A Treasury of Shaker Ephemera Rediscovered at the Western Reserve Historical Society

By Christian Goodwillie

For the past three years Randy Ericson, David Newell, Cassandra Nawrocki and I have been conducting intensive research toward the compilation of a new bibliography of printed works by and about the Shakers. Using Mary Richmond's outstanding *Shaker Literature* as our starting point, our aim is to correct the content published in Richmond, as well as supplement it with thousands of items discovered or made accessible since her pioneering work in the 1970s. Our bibliographic team has visited sixteen institutions, accessed many on-line databases, and mined bookseller's catalogs to find items not listed in Richmond.

In preparation for our fifth visit to the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio (home to the largest collection of Shaker imprints and manuscripts in the world) I prepared a list for them of over 120 broadsides and handbills cataloged by Richmond at WRHS but not represented in their catalog. Efforts to locate these items at the time of our first four visits had not been successful. This was particularly troubling for the bibliography project, as many of these items were unique, or one of only two extant copies, and Richmond had cataloged the WRHS copy. Using the list I prepared based on Richmond, WRHS reference supervisor Ann K. Sindelar and library/archives collections manager Paul Heyde redoubled their efforts to locate this material. After a couple of weeks of searching they e-mailed me to report their success. Astonishingly, they were excited to report that not only had they found the uncataloged items Richmond had seen, but they had also found an additional three boxes of Shaker broadsides and ephemera. Randy and I were thrilled, and very eager to visit WRHS in late April 2012.

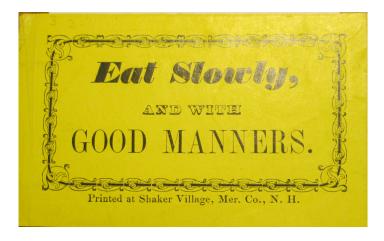
As we dug into the boxes of materials, each new folder yielded items that we had never seen, or had only read about in Richmond. The broadside/handbill-type items cataloged by Richmond had for the most part been left out of the microfiche of the WRHS Shaker imprints collection. So, for these unique items, seeing them "in the flesh" is the only way anyone can see them! The excitement intensified as we found literally hundreds

of examples of Shaker ephemera that we had never suspected existed. Our bibliographic project does not encompass ephemera, and we have struggled to define the boundaries between ephemera and imprints worthy of cataloging for the project. Despite our efforts to arrive at a consistent policy, it is quite likely that the end result will show inconsistencies, but, it is hoped, happy ones, as we have erred on the side of inclusion for items of interest to researchers and Shaker bibliophiles.

We were kindly given permission to publish the following collection of photographs of rare (and in some cases probably unknown) Shaker ephemera from the uncataloged collection of the WRHS. This is only a sampling of some of the best items we found. The images were made quickly—just point and shoot with a digital camera, no special lighting, no copystand, no measurements recorded for those we classed as clearly ephemera. Some are keystoned; the colors, while largely accurate, may not be completely true given the available light in a very dim room; and the relative sizes of the items are not necessarily reflected in these photographs. Nonetheless, we wanted to present these to the Shaker research community, and we hope you will find them as exciting as Randy and I did. Most of all, we wish to thank Ann K. Sindelar and Paul Heyde for their outstanding work in locating these items and making them available once again for those of us who love them.

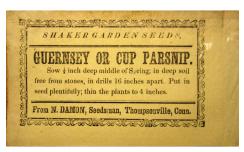
All images published courtesy of the Western Reserve Historical Society

Canterbury, New Hampshire



Enfield, Connecticut



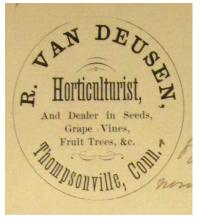
















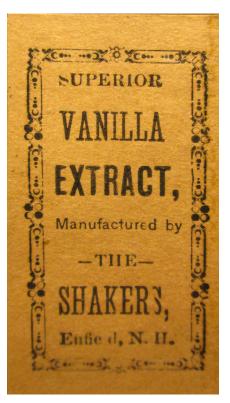


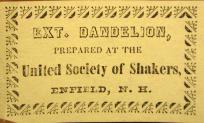


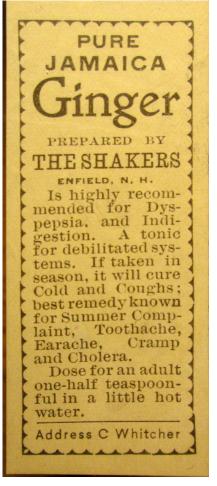




Enfield, New Hampshire









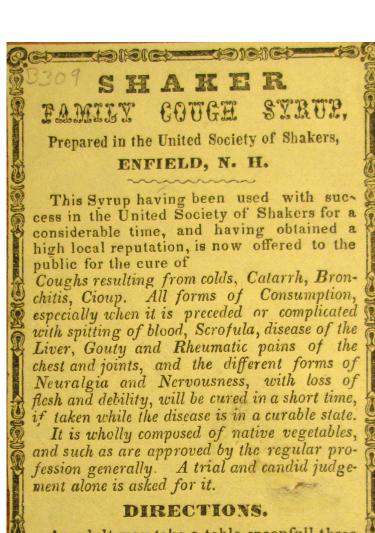




Jaundice Bitters.

ENFIELD.N.H.

DOSE for an adult, a tablespoonful two or three times a day.



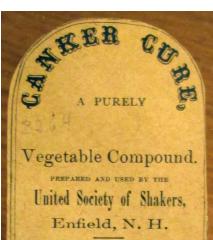
An adult may take a table spoonfull three or four times a day; and a like proportion for children according to age and constitution. It may be taken in water or clear, as most agreeable.

The bowels must be kept open by diet or a mild laxative, such as the

Alterative Syrup.

Price 50 Cents.







This Compound has been found to be a sure cure for Canker in the Mouth. It will also cure Sore Lips by wetting them several times in a day; may be swallowed with PERFECT SAFETY and greatly benefit the Lungs when inflamed.

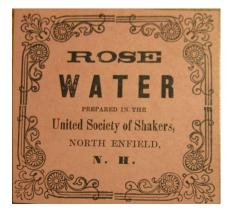
greatly benefit the Lungs when inflamed.

As a Gargle for the Tongue and Throat it has proved very efficacious; even chronic cases of Bronchitis have been cured after many rem-

Address

edies have failed.

ORVILLE DYER.







Hancock, Massachusetts

SHAKER CLOAKS.

For the information of parties wishing to furnish the material for their cloaks made by us, we will state that the requirements are four yards of cloth, fifty-six inches wide, and thirty inches of silk for hood lining. A perfect fitting garment cannot be made from narrow goods.

Measurements required are:—length from back of dress collar to desired length, neck, measure over dress collar, bust, measure over arms.

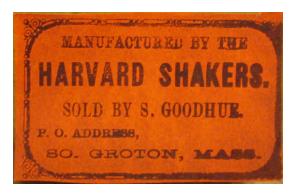
Ladies of medium height require eleven yards of silk of ordinary width for lining.

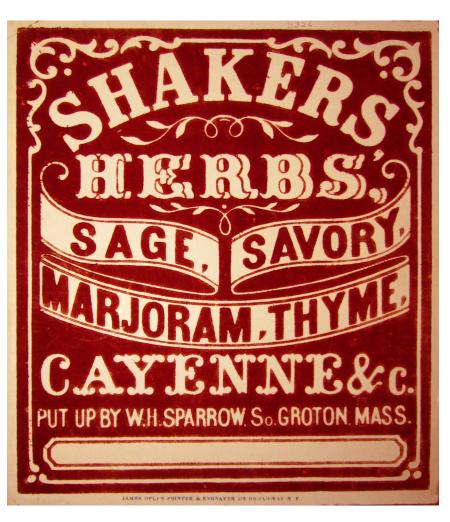
Prices for making cloaks, material supplied, are from \$6.00 to \$8.00 without lining, and from \$12.00 to \$15.00 with, according to lining.

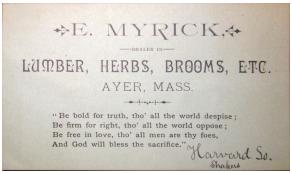
SOPHIA HELFRICH,

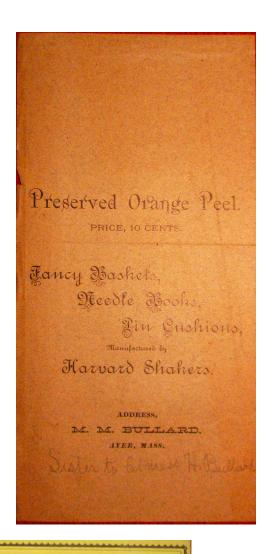
West Pittsfield, Mass.

Harvard, Massachusetts

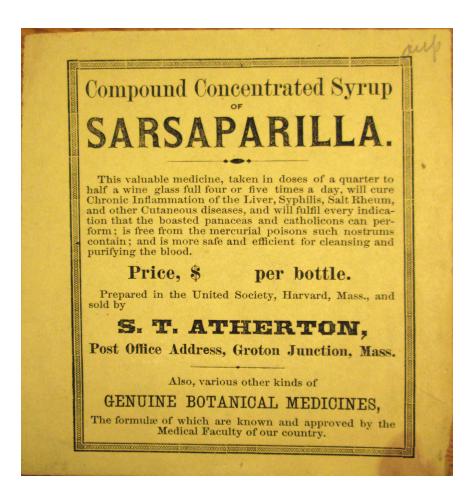




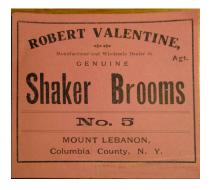




Pyrethrum Parthenium. United Society, South MUGWORT. Artemisia Vulgaris. United Society, South Groton, Mass.



Mount Lebanon, New York





NORTH FAMILY SHAKERS

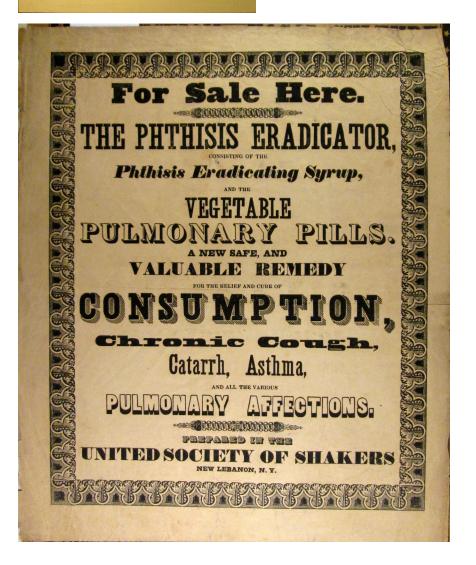
MOUNT LEBANON

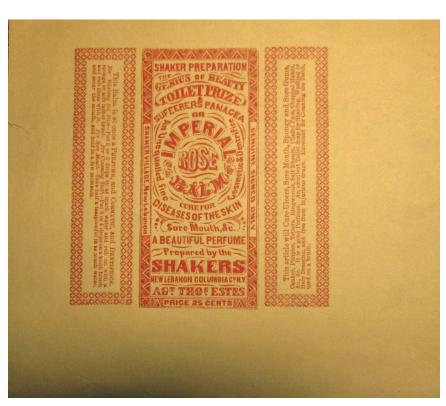
Columbia County, . New York

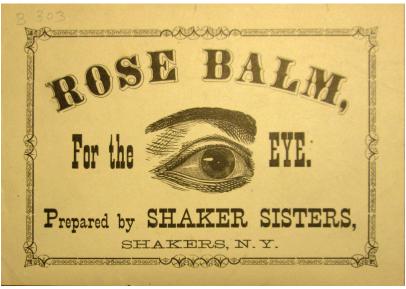
CHOICE FALL AND WINTER APPLES

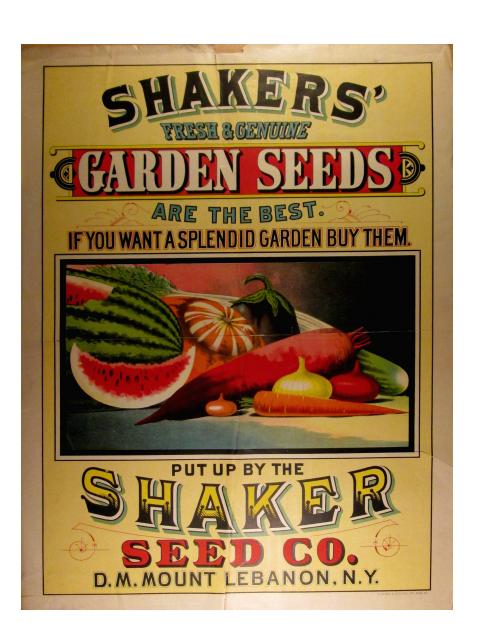
THE CELEBRATED CARMEN No. 3 AND NEW QUEEN POTATOES

E. Fowler. Lebanon Springs, N. Y.









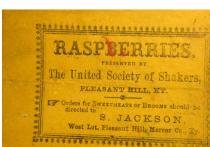


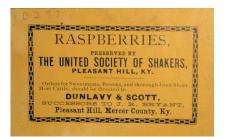
Pleasant Hill, Kentucky







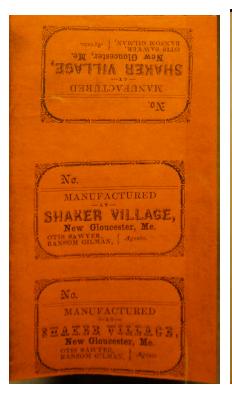




Sabbathday Lake, Maine

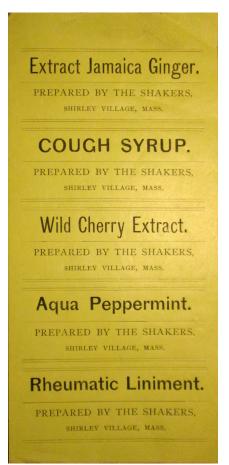


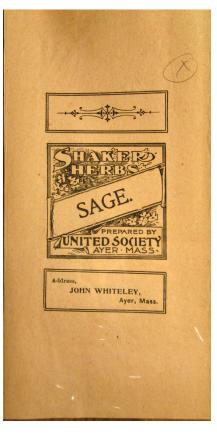






Shirley, Massachusetts

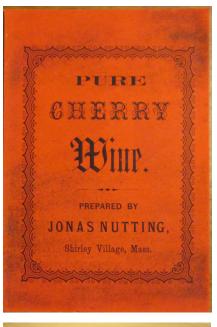




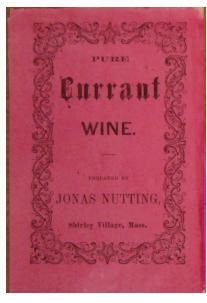


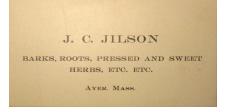


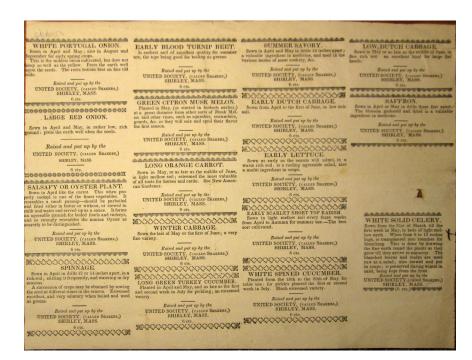


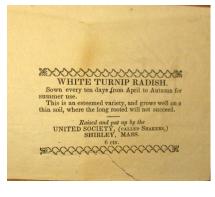


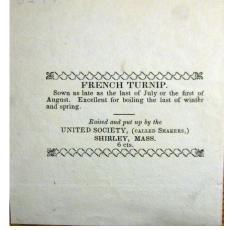




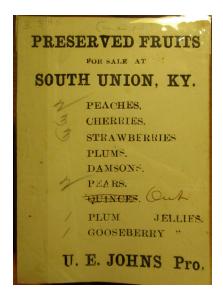






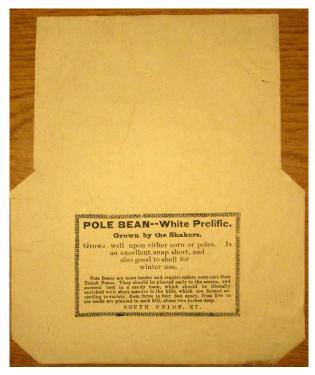


South Union, Kentucky









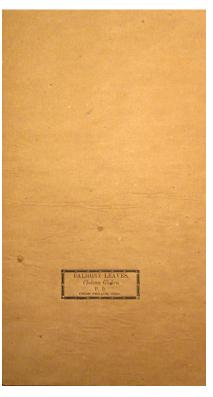




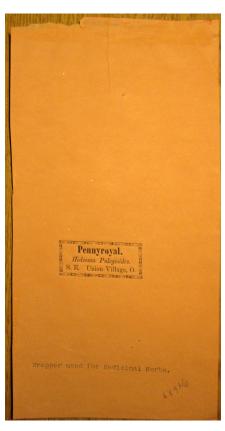


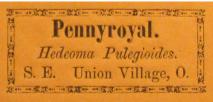
Union Village, Ohio













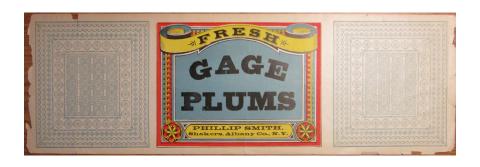
Watervliet, New York

























COUGH SYRRUP. Useful, also, in hoarseness, loss of voice and asthmatic complaints.

Dose.—Half a gill, three times in twenty-four hours. While taking the Syrrup, if expectoration remains difficult, add to each dose from fifteen to twenty drops of saturated tinc-ture of lobelia or bloodroot. In most cases the lobelia is best. N. B. Keep the bowels open with alternative doses of the Vegetable Bilious Pills. Prepared only by David Miller, Watervliet; and Garret K. Lawrence, New Lebanon. Price, ONE DOLLAR, FIFTY CENTS the bottle.

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