THE

PEOPLE CALLED SHAKERS

A SEARCH FOR THE PERFECT SOCIETY

By EDWARD DEMING ANDREWS

NEW ENLARGED EDITION

DOVER PUBLICATIONS, INC.
NEW YORK
For Thomas Merton,

With respect and affection

Edward and Faith Anderson

November 1963
Table of Contents

Introduction, xi

i  Ann Lee Leads the Way, 3

ii  Opening the Testimony in America, 14

iii Mission into New England, 35

iv  Early Shaker Communism, 54

v  Expansion Westward, 70

vi  Temporal Labor—Principles and Practice, 94

vii  Spiritual Labor—Mode of Worship, 136

viii 'Mother Ann's Work,' 152

ix  Internal Order, 177

x  Relations with the World, 204

xi  Decline of the Order, 224

APPENDICES

The Millennial Laws, 243

Statistical View of Shaker Communities, 290

A Note on Sources, 293

Notes, 299

Index, 341
List of Illustrations

Banns of Marriage, Abraham Standerin and Ann Lees, 7
Meeting-houses, New Lebanon. First Church in Background, 51
Page from First Written Covenant, New Lebanon, 1795, 63
Title Page of First Shaker Pamphlet, 65
Title Page of First Edition of The Testimony, 96
Trustees' Office and Store, New Lebanon. Built in 1827, 105
Trustees' Office, Niskeyuna, 107
Kitchen, Church Family, Niskeyuna, 111
Sisters' Shop, 112
A Mender of Clothing, 114
Cutting Bread, 114
Herb Shop, New Lebanon, 121
Shakeresses Preparing Herb Extracts, 123
Shaker Sisters Corking Bottles, Herb Industry, 124
Church Family, Shirley Shakers, 128
Interior of Meeting-house, New Lebanon, 129
Entrances to Brethren's and Sisters' Rooms, 130
Square Order Shuffle, 139
Singing Meeting, 140
The Gift of Love, Evening Meeting, 145
Solemn March, The Final Procession, 146
Ring Dance, Niskeyuna, 148
The Whirling Gift, 154
Mountain Meeting, 163
Revival Song, Shaker Notation, 173
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Brethren's Retiring Room, North Family, Niskeyuna, 182
Dining Room, North Family, Niskeyuna, 183
Girls' Clothes Room, Church Family, Niskeyuna, 186
Schoolroom, Niskeyuna Community, 190
Sisters' Everyday Costume, 200
Church Family, New Lebanon Shakers, 1856, 202
Shaker Evans at Home, 232
Title Page of Millennial Laws, 249