

Title Sampler

Date 1840

Primary Maker Stella Maria Ransom

Medium Embroidery; silk threads on a plain-woven, undyed linen ground Description Unfinished sampler worked in dark brown, medium browns, dark green, reds, light blue, and pale pink silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross and other stitches. The sampler is squarish, oriented horizontally. It is laid out with six rows of four alphabets and the numbers 1 through 12, over three inscriptions. The first inscription is "Sweet mercies around me are spread/ That fill my young heart with delight/ Kind parents and sisters and friends/ I am happy from morning till night". The second inscription is "Stella Maria Ransom

Basic Detail Report

aged 8 years./ Chatham September 22nd. 1840.". The third inscription is

"Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may belong in the/land which the L[partial L]". The third inscription is incomplete. Certain lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various narrow borders, including straight and meandering lines. The sampler has is a four-sided border. The sampler has a 3/16-inch double-turned hem on all four sides. The sampler is not framed.

Letters and Numbers: There are four alphabets and the numbers 1-12. The letters are uppercase block in alphabets 1 and 4, uppercase script in alphabet 2, and lowercase block in alphabet 3. The letters J and U are present in all alphabets. The fourth alphabet ends at Y. Stitches: The principal stitch on the sampler is cross stitch over two threads; it is also worked in Algerian eye, cross (over one thread), and queen stitches. Condition: The sampler has light fading. It is unfinished. The sampler is not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): $16\,3/4\,x\,17$ in. ($42.5\,x\,43.2$ cm)