

From the Editor –

The articles in this issue of *ACSQ* deal with violence, revolt, and persecution. The first is Stephen J. Stein's study of how the Shakers viewed the violence visited upon Ann Lee and other early Shakers and how it helped them cope with later opposition and persecution. Stein is Chancellor's Professor emeritus in the department of religious studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. He is well known for his comprehensive history of the Shakers, *The Shaker Experience in America* (Yale University Press, 1992). He is currently serving as general editor of a major new reference work, *The Cambridge History of Religions in America* (3 vols.), which is expected to be published in early 2011.

Lauren Stiles returns to these pages with an intriguing article about the ultimatum issued by the sisters at Mount Lebanon and Watervliet regarding the chore of milking the cows. Internal rebellion among the Shakers was highly unusual and Stiles stitches together material from various Shaker journals to shed light on how and why this particular act of rebellion came about. Stiles is an independent scholar interested in Shaker architecture and agriculture. He served for thirty years as head of reference and humanities bibliographer at Memorial Library at SUNY Cortland. He published an article in the January 2008 issue of *ACSQ* titled, "‘The Mythical Structure is Created’: Planning and Construction of the Center Family Dwelling House, Mount Lebanon, 1856-1868."

Glendyne Wergland's article discusses the power of the visionists during the Era of Manifestations and how it was used to force both the expulsion of some Believers from their communities and the acquiescence of others. Wergland has published two books on the Shakers, *One Shaker Life: Isaac Newton Youngs 1793-1865* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2006) and *Visiting the Shakers, 1788-1848: Watervliet, Hancock, Tyringham, New Lebanon* (Richard W. Couper Press, 2007). She has a book forthcoming from University of Massachusetts Press titled *Sisters in the Faith: Shaker Women, 1780-1890*.