

## ***Rebekah Rider & her sampler, 1820***



**Born in 1812, Rebekah** was the daughter of Daniel Rider and Lydia Clark of Plymouth. Her father was a descendant of *Mayflower* passenger Richard Warren.

**By 1820, when Rebekah embroidered her sampler,** educational alternatives for Plymouth's young women had multiplied. Plymouth had opened its first public school for girls in 1795, although it ran only during the summer when the boys were not using the classroom. There were also some private schools for girls in Plymouth. As was the case in private schools throughout America and Europe, there was great stress placed on behavior and on the genteel arts such as needlework, although some academics were taught.

**Rebekah may have** attended a Plymouth school, or she may have been home schooled as generations before her.

**Rebekah's sampler** is oblong, measuring approximately 12" wide x 15 1/2" high, and its colors have faded. It is worked on 30/32 count linen. The top alphabet is worked in Algerian eye stitch. The second alphabet is cross-stitch as is the third. The border is of stylized flowers, all worked in cross-stitch. (see back below)

