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"PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARD ALL MANKIND."

WHO ARE THE "SHAKERS" OF AMERICA.

The "SHAKERS" are a religious sect, founded by Anna Lee in 1770, the name "SHAKER" being given them owing to some peculiarities of their form of worship. They live as a community, holding all property in common, with no individual wealth; yet they constitute not a democracy but a theocracy, because they derive their common government from religious instead of worldly sources. The "SHAKERS" have long been known for many peculiar traits of character. Their strict integrity has won for them an enviable position in the business world. Their word has come to be recognized as being as good as a government bond, and their goods are always just what is claimed by the community manufacturing or selling them. Their supreme rule of life it this: "As ye would that others should do unto you; do ye even so unto them." Another inexorable law of the "SHAKERS" is to be free from debt. The "SHAKERS" owe no man aught, and no person can truthfully say that a "SHAKER" ever defrauded him out of one cent. In every branch of business in which they are engaged, their goods are recognized as standard of equality; as for instance Shaker Flannel and Shaker Garden Seeds. They neither marry nor are given in marriage, consequently no children are born unto them. They live a life of virgin purity and many celibacy and perpetuate the religion by adopting healthy children of good moral parentage and also by converting to their belief people of good character willing to abide by their laws. They have no courts and settle all disputes by arbitration. They do not vote and fight no battles, consequently never enlist as soldiers. Their sole object being to live a life of peace and happiness. There are no drones among the "SHAKERS," each must do his share of the work of the community. All are amply provided for in health, sickness and old age. There are many communities in the United States all subject to the same rules as have been briefly stated in this article.

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