

~~Manifesto~~  
Emil Bretzner Will

Robt. Forsmark  
receipt. Elder, J. W. Evans,

North Family,  
Mt Lebanon.

The Last Will  
and Testament  
of  
Emil Bretzner

Bachman  
DOOLITTLE & ~~GREEN~~ DEN,

NO. 3 PINE STREET,  
NEW YORK.

In the name of God, Amen: I, Emil Bretzner of New Lebanon, Columbia County, State of New York in the United States of North America, but formerly of the City of Stockholm the capital of the Kingdom of Sweden being of the age of 26 years and being of sound and disposing mind and memory do make, publish, and declare this my last will and testament in manner following, that is to say:—

First. I give and bequeath to Frederick W. Evans and Daniel Offord, now being Elders of the North or gathering family of the United Society of Believers; commonly called or known as Shakers, of the town of New Lebanon aforesaid and to the survivors of them and to their successors or successor as such Elders or Elder, as the case may be, in trust for the uses and purposes hereinafter specified: All my real, personal and mixed estate, property and effects of every name, nature and kind whatever which I now have, own, hold, or may now, or shall hereafter become entitled to, by inheritance, devise, or in any other way or manner, and of which I shall die seized or possessed, or be entitled to, legally, or equitably; but In trust over the less to and for the uses and purposes following, that is to say: I will, that the said Elder or Elders aforesaid to take, receive and reduce the same to their possession all said real, personal and mixed estate, property and effects, and to hold the same in trust for the members of said North, or gathering

family of said United Society of Believers, commonly called Shakers to be used by them, their successors or successor as such Elders or Elder of said forth or gathering family of Shakers; as they shall or may deem for the best interest of said family and in upholding, maintaining and spreading the gospel of Christ as believed and taught by said United Society of Believers commonly called Shakers and in accordance with the letter and spirit of the written covenant of said Society of Believers. and of which Society I now am, and for several years last past have been a covenanted member.

Lastly - I hereby nominate and appoint

Herman Husberg of the City of Stockholm in Sweden who is one of the executors of the estate of my late father, Carl Abraham Pretzner, of the same City of Stockholm, and

And. Husberg of the same place, who is attorney and counsel for three of the Children, myself included, of my said late father, or the survivor alone of them to be Executors together, or Executor alone of this my last will and testament. But if neither of them should survive me then I leave it to the proper authorities in the Kingdom of Sweden to nominate and appoint whomsoever they shall see fit to take their places as Executors of this my will —

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy six

Witnesses

Emil Pretzner.

The above instrument consisting of ~~two~~ sheets  
was at the date thereof signed, sealed, published  
and declared by the said Emil Bretzner as  
and for his last will and testament in the  
presence of us, who at his request and in his  
presence and in the presence of each other  
have subscribed our names as witnesses  
thereto.

Edwin A. Doolittle of Bergen Jersey City in the State of New Jersey  
Spencer S. Doolittle of Bergen Jersey City in the State of New Jersey  
Eugene Siebel of No 54 East Ninth Street in the City of New York

At Emil Bretzner of Stockholm  
at Forældre Carl Abraham Bretzner,  
som døde den 27<sup>de</sup> April 1875 i Paris og  
Hustru Hilda Carolina (födt Halldin) egen-  
händig har undertegnat ovenstående  
Testamente, attesteres herved under  
Haand og Segl.

Det Konglige Svenske og Norske Consulat  
i New York den 26 Februar 1876.



Arvid Pors  
Consul

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DOOLITTLE & CRITTENDEN.

No. 3 PINE STREET,  
NEW YORK.

NEW YORK  
27 FINE STREET

DOOLITTLE & CRITTENDEN  
NEW YORK

*500 Broadway*

*NY*

*500 Broadway*

*500 Broadway*

1.

In the name of God, Amen: Y. Emil Bretzner, of New Lebanon, Columbia County, State of New York in the United States of North America, but formerly of the City of Stockholm, the capital of the Kingdom of Sweden, being of the age of twenty six years, and being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do make public and declare, this my last will and testament in manner following, that is to say:

First. I give and bequeath to Frederick W. Evans and Daniel Offord, now being Elders of the North or Gathering Family of the United Society of Believers, commonly called or known as Shakers, of the town of New Lebanon aforesaid, or to the survivor of them, and to their successors or successor as such Elders or Elder, as the case may be, in trust, for the uses and purposes hereinafter specified, All my real, personal and mixed estate, property and effects of every name, nature and kind whatsoever, which I now have, own, hold, or may now, or shall hereafter become entitled to, by inheritance, devise, or in any other way or manner, and of which I shall die seized, or possessed, or entitled to legally or equitably, but in trust nevertheless to and for the uses and purposes following, that is to say: — I will that the Elders or Elder aforesaid take, receive and reduce to their possession all said real, personal or mixed estate, property and effects, and hold the same in trust for the members of said North or Gathering Family of said United Society of Believers, commonly called Shakers, to be used by them, or by their successors or successor as such Elders or Elder of said Gathering Family of Shakers, as they shall or may deem for the best interest of said Family, and in upholding, maintaining and spreading the Gospel of Christ as believed and taught by said United Society

of Believers, and in accordance with the letter and spirit of the written Covenant of said Society of Believers, of which Society I now am, and for several years last past have been a covenanted member.

Second. I hereby nominate and appoint Riks-gäldskammars-räden Herman Lushberg, of the City of Stockholm in Sweden, who is one of the executors of the estate of my late father, Carl Abraham Pöretzner, of the same City of Stockholm, and Vice Karadschöfdingen Axel Lushberg, of the same place, who is attorney and counsel for three of the children, myself included, of my said late father, or the survivor alone of them, to be Executors together, or Executor alone of this my last will and testament. But if neither of them should survive me, then I leave it to the proper authorities in the Kingdom of Sweden to nominate and appoint whomsoever they shall see fit to take their places as Executors of this my will. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this



Will

In the name of God, Amen: I, Emil Berthner, of New Lebanon, Columbia County, State of New York in the United States of North America, but formerly of the City of Stockholm, the capital of the Kingdom of Sweden, being of the age of twenty six years, and being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do make, publish and declare this my last will and testament in manner following, that is to say:

First, I give and bequeath to Frederick W. Evans and Daniel Afford, now being Elders of the North or Gathering Family of the United Society of Believers, commonly called or known as Shakers, of the town of New Lebanon aforesaid, or to the survivor of them, and to their successors or successor as such Elders or Elder, as the case may be, in trust, for the uses and purposes hereinafter specified, All my real, personal and mixed estate, property and effects of every name, nature and kind whatsoever, which I now have, own, hold, or may now, or shall hereafter become entitled to, by inheritance, devise, or in any other way or manner, and of which I shall die seized, or possessed, or entitled to legally or equitably, but in trust nevertheless to and for the uses and purposes following, that is to say: —

I will that the Elders or Elder aforesaid take, receive and reduce to their possession all said real, personal or mixed estate, property and effects, and hold the same in trust for the members of said North or Gathering Family of said United Society of Believers, commonly called Shakers, to be used by them, or by their successors or successor as such Elders or Elder of said Gathering Family of Shakers, as they shall or may deem for the best interest of said Family, and in upholding, maintaining and spreading the Gospel of Christ as believed and taught by said United Society

Commonly called *Wishes*.

of Believers, and in accordance with the letter and spirit of the written Covenant of said Society of Believers, of which Society I now am, and for several years last past have been a covenanted member.

Second. I hereby nominate and appoint Pihogårdskammisaren Herman Husberg, of the City of Stockholm in Sweden, who is one of the executors of the estate of my late father, Carl Abraham Sörbyner, of the same City of Stockholm, and Vice Händelsfogdingen Axel Husberg, of the same place, who is attorney and counsel for three of the children, myself included, of my said late father, or the survivor alone of them, to be Executors together, or Executor alone of this my last will and testament. But if neither of them should survive me, then I leave it to the proper authorities in the Kingdom of Sweden to nominate and appoint whomsoever they shall see fit to take their places as Executors of this my will. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

This dedication entered upon the Book of Records June 20<sup>th</sup> 1876

This is to certify that I have this day duly delivered over to Frederick W. Evans the sum of Two thousand and five hundred dollars to be used and expended by him in building and constructing the Water Works now in process of construction in the Shaker Village in New Lebanon County of Columbia and State of New York, the same being a free gift or contribution by me towards the construction of said Water Works for the use and benefit of the North family of Shakers

Also the sum of Two thousand three hundred and seventy six (\$2,376) dollars to be used and expended by said Frederick W. Evans for the uses, purposes and benefit of said North family as he may deem most for the interest of said family - New York February 26<sup>th</sup> 1876

Witness  
E. A. Dostottle

Emil Bredtger

I have also dedicated & consecrated through Frederick W. Evans (Elder) for the uses and benefit of the above named South Family of Shakers, and agreeable to its consent, which I have signed, the following sums.

May 16 <sup>th</sup> 1876	—————	\$ 528.12
June 19 <sup>th</sup> 1876	" 20 <sup>th</sup> "	\$ 440.60
June 3	" "	\$ 1219.36

Witness  
Anna White.

Emil Bredtger.

Receipt  
of  
Ernie Bestner

10,315e

ca. 1876

Emil

Beloved Adress Antoinette,

If I could find so many good and beautiful words as I have thoughts and deep feelings of respect, gratitude and thankfulness towards You, then this should certainly be an excellent letter. That now the contrary happens, is not my fault.

Since I came here, almost half a year ago, have I been treated by You and all others with so much goodness and friendship that it is mostly surprising. I never before understood, how it could be possible to love of principle and to love all, but You, and many more, have shown me that it can be done; and should I not feel thankful therefore? Oh yea! I will always acknowledge that moral debt, if I also cannot be able to pay it. Moral debts cannot be cleared off in the same way as material. And this is well. All

good is, or, at least, ought to be, common. Ministered from one to another, should it go all through the universe, creating happiness and joy wherever it comes.

It should be so; but how is it in reality? Few, very few, but so much more blessed, are those, who possess that ministering power; who, like You, can give, in all their doings and sayings, true and worthy examples of goodness and virtue, of love to all, who are good themselves, and who will be better through the help of others.

I feel often very unhappy, in thinking of the labors of the good Elders and Eldresses for me. It seems to me as if it should be an unprofitable labor. The future shall show it. How it so may be! certain is that I will always remember your kindness and goodness to me and be thankful for it.

This is what I wish to say You,  
Aldress Antoinette. You can perhaps not  
understand much of it; then I shall have  
to interpret it for You, when You come  
home.

I feel just a little alone, since  
Charles went away. I hope that You  
all may soon come back again.

My deep and respectful affections to  
Yourself, Sister Anna, Charles and all the  
others.

Emile Pretzner

P.S. I forgot Brother Timothy's name  
among the others, but I hope, he may not  
think that I have forgotten himself.  
The other sisters names I scarcely know.

E.P.



In consideration of the sum of one <sup>thousand</sup> dollars to  
me in hand paid by Frederick W Evans as  
an individual and also as First Elder of the North  
family of Shakers at Mount Lebanon  
Columbia County N.Y. I do hereby for  
myself and my heirs, executors and administrators  
release to said Frederick W Evans and also to said  
North family of Shakers of Mount Lebanon  
all claims and demands which I now have  
or may hereafter have against said Frederick  
W Evans or said family or Society of Shakers for  
money deposited and services rendered to said  
Evans or said Society and hereby acknowledge  
to have received full satisfaction for the same  
Dated Aug. 30, 1883

Emil Bretzner

State of New York }  
County of Yates }

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August  
1883 before me the undersigned a Justice of  
the Peace in & for said County personally came  
Emil Bretzner being known to be the person  
described in and who executed the above release  
and acknowledged that he executed the same

Benjamin L. Hoyt

Emil Petrus

19315 g

Received from Elder F. W. Evans a sum  
of twenty two dollars in bills and a check  
on five hundred dollars, in all five  
hundred and twenty two dollars, \$522,  
in payment of a draft of five hundred  
and twenty one dollars and ninety three  
cents,  $521\frac{93}{100}$ , delivered to him November  
1st 1888, which receipt I hereby acknow-  
ledge.

Mount Lebanon, Feb. 15th, 1889,  
Emil Berbyner.

Emil Betanus  
Receipt

10,315h

Received from Elder F. W. Evans,  
of Mount Lebanon, Col. Co., N. Y., a  
sum of one hundred dollars (\$100),  
which I hereby thankfully acknow-  
ledge.

Emil Bretzner,  
Mount Lebanon, August 19<sup>th</sup> 1883.

Receipt  
Emil Kistner

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251101

From Elder J. W. Evans, of Mount  
Lebanon, Col. Co., N. Y., have I this day  
received a sum of five hundred dollars,  
(\$500.00), which I hereby thankfully ac-  
knowledge.

New York, Sept. 7th, 1883,  
Emil Brezner.

Emil's Receipt

10,35j



# Note.

Beloved Elder Frederick,

The accompanying letter from Emil Bretzner, manifests just what we have been fearing, and anticipating, not only ever since he went away, but some time before, when, perhaps, you may recollect that the subscribers spoke with you about it; saying we feared that the time might come when Emil would call for the money he consecrated; and, withall, remarking to you that it had been the counsel from our Order, for the past fifty years, never to use up the money brought in by members uniting with the society; but to deposit it safely, at interest, and use the interest only, even though they should have consecrated it; then, in case such depositors left the society to return to them the principal that they brought into the society.

You will no doubt perceive that there is a threatening aspect, in some portions of his letter. And, of course, if the money is not returned he may sue and make a great furor, morally & civilly,

yea, even more, a great expense; and, though the legal claim to the property may be adjudged as relinquished, yet, it is doubtful if a jury could be found that would not fail to give the case to the plaintiff.

Then, though it might be referred to the supreme court, and the law, in the final issue, grant the claim to the Society, still the cost, and unfavorable reflection upon the Society would be great.

We refer Enid's letter to you for reply, — and would like to hear, or see your answer.

Accept our love, —  
Giles.

Note 2<sup>nd</sup> — We send, for your perusal, one of <sup>Edgar</sup> ~~late~~ late Hervey's late letters to us, by which you will see how I showed him the wrong meaning the Society at South Union had taken for want of a Capital D. C. &c. — please return at convenience.

Giles

Mount Lebanon, N. Y. April 13. 1886

Dear friend Emil:

Your letter of the 13. ult, addressed to Elder Giles, but intended for me, is before me. As, no doubt you anticipated, I am surprised at your suggestion to turn a gift - a dedication - into a debt. It has been my sincere endeavor to give you no just occasion for personal offence, or unkindly feeling. Consequently, the implied accusation and tone of censure pervading a letter addressed to my official superiors, was unexpected. I had as much upon me before your secession, as I was equal unto, that, like the last straw that broke the camel's back, brought no relief. I, personally, took much pains in gathering together your "scattered belongings". And I know the good sisters were unflinching in their efforts to find and pack both your own and Margaret's things. I carried ten heavy loads of books from the upper room in the first house, to our shop in the second house, myself. If, under the increased pressure of burdens, consequent upon your withdrawal, I was, like Paul, somewhat "beside myself", was it any wonder? or that some things came missing? When, alluding to your last maneuvered letter, you think perhaps it is missing with so many more of your belongings, you speak wiser than you knew. It is missing with the package of your letters. I cannot find them. In your frequent travels with me, did I <sup>ever</sup> once fail to <sup>be</sup> loose <sup>in</sup> something? True, it generally

Turns up as unexpected as it disappeared. Respecting that letter, I did not know how to answer it either to your satisfaction or my own, I continued to read papers, and did not remember, until your reminder, that you wrote last. Was looking for a letter from you, My correspondence has so increased that some one gets neglected all the time. Oliver's demise is a heavy loss to me, Touching the property question, I supposed that was settled, and settled finally. You asked for a loan of \$1000 <sup>was</sup>, promising, by word and by letter, to repay it, and sent me a legal paper to that effect; cutting off all claims and demands, but recognising the obligation. As regards yourself, I ever considered you a strictly honest, honorable man, if one such existed upon our sin-cursed earth. Your simple word, was to me, as good as any bond. You really were an "exceptional man", not so much in pecuniary matters, as in spiritual things intimately connected with the North Family and the Order at large. Your name and fame went throughout the Zion of God upon earth, as one who would not fail - never go back upon himself, his profession, his words, much less his sacred religious consecrations to the Gospel cause. Those consecrations were made in the Book of Records, by his own hand, signed and witnessed. You and I were really one, as Jesus prayed his people to be - not two. We were both called from the sceptical class - the Horns of the Beast - did both receive the same "one faith," by revelations from the Christ Heavens. It produced <sup>conversion</sup> conviction and conversion.

We were united in heart and soul, in the happy position of the present and the glorious hopes of the future. Here devoted to the work of redemption of the human race upon this earth by means of the Resurrection Order. You occupied an important official position in the Family, as important as that of an elder. You met and entertained all visitors, and had the instruction, enlightenment and planting of Young Believers entrusted to your care. As I have said, you and I were united: "we took sweet counsel together, walking to the House of God in company, and alike ministered to the attending thousands. I trusted you, met you as Christian meets Christian, as man meets his peer man. For some ten years, or more, this relation continued. It was a long, happy period of "religious exaltation". In sincerity and godly simplicity I had my conversation with Emil. I did really think that our union was for time and would extend into eternity. I therefore considered that what ever you gave - dedicated - was given and dedicated as much to yourself as to anybody. It was not "one sided", by any means, but being united to the gifts and consecrated labors of others - faithful and true - went to create a home on earth as long as you should live, for you, and as many as the Lord should call. If any blame - was it mine, or was it ours? By many, it was thought that Emil led me as much as I led him; that I let Emil do just as he pleased because he had brought in

property. You were a Shaker as really as I was one; and, like myself, you expected to live and die a Shaker. As such, we, you and I, did take "every precaution" to legalize your dedications from time to time. And to make assurance doubly sure in that respect, against the claims, not of Emil — for that was not a supposable case, but against his heirs and legal representatives; I called from New York a first class lawyer — Edwin A. Doolittle — to examine all our papers, deeds, Book of Records, Covenant, etc. (I paid him \$200<sup>00</sup>) In addition to the several entries of separate sums, made in the Book of Records, in your own beautiful hand writing, on the 21. of June, 1876, a page is appropriated to collect and restate them in regular order, and the dedications are confirmed up to that time, signed by your own hand and witnessed by Edwin A. Doolittle. It was made as legal as American law can make it. October 28. 1878 you made a dedication of \$733.31 "to construct a Wash House, Ironing room, Street Dryer, etc." In the light of preceding deeds, the same being a free gift of dedication by me, towards the construction of such water works, etc. Other dedications were for the general purposes of the family, agreeable to our covenants and religious usages, etc. Only by breaking the Covenant, that holds the Societies together in one Order, could one dollar be legally reclaimed by any person who has thus dedicated and consecrated property, money or labor. Thus much for the legal aspect of the case, Touching the moral, are not contracts as inviolable

marks the date on Feb. 26, 1876, & witness notes

morally as legally? Should your mother, or brother, make to you a free gift of \$2000<sup>00</sup>, and, after you, in good faith and confidence, had expended it, they turn and demand it as a debt, would it be to you as though you had borrowed it?

Again, if you donated a sum of money to a Baptist or Catholic church, or to a college, hospital or library, could you legally reclaim such gift or donation as a debt? Have you the same right to make a gift or donation to a Shaker family as you would have to any one of these, wherein it would indeed be "one-sided", you having no right or claim, whereas, in the latter case, you have a life inheritance in it, equal to the claims of any other person, and upon precisely the same terms. In the matter of "indue influence", considering your aristocratic family, "whose most noble blood, has run through warriory <sup>veils</sup> since the flood"; your collegiate education, mental training and business capacity, keeping books, accounts, etc., do you not do yourself an injustice in pleading the infant act - taking a secondary place relative to a man who is <sup>time and again</sup> without letters, ignorant of financial operations, investments, book-keeping, a man who <sup>repeatedly</sup> consorted with servants until 12 years of age, who had everything to learn, from the construction of mill-dams, the building of barns, putting on roofs, working our machinery, putting in steam-heating apparatus, to the laying of water-pipes and making of roads, saying of such a man "all sorts of influences brought to bear, all possible advantages

Taken of weakness and helplessness, produced by fear and religious exaltation, innumerable and careful precautions on one side, and nothing in the world to show on the other." How strange all this looks and sounds when you consider that all these precautions were as much your own as mine, And you suggest that the present idea is to prevent future trouble. You know that if either or both of you had been bed-ridden for twenty years or more, your consecrated property would have furnished you home, kind attendance and care. It was equal - not one sided. Did I, or any one, ever expect that Emil would forsake his home and friends, his Christian inheritance of a hundred fold of houses and lands, of money, of brethren and sisters - his daily bread? So much of the moral; and the religious is so intimately connected therewith, that I do not know how to separate them. As I have said, I was ignorant in and of finance. I did what I regret and would not repeat. I invested for Elder John Vance \$5000<sup>00</sup>, through Prof & Fulton, who had been quite reliable. They failed us, they took a second mortgage. I bought out the first to save the second. The interest was not paid, and Elder John came back upon me. I paid the principal with your money. The North Family derived no benefit from it. The land, valued at \$30<sup>00</sup> per acre, was sold, the last of it, for \$7<sup>00</sup> per acre. The money was lost. Our broom business is done, our seed not much better. We owe some \$22,000<sup>00</sup>. It was, three years ago, \$37,000<sup>00</sup>. We have a family of 60 to support.



7

I am sorry if I proffered you unwelcome or unnecessary advice. Forgive me, I entertain none but kind feelings towards you both. I expect to meet you in the land of souls, when earthly things have perished with the using or abusing, as the case may be. If, when the earthly scene closes, we can leave that and the errors of our earth-life too, peace will be our portion and rest our lot. Do not the supreme "Contempt" and withering "Scorn" of which you speak, betoken the superior or master mind and not the unduling? I am 78 years of age. My hearing fails, and I do not feel much like standing on international law-suit, that would involve thousands of dollars. I should like to live and die in peace with all the human race, especially with Emil and Margaret.

Be truly respectfully

F. W. Evans,

JULIUS ROCKWELL, Prest.

1260.  
JNO. V. BARKER, Vice Prest.

E.S. FRANCIS, Cashier.

CAPITAL & SURPLUS \$700,000.

N.B.

PITTSFIELD NATIONAL BANK

Pittsfield, Mass.  $\frac{3}{2}$  1887

J. W. Evans Esq

Dear Sir

I send you herewith  
receipt for draft 3668 Dollars  
favor of Emil Bretzner, which  
I mail to-day as per your  
request.

Very Respectfully  
E. S. Francis

ms B'01

Emil Besten  
Receipts on Drafts

RECEIPT.

to be given to the Purchaser.

No. 26541

Date March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1887

Sold to  
J. N. Evans

Draft on  
Stockholm Sweden

Favor of  
Emil Bretzner

Amount of Draft  
2668 Kronors

Received \$1000. —

C. C. Francis

~~Wm. H. Perkins~~

BUY YOUR  
TICKETS  
TO AND FROM THE  
OLD COUNTRY,  
— AT THE —  
PITTSFIELD NATIONAL BANK,  
PITTSFIELD, MASS.

10,315m

Wahlby, Timmerodja, Sweden, May 8th 1887.

Dear Elder Fredrick,

I cannot tell you how pleased I was to receive your last letter from Windsor, N. Y., of the 24th of April last, which has just come. By it I learn that you finally received my letter of March 17th, the long delay of which worried me so, and caused my letter of April 28th, which I hope you will receive in due time, as also this. By the remittances desired in those two letters, I did not mean to change any ~~part~~<sup>my</sup> arrangements, or inconvenience you <sup>at</sup> all unduly, but only to modify the placing of the money to my disposal. I am perfectly satisfied with the arrangements you describe in your last letter, and only ask you to

favor me by the following dispositions, part of which are just as you have stated them yourself, and to have them attended to before you leave home on your long journey:

1<sup>o</sup>. 2,500 dollars with Hatch & Co. in North. Pac. Pref. Stock and cash to my account, with the firm's receipt and check book sent to me.

2<sup>o</sup>. 4,500 dollars, to make up the remaining 7,000, with the Pittsfield Bank to my account; but of these I should wish about 2,000 dollars sent here as early as convenient, but at least in the beginning of June, and for the remainder the Bank's receipt and check book for drawing the money, as needed.

This cannot interfere with your previous arrangements, I hope; at

least it is in the spirit of my former proposals, only modified by circumstances here, and by the unexpected news of your journey.

I shall send you receipts, or acknowledgements, as I have done hitherto from time to time, of every bank deposit or draft, as soon as I shall have received it, mentioning the full sum up to the time being, and also what remains till it be all paid. Any communications after this one I shall send to the address in London that you have given me, and I shall be glad to hear from you at any time.

And now I have but one wish more, and that is that you may have a happy and prosperous journey and a safe return home, and



that the blessing of God in the fullest  
measure may rest over you and your  
work wherever you go.

Yours, very sincerely,  
Eril Brytner.

RECEIPT.

to be given to the Purchaser.

No. 26557

Date May 17 1887

Sold to

J. W. Evans

Draft on

Stockholm Sweden

Favor of

Emil Bretzner

Amount of Draft

3668 Kronors

Received \$1000. —

~~C. C. Francis,  
Wm. H. Perkins.~~

C. C. Francis,

BUY YOUR  
TICKETS  
TO AND FROM THE  
OLD COUNTRY,  
—AT THE—  
PITTSFIELD NATIONAL BANK,  
PITTSFIELD, MASS.

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10,315p

No 1

Emil

Udder J. W. Evans,



Mount Lebanon, Col. Co.,

May 26<sup>th</sup>/47

New York,

North America.



10,315 8

That the statement of accounts, written out and signed by Emil Breteguer on the — day of June 1887 at Wallby estate, in the parish of Tinnerödje, in the kingdom of Sweden in Europe, is a true and satisfactory statement and settlement of the real nature and amount of all the money transactions between the aforesaid Emil Breteguer and the undersigned up to the present date, I do hereby solemnly declare; thereby pronouncing him free from all further indebtedness to me, just as I am free from any further indebtedness to him up to the present date; and also nullifying and declaring invalid any former contracts, bonds, wills, or agreements, that may exist between us, of whatsoever name and nature they may be.

Place and Date,

Name,  
(Seal, or)

Witnesses,

Name . . . Name

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Wahlby, Fimerodja, Sweden, June 14th 1887.

Elder F. W. Crows,

Mt. Lebanon, N. Y., U. S. A.,

Dear Old Friend,

Returning home from a rather extended business journey, I hasten to inform you of the safe arrival of the following communications to me, and to thank you most heartily for all your kind service in regard to them, to wit:

- 1<sup>o</sup>. Your kind letter of May 9th, announcing your deposit with A. J. Hatch & Co. of \$3,000 in North. Pac. Pref. Stock and Cash for me;
- 2<sup>o</sup>. His acknowledgement and receipt of that same deposit of the same date, reducing your remaining obligation to me to \$4,000;
- 3<sup>o</sup>. Letter from the Pittsfield Bank of May 17th, enclosing a draft for \$1,000, still further reducing the sum due to me, to \$3,000;

4. Your kind letter of May 14th, enclosing your portrait and announcing your intended sailing from New York on June 2nd, the day before your birthday;

5. And, lastly, your long letter of May 16th, 17th, 18th and 20th, which has just arrived, and which explains all the above operations, and moreover announces your deposit of the remaining \$3,000 on my account with A. J. Hatch & Co., thus settling our business.

Now, I can but thank you most sincerely for all your kindness and willingness to meet my wishes to the full extent of your ability, even though I must deplore that you have thereby given yourself so much trouble, and gone even far beyond the spirit and intent of what I asked.

<sup>to do</sup> you, as you may well have seen, if you have received my last letter of the 9th ult.. But that can not be helped now,



and I can do no better than to repeat my most sincere thanks to you for all the kindness that you have shown at the closing up of this matter, and hope that all may prove mutually satisfactory to the end.

As soon as I shall have accepted the acknowledgement from A. J. Hatch & Co. of the last deposit of \$3,000, I shall send you a receipt for the same, just as I have done all the way along. I shall also write out such a statement of the whole transaction, as you mention in your last letter, but before I sign that and send it to you, you ought to return to me the quit-claim that you induced me to write on the receipt of the first \$1,000 in Penn Yan, and other papers of the same nature previous to that date; or, if you find

that impossible or impracticable, you could promise to write out a receipt, copied after the enclosed, and signed with your name and seal, or two witnesses in place of the latter, and send it to me on the receipt of my statement. I hope that you will find that proper, for there is no difficulty between you and me personally, but our affairs may any day fall in the hands of others, and then these things may be needed for mutual protection.

With many kind greetings to yourself, and many well-wishes for the success of your journey and other undertakings, I remain as ever,

Yours,

With kindest regards,

Emil Prebuzer.

[ ]

Walling, Finnevedja, Sweden, June 22nd 1887.

Elder F. W. Evans,  
of Mt. Lebanon, New York, U. S. A.,  
Dear Friend,

Since writing my last letter of the 14th inst. to you, addressed like this to Scotland, I have received a statement of the interest, paid by A. J. Hatch & Co. on my account for the month of May, which statement was dated the 31st of that month, but not a word of information have I received of the later and larger deposit, which you mentioned in your last letter to me as having been made to my account with them some of the last days of the same month. What does that mean? Will you write to them about that matter, or shall I?

I am sorry to have to trouble you

about these things now, when you are away from home, and it was just on that account I was so anxious to have the matter settled before your journey, so that we might both feel at ease about <sup>it</sup>. I hope, however, that this may prove to be only a mistake or a slight neglect on their part, that you can easily straighten out by a word or two.

Renewing my kind greetings and well-wishes, as in my last, I remain as ever

Yours, affectionately,  
 Emil Beckner.

Wallsjö, Tinnerödja, Sweden, June 30th 1886.

Dear Elder Frederick,

Your note of the 14th inst. and your letter of the 19th have just arrived, and are held in a tone that ~~makes~~ makes my sympathy towards you increase. Now you begin to be quite sensible, and if you will please to continue so, and to leave off the didactic style and the authoritative and condemnatory tone, you will find me as reasonable as ever. You have no occasion to take exception to my appealing to your official superior for his personal opinion upon any given subject, and that is all I have ever done, and I insist upon having it yet; but I have not the least objection to transact any business with yourself, even if you must needs term it paying the "Price of Peace", instead of simply doing the right

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thing, the same that I would do to you under the same circumstances. You might know that I need not reread your former "Elaborate Communication" to understand the position you take. I could have written just such a communication myself under certain conditions (and how do you know but that I already have done something of the sort for you to other parties?), but, if I had been T. W. E., I would scarcely have written so to C. B.. Moreover, you will please to remember, that all this pitiful talk about law-suits, and kindred sentimental effusions, come entirely from you, not from me. I have, on the contrary, discarded almost everything, except the moral aspect of the case; and if I have found it necessary to use strong terms, it has been simply to induce you to take a little different tone from what you might

do with infinity to the children at home.

Now to that wonderful "Price of Peace"! I suppose that you know better than I do, how much money I have given you; I have not even taken account of the different sums, but I know that my inheritance was well on to 40,000 crowns, that is more than 10,000 dollars, and you are the only one that has shared that with me. You have given me 1,000 dollars on condition that I shall give them back to you or yours, whenever I can conveniently, and so I will. Give me now the remaining 9,000 dollars on the same condition, and you will find that my word is fully as good as yours, or that of your competitors and successors, if you should fall away. Whosoever of us shall have the greatest need of the money, and shall make the best use of it, may have it for the

time being, without worry. There might be more benefit for your Order in such a friendly arrangement for the future, than you can see now, and than I feel willing to explain as yet. It is not necessary that you should send it all at once. You might forward as much as you can raise immediately, and send the remainder in convenient installments within a year, or thereabout. I hope that I have been able to make myself plain and intelligible enough to you, and that you will answer promptly.

From Robert I have received a short letter. I hope that his departure has not been as sudden news to all others concerned, as it was to me; and I am also glad that he is doing well, as you write in your letter. May he continue to do so, and may you all prosper and be blessed in all good things, is the earnest wish of

Your friend, Emil Bretzner.



[ 7 ]

Wahlbjo, Timmeröfja, Sweden, July 6th 1887.

Dear Olof Frederick,

Your kind letter of June 1st arrived here the day after I had written you my last letter, to which I just received your answer today on a postal card, sent from London on the 2nd inst. I have heard nothing further from Hatch & Co., but when I wrote to them, acknowledging the receipt of their deposit of interest for the month of May, mentioned in my last letter to you, then I also asked them to explain about your previous deposit of the 3,000 dollars, and as

I intend to go over to New York  
in the course of the present season,  
I trust that all will prove right.  
And as I have all reason to con-  
fide in your statement, repeated  
and emphasized in your last  
postal card, I send you hereby  
the "Statement" or "Bill of Accounts",  
that we have written about before,  
hoping that you will find it satis-  
factory, and trusting that you  
will send me by return mail  
such a receipt as I have proposed  
to you, and that you have agreed  
to in previous communications.

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Noting with great pleasure  
your comfort and satisfaction in.

[2] [3]  
your present journey and work,  
I can but renew my former well-  
wishes for your success and pro-  
sperity in whatever you may  
undertake. Hoping to hear from  
you soon, and sending you many  
kind greetings, I remain, as ever,

Your sincere friend,  
Emil Breyer.

# Bill of Accounts.

Dr. Elder J. W. Evans, of Mt. Lebanon, Pa., U.S.A., in account with Emil Bretzner, of Wallys, Tinnerodja, Sweden. Cr.

1876	Loans, running without interest and on indefinite time, received at different dates, mostly during said year, but even later, and in all amounting to fully	\$ 10000						
				1883	Aug.	Checks and Cash	\$ 1000	
				1886	Sept. 15	Draft	= 500	
				1887	Jan. 4	\$	= 500	
				2	March 2	\$	= 1000	
				2	May 9	Deposit with A. J. Hatch & Co.	= 655	
				2	2	\$ North Pac. R.R. Stock, Pref. worth	= 2345	
				2	2 17	Draft	= 1000	
				2	2 26	Deposit with A. J. Hatch & Co., not yet verified by them	= 3000	
		\$ 10000					\$ 15000	

That the above statement includes all the money transactions between Elder J. W. Evans and myself, and that all accounts are thus settled between us up to the present date, I do hereby testify by hand and seal.

Wallys, Tinnerodja, Sweden, July 6th 1887.  
Emil Bretzner.

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Mt. Lebanon, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1846

Emil Beetsner, Dear friend,

Your response to my letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> ult. dated June 30<sup>th</sup> is received. To begin with, allow me to say, it is not what I had hoped and expected. Your arraignment of "the tone and style of my letters, as being "didactic", "anthracitic" con-"demnatory", better suited to my children at home than to Emil," is, to my mind, more applicable to your own letters than to mine. And, if I should add thereto threatening and imperious in spirit, with a haughtiness brooding upon contempt, it <sup>would</sup> be just as they impress me. However much I may have come short, I certainly have intended to treat Emil with civility and respect, and shall continue so to do, to the best of my ability, irrespective of how I myself may be treated.

If you should look over your own letters Emil, I think you would see my feelings are not without some accusation. Now you say, "this pitiful talk about low suits, &c. came intirely from you, and not from me". If this be so, then I have intirely misconstrued your reference "to other hands than mine", "deal with Agents by Agents, &c." "You have my money, and what are you going to do about it." But continue, "I have, on the contrary, discarded almost intirely every thing except the moral aspect of the case". This being so, if both of us drop the legal, look only at the moral aspect of the case, how do we stand face to face, as in a matter for arbitration? You being in and consecrate to the North Family, some thousands of dollars. A part of that, as I have before stated, was lost - nigh unto one half - The North Family derived therefrom no benefit. Other sums were dedicated to some specific object, such as improvements, of which

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You have yourself, in common with the others, received  
the benefit, and could have continued to  
enjoy the same, <sup>including the consecration of \$2,500</sup> as long as you should live.  
Another part, you have received and expended  
in journeys and personal expenses, in va-  
rious ways. And in consideration of your  
dedications was there not always a discrim-  
ination, as against other members, in your  
favours? Discarding all of the above con-  
siderations, you still ask for \$900 dollars  
in addition to the 1000, you <sup>now</sup> received &  
promised to return. True, you add, that  
you will receive it as a loan to be returned  
the same as the one thousand."

And this additional nine thousand,  
you desire to receive within a year.

Is not this a one sided and selfish  
proposition, on your part, devoid of any  
consideration or concession to the North  
Family whatever? No sum of money would  
turn one of my own hairs black, that have  
become white by my relations to Emil.  
Yet, I am not forgetful as unmindful  
of the good in Emil, nor of the good he  
has done in the Gospel Cause. Neither will  
any amount of harshness or contempt,  
ever obliterate it from my memory, until  
we meet in the Spirit World.

I am willing to meet you, as you suggest,  
in a friendly spirit, and if you will be  
"sensible", to compromise matters with you.

Please reconsider & see if you cannot  
meet me half way. Suppose in-  
stead of advancing you \$900 as  
a Loan, to be repaid with the other \$1000,  
in the uncertain future; that I remit  
the 1000 & give you \$4000 more and

call it finally settled. I would send that by installments as fast as I could raise <sup>the money</sup> from the sale of real estate.

We could not raise the money, as you propose, and in the time you name without distressing the Family more than it would benefit yourself & Family.

As I informed you, in previous communications, the Family is not making both ends meet, after paying current expenses & needed repairs & improvements. Each year, we are selling off real estate as fast as we can find the opportunity. I have up to this time sold over twenty pieces of land, including Fawns Wood Lots, &c. since I had the <sup>mother</sup> in the Family.

The Mich. land is all sold. The Chicago Lots are in the Supreme Court. A Shaper papers, what he openly admits is a bogus claim. We expect it to be soon decided. I am very anxious to get our debts all paid by the sale of our outside property, before I retire from the Eldership.

I hope you will be reasonable & conciliatory & that the proposition I now make will be acceptable to yourself & Margaret.

Copy

Mt. Lebanon, Sep. 7<sup>th</sup> 1846.  
Emil Bletsner.

(Dear friend, Your friend  
by letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> ult. came last  
night. At the same time, came a  
telegram from Syracuse saying  
that John Greene, who left  
home in the morning to go on a  
visit to his brothers in Syracuse,  
was dead. That, of course, must  
be attended to. We shall have  
Charles go up and either bury  
him there, or bring him home,  
as the case may be.

Respecting the business matter,  
as I said, if there be any fighting  
you will have to do it, not me.

In your letter of June 30<sup>th</sup> you  
made a proposition to which  
I responded in mine of July  
30<sup>th</sup>, by a counter proposition.  
With it, you do not coincide  
but insist upon a return



of the ~~money~~ to you of all the  
money you brought in, regard-  
less of the dedications and con-  
secrations and of the money you  
have received, as had been ex-  
pended for your own person-  
al benefit. I shall begin  
to remit to you, in place of  
your disposal as soon as I  
can get the funds. At this  
time, I have not, at my Bank-  
ers, any more money than  
is required to meet current  
expenses. I must sell something

Fisk and Hatch do not ex-  
ist as a Firm at this time.

They have founded two Firms.

~~You may draw, for five hun-~~  
~~ded dollars, upon~~ I will send  
a draft for 500, <sup>in a week,</sup> And I will  
have funds there by the time  
your draft reaches America.

Also, I will continue to de-  
posit to your credit as fast

as I can raise the money. 3

No doubt, you are aware that the Lower House-Canaan-property was sold for cash, and other property. They have paid some \$8000, outside debts. And the property is in the hands of Agents to sell. The L.F. premises belonged to the N.B. Order, and the Nettle Family have a claim of \$6400, for money advanced, from time to time.

As soon as we can recover that, we will turn it over to you. Also, I have \$3500, of Mus. Pac. Preferred Stock, bought at par. And which the Co. receive at par in payment for land.

In market, it is mostly only 60, but is sure to go up to par, all the financiers say, and to pay the back interest also. The

N. J. Mids. have gone up  
to & above pas. That is  
much inferior to the Nos  
Pae. Now, I would as-  
sign that over to you at  
once, at pas - that would  
make with the \$300. = \$4,000  
which would be a pretty  
good beginning.

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> Charles came home  
with the corpse this evening.  
We took it from Papa up  
to the grave, direct.

I sent you a book "Account  
of Shakers in Kentucky". Did  
it reach you? I thought  
it would be good to show  
your friends that money  
devoted to a Shaker Society  
cannot be legally recovered.

I'm love to you  
all F. W. Evans.

New York, June 10, 1891

Elder F. W. Evans,

Mt Lebanon,  
Columbia Co., N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I enclose to you an affidavit to be sworn to by Eddie Slater, the facts stated in which were communicated to Mr. Slater by Eddie before he went to Mt. Lebanon. A word of explanation may be necessary. Thomas Finucan the person mentioned as the defendant in the affidavit is both directly and indirectly responsible for the utter destruction of Mr. Slater's home and happiness, one of the results of which has been an opportunity for you to show your really human charity in caring for Eddie, his worse than motherless boy. Under our advice Mr. Slater is seeking such inadequate reparation as the law permits and in contradicting the conscientious statements of Finucan, requires the enclosed affidavit of Eddie.

Will you kindly read it to him

