

Malvern Sampler Transcription

1-71.1

This Malvern sampler was designed and wrought in 1937. The maker has tried to express something of the spirit of Malvern School and of the times in which we live. The linen belonged to her family. The border is typical of old sampler borders. The flag at the top stands for Malvern's patriotism. Inside the border are the names of the fifteen girls from the fifth and sixth grades who made up the sampler class. In the four corners the four seasons are represented by four sports. Since 1937 was Coronation year in England we have a closed crown with rose and thistle. A closed crown because an ancestor of the maker of this sampler made the first closed crown. Also since in 1937 was a Presidential election the GOP elephant is shown, a black ribbon on his tail, symbolic of his defeat. The letters L and K stand for Landon and Knox, the defeated candidates, the former a kinsman of the maker of the sampler.

Below is a full face likeness of Malvern School and flying over it three blue birds of happiness. In front are seven children, seven being the number of perfection. I wanted four dogs because four is the world number. Three seemed to fit the design but you will notice at the left of the building two brown stitches. These are the tail of the fourth dog going to the back of the building.

In the center below are three ladies at the tea table representing the P.T.A. At the left a Shaker Elder standing for the founding of our community in 1822. To the right a Shaker teacher of 1937.

All old samplers had Scripture texts. I have chosen carefully ten because that is the number of ordinal perfection. They all have to do with foundation teaching of children, therefore the training of Malvern both by precept and example.

Exodus 20, 1:17 The ten commandments, on which all law is based.

Proverbs 22, 6 Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ephesians 6, 11 Put on the whole armor of God, so that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Proverbs 29, 18 Where there is no vision the people perish but he that keepeth the law happy is he.

II Timothy 2, 15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed.

I Corinthians 13 The chapter on Love. Tho I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love – it profiteth me nothing.

Ephesians 4, 32 And be ye kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another.

Psalms 19, 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight oh Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

I Cor. 1, 27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise and God has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.

Psalms 34 Begins - I will bless the Lord at all times. vs. 4 I sought the Lord at all times and He delivered me from all my fears. vs. 10, vs. 12, vs. 18



Under this are the five courses of study, English, Dramatics, Music, Art, Science. Physical Education being shown in the four corners. The Kindergarten doves have a special significance. The dove is the only bird with no gall bladder, in which is no guile. No filth will cling to his feathers. In the world but not of it.

At Malvern there is a unique custom of putting the flag at half mast when a pupil or a parent dies. The flag and the willow tree used in old samplers to record death are here in a garden of everblooming flowers in memory of Malvern's departed loved ones.

Below this my name

Mary Mossman Beattie