



## United Society of Shakers

FOUNDED 1788

P. O. MOUNT LEBANON, N. Y.

Walter Shepherd,  
Mount Lebanon,  
N. Y.Mr Roy G Cooksey  
Bowling Green KyOctober 18<sup>th</sup> 1922

My dear Sir

Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. is at hand.

I take pleasure in responding to your request for points about the "Shakers"

I am mailing our latest publication under another cover. "Shakerism - Its meaning and message" also three booklets -

I enclose with this letter a few oddments.

I think you can cull from these sufficient for an interesting exposition and talk on the subject of our principles and life, and I feel sure that these will be sympathetically and intelligently presented by you

We believe in progress - We don't stand, theologically, where we did 50 years ago - We believe in the theory of evolution - physical and spiritual -

The newspapers tell us that Shakers are dying out. Shakerism is not dying out. Shakerism is simply applied Christianity - Shakerism will die out when Christianity dies out. I notice in my reading that the Schools of Sociology in American Colleges are now interpreting Christianity much as the Shakers do, except for the Celibate doctrine. Shakerism takes cognizance of human needs every day in the week, and is a standard of fullness and excellence only available and attainable by the few. Most of us come far short.

With best wishes

Very sincerely yours

Walter Shepherd.

P.S. There will be no charge for the book.

W.S.