

***Specimens of Writing &c.***  
**Lancasterian School**  
**Kingston, Jamaica**  
**1826**

**Images of a volume of samplers of children's work in handwriting and needlework**

from the British and Foreign School Society Archive,  
located at Brunel University, London, UK.

Archive address: The British and Foreign School Society Archive Centre, Brunel University Archive, Brunel University,  
Kingston Lane, Uxbridge, UB8 3PH

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**The British and Foreign School Society**

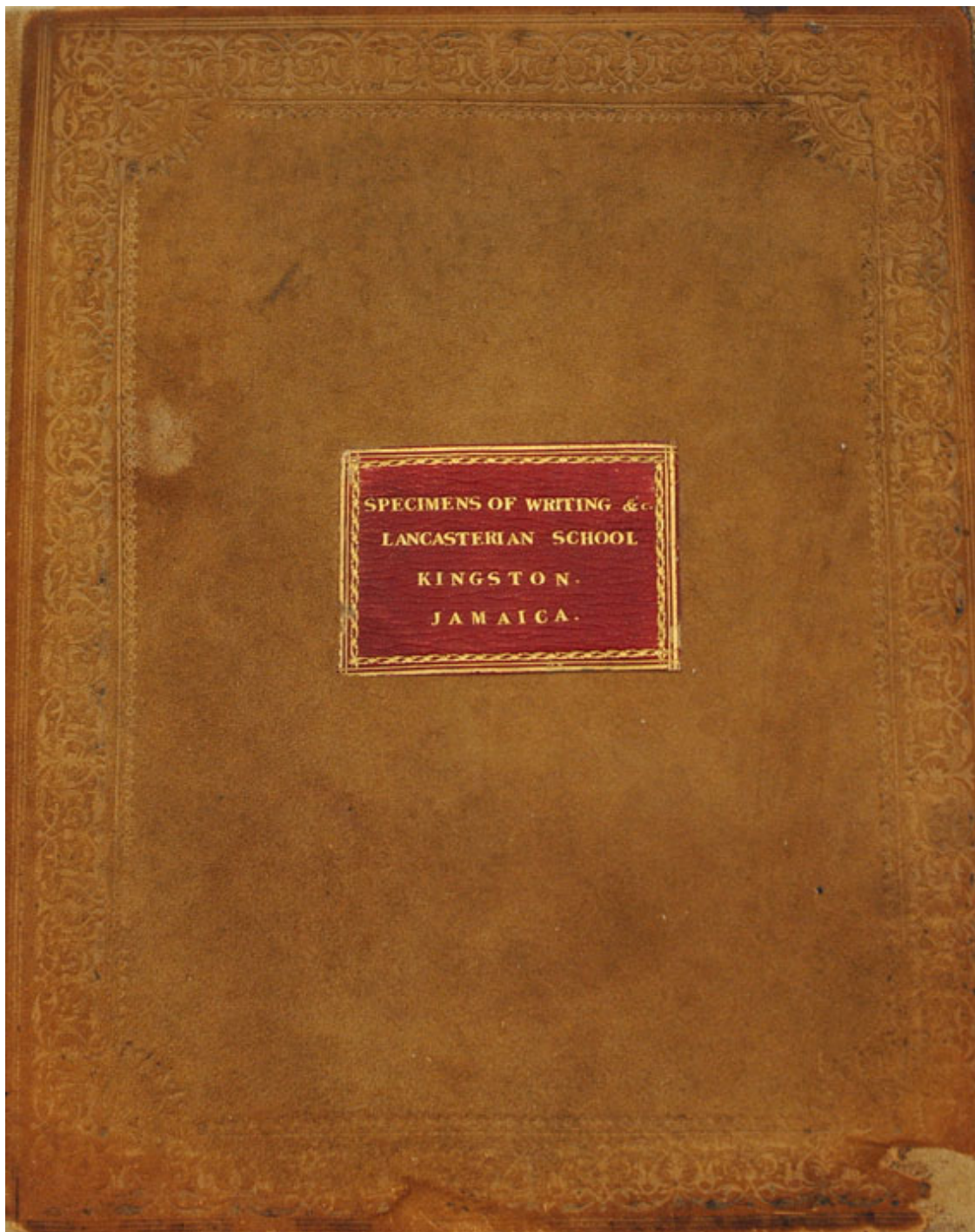
One of the landmarks in the development of universal schooling was the opening of Joseph Lancaster's school at Borough Road, Southwark, London, in 1798. A teacher training institution was added soon afterwards.

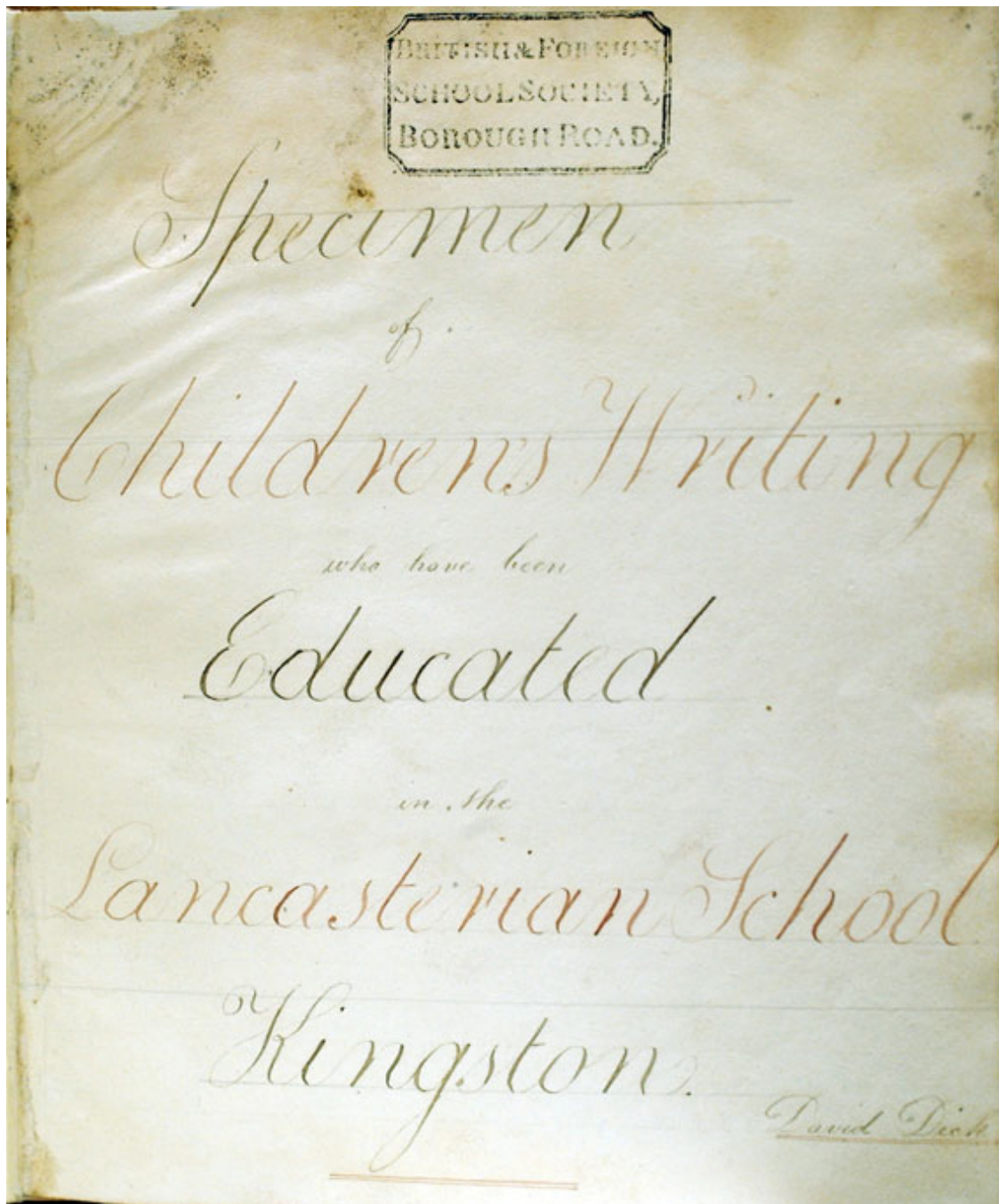
"The Society for Promoting the Lancasterian System for the Education of the Poor" was formed in 1808 to carry forward Lancaster's work, which was supported by a number of prominent evangelical and non-conformist Christians including William Wilberforce, the abolitionist. In 1814 the Society was renamed the "British and Foreign School Society" (BFSS) and throughout the nineteenth century set up "British Schools" and teacher training institutions on non-sectarian principles. In addition to its work in Britain it established schools overseas and provided staff and support.

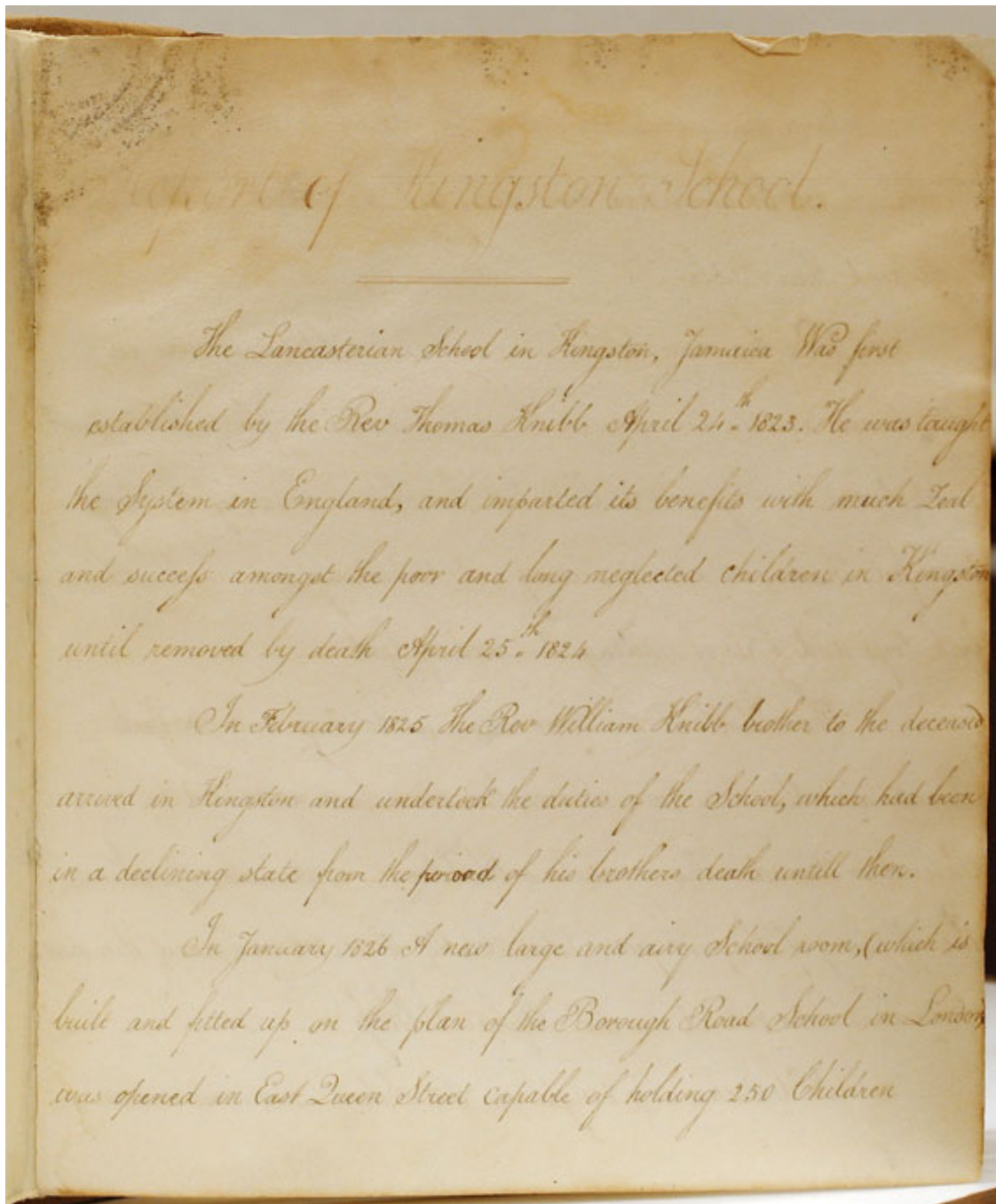
The "Lancasterian System" was designed to provide a basic education for as many children as possible with the funds available, and despite a great shortage of teachers. Monitors (older children who had already been taught the "three Rs") taught groups of younger children in turn.

The Society's aims are:

"the advancement of education, that is, the physical, mental, moral, religious and spiritual development of the whole person regardless of national, racial or cultural background in accordance with the principles of the Christian faith but on a non-sectarian and inter-denominational basis and without credal tests." See [www.bfss.org.uk](http://www.bfss.org.uk)







prohibited the benefit of the System. The Lessons are all obtained from  
The British and Foreign School Society, in London.

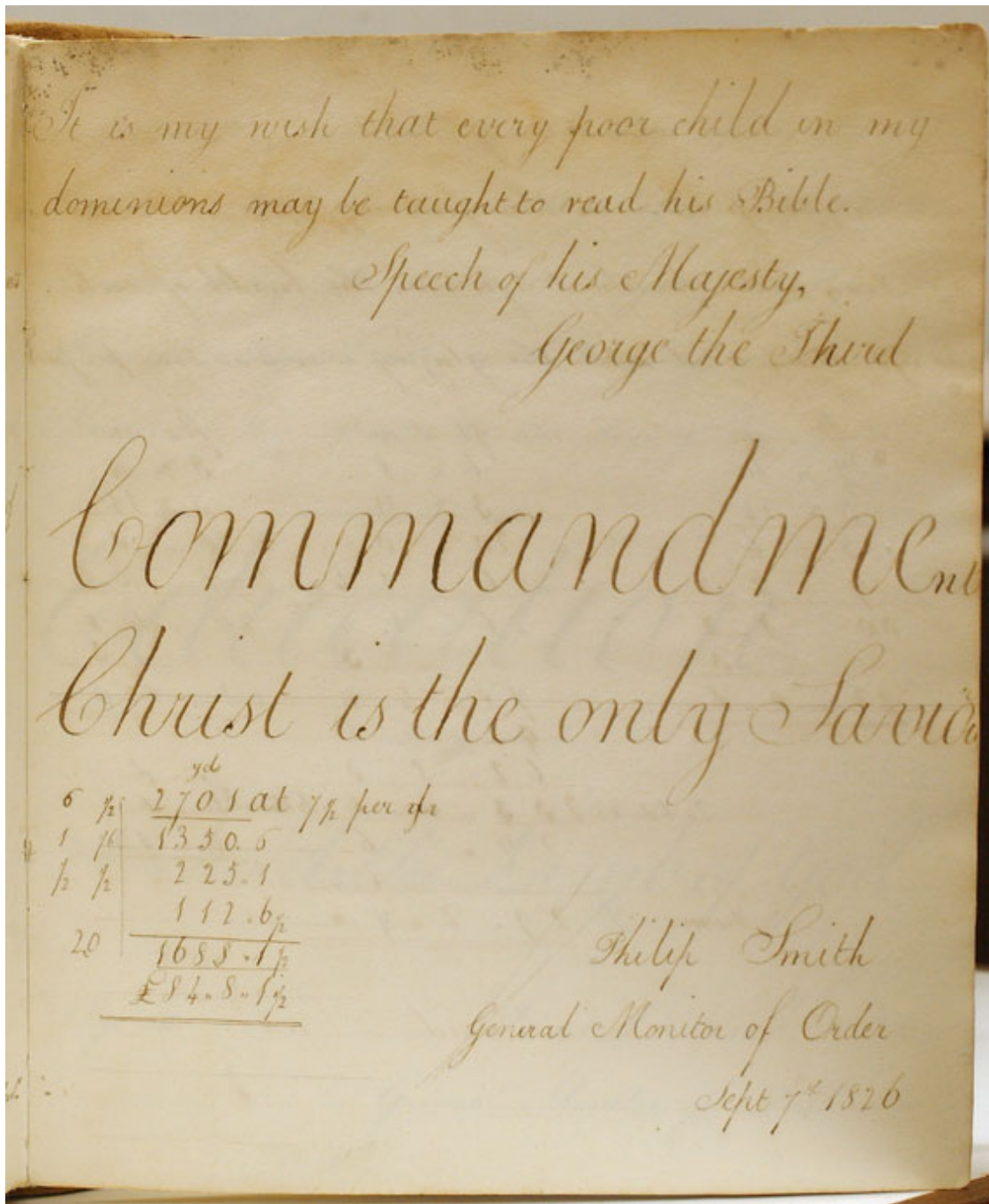
The girls are taught useful needle work 2 afternoons in  
the week by M<sup>rs</sup> Knibb. The accompanying Specimens will shew  
what Progress they have made.

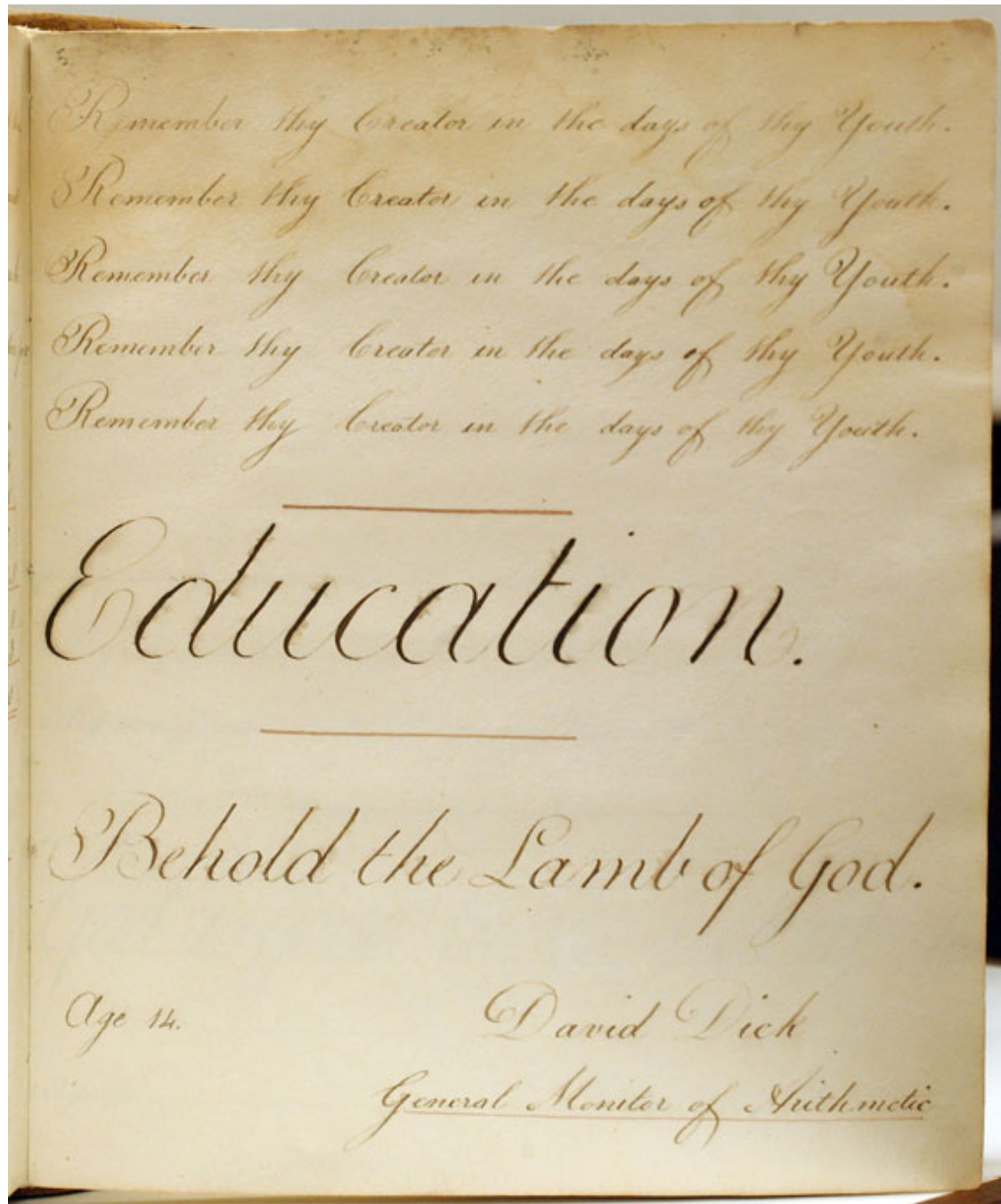
Sept. 25. 1826

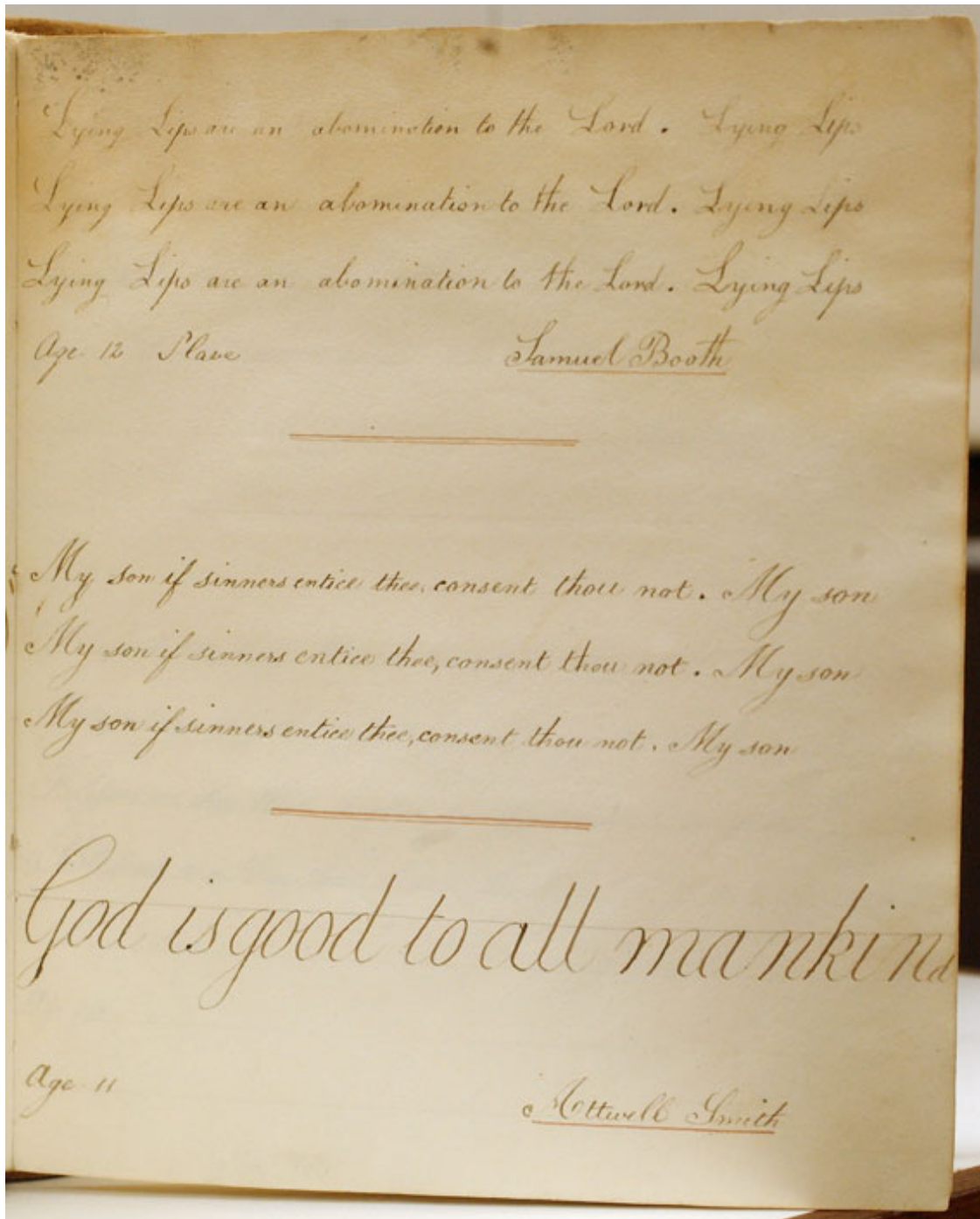
William Lathiff.

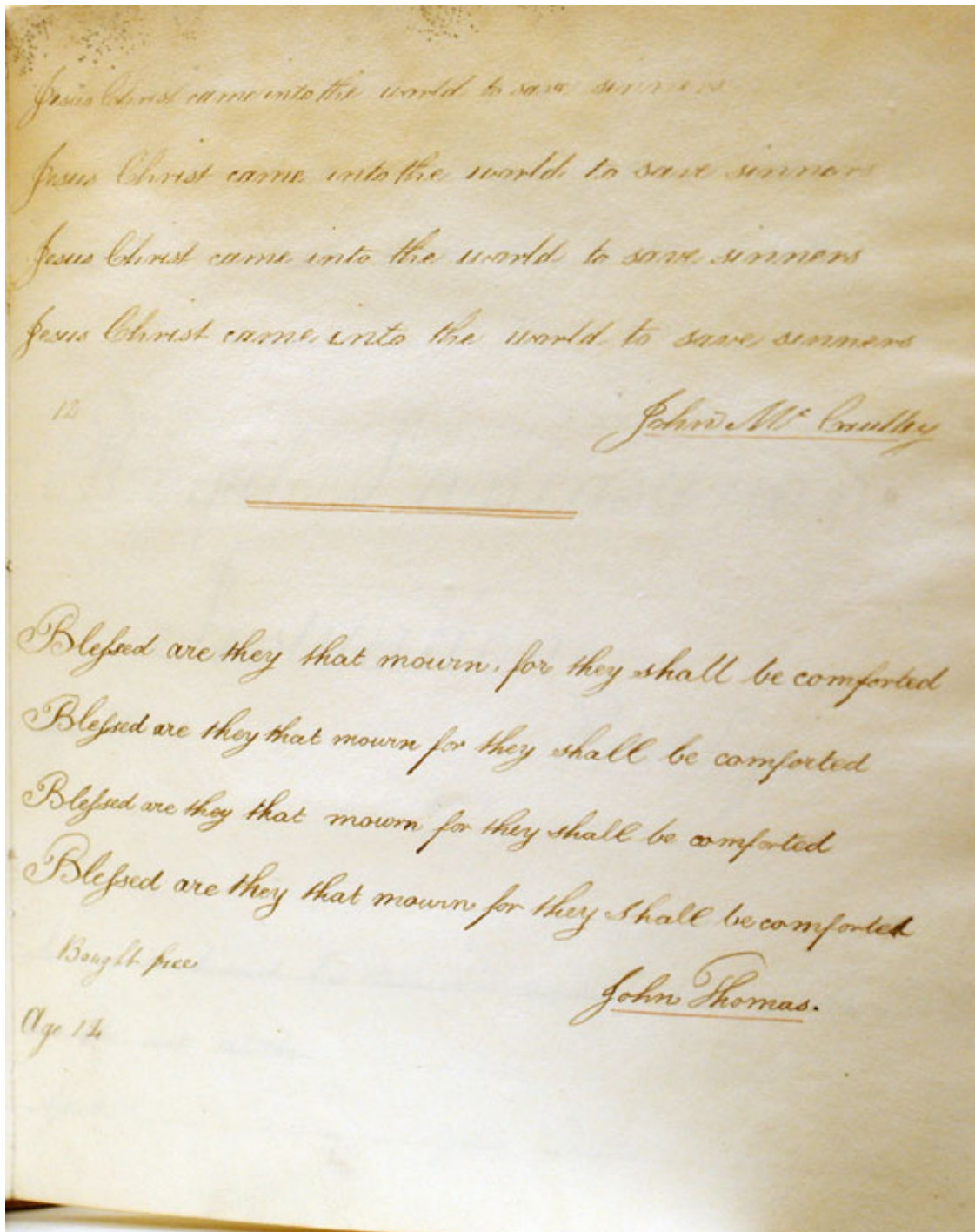
The foregoing account is written by a Slave, personally  
All the Specimens, both of Writing and Needlework, are  
entirely the production of the Children.

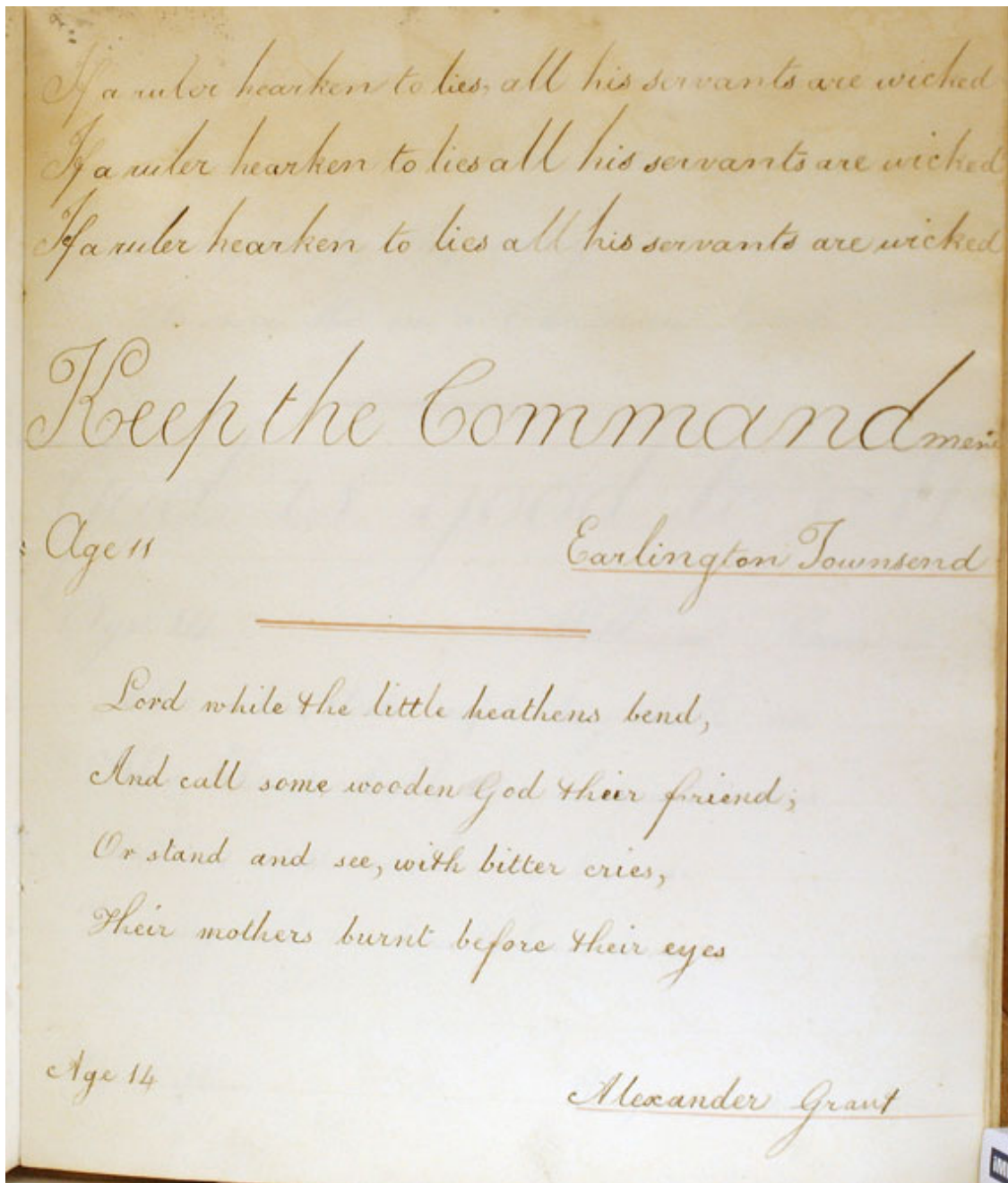
Mrs and Miss Knibb  
Sept.

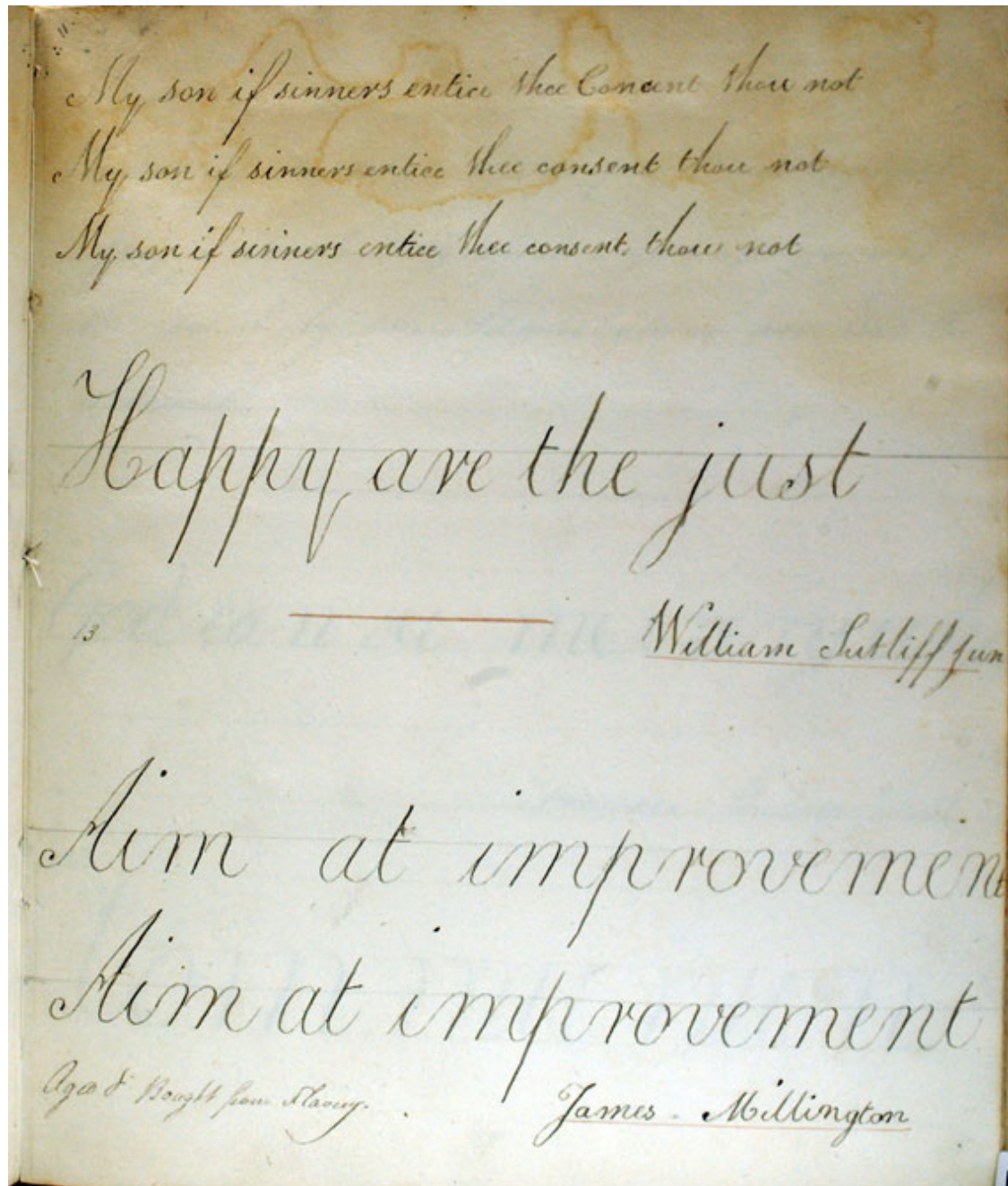












Writing of the little African, from Congo captured  
from a French Brig about a Year ago and sent to  
the School by the Admiral: he can now read the  
Testament.

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God can see me every where

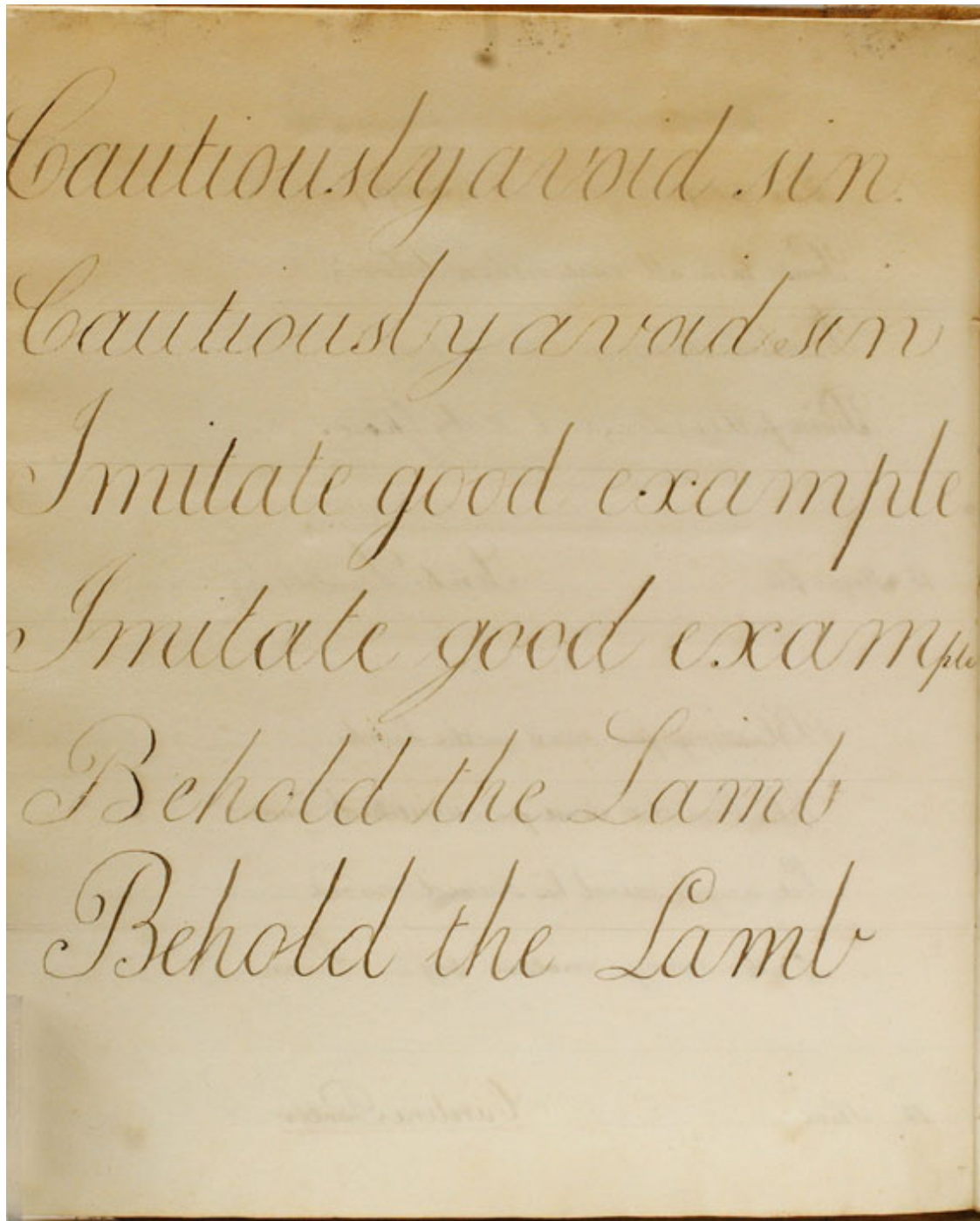
Francis Thabra Hall

11.  
Communion.

There is a house with 3 tier of Windows and 3 in each tier  
the height of these in the first is 7 ft. 10 in., the second  
6 ft. 8 in., and the third 5 ft. 4 in., the breadth of each  
is 3 ft. 11 in., what will the glazing come to at 2 s. 6 d. per foot

ft. in	ft. in	ft. in
7 x 10	6 x 8	5 x 4
3 x 11	3 x 11	3 x 11
23 6	20 0	16 0
7 2 2	6 1 4	4 10 8
30 8 2	26 1 4	20 10 8
3	3	3
92 0 6	78 4 0	62 8 0
	92 0 6	
	62 8 0	
2 s. 6 d. 3/4	233 0 6	6 11 1/2
	29 2 6	0 1 1/2
	1 1/4	
Answer	£ 29 2 7 1/4	

David Dick



Look down in pity, and forgive  
 Whatever I've said or done amiss  
 And help me every day I live  
 To serve thee better than in this.

Age 12

Mary Seaward Smith

Now while I speak, be pleas'd to take  
 A helpless child beneath thy care;  
 And condescend, for Jesus sake,  
 To listen to my evening prayer

Age 12

Margaret Mc Carthy

Rule 6. When the price and quantity given are of several denominations, multiply the price by the integers, and take parts with the parts of the integers for the rest.

At £3. 17. 6 per cwt. what is the value of 25 Cwt 2 qrs 11 lbs. of tobacco.      £. s. d

25	2	3. 17. 6
		5
		19. 7. 6
		5
		98. 17. 6
14	2	1. 18. 9
		0. 9. 8 1/2

Ans £99. 5. 11 1/2

*Ans £99. 5. 11 1/2*

William Shuliff Junr.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
 Praise him all creatures here below;  
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host  
 Praise father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

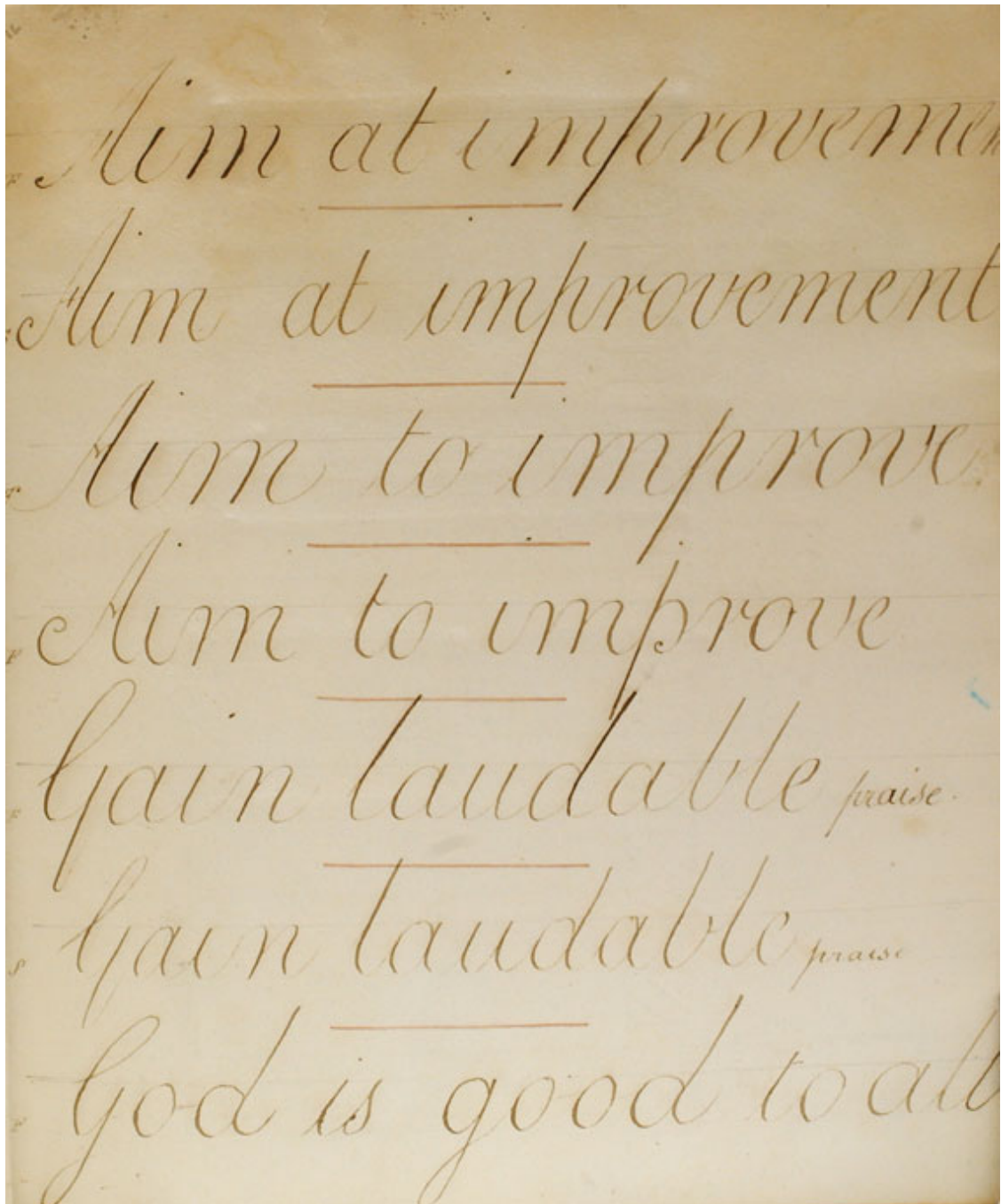
13 Bright fire

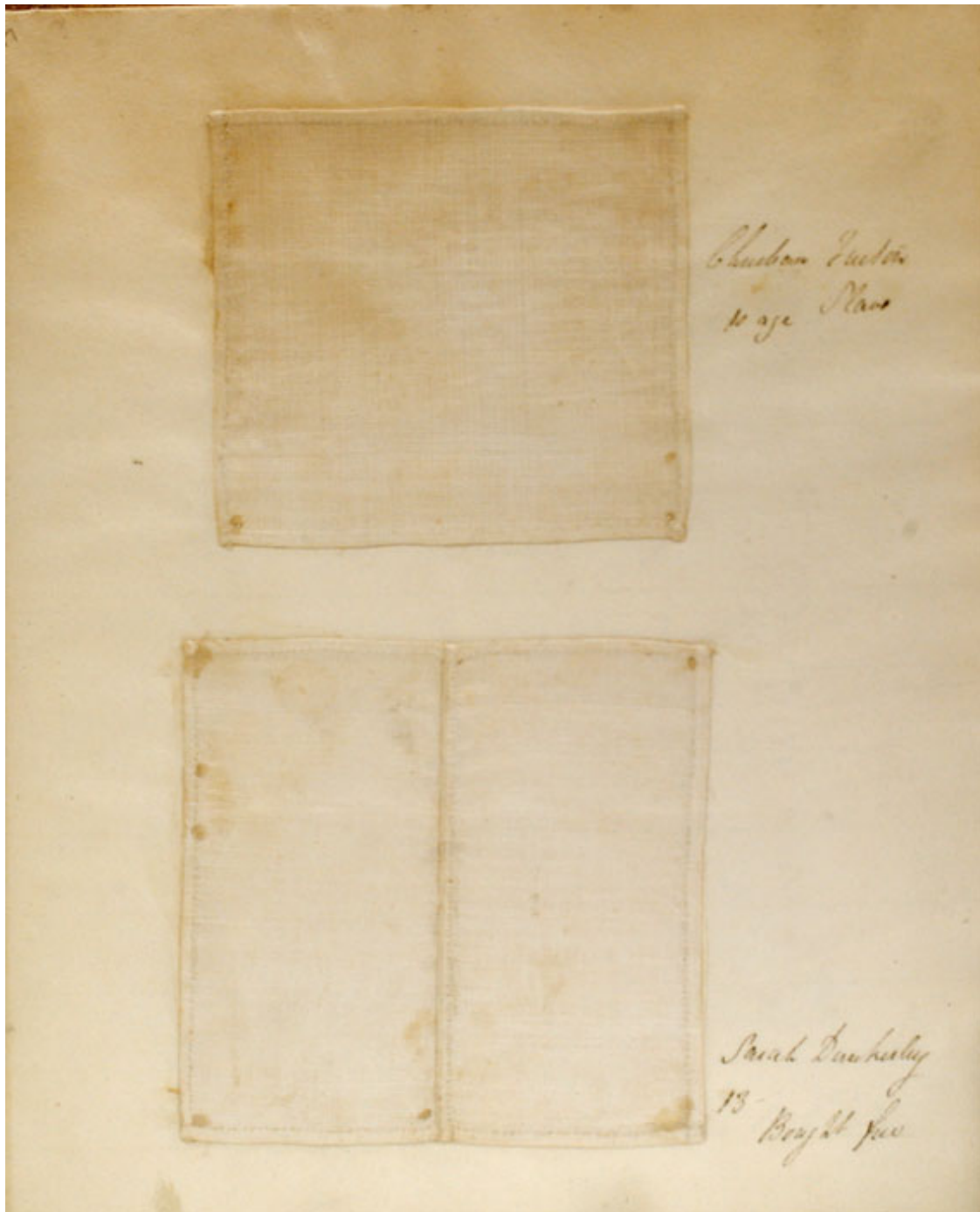
Sarah Lankerley

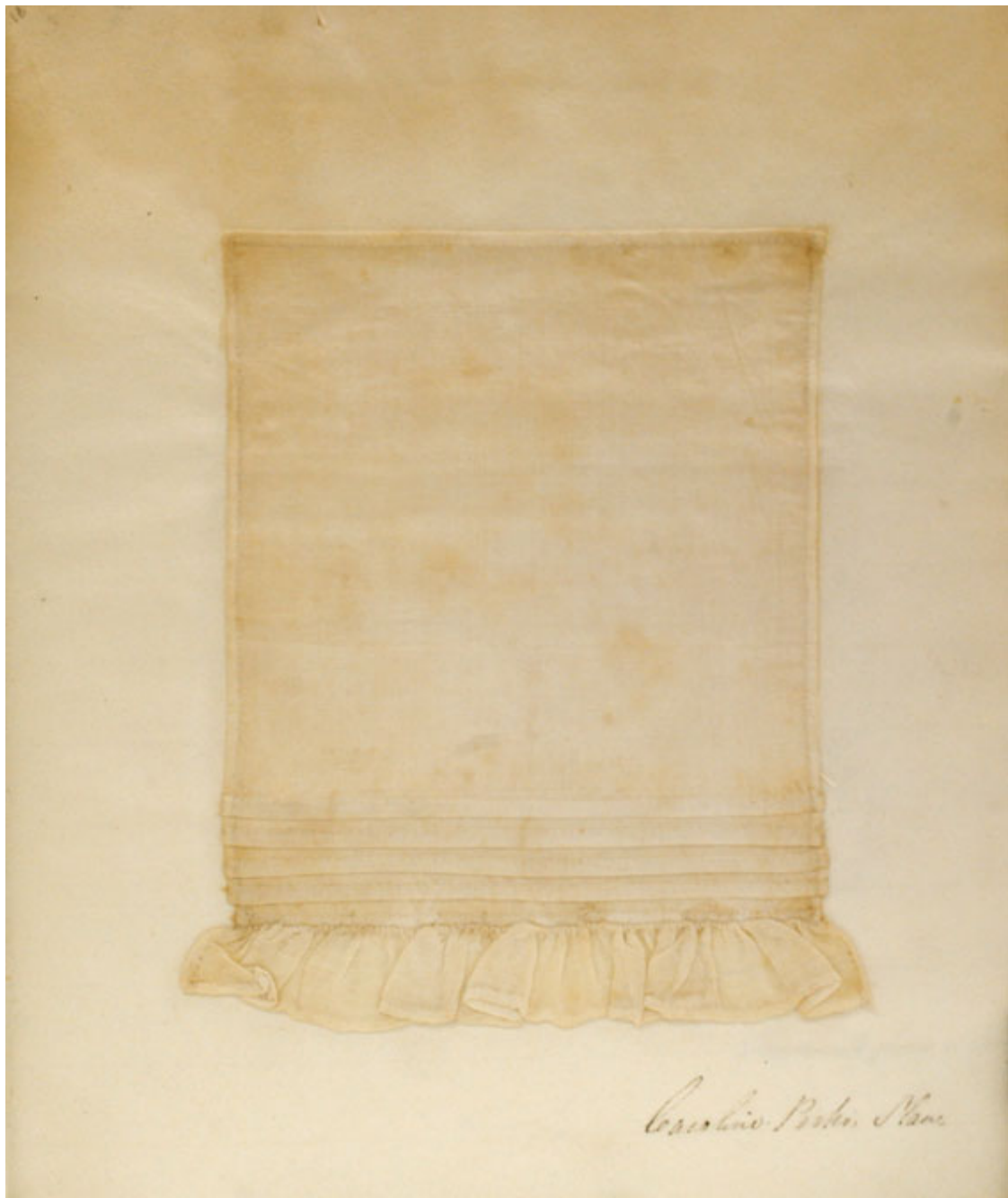
Blessings for ever on the Lamb,  
 Who bore the curse for wretched man;  
 Let angels sound his sacred name  
 And every creature say — Amen

12 Slave

Caroline Porter

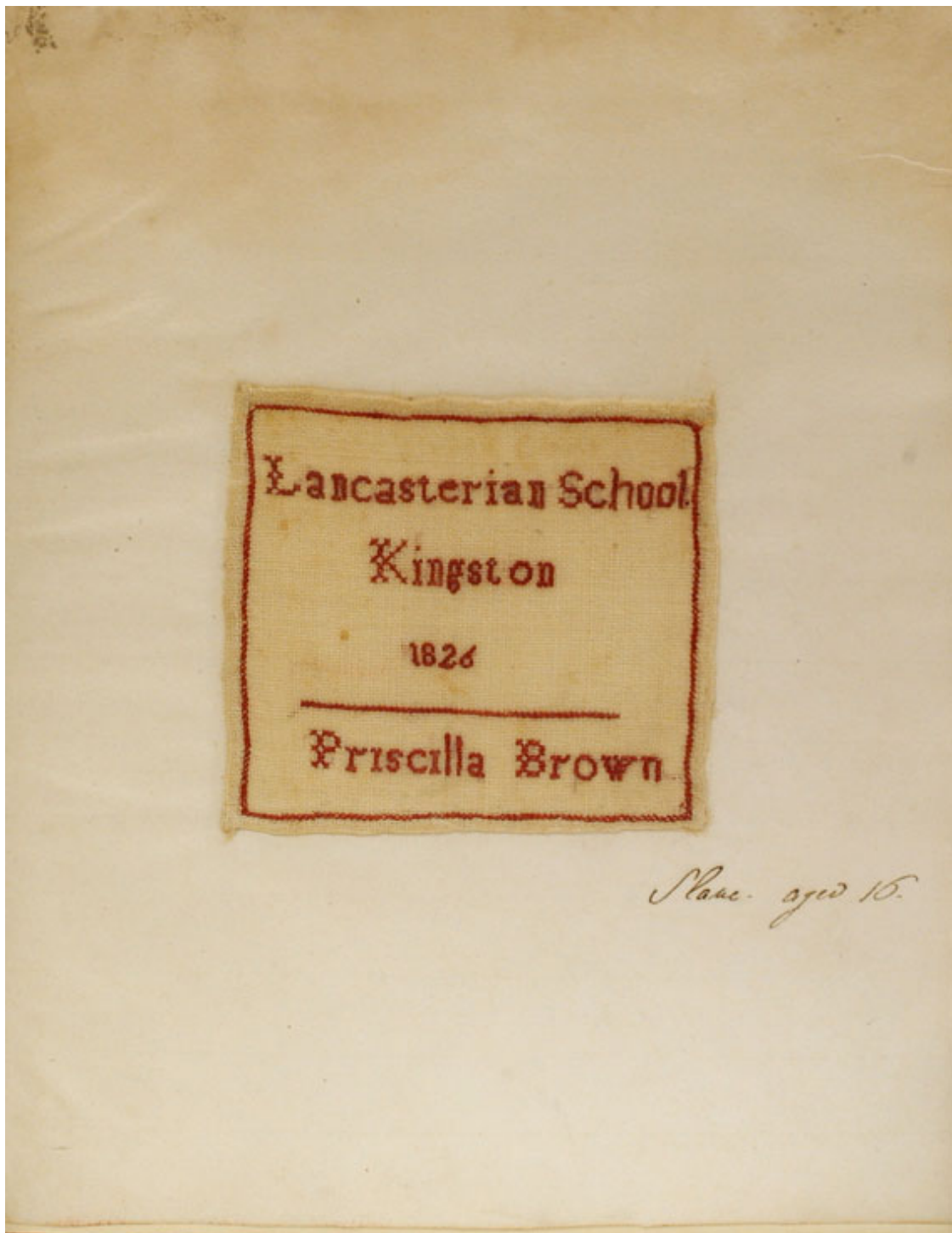








Sarah Lee -  
Purchased from Naving



From the commencement of the School in 1823 to January 1826 nearly 150 Children had been dismissed the School most of whom could read their Bibles

When the new School was opened 100 Children were in attendance and in two months the number was completed. From Jan<sup>y</sup> to Sep<sup>r</sup> 1826 - 24 Boys and 36 Girls left the School many of the Boys to useful Trades, capable of writing and Cyphering and nearly all both Boys and Girls of reading the word of God

The School at this time contains 160 Boys and 100 Girls Seventy are Slaves 40 were Slaves, but have been redeemed by Parents or Friends. The remaining Children are, generally speaking, the offspring of the poor free. Total 260. Of these, 100 can read the new testament who entered in the Alphabet Class

No Catechism is taught in the School nor any one