

# Hamilton College Library

## “Home Notes”

### Communal Societies Collection New Acquisitions

**Catalogue of Medicinal Plants & Vegetable Medicines,  
Prepared in the United Society of “Shakers” Merrimack  
County, N.H. [Printed at Canterbury. N.H.: n.d.]. 49 x 30 cm.**

Hamilton College has recently acquired the second known copy of this Canterbury, New Hampshire, broadside. The piece is large, measuring 49 x 30 cm. It lists over two hundred varieties of Shaker-grown herbs. The other surviving copy is in the collection of the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord (Richmond 168). That copy was printed without any price information, which is present on the Hamilton College piece. As an added bonus, the Hamilton copy has a manuscript note on the verso written by Shaker botanico-medical physician Thomas Corbett to customer Edward Putnam in Danvers, Massachusetts. Corbett comments on specific herbs such as cayenne, lobelia, and golden seal. This copy was actually folded and mailed for use as an order sheet.

# CATALOGUE

## OF

### Medicinal Plants & Vegetable Medicines,

Prepared in the United Society of "Shakers" Merriam County, N. H.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Price per lb.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Price per lb.
Alder buds	Alnus serrulata	35	Mandrake root	Podophyllum peltatum	50
Angelica	Angelica atropurpurea	42	Marsh mallows	Aithaea officinalis	50
do root	do	50	Marsh rosemary root	Statice limonium	33
Avena root	Gum rivale	35	Marygold flowers	Calendula officinalis	50
Balm	Melissa officinalis	35	Mayweed	Antennaria cotula	25
Bayberry bark	Myrica cerifera	25	Mellot	Mellilotus officinalis	33
do, pulp.	do	75	Mocasin root	do	75
Barberry bark	Berberis canadensis	42	do wild valerian	Cypripedium humile	75
do, pulp.	do	60	do	do	1 00
Beth root	Trillium atropurpureum	1 00	Modewort	Leonurus cardica	35
Bittersweet	Solanum dulcamara	50	Mountain ash bark	Sorbus americana	33
do (false) bark of the root	Celastrus scandens	2 00	Mountain mint	Thymanthemum incanum	42
Bitter root or dogbane	Apocynum androsaemifolium	2 00	Mugwort	Artemisia vulgaris	50
Black alder bark	do	2 50	Mullein leaves	Verbascum thapsus	55
Blackberry root	Rubus villosus	35	do flowers	do	1 50
Black cherry bark pulp	Prunus virginiana	35	Night shade	Atropa belladonna	1 55
Black cohosh root	Cimicifuga serpentaria	35	do extract	do	1 50
Blessed thistle	Centaurea benedicta	42	Noddy liverwort	Hepatica triloba	1 50
Blood root	Sanguinaria canadensis	35	Parley	Asium petroselinum	33
Blue scutellap	Scutellaria lateriflora	75	do root	do	42
Bone oil	do	1 00	Peppergal	Hedeoma pulegioides	42
Borage	Borago officinalis	35	Peony root	Paeonia officinalis	50
Brook liverwort	Marchantia polymorpha	67	do flowers	do	1 00
Brick bean plant	Morone spicata	35	Peppermint	Mentha piperita	25
Buckhorn or male fern	Aspidium filixmas	50	do oil	do	33
Buckhorn sirap	Rhynchos catheriacus	33	Plantain leaves	Plantago major	33
Bugle sweet	do	50	Pleury root	Asclepias tuberosa	1 33
do bitter	do	50	Poppy flowers	Papaver somniferum	33
Burdock leaves	Arcium lappa	35	do leaves	do	33
do root	do	35	do capsules	do	1 00
Butternut extract	Juglans cinerea	75	Poplar bark pulp	Populus tremuloides	33
Button snake root	Liriodopsis	1 00	Prickly sub bark	Aechthium ulmifolium	33
Cancer root plant	Oronche virginiana	42	Raspberry leaves	Rubus strigosus	25
Cattail	Nepeta cataria	35	Rhubarb	Rheum palmatum	1 00
Cedar oil	Juniperus virginiana	1 00	Rock brake	Rosa palustris	1 55
Celandine	Chelidonium majus	42	Rose flowers red	Rosa gallica	1 55
Chamomile	Anthemis nobilis	50	do white	do alba	1 55
Cicuta	Cotum maculatum	33	do damask	do damascena	1 33
do extract expressed	do	1 50	do water per gallon	do	1 00
do to common	do	1 00	Royal cowslip root	Sanicula azeum	2 00
Clay	Salvia sclera	33	do golden alexanders	do	2 00
Cleavers	Gallium aparine	42	Ran	Rata grandiflora	50
Clover leaf extract	Trifolium pratense	1 25	Carduus tectorius	Carduus tectorius	33
Colefoot	Tussilago officinalis	50	Sage	Salvia officinalis	40
Comfrey root	Symphytum officinalis	33	Sandale	Sanicula maritima	75
Coriander root	Heracleum lanatum	50	Sarsaparilla root	Aralia nudicaula	33
do extract	do	1 50	do extract	do	3 00
Cranesbill	Gernium maculatum	1 00	Sassafras bark pulp	Laurus sassafras	33
Crawling winter-green	Gaultheria hispida	25	Savia	Juniperus prostrata	33
Dandelion plant	Leontodon taraxacum	42	Scabash	Oenothera biennis	33
do root	do	42	Scary grass	Cochlearia officinalis	25
do extract	do	42	Silkwed root	Asclepias syriaca	33
Dogwood bark	Cornus sericea	50	Skunk cabbage root	Atropa belladonna	33
Dragon root	Aran triphyllum	50	do pulp	do	75
Dwarf elder root	Arelia nudica	35	Slippery elm bark	Ulmus fulva	33
Elder flowers	Sambucus canadensis	50	do superfine flour	do	55
Elecampane root	Inula helenium	42	do fine	do	55
do pulp	do	42	Snake root Canada	Asarum canadense	50
Feverfew	Chrysanthemum parthenium	50	do oil	do	16 00
Flaxseed pulp	Linum sativum	33	Sauke head	Chelone glabra	42
Fleabane	Erigeron canadense	42	Solomon's seal root	Convallaria multiflora	50
Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea	40	Southernwood	Artemisia abrotanum	33
Fumitory	Fumaria officinalis	33	Spearwort	Mentha viridis	35
Garget root	Physoclea decandria	25	Spikenard root	Aralia racemosa	33
do extract	do	2 00	do extract	do	2 00
Goldenrod sweet	Solidago odora	50	Spice bush or fever bush	Laurus benzoin	33
do oil	do	1 00	do	do	33
Gold thread root	Coptis trifolia	1 00	Collinsonia canadensis	Collinsonia canadensis	33
Ground ivy	Glechoma hederacea	35	do	do	75
Hamamelis	Spiraea tomentosa	35	do	do	33
do extract	do	3 00	do	do	33
Harvest lice	Bidens chrysanthemoides	50	do	do	33
Hebrans black	Hysocyamus niger	15	do	do	33
do extract	do	3 00	do	do	33
Hemlock leaves	Pinus canadensis	55	do	do	33
do bark pulp	do	17	do	do	33
do gum	do	07	do	do	33
Hollyhock flowers	Althaea rosea	75	do	do	33
Horehound	Marrubium vulgare	37	do	do	33
Horse-radish leaves	Cochlearia americana	33	do	do	33
Hyssop	Hyssopus officinalis	33	do	do	33
Jervulm oak	Cheopodium baryx	33	do	do	33
John's root	Hypericum peribium	33	do	do	33
Laural	Salix nigricollis	23	do	do	33
Lemon balm	Prucocaphalum virginianum	33	do	do	33
Lettuce, garden extract	do	4 00	do	do	33
do wild	do	2 00	do	do	33
Life everlasting	Graphophalum polycaphalum	35	do	do	33
Lily root white	Nymphaea odorata	50	do	do	33
do yellow	Nymphaea odorata	50	do	do	33
Lobelia	Lobelia inflata	2 00	do	do	33
do seed	do	2 00	do	do	33
do pulp	do	1 00	do	do	33
Lovage	Ligusticum levisticum	42	do	do	33
do root	do	42	do	do	33
Low mallow	Malva rotundifolia	33	do	do	33
Lungwort	Viola filix	75	do	do	33
Maidenhair	Adiantum pedatum	75	do	do	33

golden seal 1 25  
do 1 50

Orders are directed to Thomas Corbett, SHAKER VILLAGE Merriam County, N. H.

27 21 22 All orders for herbs are enclosed in this catalogue must be forwarded with 1/4 cent postage.

A Shaker document to which is added.

PRINTED AT NEWBURY, N. H.

Shaker Village N.H. Dec 3<sup>d</sup> 1834

Friend Putnam

Your favour is before me I have here  
 send you a catalogue which has all those articles  
 you mentioned, and prices as low as we can sell with 12½  
 per cent discount for cash — We have a plenty of  
 Cayenne on hand a good quality. Lobelia is rather scarce  
 we have orders for nearly all we have on hand from  
 Boston, if you send your order soon if you intend to  
 send you will be more likely to get your supply  
 the other articles we have a good supply.  
 The golden seal is considered the best bitter by all  
 that is in use I have sold one firm in Boston about 60 lbs  
 pulverized.

Respectfully your friend  
 Thomas Corbett

Transcription of the letter from Thomas Corbett to Edward Putnam from the back of the *Catalogue* broadside.

Shaker Village NH Dec 3d 1834

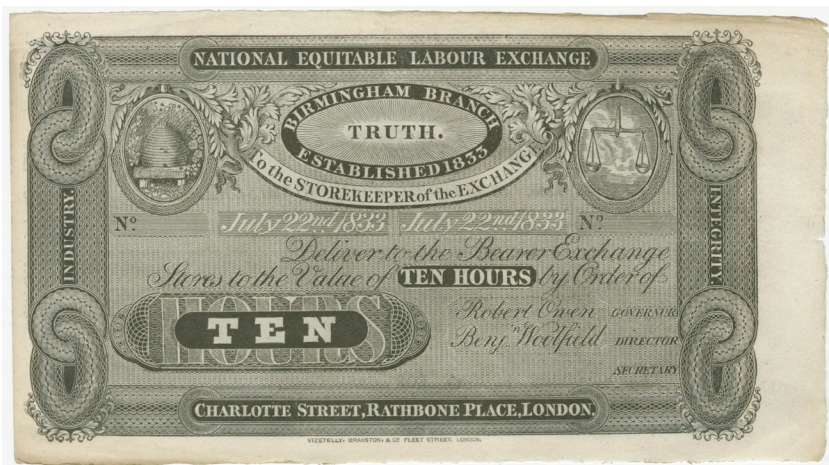
Friend Putnam

You[r] favour is before me. I have here send you a catalogue which has all those articles you mentioned and prices as low as we can sell with 12½ per cent discount for cash — We have a plenty of cayene on hand a good quality. Lobelia is rather scarce we have orders for nearly all we have on hand from Boston, if you send your order soon if you intend to send you will be more likely get your supply the other articles we have a good supply. — The golden seal is considered the best bitter by all that is in use I have sold one firm in Boston about 60 lbs pulverized.

Respectfully your friend,  
 Thomas Corbett

**[Owen, Robert]. National Equitable Labour Exchange.  
Birmingham branch established 1833. To the storekeeper of  
the Exchange.... Deliver to the bearer Exchange Stores to the  
value of ten hours by order of Robert Owen.**

Hamilton College has recently acquired an original Owenite Labour Exchange note, valued at ten hours, dated July 22, 1833. Denominations exist for 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 40, and 80. The bill is engraved with a beehive, signifying industry, and scales, signifying equity and justice. Notably, the words "Industry," "Truth," and "Integrity" appear on the bill. The National Equitable Labour Exchange, which used these time-based notes, was established in 1832. The London exchange lasted into 1833.



**This Indenture, Made the first day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight between Jonathan Wood of New-Lebanon in the County of Columbia and State of New-York, of the first part, and Lydia Douglas, late of Farnham, Bedford County, Lower Canada of the second part, and Sophia Douglas, an infant under the age of twenty-one years, daughter of the said Lydia Douglas, of the third part ... [n.p., 1830s]. 40 x 32 cm.**

The Shakers used a large variety of commercially printed indenture forms to take legal custody of minors throughout the nineteenth century. These forms are printed with spaces to fill in the specific details. In the entry given above, the portions in blue were filled in on this particular indenture. In preparing a new bibliography of Shaker literature it has been challenging to determine which forms were printed by the Shakers, or specifically for Shaker use. Hamilton College has acquired this wonderful example used by the New Lebanon Shakers in 1838. Printed on the form are the words “United Society (called Shakers),” rendering it certain that the form was printed specifically for the Shakers, if not by them. Further research may reveal more information about printing at New Lebanon in the late 1830s, but it is certainly possible that the Shakers used an Albany-based printer to produce this form, as they did for other publications and some labels during the nineteenth century.

Sophia Douglas was born June 5, 1833, so she was five years old when she was indentured to the Shakers on August 1, 1838. Generally, girls worked in the shops, the wash house, and the kitchen. In addition, they learned knitting, sewing, and braiding bonnet bindings. She departed New Lebanon on January 6, 1845.

# This Indenture, Made the first day of August in the year of

our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight Between Jonathan Wood of New-Sebacon in the County of Columbia and State of New-York, of the first part, and Sydia Douglas of Farrham Bedford County, Lower Canada of the second part, and Sophia Douglas an infant under the age of twenty-one years, daughter of the said Sydia Douglas of the third part, Witnesseth, That the said parties have, in conformity to the civil institutions of the said State, agreed and covenanted in form as follows, viz: That the said Sophia Douglas aged five years on the fifth day of June by and with the consent of her mother the said Sydia D hath of her own free will, placed and bound herself unto the said Jonathan Wood a member of the United Society (called Shakers) of said New-Sebacon to be under the care and in the employment of the said Jonathan as such member, in whatever may be for the present good, or tend to the future benefit and welfare of the said Sophia according to the customs, principles and practice, as far as may be lawful, of the aforesaid Society, until she the said Sophia shall have arrived at the full age of eighteen ~~twenty-one~~ years: Provided nevertheless, That in case she the said Sophia shall, at any time during her said infancy, obstinately refuse to perform, and conform, in and to whatever he the said Jonathan Wood shall or may lawfully require of her the said Sophia Douglas according to the customs, principles and practice aforesaid, then, and in such case, the said Sydia Douglas for herself, her executors and administrators, covenants, promises and agrees, to and with the said Jonathan Wood his executors and administrators, to take back the said Sophia Douglas upon due notice given her the said Sydia Douglas by the said Jonathan Wood so to do, without making or requiring any charge for the services which the said Sophia may or shall have done or performed for the said Jonathan or the said Society; and also without claiming any damages of or from the said Jonathan Wood for not keeping the said Sophia during her said infancy: And further, That she the said Sydia Douglas will not, at any time, unlawfully take away her said daughter nor cause her to be taken away, nor procure or entice, nor cause to be procured or enticed, the said Sophia to absent herself from the service and government of the said Jonathan Wood, nor from said Society, during the continuance of this Indenture. And the said Jonathan Wood for himself, his executors and administrators, covenants, promises and agrees, to and with the said Sydia Douglas, her executors and administrators, that he the said Jonathan Wood shall and will, during the time that the said Sophia shall remain with him the said Jonathan as aforesaid, provide the said Sophia with comfortable food and clothing, and teach, or cause her the said Sophia to be taught to read and write, and to be instructed in such other branches of education as are usually taught young females in the schools of the United Society and also such manual occupation or branch of business as shall be found best adapted to her genius and capacity; and also to furnish and provide for the said Sophia Douglas two suits of good and decent wearing apparel at the termination of this Indenture, in case the said Sophia shall so long remain with him the said Jonathan Wood without any wilful default on the part of the said Sophia Douglas.

In Witness whereof, the parties aforesaid, to this Indenture, have set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

SEALED AND DELIVERED  
IN PRESENCE OF

Mich. Galloway

Jonathan Wood  
Sydia Douglas  
Sophia Douglas

This may certify, that I Sydia Douglas do hereby consent to the execution of the above Indenture to Jonathan Wood, in behalf of myself and my daughter, Sophia Douglas.

Witness  
Mich. Galloway

Sydia Douglas

**Rare Stereoview, possibly from South Family, Enfield, N.H.**



(From the Lauren and Julia Stiles Collection, Hamilton College Library)

The Communal Societies Collection at Hamilton College has just been gifted the Lauren and Julia Stiles Collection of Shaker Stereoviews and Postcards. This outstanding collection contains 78 stereoviews and 156 postcards. Quite a few are new additions to Hamilton's collection, and a significant number are upgrades in terms of condition, or complement examples already in the collection due to a different image trim, cardstock, or manuscript information written on the back. We are thrilled that Lauren and Julia decided to give the collection to Hamilton, particularly because they have been regular users of our digital collections website. The Stiles collection will digitized and integrated into the existing on-line collection of Shaker photographic materials available at: <http://elib.hamilton.edu>.

*Can anyone help us identify this remarkable Shaker structure?*