



# THE SCARLET LETTER



*Now goth sonne under wod  
 Me reweth Marye thy fair rode  
 Now goth sonne under tree  
 Me reweth, Marye, thy sone and thee.  
 Bodleian Ms. 3462*

This is my favorite poem about Easter, written during the last half of the thirteenth century, four simple lines that use imagery and double meanings of early English words (sonne/sone/sun, wod/tree/cross) to convey a moving portrait of the crucifixion and a grieving mother.

IN MARCH I had an exceptional visit with Rebecca Scott at Witney Antiques where they are preparing a new exhibition along the lines of their 2006 show called "Stitched in Adversity: Samplers of the Poor." There were many spectacular pieces being photographed for the upcoming catalogue, which will be available from The Scarlet Letter after its publication.



Witney Antiques

All my best,  
 Marsha



# COMING SOON



## MARY MOSS

New reproduction sampler coming in June.  
The photo shows the antique.



*Mary Moss*

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## ELIZABETH GRAY

New reproduction sampler coming in June.  
The photo shows the antique,



*Elizabeth Gray*

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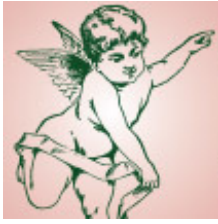
## ELIZABETH BURGER

New antique sampler coming soon. Details to follow soon on The Scarlet Letter's website.



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## What's New



**ELIZABETH EYLES**



This sweet English sampler is the first I've ever seen with a border made up of flying cherubs. It also features a geode (mosaic) parrot- a distinctively stylized bird that appears on other samplers made in England, New England, and the Netherlands throughout the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

[More about Elizabeth Eyles](#)



*Elizabeth Eyles*



**MARIA TOMLINSON**



Maria Tomlinson, who most likely was born, raised, married and buried in Nottinghamshire, stitched the east front of Wilton House in Wiltshire as it might have appeared in 1841.

[More about Maria Tomlinson](#)



*Maria Tomlinson*

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## JANE HOWELL



This finely stitched sampler has a multifloral border centering an alphabet and numerals in an unusual pyramidal configuration, a verse, and a scene executed in petit point, featuring a cozy cottage flanked by trees and oversized blossoms.

[More about Jane Howell](#)



*Jane Howell*



## JANE WALKER c.1800



**Jane Walker**, an early 19th century Scottish sampler, available in December 2018. Stitched with silks on loosely woven linen, this classic Scottish sampler features eight lines of alphabets including one with elaborately illuminated letters, surrounded by a four sided honeysuckle border.

[More about Jane Walker](#)



*Jane Walker*



## THIRTY DAYS HATH NOVEMBER



The depiction of a lazy shepherdess intrigued me when I first saw it in a blurry old illustration of an eighteenth century New England canvaswork picture. She lounges beneath a tree looking dazed, bored, oblivious to the fantastic scene unfolding around her.

[More about Thirty Days Hath November](#)



*Thirty days hath November*



## ELIZABETH MASTERTON



Typical of so many Scottish samplers, Elizabeth Masterton's features an abundance of initials (likely familial), rows of evergreen trees, peacocks with seven tail feathers, and the now famous mansion house fronted by a pillared fence and gates enclosing sheep.

[More about Elizabeth Masterton](#)



*Elizabeth Masterton*

# NEW ANTIQUE SAMPLERS

Please check our full inventory of [antique samplers](#) for new markdowns.



*Sarah Hyam*



*Janet Mitchell*



*Scottish Cut and Drawn Work*



*Mary Moss*



*Elizabeth Gray*



*Martha Johnson*



## APRIL QUIZZES

To compensate for not having sent a March newsletter, there are two quizzes this month.

### QUIZ #1

Please identify where this photo was taken. The first person to respond correctly with the right answer wins his/her chart of choice. Click on the photo for a larger picture.



*Quiz #1 photo*

### QUIZ #2

Please identify where this photo was taken. The first person to respond correctly with the right answer wins his/her chart of choice. Click on the photo for a larger picture.



*Quiz #2 Photo*

In the event of multiple correct answers to the quizzes, the persons providing as much information about the subjects will be deemed the winner. If you have won a quiz in the past you are most welcome to participate but the prize will go to a new winner. The solution will be posted on the [puzzles page](#) after the prize is awarded. Send your answers to: [samplers@scarlet-letter.com](mailto:samplers@scarlet-letter.com)



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