

# The New Philosophy.

*A Journal devoted to the exposition of the philosophy presented in the scientific, philosophical and theological works of Emanuel Swedenborg.*

Vol. II.

URBANA, OHIO, MAY, 1898.

No. 5.

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION.

### IV—Science in Education.

SWEDENBORG, in the little work on the "Intercourse Between the Soul and Body," says: "I was once asked, 'How I, who was previously a philosopher, became a theologian?' I answered, In the same manner that fishermen became the disciples and apostles of the Lord, and I added that I also from early youth had been a spiritual fisherman. On this, my inquirer asked, 'What is a spiritual fisherman?' To which I replied, A fisherman, in the spiritual sense of the Word, signifies a man who investigates and teaches natural truths, and afterward spiritual truths in a rational manner."

Swedenborg, by his investigation of the truths in the plane of nature, acquired a broad and firm foundation for the reception of spiritual truths afterward. Nature was produced by the Divine Hand, and everything displayed in nature is a representative and correspondence of something in the Divine; that is, the orderly things of nature thus correspond. When the natural mind of man is formed of things in nature, by understanding and knowing the things thereof and their laws, a plane is formed which will serve as a basis on which an orderly spiritual mind can be built, for the natural rational must first be formed, before the spiritual mind can be opened and fully developed. For this reason Swedenborg first acquired a great knowledge of natural facts and laws, which served as a basis and foundation for the spiritual facts and laws which were afterward revealed to him, for there must needs be a true foundation on which the superstructure can rest. It is similar with every member of the church which receives his teaching, the members thereof must become learned in the laws and facts of nature, to fully appreciate the spiritual principles which govern and rule in the world of spirit and mind, for the one corresponds with the other.

Let us therefore inquire into the use which science subserves in the formation and development of the human mind, that we may learn its right position in the work of education.

Of different degrees of sciences or knowledges and their use, we read in the *Arcana Coelestia* :

"In the natural (mind) there are scientifics of various kinds; there are scientifics relating to *earthly, corporeal, and worldly things*, which are the *lowest*, for these are from the *external sense or of the body*; there are scientifics relating to the *civil state, its government, statutes, and laws*; these are somewhat more interior; there are scientifics respecting the things of *moral life*, which are still more interior; but those which regard *spiritual life are more interior than all the rest*. . . . Man, by such degrees of scientifics ascends to intelligence, for *scientifics, through those degrees, open the mind*, so that light from the spiritual world may flow in." A. C., 5934.

Thus we may see that there are degrees of knowledges by which an ascent is made from the world to heaven, and that the knowledges of natural things form a portion of that ladder of life. The rounds of this ladder, beginning with the lowest, are knowledges of :

1. Earthly, bodily and worldly things.
2. Civil things.
3. Moral life.
4. Spiritual life.

These knowledges are the means by which the mind is built up and organized in a rational and spiritual form, and of the sciences which may serve for upbuilding the rational mind we read in the work on *Conjugal Love* :

"That wisdom with men is two-fold, rational and moral, and that their rational wisdom is of the understanding alone, and their moral wisdom is of the understanding and life together, may be concluded, and seen from mere intuition and examination. But in order that it may be known what we mean by the rational wisdom of men, and what by their moral wisdom, we will enumerate some of the specific distinctions. The principles constituent of their rational wisdom are called by various names; in general they are called knowledge, intelligence and wisdom; but in particular they are

called rationality, judgment, capacity, erudition, and sagacity; but as everyone has knowledge peculiar to his office, therefore they are multifarious; for the clergy, magistrates, public officers, judges, physicians, and chemists, soldiers, sailors, artificers, laborers, husbandmen, etc., have each their peculiar knowledge. To rational wisdom also appertain all the knowledge into which young men are initiated in the schools, and by which they are afterwards initiated into intelligence, which also are called by various names, as philosophy, physics, geometry, mechanics, chemistry, astronomy, jurisprudence, politics, ethics, history, and several others, by which, as by doors, an entrance is made into things rational, which are the ground of rational wisdom." C. L., 163.

From this teaching we may see that these subjects are the means by which the rational faculty is opened and formed, and this is a most important work in education, for on the rational the spiritual rests. Let us therefore see what the cultivation of these subjects, such as mathematics, the natural sciences, philosophy and civics, effects in the up-building of the human mind and character, and also let us see if their use is always beneficial.

In the Lesser Diary, Swedenborg wrote thus of the Sciences :

"How futile are the Sciences of this day from which they are reputed wise. I spoke with spirits of the sciences of this day, from which they seem wise. In general, sciences are nothing else than means of growing wise, or of forming their rational, as languages are the means of expressing thought.

Those who are in truths, by the sciences, can procure for themselves many things that confirm, and thus fill their ideas. The useful sciences are physics, optics, chemistry, pharmaceuticals, anatomy, mathematics, astronomy, architecture, botany, metallurgy, history, the government of kingdoms, and similar things, from all of which as means, everyone can become rational. But there are some sciences which altogether destroy the power of thinking and destroy the rational, as *scholastics*, namely, when one clear thing, intelligible to almost anyone, is described by many scholastic terms, until no one understands. *Philosophical* things, when they are determined through a series of conclusions from definitions of terms and conclusions thence, which series when they are joined together present such things as are understood by no one, nor what the connection is, they destroy all the reason, when yet they involve nothing else than what can be so simply expressed that it could be understood by everyone. *Logical* things, which concentrate and determine them into doubts, and still more when one thing is evolved by many, the very conclusion of the thing which is evolved, very often is such that it is intelligible without any syllogism. These things also are like *Geometrical* and *Algebraical* things when simple truths are demonstrated by them, and then are so intricately expressed by angular, circular and curved figures, and are explained by them, that it is not at all intelligible; *such sciences, and such applications of sciences cause man to lose his common sense and become insane.*

[TO BE CONTINUED]

## THE OUTSIDE PRESSURES.

Certain conclusions arrived at in the progress of studies of the Swedenborg Philosophy Club seem of sufficient importance to submit to the criticism of other students. The following general statement is therefore submitted for publication, to be followed by other installments.

L. P. MERCER.

### THE GRAVITIES OF SOLAR SYSTEMS AND CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS.

#### "CONTINGENT PROVIDENCES" IN THE WORLD OF THE ELEMENTARIES AS FACTORS IN INTERPLANETARY AND MOLECULAR COHESION.

**N**ATURE is the complex existence and manifestation of a series of relatively-active-and-passive forces, together with the possibilities and positive structural-values of inertia.

#### "GRAVITY."

The macrocosmic premise, or structural-basis in the macrocosm, of that effect which is called "gravity," is the existence of elastic, continuous, "ethereal"-mediums, (or vast expanses of homogeneous elementaries) in the universe.

The characteristic operation of these ethereal mediums, which is proximate cause of the effect called gravity, is their equal pressure in every direction upon the outside of any "*immersed body*," whether that "*immersed body*" be a vortex-sphere of a *relatively-grosser ether*, (as in case of the solar-spheres, or interplanetary-vortices of the universe, which are "*immersed bodies*," relatively to the finer Interstellar Aura or medium; or the ether-spheres surrounding the planetary, or earth-masses,

which are "*immersed bodies*" relatively to the expanse of Interplanetary Aura); or the passive, or relatively inert planetary-masses or earths, themselves, which are "*immersed bodies*" relatively to the Ether and the Air, which proximately ensphere them. "*Immersed bodies*" alike receive upon themselves in all their circumference, the even, elastic pressure of a surrounding Finer Medium.

This "Outside Pressure" of a finer medium, stated as a great general law, is proximate cause of "Gravity" in the Interplanetary and Interstellar vortex-systems; and of "cohesion" in the ultimate chemical compound:—the elastic pressure of the surrounding "finer elementaries" acting impartially upon every particle of the circumference; and the lines, or radii, of this exerted pressure, manifestly converging toward a "meeting point," which might be called "center of gravity" of the "*immersed body*," whether that "*immersed body*" be a relatively-grosser-ether sphere, an earth, or a group of the ultimately-inert particles. Thus there is probably no such thing as a true "Attraction of Gravity." That appearance to which the name has been given, is the result of this "peripheral pressure" of a "surrounding expanse" of a finer medium, under varying conditions.

The Universal Medium of "Gravity" is the Universal, or Interstellar Aura, the First Aura; existent everywhere,—in which the incidental solar vortices (or vortex-spheres of Second, or Interplanetary, Aura) figure as "*immersed bodies*":—and, in "chemistry," all structural composites of Second Aura,—whether *per se*, or in combination with suitable inert particles.

To the solar vortices, or vortex-spheres of Interplanetary or Second Aura, the ether spheres which surround the earths are the "*immersed bodies*," (and, in "chemical cohesion," all structural composites of that ether, or Third Aura, whether alone, *per se*, or in combination with inert particles of their suitable size.)

To the ether-spheres, and the air, the earths, and the waters, are the "*immersed bodies*."

Swedenborg's Principia treats of the origin, successive composition, modes of motion, and inherent possibilities, of the series of relatively-active-and-passive forces of nature; existent as, and in, the several expanses of homogeneous elementaries, according to their successive degrees of composition; and, how the last, lowest, inert particles, very passives to all the rest, are derived.

His chemistry treats of the modes and patterns of composition, of the lower members of the series of elementary forces, with sundry of these inert or relatively-inert, (that is, *passive*) particles—covering the field of inorganic Chemistry.

While in the Animal Kingdom and Economy of the Animal Kingdom are to be found the principles, with many definite instances, of the constructive-combination of the higher Elementaries of the series of relatively-active-and-passive forces, with lower elementaries and compounds, covering the whole range of what is termed organic Chemistry, or organic chemical compound, through the Vegetable, Animal, and Human Kingdoms.

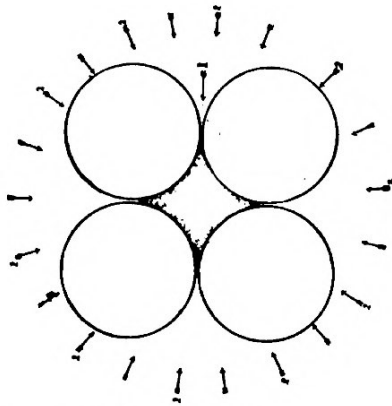
#### CHEMICAL COMPOUND.

All "Chemical compound" consists of inert particles, interstitial to a group of elementary units of some degree—(or, standing in the place of elementary units *per se*, central particles compassed by a vortex-sphere, like little earths with their ether sphere, particle and sphere being handled as one unit for purposes or composition, and sphere being linked to sphere by and according to, the spires of their poles; or, again, standing in the place of the elementary units *per se*, "other" groups of chemical compound):—the resultant group, as a *compact whole*, being held every where in the circumferential pressure of a surrounding volume of appropriate elementaries.

Probably the loosest molecular ordinations, or chemical compounds, consist of inert particles *per se*, interstitial to a group of water units:—(which water units are the lowest elementaries of all, and not properly to be called elementary; since, the last of the successively derivative series of Elementaries, they are the first which are purely passive, incapable of any degree of self-actuation):—the "resultant whole" being manifestly held in form by the "outside pressures" alone; that is, by the circumferential pressure upon it evenly in every direction, of the elastic volume of surrounding elementaries in which it is, as "a whole" immersed;—which pressure, exerted everywhere upon the surface of the little group or bunch of round water-particles, or elementary units, would tend to push each in the direction of their common center.

Now if that center were occupied by a little interstitial inert-particle, like a bit of a block, not flat-sided but scooped out on the sides into a concavity matching the convexity of the water particles, this would act as a practical *steadier* of the whole compound; and the firmer and more even the "outside pressure," the more stable the compound would be, as a whole.

Water globules being round, and passive in their own-and-proper nature, these groupings may be illustrated with marbles to represent the water units, and bits of cork or soft wood shaved out on the sides to fit.



1. Interstitial inert particles.
2. Water globule.

The arrows indicate the circumferential pressure of surroundary elastic, ethereal medium, acting upon it evenly on every side:—keeping the whole from “falling all abroad,” as the atmospheric pressure, for instance, acts upon the body, as a whole.

Compounds in which the place of the water globules was taken by circumgyratory vortex spheres about relatively inert particles,—interlocked by the spires of their motion at their polar-cones, would be among the more stable, more “firmly knit,” wholes of inorganic chemistry, (always the grosser, more obvious compound,)—since the *external* bond of cohesion would be reinforced by an *internal* bond.

While those compounds in which the place of the water globules was taken by the more-active and the *supremely-active*, the “*organic elementaries*,” would, doubtless belong to organic chemistry.

In this latter case, not only would the larger elementary units as wholes, hold and carry with them in all their changes and active moments their appropriately larger instistitial particles:—but their own, little, *constituent* elementary units, in their little innate orbital revolutions in circles and spires, in and about the circumference of the larger, composite unit, would in their finer turn carry, with them *their* appropriately-fine *intersitial particles*; the definitely-streaming lines and surfaces of these closely-moving elementary units, constituting as it were endless belts and Archimedean and feeding screws, in trains of mechanism; all carrying with a perpetual metabolism, in a continual moving row, those inert particles, *which add, to thir own* vitally-fed and morphologically-determined mechanism for the conversion of motion, the constructive and operative, *values of inertia.*”

The gross-mass of which inert particles, coming to apprehension of the grosser senses, presents the phenomenon they recognize as “tangible body;”—that gross-mass which, as Michael Foster says, like the figure of a playing fountain always the same as a whole, is never the same in the passing particle.

## SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

Of the Swedenborg Scientific Association, held at the Rooms of the American Swedenborg Printing and Publishing Society, Bancroft Building, No. 3 West Twenty Ninth Street, New York City, Thursday, April 13, and Friday, April 14, 1899, the President, the Rev. Frank Sewall, of Washington, D. C., in the Chair.

### FIRST SESSION.

THURSDAY, April 13, 10:30 A. M.

45. The meeting was called to order by the President.

46. The following persons as members and visitors were present at this meeting.

Rev. Frank Sewall, President, Washington, D. C.

Mr. John R. Swanton, Recording Secretary, New York, N. Y.

Dr. C. Riborg Mann, Corresponding Secretary, Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Edmond Congar Brown, Treasurer, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mr. Harry C. Ager, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Rev. J. C. Ager, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. J. C. Ager, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dr. L. C. Ager, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mr. G. Woolworth Colton, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. C. R. Mann, Chicago, Ill.

Rev. L. P. Mercer, Chicago, Ill.

Rev. N. D. Pendleton, Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Paul Synnestvedt, Chicago, Ill.

Rev. E. J. E. Schreck, Detroit, Mich.

Rev. Alfred Acton, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Mr. Reginald Brown, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Rev. Charles E. Doering, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Rev. C. Th. Odhner, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Mr. John Pitcairn, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Rev. E. S. Price, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Rev. George G. Starkey, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Rev. Homer Synnestvedt, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Mr. John Wells, Huntington Valley, Pa.

Miss Minnie Smith, Newark, N. J.

Mrs. J. C. Beard, New York City.

Miss Beard, New York City.

Mr. Henry Bowers, New York City.  
 Mrs. George Chase, New York City.  
 Miss Beatrice W. Childs, New York City.  
 Mr. Walter C. Childs, New York City.  
 Mrs. Walter C. Childs, New York City.  
 Mr. W. E. Curtis, New York City.  
 Rev. Andrew Czerny, New York City.  
 Miss Katherine Kimber, New York City.  
 Mrs. A. May, New York City.  
 Mrs. H. M. Miller, New York City.  
 Mr. George V. Nash, New York City.  
 Mr. C. C. Parsons, New York City.  
 Mrs. C. C. Parsons, New York City.  
 Dr. J. Perry Seward, New York City.  
 Rev. S. S. Seward, New York City.  
 Rev. J. K. Smyth, New York City.  
 Hon. Francis J. Worcester, New York City.  
 Mr. Anton Zellner, New York City.  
 Rev. Charles H. Mann, Orange, N. J.  
 Mrs. Charles H. Mann, Orange, N. J.  
 Rev. Adolph Roeder, Vineland, N. J.  
 Total number present 47.

47. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

48. The report of the recording secretary was delivered verbally and accepted. At the instance of the chair the provisional list of members of the association was read.

49. The report of the corresponding secretary was read and accepted.

50. The report of the treasurer was read and accepted.

51. The report of the board of directors was read and accepted.

52. The report of the committee to edit the *Principia* was read and accepted.

53. The chairman of the committee to edit the *Economy of the Animal Kingdom* having been compelled to resign, Rev. E. J. E. Schreck, appointed by the board of directors to fill the vacancy rendered a verbal report. Report accepted.

54. The report of the committee to transcribe, translate and edit the *Lesser Principia* was read and accepted.

55. The report of the editor of the new edition of the "Soul or Rational Psychology" was read and accepted.

56. The report of the committee on correspondence with the London Swedenborg Society was read.

57. The report of the committee on scientific statements in the theological writings of Swedenborg was read and accepted.

58. The reading of the reports was followed by the annual address of the president.

59. The report of the committee on publications was read and accepted.

60. The report of the committee on mathematical papers was read and accepted.

61. A report was read from the Swedenborg Principia Club of Huntingdon Valley.

62. A report was read from the Swedenborg Philosophy Club of Chicago and followed by a verbal description by Rev. L. P. Mercer the work being done under its auspices by Miss Lillian Beekman.

63. The president recommended that some action be taken in regard to the committee on publications, but the time for adjournment having arrived all business had to be postponed.

64. The association took a recess till 2:30 p. m.

## SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, April 13, 2:30 P. M.

65. The meeting was called to order by the president.

66. The resolutions passed by the London Swedenborg Society as contained in the report of the committee on correspondence with that society together with the recommendations of said committee having been reread, it was voted that the said report be accepted and its recommendations adopted and "that the American Swedenborg Scientific Association request the London Society to proceed with the publication of the *Principia* at once, and of the other works as soon as the revision and translation is in a condition to warrant such action," and "that a suitable committee be appointed to carry out this work, and that such committee be given full power to act in behalf of the Swedenborg Scientific Association on all matters connected with said work."

67. On motion of Rev. L. P. Mercer, Messrs Mann and Sewall were appointed a committee to confer with the London Swedenborg Society.

68. It was furthermore voted that Messrs Rendell and Tansley be accepted as co-operators from Great Britain in editing the *Principia*.

69. A committee on nominations was appointed consisting of Messrs Acton, Schreck and Nash.

70. Mr. Smyth moved that in the absence of its author and in consideration of its unfinished state, the paper by Rev. W. F. Pendleton be postponed until after the others.

71. After considerable discussion Mr. Acton offered an amendment to Mr. Smyth's motion which was adopted providing for the immediate reading of Mr. Pendleton's paper.

72. Thus amended the motion was carried.

73. This paper on "The Law of Evolution," was then read by Rev. G. G. Starkey.

74. Mr. Mercer offered a resolution that discussion of the papers be postponed until all had been read.

# THE NEW PHILOSOPHY.

REV. JOHN WHITEHEAD, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

—PUBLISHED MONTHLY.—

*Entered at the Postoffice at Urbana, Ohio, as Second Class Matter.*

## TERMS:

One Dollar per annum, payable in advance. Special rate for ten or more copies on application.

Address all communications and remittances to REV. JOHN WHITEHEAD, 211 Dewey Avenue, Urbana, Ohio.

Publication Office: THE URBANA TIMES CITIZEN OFFICE.

## AGENTS FOR ENGLAND.

New Church Depot, 18 Corporation street, Manchester.

James Speirs, 1 Bloomsbury street, London.

Academy Book Room, Burton Road Brixton, London, S. W.

75. Mr. Schreck proposed that the papers be published in one of the church periodicals.

76. Mr. Acton in seconding Mr. Mercer's motion urged the advisability of having time for such discussion at least at another annual meeting.

77. Mr. Pitcairn and others expressed a desire to have the discussion at once, whereupon Mr Mercer withdrew his motion.

78. The discussion which followed was participated in by Messrs Roeder, Zellner, Sewall, N. D. Pendleton, Mercer and Odhner.

79. Mr. Schreck's proposition was put into the form of a motion and adopted.

80. The president appointed Mr. Odhner and Mr. Colton a committee to ascertain the names of those present.

81. A paper was then delivered verbally by Dr. C. Riborg Mann, of the University of Chicago, on the general subject "wherein do the Nebular Hypotheses of Kant La Place and Swedenborg differ?"

82. A very general discussion accompanied by questions to the author followed, participated in by Messrs Pendleton, Parsons, Price, Swanton, Schreck, Sewall and Mercer.

83. Mr. Odhner read a paper on "Swedenborg's Earlier Scientific Treatises in Swedish," which was briefly discussed.

84. The report of the committee on the roll was then read.

85. The association adjourned until, Friday, April 14, at 10 a. m.

## THIRD SESSION.

FRIDAY, April 14, 10 A. M.

86. The meeting was called to order by the president.

87. The report of the committee on ways and means was read and accepted.

88. Mr. Mercer moved that the committee on ways and means be discharged and a new committee appointed. Motion adopted.

89. The election of officers having been temporarily postponed the secretary of the board of directors read the recommendations made by that body for adoption by the association.

90. Rev. E. J. E. Schreck offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that we have listened with interest and profit to Prof. Mann's presentation of the theories of creation of La Place, Kant and Swedenborg, and that he be and hereby is requested to write it out in full, embodying the complete text of the theories of La Place and Kant, and that it be offered to "The New Philosophy" for publication.

91. On a point of order action upon this was postponed until after the consideration of the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, that the board of directors appoint a committee to publish in usual journal form the proceedings of the two annual meetings of this association held thus far, together with all reports and papers.

*Resolved*, that the proceedings thus published be placed on sale at a price to be determined by the committee in conjunction with the treasurer; that one copy be sent gratis to every member of the association in full and good standing, and that complementary copies be sent to the New Church periodicals and to such other bodies, persons and periodicals as may be selected by the board of directors.

92. Considerable discussion followed over the financial ability of the society to carry out said provisions.

93. Mr. E. C. Brown suggested that the New Philosophy be employed in carrying out the provisions and that it be made the organ of the association.

94. Mr. Schreck proposed to have the New Philosophy reduced to magazine form in order to carry out Mr. Brown's plan.

95. On motion of Mr. Schreck it was finally voted, that the board of directors be empowered to act as they see fit in this matter.

96. Mr. Schreck's resolution was then brought to a vote and carried.

97. The following resolution proposed by the board of directors was then taken up.

*Resolved*, that non-members of this association shall be eligible for membership upon the committees of the association; and that while such persons shall be acting as members of the committees of this association they shall be entitled to receive *gratis* the proceedings and papers of this association.

98. A lively discussion ensued between Messrs Mercer, Odhner, Acton, Starkey, Swanton, Price, Sewall, Brown and Schreck. After the intent of

the measure had been carefully explained it was finally adopted.

99. Mr. Acton in withdrawing his opposition to the above resolution registered an objection to the principle involved of appealing for assistance beyond the limits of our organization.

100. The committee on nominations presented the following list of nominees:

- For President—Rev. Frank Sewall.  
 " Recording Sec'y—John R. Swanton.  
 " Corresponding Sec'y—Dr. E. Riborg Mann.  
 " Treasurer—Edmond Congar Brown.  
 For Directors—C. Hjalna Asplundh.  
 " Rev. C. E. Døering.  
 " Dr. Harvey Farrington.  
 " Rev. L. P. Mercer.  
 " Ezra Nicholson.  
 " Rev. E. S. Price.  
 " Rev. E. J. E. Schreck.  
 " Rev. John Whitehead.

101. Mr. Price moved that the election be made by acclamation.

102. Mr. Roeder moved that the secretary be instructed to cast the ballot.

103. Mr. Mercer moved that his own name be dropped and that of Dr. J. B. S. King be substituted. Motion lost.

104. Further nominations were made in open meeting as follows:

- For Directors—Dr. J. B. S. King.  
 Mr. George V. Nash.  
 Rev. C. Th. Odhner.

105. The chair appointed Messrs Starkey and Roeder tellers.

106. The ballot was then taken and resulted as follows:

- President—Rev. Frank Sewall.  
 Recording Sec'y—Mr. John R. Swanton.  
 Corresponding Sec'y—Dr. C. Riborg Mann.  
 Treasurer—Mr. Edmond Congar Brown.  
 Board of Directors—Mr. C. H. Asplundh.  
 Rev. C. E. Doering.  
 Dr. Harvey Farrington.  
 Dr. J. B. S. King.  
 Rev. L. P. Mercer.  
 Mr. Ezra Nicholson.  
 Rev. E. S. Price.  
 Rev. John Whitehead.

107. Mr. Price offered as a resolution, "that the board of directors be instructed to appoint New York as the regular place of meeting of the association," but objection being raised by Messrs Schreck, Mercer and Mann it was decided to leave the matter as it stands.

108. Mr. Smyth suggested that the parlors of the New York society of the New Church would be a more desirable place to hold the meetings of the association than the book rooms.

109. Rev. L. P. Mercer, of Chicago, read a paper on "The Importance of Swedenborg's Doctrine to Physiology and Psychology."

110. In this connection, the president raised the question of changing the titles of "The Economy of the Animal Kingdom" and "Animal Kingdom" to "The Economy of the Soul Kingdom" and "Soul Kingdom," respectively.

111. Mr. Roeder introduced the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that the Swedenborg Scientific Association has noted with pleasure the work done under the care and supervision of the Swedenborg Philosophy Club, of Chicago, Ill., by Miss Lillian Beekman. Feeling that such efforts should be placed in the hands of New Church students, for examination and for the interchange of thought the Swedenborg Scientific Association cordially sympathizes with the work so done and urges upon the members of the Swedenborg Philosophy Club the advisability of devising means for having this and similar work placed in the hands of our New Church students.

112. Mr. Mercer spoke of the encouragement such a resolution would give to the auxiliary club at Chicago, expressing the desire which it had to stimulate interchange of opinion on such subjects among Swedenborgians.

113. The resolution was put to vote and adopted.

114. Mr. Schreck offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, that a committee be appointed by the board of directors to prepare for the publication of a volume of all the plates and illustrations of the anatomical and other scientific books especially referred to in Swedenborg's works.

115. Mr. E. C. Brown, in behalf of the board of directors, offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

*Resolved*, Voted that the American Swedenborg Printing and Publishing Society be requested to consider the advisability of publishing an edition of Swedenborg's *Adversaria*.

116. The question whether there was not greater necessity for a new edition of the "Animal Kingdom" than for one of the "Economy of the Animal Kingdom" was discussed at some length, and on motion of Mr. Odhner it was voted that the former be substituted for the latter, as the first work for the committee already appointed.

117. Mr. Swanton called attention to the importance of translating the first portions of Swedenborg's work "On the Fibres."

118. Mr. Odhner offered his services in furnishing material for historical introductions to the new editions.

119. Mr. Odhner introduced a motion which was adopted "that the association through its corresponding secretary approach Dr. E. A. Whiston on the subject of securing uniformity between the work he is having translated and those about to be published by the association.

120. Mr. Starkey offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

*Resolved*, that this association tender its appreciative thanks to the American Swedenborg Printing and Publishing Society for their courtesy and hospitality in offering their rooms for the present meeting of this association.

121. The question of how long the names of those who have failed to pay their annual subscriptions to this association shall remain upon its rolls was brought up and discussed.

122. The members of the association extended a vote of thanks to its officers.

123. On motion of Mr. Starkey the association adjourned, subject to the call of the board of directors.

JOHN R. SWANTON, Rec. Sec'y.

## OBERLIN ON SWEDENBORG.

J. H. Smithson, in the *New Jerusalem Magazine* for October, 1840, gives an account of his visit to the celebrated Oberlin, from which we quote the following, showing Swedenborg's influence over him:

"The fact that Oberlin rendered this dreary solitude, in which a few wild, barbarous hordes of men barely existed, a comparative garden, abounding with all the necessaries of life, and that he trained his flock to the knowledge and practice of evangelical truth and virtue, and opened their minds to a perception of heavenly realities, through the knowledge contained in Swedenborg's work on *Heaven and Hell*, is the cause of his wide-spread celebrity among the continental nations of Europe. This would be the proper place, if time and space permitted, to describe some of those acts of eminent usefulness, which Oberlin performed in agriculture and the arts, which were not only so beneficial to his immediate vicinity, but also to his country at large. His country acknowledged his services, and honored his name, by presenting him with a gold medal.

"I at once asked him whether he had read any of the works of Swedenborg? Without replying, he immediately reached a book, and clapping his hand upon it, expressive of great satisfaction, told me, that he had had this treasure many years in his library, and that he knew from his own experience that every thing related in it was true. This treasure was Swedenborg's work on *Heaven and Hell*. As I had lately become acquainted with the theological writings of the enlightened Swedenborg, and as Oberlin was almost the only person I had met with who had any knowledge of those writings, I was, of course, highly delighted to meet with a man, whose name was universally honored, and whose life and character were considered as a bright example of every Christian virtue. The great weight which accompanied the name of this good man, and the approving declaration he had already made respecting one of the most important works of Swedenborg, materially strengthened my convictions of the truth of his claims to universal attention.

"He told me, he regretted that he had never been able to procure Swedenborg's works, in which the Word is explained as to its spiritual sense, these works not having been translated either into French or German, and the Latin copies being so scarce, that he could never procure them. The works of Swedenborg which he possessed were the *Heaven and Hell*, *Divine Love and Wisdom*, *Divine Providence*, and, if I mistake not, a German translation of the *Earths in the Universe*."

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