ABCDEF
GHIJKLM
NOPQRS
TUVW
XYZ

abcdef
ghijklmn
opqrstu
vwxyz

PLATE 66. SIMPLE ALPHABETS MADE WITH SQUARE-NIBBED PEN

ABCD
EFGHI
JKLMN
OPQR
STUV
WXYZ

PLATE 67. OLD ROMAN ALPHABET

abcdef
ghijkl
mnopq
rstuvw
12xyz34
567890

PLATE 68. OLD ROMAN ALPHABET

ABCDEF
GHIJKLM
NOPORST
UWXYZ

FROM AN ENGLISH MANUSCRIPT
ABOUT 1400 A.D.

ABCDEFG
HIJKLMNO
PQRSTUV
WXYZ

GERMAN UNCIAL.

PLATE 70. UNCIAL LETTERS

and descenders as were the early Venetian printers in the design and use of their type. Because the artist enjoys wide freedom in making and combining letters, greater interest, variety, and character can be introduced into hand lettering than in type.

The same general rules in spacing hold true for the small letters as for the capitals. Spacing the letters so they look well is of the greatest importance.

The rules for the slant and accented elements of small letters are about the same as for the upper-case letters.

The width of the elements in the lower-case letters should be a trifle less than in the upper-case letters. If they are the same width, they look too heavy and black, and if only half the width, they are too narrow. It is best to strike a happy medium.

The lower-case alphabet in Plate 68 should be carefully examined and studied.

Problems

1. Letter the word "Rome" twice the size of the letters shown in Plate 69.

2. Copy the Roman alphabet, shown in Plates 67 and 68, and be very careful to draw the letters as nearly like the plate as possible, but twice the size shown.

3. Letter the words "Good Lettering" on a 7 by 11-in. sheet, upper- and lower-case letters, making the letters 1 in. high.

Uncial Letters

The Uncial alphabet was developed and used by scribes between the sixth and tenth centuries. It sometimes is known as the Lombardic, from Lombardy, a province of northern Italy, where many excellent examples of this letter are found. The style of this letter was varied greatly by the different scribes in different countries. The Uncial may be used in all capital letters, but combines better with Gothic lower-case letters. The distance between lines of Uncial capitals should be very small, always less than the height of the letter. It can also be used in connection with Gothic design, and especially suited for ecclesiastical and formal work. Plate 72 shows good examples of the Uncial alphabet.

Problems

1. Copy the Uncial alphabets as shown in Plate 70, twice the size shown.

2. Letter the following inscription, using all capitals:
St. Mary's Church

ABCDEFGHIJKL
MNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijk
lmnopqrst
uvwxyz

PLATE 71. GOTHIC ALPHABETS

ABCDEF
GHIJKL
MNOPQ
RSTUV
WXYZ

abcdefghi
jklmnopqr
stuvwxyz

ABCDEFG
HIJKLMN
OPQRSTU
VWXYZ

abcdefghi
jklmnopqr
stuvwxyz
1234567890

PLATE 72. BLACK LETTERS

[108]

PLATE 73. ITALIC LETTERS

[109]