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SHAKER MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION, 1780-1952

REEL 1

1. A Daily Journal of Passing Events; begun January the 1st, 1830. By Rufus Bishop, in the 56th year of his age. Journal, 1830 Jan. 1-1839 May 18. 1 vol.
2. A Daily Journal of Passing Events; begun May the 19th, 1839, at Watervliet [N.Y.]; by Rufus Bishop, in the 65th year of his age. Journal, 1839 May 19-Jan. 1, 1850. 1 vol. (365 pp.).
3. A Journal or Register of Passing Events, continued from former volumes, kept by Rufus Bishop. Journal, 1850 Jan. 2-1859 Oct. 19. 1 vol. (343 pp.).
4. A Register of Incidents and Events...kept by Giles B. Avery. 1859 Oct. 20-1874 Dec. 21. 1 vol. (645 pp.).

REEL 2

5. Ministries Journal, kept by Giles B. Avery, Mount Lebanon, Columbia County, N.Y. 1874 Jan. 1-1890 Jan. 15. 1 vol.
6. Records. Book No. 2. Kept [in part] by Rufus Bishop. 1 vol.
7. Records Kept by Order of the Church. 1780-1855. 1 vol. (604 pp.).

REEL 3

8. *Concise Statement of the Principles of the Only True Church, According to the Gospel of the Present Appearance of Christ.* Printed at Bennington, Vt. by Haswell & Russell, 1790. Pamphlet, 24 pp. With holograph emendations, n.d.
9. The Gospel Monitor: or A little Book of Mother Ann's Word. To those who are placed to instruct children. Written by Mother Lucy, and brought by her to the Elders of the First Order, on the Holy Mount. March 1st, 1841. Copied by inspiration by Mother Ann's desire. March 2nd, 1842.
10. A General Statement of the Holy Laws of Zion. Introduction by Father James. New Lebanon, [N.Y.]. [Begun] Thursday morning, May 7th, 1840. 1 vol. (150 pp.; pp. 123-148 blank; contents on p. 149).
11. Diary, 1855 Jan. 13-1873 July 18, kept by Sister Anna White. 1 vol.
12. A Brief Account of Ten Seances. Held at North Family, Mt. Lebanon, from May 13th to May 19th, 1878, for Materialization. Wm. Eddy, Medium *inside* the Cabinet. Edward Brown and David Williams *outside* as guardians of the Circle.
13. Communications with Spirit Friends. Dating from Feb. 1, 1880.

- North Family, Mt. Lebanon, N.Y. 1 vol.
14. Experience of Thankful E. Goodrich. Born 1771 October 9.
 15. Spirit Materialization at Mt. Lebanon, N.Y., 1878. An account of seances held at Mt. Lebanon. North Family. Commencing May, Monday 13th, 1878.
 16. Farewell Address of Elder Ebenezer Bishop. 1842 December 29. [Mt. Lebanon, N.Y.].
 17. A communication written by Father James for the Order of young believers. New Lebanon, Mar. 9, 1841.
 18. [Visions and Spirit Seances Received and Held by Shakers]. 1855-1880. 1 vol.
 19. A Diary Commenced by Martha J. Anderson, Aug. 1, 1863-April 30, 1867. Mount Lebanon [N.Y.]. 1 vol. (273 pp.).
 20. [North Family Book of Records], 1814-1910, New Lebanon, [N.Y.].
 21. Millennial Praises, [songs] 1862, Mount Lebanon [N.Y.].

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22. [Spirit Songs]. 1840.
23. A Record of Inspired Writings, 1842, New Lebanon, [N.Y.].
24. A Diary Kept by the Elder Sister. 1867 July 19-1872 Apr. 30.
25. Millennial Laws, or Gospel Statutes and Ordinances, Aug. 1, 1821, New Lebanon, [N.Y.]
26. Narrative of the Life of Clarissa Burgees. 1842 Oct. 18, New Lebanon, [N.Y.].
27. Solemn and Sacred Writings Written by Mother Ann. 1841, New Lebanon, [N.Y.].
28. Copy of a Letter Written Dec. 12, 1840 by Eldress Betsey Hastings. A Short Communication of Union from Eldress Betsey to the Ministry at Union Village [Ohio], Dec. 23, 1840./Words of Father William, Dec. 25, 1840./A Short Account of a gift of sweeping which commenced in the North Family, Dec. 22, 184(1?).
29. Mother Ann's Closing Address to her Children Upon Earth. 1841 April 11, New Lebanon.
30. A Farewell Visit to the Spiritual World. 1841 May 30, by Harriet Bullard [a spirit message].
31. A Record of Messages from the Spiritual World. 1841-1845. [By Maryann Rice?]. New Lebanon, [N.Y.].
32. A Roll from Eldress Anna Vines of English Ministry to Beloved Eldress Betty. Given June 10, 1842. [Histories of lives of Shaker martyrs].
33. A Golden Roll or holy gift from holy *Mother Wisdom* to the *Ministry*. Copied Nov. 4, 1847.

34. The Holy Law of the Almighty concerning the Sabbath and the Birth days of our Holy Savior, and blessed Mother Ann. Feb. 26, 1841.
35. The Word of the Lord God.... Copied Nov. 25, 1841.
36. The Word of the Almighty Father and the Eternal Mother Wisdom.... June 3, 1843.
37. Copy of a Roll, handed to Elder Richard Bushnell by Holy Mother Wisdom. Sept. 2, 1841.
38. Holy Mother Wisdom's Warning and Seal....
39. Roll copied by Mother Ann. Mar. 20, 1841.
40. Words written by the hand of the Lord, upon a beautiful little Ball of brightness. Mar. 1, 1842.
41. [Testimonies of Faith by various believers, 1841 at New Lebanon, N.Y.]
42. [Roll of Father William]. New Lebanon, N.Y., May 1841; [Names of Brethren and Sisters residing in the North Family]. New Lebanon, N.Y., 1842.
43. Holy Mother's Word given on a sun glass. Words of the Angel of Wisdom to the writer. April 1843.
44. [Message] written on a spiritual Bag. Copied Oct. 288, 1841.
45. A Bond of Love and a Word of Comfort, written by Mother Ann, Apr. 30, 1842.
46. Mother Ann's Staff of Love and Remembrance, Oct. 31, 1840.
47. [Spirit message]. April 30, 1843.
48. Lines from a Ball of Sister Bates [religious poetry], 1867-1868.
49. The Covenant or Constitution of the Church of the United Society in Watervliet. 1832-1905. 1 vol. (includes signatures of subscribers).

REEL 5

50. Covenant of Constitution of the Church of the United Society in the town of New-Lebanon. Original manuscript. 12mo., orig. quarter roan. 75 pp. [New Lebanon], April 27, 1830. Signed as approved by the New Lebanon Ministry, Ebenezer Bishop, Rufus Bishop, Mary A. Landon, Asenath Clark. The ten page preliminary "A Brief Illustration of the Principles on which the Covenant of the United Society is founded" tells us that preceding written Covenants were framed in 1795, 1801, 1814. Those framed in New Lebanon were for use in all the Shaker colonies. Edward Andrews, in *The People Called Shakers*, says that these books existed only in manuscript and were not intended for common perusal. He speaks of Covenants of 1839, 1841, and 1845 and prints the last. Internal evidence indicates that, despite these other revisions, the 1830 laws were the ones in force until the revision of 1911. There are the signatures and seals of 324 subscribers who signed April 27, 1830 to April 27, 1910. A scribe noted, in many cases, the subsequent history of these people.

51. An Exposition of the Church Covenant, Or Articles of Association - Adopted by the Church in the United Society Called Shakers. An 1868 transcript of this 1830 material. Additional evidence that this 1830 version was the important one. [61 M 36]
52. Covenant or Constitution of the Church of the United Society in the town of New Lebanon State of New York. Feb. 20, 1911. Copied from original Church covenant as written April 30, 1830. Signed by Emma J. Neale and Sarah Burger, Trustees of the Ministry. With 13 signatures and seals, showing the decline of the Church. 1 vol. (42 pp.).
53. [Spiritual drawings]. Ink, three leaves. Addressed to Elder Sister Marilla Fairbanks.
54. Robert Milliston's admittance to the Church at New Lebanon, August 16, 1828. Signed by Stephen Munson and Israel Hammond, Trustees. 1 p.
55. [Mary Maria Basford's Manuscript Book of Shaker Songs]. 1860-1862. 1 vol, 8vo. (179 pp.). (person and place of learning the hymns sometimes noted).
56. [Manuscript Book of Shaker Songs by Unknown Gatherer]. 1840s. (Contains some Indian songs).
57. [Manuscript Song with commentary]. 3 pp. folio made from Mother Ann's words by James Walker.
58. [Manuscript religious poem written by Seth Chapin for Samuel D. Chapin]. Oct. 7, 1819. 1 p.
59. [A.L.S., Lydia Mathewson to Jeffery Mathewson, of Lisbon, Conn. re Deacon Meacham's management of a Mathewson estate. New Lebanon, 1801. 3 pp. [61 M 36]
60. [Account book of Hosea Winchester of Harvard, Mass.] 1830s. Includes Shaker medical expenses.
61. [Manuscript hymn book]. Shaker musical notation; contains clippings of recipes in back, n.d. [ca. 1830s-1840s?] [65 M 93]
62. A Collection of Hymns Adapted to the Sacred Worship of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing - Copied by Daniel Fraser, 1851. 1 vol.
63. [Manuscript hymn book]. Shaker musical notation, 1850s and 1860s. 1 vol. [66 M 13]
64. [Manuscript hymn book]. Shaker musical notation, [1850s and 1860s?]. 1 vol. [66 M 13]
65. [Manuscript hymn book]. Shaker musical notation, 1800s. 1 vol. [66 M 13]

REEL 6

66. [Manuscript hymn book of Ida Thomas]. Also includes notes on history, geology, physiology, etc. in an unknown hand. 1860s. Two inscriptions: Ida Thomas, Mount Lebanon, Columbia County, N.Y.; Martha Jane Brainard, Her Book. 1859.
67. Hymns of Believers. Copied by Marritta Strever, Canaan. Aug. 15th, 1869. 1 vol. [66 M 71]
68. Inspirational Songs Transcribed by Isabella Graves, South Family, Watervliet [N.Y.]. Feb. 1884. 1 vol.
69. [Inspirational Music]. Variousy dated 1869-1871. Also includes notes on French literary history and

astronomy, and a poem (?) inscribed "Olymp. 27 of February 1888, Ernest Pick." Also a song entitled "Song of the C.L.I.C." for 1880. [65 M 93]

70. [Notebook kept by Sarah E. Smith]. March 1850. Musical notations, religious verses. 1 vol. [65 M 93]
71. [Verse]. 1847-1871; 1883. [65 M 93]
72. [Diary kept by Elder F.W. Evans on a trip to Great Britain]. 1871 July 1-1872 Sept. 5. 1 vol. [65 M 93]
73. [Diary]. 1885 Jan. 1 vol. [66 M 71]

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74. [Diary]. 1899. Cash received and paid near [Pittsfield, Mass.?], 1 vol.
75. A Book of Recipes transcribed by Dewitt Clinton Brainard, 1829. 1829; 1857. [65 M 93]
76. *Catalogue of Medicinal Plants and Vegetable Medicines*. Prepared in the United Society, Watervliet, N.Y. Hudson: Printed by Ashbel Stoddard, 1833. 8 p.
77. Day Book. Jan 1852-Dec 1857. (Recording sales of garden produce, seeds, brooms, tables, mates, cheeses, etc. throughout the northeastern states). 1 vol.
78. Memorandum of Garden Seeds on Hand in 1880. 1 vol.
79. [Bank book]. Agricultural National Bank, Pittsfield, Mass. In account with R.M. Wagan & Co. [Shaker agent]. 1897 Mar.-1904 Feb. 1 vol.
80. [Bank book]. Account of R.M. Wagan & Co. with Pittsfield Agricultural National Bank, 1904 May 25-1910 July 11. 1 vol.
81. [Bank book]. Agricultural National Bank, Pittsfield, Mass. Deposits of R.M. Wagan & Co., Jan. 17, 1928-July 5, 1934.
82. Freight receipts, B[oston] and A[lbany] R.R. R.M. Wagan, Agent. 1884 June 20-Sept. 30. 1 vol.
83. Elder Brethren. [Booklet on conduct, manners, and behavior]. Two transcribed copies. [65 M 93]
84. Orders for the Church of Christ's Second Appearing Established by Ministry of Elders of the Church. Mt. Lebanon, Nov. 1887. 1 vol.
85. The Covenant or Constitution of the South Family in the United Society of New Lebanon, Columbia County, N.Y. Sept. 1865. (Also includes signatures and seals of subscribers and witnessing affidavits). 1866 Dec. 20-1885 July 9. 1 vol.

86. Covenant of Novitiate Members of the South Family of the United Society called Quakers of New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York. 1874-1899. 1 vol.
87. [Correspondence]. 1818; 1827; 1832; 1837-1879; 1892; 1912-1916; n.d.
88. [Copybook]. Letters connected with and containing accounts of the mission of Elder Frederick W. Evans and Br. James Peebles to England, 1871. 1 vol.
89. [Correspondence, copy book, and letters of Alice Braisted, Canaan]. 1880-1887; 1895. 1 vol.
90. [Autograph album kept by Frieda, an Albany Shaker]. 1881-1898. 1 vol.
91. [Autograph album kept at Mt. Lebanon, N.Y.]. 1881-1883. 1 vol.
92. [Autograph album kept by Sister Sarah Cutler at Mt. Lebanon, N.Y.] 1882-1904. 1 vol.
93. [Autograph album of Isabella Graves, South Family, Watervliet, N.Y.]. 1872-1893. 1 vol.
94. [Communication given by Inspiration in New Lebanon]. Nov. 22, 1840.

REEL 8

95. A Little Book Received in the name off our ever blessed Father William, Commenced Copying by Inspiration, Dec. 24, 1842. Second Family, Watervliet.
96. [Sayings of the Prophetesses Anna, Miriam and Deborah]. June 21, 1843. Circular volume written on paper cut into concentric circles of varying sizes.
97. A Communication from Mother Lucy to Eldress Ruth, written by Inspiration at Wisdom's Valley, March 8, 1844.
98. The Word of the Holy & Eternal God of Heaven. Written by Inspiration, Second Family, Wisdom's Valley, Sept. 8, 1844.
99. Counsel and instruction given by Mother Lucy for the use and benefit of those who are called to bear temporal burthens throughout Zion's habitations. Written by Inspiration, Wisdom's Valley, Oct. 5, 1844.
100. A Fold written by Holy, Holy Mother Wisdom to be conveyed to the Eldress Sister of the First Order, Watervliet, in a box.
[Spirit message from Mother Ann Lee?].
101. [Events, thoughts, notions in poetry form]. 1 vol.
102. The Word of the Savior by Signs, May 2, 1843. 29 pp. folded paper. Contains drawings and signs.
103. Words to the Instrument Writers. Contains drawings and signs. 20 pp. folded paper.
104. Words to the Watchman. Contains drawings and signs. 18 pp. folded paper.

105. Sayings of Mother Ann and the First Elders gathered from Different Individuals at Harvard and Shirley, Who Were eye and ear Witnesses of The Divine Word and Power of God Revealed thro them at Different times and in Various Places. 1 vol. (250 pp.).
106. [Shaker drawings on eight sheets of 4" wide paper].
107. [Miscellaneous songs, poems, notes]. 18 loose items.
108. *A Concise Statement of the Principles of the Only True Church According to the Gospel of the Present Appearance of Christ....* Bennington, Vt.: Printed by Haswell and Russell, 1790. 24 pp. (On back cover: "Noah Hall His Book").
109. Divine Judgements Law Concerning the Confession of Sin. New Lebanon, Dec. 11, 1859. 16 pp.
110. Biographical Account of the Life, Character and Ministry of Father Joseph Meacham, the Primary Leader in establishing the united order of the Millennial Church. Collected from eye and ear witness, and personal observation, By Calvin Green, New Lebanon, N.Y. A.D. 1827. Copied from the original by Elisha D. Blakeman, May 1859.
111. [Notes of sermons heard by a member of the family]. Services of All Souls Unitarian Church, Schenectady, N.Y. Ernest Caldecott, Pastor, March 21, 1926-March 6, 1927; also in Albany, Poughkeepsie, etc.
112. Using the Wrong Word. [Instructions on the use of the proper words and tense in speaking]. 1 vol. (20 pp.).
- 113.
- a. An Act in relation to certain trusts. Passed April 15, [18]39.
 - b. A Little Memorandum of Expenditures. Also Presents Received and Presents Given. Kept by The Ministry, Groveland, N.Y. Or by the Sisters in the Ministry Only, 1848-1859. 7 pp.
 - c. A Brief Account of Eldress Betsey's last sickness and Sister Maria's attendance. Second Family, Mount Lebanon, March 28, 1869. 4 pp.
 - d. A Synopsis of a Visit at the Chh. Mount Lebanon, N.Y. Oct. 26, 1873. 12 pp.
 - e. [Indenture for Nellia J. Hover, minor, between Ella Hover and Polly Lewis]. Aug. 28, 1876. 1 p.
 - f. A Brief Account of Funeral Services Held at Watervliet, Dec. 30, 1890 for our Beloved Elder Giles B. Avery. 6 pp.
 - g. A Biographical Sketch of Eldress Anna E. Charles. 7 pp.
 - h. Directions for Making Men's Socks. 1 p.
 - i. Instructions for Clothing Young Females according to Mother Lucy. April 26, 1840. 4 pp.
 - j. Remarks on the Cultivation of the Social Faculties. 2 pp.
 - k. A.L.S., 1854 Dec. 18, Elizabeth C. Chandler at North Enfield, N.H., to Henry Lincoln of Peru, Vt. 2 pp.

REEL 8 cont'd.

- I. Consequences or Fruits of Socialism. Quotations from American Socialism. 4 pp.
- 114. Architectural drawings of Shaker buildings in Lebanon and Watervliet, N.Y. and West Pittsfield, Mass. made by the Historic American Buildings Survey. Reproductions made from originals in the New York State Museum.
- 115. *Testimonies of the Life, Character, Revelations and Doctrines of Our Even Blessed Mother Ann Lee and the Elders with Her....Collected from Living Witnesses.* Hancock: Printed by J. Tallcott & J. Deming, Juniors, 1816. 1 vol. **(Additional copy available in Rare Book Room).**
- 116. *Shaker Sermons: Scripto Rational. Containing the Substance of Shaker Theology. Together with Replies and Criticisms...*by H.L. Eads, Bishop of South Union, Ky., Shakers, N.Y. The Shaker Manifesto, 1884. 1 vol.

REEL 9

- 117. Shaker box belonging to Eldress Emily Smith, Center Family, Mt. Lebanon, N.Y. Box formerly held confidential notes and spirit messages.
- 118. [Manuscript hymn book]. Shaker musical notation, 1840s or 1850s. 1 vol.
- 119. [Angell Matthewson. Reminiscences in the form of a series of 39 letters to his brother Jeffrey]. Letters 1-22 give a short history of the Shakers. 1 vol.
- 120. Marguerite F. Melcher. Correspondence, 1933-1952, n.d., and notebooks of data gathered for her studies of Shakers and Shaker colonies.
- 121. Curious Manuscript Essays on Theological Subjects written by a member of the Society of Shakers at New Lebanon, N.Y. attributed to Calvin Green, a noted elder. 385 pp. [60 M 32]
- 122. [Song] "My Love To My Mother," 1821. [Spirit messages to Isaac Youngs], 1842. [Spirit messages to Abigail Crossman], 1843.
4 unnumbered items.
- 123. Two pamphlets: *Considerations in Regard to the Application of the Shakers for Certain Special Privileges.* Albany, N.Y., 1839. *The Story of Shakerism. By One Who Knows.* Shakers, East Canterbury, N.H., 1910.
- 124. Photographs.
- 125. Miscellany