy because prices are very low. I am offering these four antique samplers at the price that I paid. I considered reproducing them, but decided otherwise.



Hansel celebrates another Thanksgiving

We now accept Paypal, but this option does not show up on our online order form. If you would like to use Paypal, simply send your order and your mailing address to me at samplers@scarlet-letter.com and I will send an invoice to you through Paypal.

Be well and warm,

Marsha

## **Linen Specials**

#### **Recently Discovered at the back of our Store Room**

Three yards of Florence Graziano 50 count ivory linen, 71" wide. This linen is no longer imported. It is perfect for stitching the Bristol Orphanage samplers. \$120 for a full yard (71" x 36"), \$60 for a half yard (cut 36" x 35-1/2").

One yard and three quarters of HAND WOVEN 35 count natural linen, woven by Kate Smith of Eaton Hill Textile Works in Vermont. One yard of this linen now sells WHOLESALE for \$140. We offer this piece, which measures 34" wide x 59" long, for \$160. It is not entirely evenweave, so allow for this when calculating the size of your sampler.

Contact me by email at samplers@scarlet-letter.com to purchase.

#### **Linen Scrap Bags**

Linen scrap bags are back in very limited quantities. For \$20, you get one half yard and more of first quality evenweave linen pieces.

# "New" Antique Samplers

#### BARBARA EDDIE Circa 1840 Age 14

A Scottish sampler stitched with wool threads on hand woven wool cloth, consisting of a series of alphabets, numerals and family initials including some illuminated initials and an impressive mansion house at the bottom.

**Barbara Eddie Antique Sampler** 

Barbara Eddie Antique Sampler



Agnes Brown-Kinghorn Antique Sampler

#### **AGNES BROWN-KINGHORN, October** 1809

A Scottish sampler commencing with an arcaded stylized pansy border across the top above Adam and Eve (nicely labeled as such), flanked by paired birds, peacocks, flowers in vases, a crowned thistle, Solomon's Temple, and floral motifs reminiscent of early 18th century samplers.

**Agnes Brown-Kinghorn Antique Sampler** 



Maren Olsen Antique Sampler

#### MAREN OLSEN 1838, Frederikshald, Norway

This beautiful and unusual Norwegian sampler is noteworthy for the exquisitely stitched floral wreath at the center, and alphabets and numerals forming the four sided border.

**Maren Olsen Antique Sampler** 



Margaret Scott Antique Sampler

# MARGARET SCOTT October 10, 1827, Blainstle

Scottish sampler featuring many spot motifs including birds, trees, flowers, dogs, alphabets, family initials, a verse and a peacock within a cartouche lower center.

**Margaret Scott Antique Sampler** 

## **New Reproduction Samplers**



Mary Hammand

#### **Mary Hammand**

In the early eighteenth century, samplers began to evolve from long vertical bands into more rectangular shapes. They began to incorporate more pictorial and scenic images and scenes such as those found on seventeenth century canvas and stumpwork pictures. Alphabets, numerals and verses prevailed, but the sampler evolved both as an exercise in needlework technique as well as a vehicle for

creative artistic expression. Common themes were scenes based on biblical stories, but the popularity of bucolic, pastoral scenes increased. Mary Hammand's sampler/canvas work piece melds these themes with a traditional sampler at the center surrounded by pastoral images on either side of it.

Mary Hammand Reproduction Sampler Kit



Fanny Forister

#### **Fanny Forister**

This sweet little American sampler features two little houses above alphabets and a short verse. It is surrounded on four sides by a double sided satin stitched sawtooth border.

Fanny Forister Reproduction Sampler Kit



Nancy Nurse

#### Nancy Nurse

Nancy Nurse was born to Polly/Molly James and Rogers Nurse in Danvers, Massachusetts on June 19th, 1798. Her sampler, stitched in 1807 when she was nine years old, was worked on a dark green linsey Woolsey ground unique to samplers of certain regions of New England made before 1832. Nancy

Nurse is a direct descendent of Rebecca Towne Nurse who was executed for witchcraft by the government of the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England in 1692, during the Salem with trials. Learn more about her history on the Scarlet Letter website.

Nancy Nurse Reproduction Sampler Kit

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