

# THE NEW PHILOSOPHY.

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No. 3.

## SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION.

### FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifth Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association, held in the College Building of the Academy of the New Church, Bryn Athyn, Montgomery county, Pa., on Wednesday, May 28th, and Thursday, May 29th, 1902.

#### FIRST SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, May 28th, 3:30 P. M.

243. The meeting was called to order by the President, the Rev. Frank Sewall, M. A.

244. The minutes of the last annual meeting, being in print, their reading was dispensed with.

245. The Chair appointed the Rev. W. L. Gladish and Mr. Alfred H. Stroh a Committee on the Roll, who subsequently reported the following members and visitors in attendance on the sessions of the Association:

#### MEMBERS.

*Allegheny City, Pa.*, Rev. W. E. Brickman; *Boston, Mass.*, Mr. Horace P. Chandler; *Bridgewater, Mass.*, Rev. E. F. Goerwitz; *Bryn Athyn, Pa.*, Rev. Alfred Acton, Mr. C. H. Asplundh, Miss Lillian Beekman, Mr. Wm. B. Caldwell, Rev. Charles E. Doering, Mr. Gerald Glenn, Miss Carrie Hobart, Miss M. Hogan, Miss Elsa C. Lechner, Rev. C. T. Odflner,

Miss Luelle Pendleton, Rev. E. S. Price, Mr. Orlando B. Schwindt, Rev. Geo. G. Starkey, Rev. Homer Synnestvedt, Miss Laura H. Vickroy; *Chicago, Ill.*, Mr. Arthur W. Burnham, Mr. F. Sherman Layton, Rev. E. J. E. Schreck; *Cincinnati, O.*, Rev. L. P. Mercer; *Cleveland, O.*, Rev. Myron G. Browne; *Dorset, Vt.*, Rev. S. M. Warren; *Huntingdon Valley, Pa.*, Rev. Alfred Acton, Mr. Alfred H. Stroh; *Indianapolis, Ind.*, Rev. Willis L. Gladish; *Lakewood, O.*, Rev. James Taylor, Miss Anna Wagar; *La Porte, Ind.*, Mr. Wm. Niles; *New York*, Mr. Edmond Congar Brown, Mr. Charles T. Champion; *North Cambridge, Mass.*, Rev. L. F. Hite; *Philadelphia, Pa.*, Dr. W. B. Boggess, Dr. Geo. M. Cooper, Rev. Emil R. Cronlund, Mr. Charles Duncan, Mr. K. Knudsen; *Pittsburg, Pa.*, Rev. Reginald W. Brown; *Toronto, Can.*, Rev. F. L. Higgins; *Washington, D. C.*, Rev. Frank Sewall, Dr. John R. Swanton, Miss Mary L. Barton, Miss Ida W. Hunt.

#### VISITORS.

One hundred and fifteen visitors were in attendance at the meeting, of whom seventy-two were from Bryn Athyn, the rest being from Abington, Mass.; Allegheny, Pa.; Baltimore, Md.; Berlin, Can.; Brockton, Mass.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati, O.; Cleveland, O.; Lakewood, O.; New York City; Norwalk, Conn.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Pittsburg, Pa.; Toronto, Can.; Washington, D. C., and Woodburv. N. J.

Among the visitors were Mr. Louis B. Pendleton, the Rev. J. F. Potts, the Rev. S. S. Seward, the Rev. John Edward Smith, Mr. C. A. E. Spamer, the Rev. Louis H. Tafel and Mr. J. R. Hunter.

246. The Report of the Board of Directors was called for, but its reading was, on motion, postponed until the morrow morning.

247. The Secretary's Report was read; and on motion, duly seconded, was accepted. [See p. 121.]

248. The Secretary moved that a copy of the printed proceedings, duly signed in autograph by the Secretary, be hereafter considered the official record of this Association.

249. The motion was discussed by Messrs. Hite and Schreck.

250. The motion was carried unanimously.

251. The Treasurer read his report. [See p. 121.]

252. On motion, duly seconded, it was

Voted that the report be accepted and referred to an Auditing Committee to be appointed by the Chair.

253. The Chair appointed Messrs. Cooper and Caldwell.

254. The Report of the Committee on a New Edition of the *Principia* was read. [See p. 127.]

255. The Report of the Committee on a New Edition of the *Animal Kingdom* was read. [See p. 128.]

256. The Committee on the Translation of Swedenborg's *Early Swedish Scientific Treatises* reported progress.

257. The Report of the Committee on the Transcription and Translation of the *Lesser Principia* was read. [See p. 128.]

258. The Report of the Committee on the Translation of the Work on the *Senses* was read. [See p. 129.]

259. The Report of the Committee on the Publication of Swedenborg's Scientific Manuscripts was read. [See p. 130.]

260. A Report by Mr. Alfred H. Stroh on the Transcription of Seven of Swedenborg's Photolithographed Manuscripts was read. [See p. 134.]

261. The Report of the Editorial Board was read. [See p. 126.]

262. Miss Lillian Beekman reported that understanding that Mme. Chevrier's letter had been answered she did nothing further in the matter. (See minutes 209, 210 of the last annual meeting.)

263. Mr. Acton referred to the publication by the Rev. James Hyde in *Morning Light* for May 10th, 1902, of a poem attributed to Swedenborg when he was twelve years old, and moved the adoption of the following preambles and resolution:

*Whereas*, This meeting has heard with great interest an account of the poem by Swedenborg published by the Rev. James Hyde in *Morning Light* for May 10th, 1902; and,

*Whereas*, This poem is the earliest known writing by Swedenborg, and one to which the attention of the Church has never before been directed,

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Association be request-

ed to communicate with Mr. Hyde, asking him for such particulars respecting the poem as he may be in a position to give.

264. The Resolution was discussed by Messrs. Mercer, Odhner, Schreck and Hite.

265. The motion was carried.

266. The President read his annual Report and Address.

267. The annual communication of the Principia Club, of Bryn Athyn, was read. [See p. 135.]

268. On motion of Mr. Mercer, duly seconded, it was voted that the Chair appoint a committee to nominate the officers of the Association for the ensuing year. The Chair invited nominations for the committee, and then appointed Messrs. Gladish, Acton, Swanton, Mercer and Odhner.

269. On motion, duly seconded, it was voted that the sessions on the morrow begin at 9:30 o'clock in the morning and at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

270. On motion, adjourned to 9:30 A. M. tomorrow.

#### SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, May 29th, 1902, 9:40 A. M.

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

272. The minutes of yesterday's session were read and approved.

273. The Report of the Board of Directors was read. [See p. 124.]

274. Mr. Odhner, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, reported the following nominations:

*For President*—Rev. Frank Sewall.

*For Secretary*—Rev. W. L. Gladish.

*For Treasurer*—Mr. Carl Hj. Asplundh.

*For Additional Members of the Board of Directors*—Rev. L. P. Mercer, Dr. Riborg Mann, Rev. John Whitehead, Dr. Harvey Farrington, Rev. Alfred Acton, Rev. E. J. E. Schreck, Rev. L. F. Hite, Dr. John R. Swanton, Dr. George M. Cooper.

275. Mr. Hite moved to substitute the name of the Rev. E. J. E. Schreck for that of the Rev. W. L. Gladish for Secretary.

276. Mr. Schreck gave his reason for not desiring the nomination, but on assurances of voluntary assistance in his duties of Secretary by the nominee of the Committee,

277. Mr. Hite's motion was *carried*.

278. On motion of Mr. Mercer, duly seconded, the name of Mr. Gladish was substituted for that of Mr. Schreck on the list of additional members of the Board of Directors.

279. On motion, duly seconded, the nominations were closed.

280. On motion by Mr. Odhner, duly seconded, the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of the Association for the nominees.

281. Mr. Hite moved that the former action of this Association, looking with disfavor on interpretative prefaces to Swedenborg's works (see minute 153, Proceedings of 1900), be rescinded.

282. Messrs. Mercer, Price, Swanton and Odhner favored interpretative essays printed apart from Swedenborg's works, but objected to interpretative prefaces to these works. Messrs. Hite and Starkey considered such prefaces necessary, but that some of the prefaces heretofore published were open to criticism. Bishop Pendleton favored a preface that summarizes the contents of a work in Swedenborg's own language.

283. The discussion developed a favorable sentiment to regard the term "historical" as large enough to cover such a preface as suggested by Bishop Pendleton.

284. Mr. Hite's motion was put to vote and was *lost*.

285. The report of the Committee on the *Lesser Principia*, which gives a history of the work on this treatise, being reread [see p. 128], and it appearing that the full plan in the appointment of the original committee had not been carried out, it was, on motion, duly seconded,

286. *Voted* that the text of the *Lesser Principia* be referred to the Board of Directors, with full power.

287. The Chairman of the Committee on the Publication of Swedenborg's Scientific Manuscripts, calling attention to the generous assistance given to this Association by the General Convention and by the Academy of the New Church, in the publication of the Manuscripts, it was, on motion, duly seconded,

288. *Voted* that the Committee on the Publication of Swedenborg's Scientific Manuscripts be instructed to present two

copies of the Manuscripts as published to the General Convention, and two copies to the Academy.

289. On motion, duly seconded, it was *voted* that the Committee on the Publication of Swedenborg's Scientific Manuscripts have leave to withdraw their report for correction.

290. On motion of Mr. Odhner, duly seconded, it was *voted* that the Secretary of the Association be made the Keeper of the Archives of the Association, including all manuscripts delivered by its committees, and those presented to the Association.

291. On motion of Mr. Mercer, duly seconded, it was *voted* that the Keeper of the Archives of the Association be authorized to rent a suitable compartment in fire-proof safe, and draw upon the Treasurer for the cost of the same.

292. Mr. Stroh stated that he offered his transcript of the *Worship and Love of God* to the Association, and also his transcript of the other six treatises reported by him, as soon as he may have had an opportunity to revise them. [See p. 134.]

293. On motion of Mr. Schreck, duly seconded, the following Resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Association has heard with pleasure and satisfaction of the transcript of seven of Swedenborg's Scientific Treatises by Mr. Alfred H. Stroh, and expresses its thanks to Mr. Stroh for the offer of his transcripts when revised by him.

294. The Recommendation of the Board of Directors with regard to Mr. Ford's communication was considered. [See p. 126.]

295. Mr. Odhner offered the following Preamble and Resolution:

*Whereas*, The Swedenborg Scientific Association has learned that Swedenborg's work *De Cupro* has lately been translated into English by Mr. A. H. Searle, at the expense of one of our members, Mr. L. P. Ford, of Great Britain.

*Resolved*, That the Swedenborg Scientific Association hereby expresses its great satisfaction at the work undertaken by Mr. Ford, and its earnest desire that the Manuscript transla-

tion be carefully preserved until means shall have been found for its publication.

296. After discussion by Messrs. Sewall, Odhner and Warren, the Resolution was unanimously *adopted*.

297. Mr. Brown reported verbally in behalf of the New Church Philosophy Club, of Pittsburg, that they have been in existence two years and have studied the *Principia* and the *Animal Kingdom*.

298. The Secretary called attention to the Report of the Treasurer, in which he declares the need of clerical help.

299. On motion of Mr. Synnestvedt, duly seconded, the consideration of the Treasurer's report was made the order of the day immediately after the noon intermission.

300. The order of the day being the reading of a paper, entitled "Introduction to Swedenborg's Work *On the Infinite*," by Prof. Hite, the President made some prefatory remarks, in the course of which he referred to Mr. Hite's paper as an abstract of an Introduction to Swedenborg's work, prepared at the invitation of the Swedenborg Society, of London.

301. Prof. Hite then read his paper.

302. The paper was discussed by Messrs. Gladish, Brickman, Sewall and Hite.

303. Dr. Cooper read an essay, entitled "Swedenborg's Science and Its Service to Medicine."

304. Adjourned to meet again after the noon intermission.

### THIRD SESSION.

THURSDAY, May 29th, 2:30 P. M.

305. Mr. Acton read a paper on "Swedenborg's Ontology."

306. The Report of the Auditing Committee was read, and on motion, duly seconded, was accepted.

307. The Treasurer's Report was taken up for consideration.

308. The Secretary reported that the Board of Directors had held a meeting during the intermission and recommends the adoption of the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That Article III., of the Constitution, be amended by adding the words, "or he may become a life-member by

the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Dollars," so that the article as amended will read:

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP.

Any person desiring to co-operate in promoting the objects of this Association may become a member by written application to the Secretary and by the payment of an annual fee of One Dollar; or, he may become a life-member by the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Dollars.

309. On motion, duly seconded, the Resolution was adopted unanimously.

310. The Board of Directors also recommends that the Board be empowered to take proper steps for the incorporation of this body.

311. It was moved and seconded that the recommendation of the Board be adopted.

312. The motion was discussed by Messrs. Odhner, Schreck and Acton.

313. The motion was carried unanimously.

314. Mr. Caldwell moved that the Association appropriate Fifty Dollars for the Treasurer, to be expended by him for clerical assistance during the coming year, if the funds of the Association permit.

315. After discussion, the motion was referred to the Board of Directors, with full power.

316. Mr. Schreck moved that the Board of Directors be authorized to change the name of the body to "Swedenborg Scientific and Philosophical Association" when the time comes to incorporate this body.

317. After discussion by Messrs. Odhner, Schreck and Acton, the motion was laid on the table for future consideration.

318. On motion of Mr. Price, duly seconded, the time and place of the next annual meeting was referred to the Executive Committee.

319. Mr. Odhner read his paper, entitled "A Remarkable Tribute to Swedenborg as a Man of Science." (The tribute appearing in the *Wiener Medizinische Wochenschrift*, n. 44, for the year 1901.) [See *New Church Life* for June, 1902.]

320. Discussed by Messrs. Acton, Hite, Sewall, Stroh, Odhner, Synnestvedt.

321. Mr. Hite moved that in view of the generous hospitality of the people of Bryn Athyn, and our delightful experience arising from the beauty of the country and the beauty of the spirit of our hosts, our heartfelt thanks are tendered to the people of Bryn Athyn. And that our hearty thanks are also tendered to the Academy of the New Church for its invitation to the Association to hold this meeting in its handsome new College building, a symbol of one of the uses dearest to the hearts of New-Churchmen, namely, a higher New Church education. Adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

322. Mr. Synnestvedt stated that Dr. C. L. Olds had made a translation of a fragment of Swedenborg's, entitled "A Characteristic and Philosophical Doctrine of Universals," which he had given to the speaker to make what use he wished of it. He accordingly tendered it to this Association, to be delivered after he himself had read it.

323. Prof. Price directed the attention of the Association to an analysis of Swedenborg's early writings published by him in *New Church Life* for 1900, page 580, and entitled "Swedenborg the Poet."

324. The minutes of the day's proceedings were read and approved.

325. On motion, duly seconded, the meeting adjourned.

EUGENE J. E. SCHRECK,  
Secretary.

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## THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

### REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

#### A. TRANSCRIPTIONS, TRANSLATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS.

THE fourth year of the existence of our organization shows a gratifying progress in the various branches of our work. Under the first division of our task, as defined in our rules, "The preservation, translation, publication and distribution of the Scientific and Philosophical Works of Emanuel Swedenborg," we have to note the encouragement given to the work

of preservation, by the consent of the General Convention and of the Academy to co-operate with our Association in the translation and publishing in Latin of the Scientific MSS. remaining in Stockholm. The work is already in hand. We are able to give a very encouraging report. We have already on hand the entire work on Salt, consisting of 248 closely written foolscap pages. Besides this there is finished the work on Sulphur, 260 pages, and the work on the Magnet, about 230 pages, in all 738 pages. We have not yet received the two latter, but expect that Mr. Stroh will be able to collate them this summer, during his proposed visit to Sweden, as well as several other works.

The Translation of the Fourth Part of the *Animal Kingdom*, "On the Senses," continues to be published serially in our quarterly, having reached now the Fifth Chapter, on "Vision."

A work of profoundest interest to students of Swedenborg's philosophy is the bringing to light now for the first time of the Third Part of the work on the *Worship and the Love of God*, through its transcription from the photolithographed MS. and translation into English by Mr. Alfred H. Stroh. As this part treats of the "Married Life of the First Pair" and finishes the great allegoric drama of the Creation of the World and of Man, in which the principles of the *Principia* are presented as it were in actual operation, we must regard this completion of the work and its proposed publication by subscription in its completed form as one of the most valuable contributions to the work in which our Association is engaged, and we bespeak for its speedy publication every encouragement and aid. It is gratifying to know that the promises toward this new and at last completed edition of the *Worship and Love of God* are coming in rapidly. We have already been promised \$353 from 116 people, including a gift of \$100 from Mr. Nicholson, of Ohio, for depositing the work in libraries.

Progress is reported in the translation of the *Lesser Principia*, 38 pages being now completed, the whole work being already transcribed from the photolithographed MS.

A translation of the treatise on the *Diseases of the Fibre* is ready for publication and is in the hands of our Board of Directors.

Swedenborg's treatise on *Ontology*, translated some years ago by Prof. Cabell, at Urbana University, has undergone an extensive revision and is now published in an attractive volume with introduction and index by the Rev. Alfred Acton, of the Academy of the New Church. Better than anything else this brief work establishes the fact of Swedenborg's intimate and profound knowledge of the metaphysics of his time, and of his ability to enter as no tyro upon the great problems of the universe of mind and matter which had begun to interest human learning.

The work of revising the larger works already published but out of print, with a view to reprint, is progressing slowly but hopefully. The revision, by the American Committee, of the two volumes of the *Principia* is now completed and the notes in the hands of the English Committee. The revision of Vol. II. shows some 224 changes suggested in the Clissold text, between 20 and 30 only being changes of construction, the others verbal and numerical. The revision of the text of the *Animal Kingdom* has covered the first eleven chapters, or 362 pages of that work.

#### B. PROMULGATION.

Coming now to the subject of the promulgation of the principles taught in the Scientific and Philosophical Works of Swedenborg, and not confining ourselves to work done immediately under the auspices of the Association, we note with gratification the able and attractive work of Prof. Charles Byse, of Lausanne, Switzerland, entitled *Le Prophete du Nord*, published during the last year at Paris. While the work is devoted mainly to an exposition of Swedenborg's theology, the pages in the introductory chapter give an admirable survey of his scientific career and publications and set forth in worthy terms his great claims upon the world's attention. After quoting from Swedenborg's letter to Benzelius the ardent ambition of the young philosopher,—“I wish there were a new thing in letters every day to delight the world. There is no lack of people who follow sheepishly along the beaten track, while, in a century, we count barely six or ten men capable of producing anything new founded upon reason,” he goes on to describe the

new things brought forth by the wonderful philosophical activity of Swedenborg's mind. Of the *Opera Philosophica et Mineralia* he quotes M. Matter as saying: "This learned work won for its author many and varied academic distinctions," and he proceeds to outline the anticipation of modern science contained in the *Principia*.

"Swedenborg," says Prof. Byse, "introduced here very advanced ideas on the great questions of cosmogony, anticipating some of the discoveries since made by science. Thirty years before Laplace he demonstrated successfully that the movements of the planets are due to the sun which attracts them in its etherial atmosphere, and it is to Swedenborg that the honor returns which was given the great but vain Buffon, of having first mentioned the birth of planets from the Sun. He shares with Sir William Herschel the glory of having determined the place of our Sun and of the system of which it is the centre, as in the immense Milky Way, and with Lagrange the conception of a magnificent theory regarding the periodicity of the movement of the planets. Nearly a century before Priestley and Lavoisier he proved that water is composed of two elements. He has even preceded one of the world's physicists of our age, the genial Faraday, in the discovery of many of the laws of terrestrial magnetism. As to the practical views set forth in this great work (including the *Opera Mineralia*),—'One could never estimate,' says Prof. Schleiden, 'all the improvements that Swedenborg introduced into the minds of his century nor duly estimate how much is owing him by the arts and industries of Sweden.' In Anatomy, Swedenborg is declared by the great Swiss savant, de Haller, 'the prince of the anatomists of his age,' and Benzelius, the distinguished Swedish Chemist, writes to Dr. Wilkinson, the translator of the *Regnum Animale*, 'I am surprised to see how much the author of the *Regnum* has advanced the present state of science.'"

Prof. Byse speaks of the work *De Cultu et Amore Dei* as serving for a transition from the scientific to the philosophic phase of Swedenborg's studies. "It is a study in cosmogony of lofty flight and remarkable beauty. It is a poem in Latin prose, whose style has been lauded by Coleridge and which has hardly an equal outside of the *Paradise Lost* of Milton."

"In a word," says M. Byse, "we have in Swedenborg not simply to do with a man of erudition nor even with a savant who embraces the entire field of the knowledge of his age. Swedenborg is all that, but he is, at the same time, a profound thinker, independent and bold, and he himself assumes the title of philosopher. He has a right to, for the reason that he reduces all scientific notions and hypotheses to a general and very systematic conception of the material and the spiritual universe. Did he have time to read the European philosophers who were

then the leaders of mind? Assuredly; at least so far as that could affect his plan; for even if he does not seem to have taken into account Diderot, Voltaire, Helvetius and Rosseau, brilliant writers who can claim the title of philosopher only in a very diluted sense, he was quite at home in the principal ancient and modern philosophies, as is evident especially from his three treatises entitled, *The Infinite*; the *First Cause of Nature*; and the *Mysterious Bond of Connection between the Soul and the Body*. On these different questions which M. Matter calls the 'great questions of the time' our author has refuted Bacon, Descartes and Leibnitz, and has the merit of having helped to release the world of modern thought from the tyranny of ancient yokes." (*Le Prophete du Nord*, page 32.)

I call attention to this work as the most conspicuous of recent works treating of Swedenborg from the pen of one not an avowed religious adherent to the New-Church Theology, and one whose brilliancy of style and deep philosophical penetration will surely delight every reader.

Here may also be mentioned the work recently published in London, entitled "*Swedenborg and Modern Idealism, a Retrospect of Philosophy from Kant to the Present time*," in which the attempt is made to set forth the real value of philosophic thought in relation to revelation and the procession of Churches, and especially the trend of modern metaphysics toward the philosophic concepts of Swedenborg.

The Introduction by Professor Hite to the forthcoming new edition of the work *On the Infinite*, of which an outline will be presented at this meeting of the Association, is a distinctly new contribution to philosophical literature. It brings to the knowledge of modern thinkers their chief desideratum, a nexus between the infinite and the finite, and a possible ground of connection between soul and body, and so a solution of the problem of the psychophysical parallelism. This solution is found in the doctrine that the Infinite is moved by its end or purpose, and that this end is love. By this doctrine, philosophically presented, the Infinite itself comes from the realms of the unknowable into that of human experience, and so the way is opened to the reconciliation of philosophy and religion—which object is seen to be the animating soul of this treatise. The publishing of the *De Infinito* with this lucid and inspiring introduction which in many ways lays hold of contemporary thought, will, it is hoped,

prove a successful instance of a discussion of the principles of Swedenborg's philosophy "in their relation to the science and philosophy of the present day."

The rapid succession of new discoveries and brilliant hypotheses in natural science in these days, as well as such impressive phenomena as the birth and waning of a new star in the firmament, the discoveries of a new element more subtle than the ether, and the tracing of the first finite of nature farther and farther back towards the Infinite itself, afford to the student of Swedenborg an opportunity to test the stability and the sufficiency of his cosmogony. It is an immense gratification to feel that, throughout the rapid changes and innovations in recent scientific hypotheses, there has nothing occurred to shake the quiet and majestic stability of Swedenborg's great philosophic doctrines of Series and Orders and of the Discrete Degrees, End, Cause and Effect, and their Correspondence. Instead of advancing beyond these, or of, in any way, showing their insufficiency, all the highest thought seems to bear the foregleam of these great luminaries for the new scientific age. At the same time it may be profitable to reflect that the nominal acceptance of an hypothesis merely on the score of its author's reputation does not really constitute an advancement in general learning, and that before the students of Swedenborg themselves lies perhaps the chief scientific problem of the age, viz., that of applying his principles, not so much to the theoretical world-process, which is necessarily a field for imagination, but to the particular problems that are now constantly presenting themselves. Among these there is probably none more urgent than that of the objective reality of the Spiritual World, the adding of another continent, so to speak, to scientific knowledge. If we regard spirit itself and the spiritual world as constituting a field of knowledge which in itself is strictly "spiritual" in distinction from "natural," and whose source is wholly in direct divine revelation, then we cannot claim that science and philosophy are essentially advanced by even so complete a system of knowledge as Swedenborg's works contain. For revelation begins where science or man's own ability to discover ends. On the other hand, if what Swedenborg relates to us from things "heard and seen"

in the spiritual world is avowedly given as facts of human experience, however extraordinary, and as belonging to the realm of science as truly as the observations we enjoy in the natural world, then we have what constitutes a new and stupendous addition to the data of scientific knowledge. This knowledge, it must be admitted, is unique in its character, and, according to the claim of its discoverer, it is by a special Divine dispensation that it is given to the world at this time, as at no other time known to history. But that does not change its character as *visa et audita*, as *knowledge derived through the senses*, and therefore as subject to the laws of the human mind in relation to all cognition.

#### THE SUBSTANCE OF THE SPIRITUAL WORLD.

Perhaps the most practical question before the scientific disciple of Swedenborg is this: What is the real nature of the Spiritual World? Its reality he is prepared to assert and defend; its character as a world of "appearances of times and space," and therefore of possible human experience, he can also describe in formal terms. But that its substance is spiritual and not material he must also maintain in accordance with the doctrine of the discrete degree between the spiritual and natural worlds, and therefore he must meet the ultimate question "of what substance is the spiritual world?" As spiritual substance we know of it as truth and good. We can think of truth and good as the substance of our subjective experience, but can we experience them as objects of sense? Can we know a world *around* us as well as *within* us whose only substance is good and truth? And for our answer to this we are driven to the fundamental principles of knowing itself. What constitutes an object of sense? Does the spirit in knowing know that which is not itself, or that which is of the same substance as itself? Old as the problem is—for Aristotle has discussed it and every metaphysician since his time who has thought deeply enough—has Swedenborg really furnished its solution, and so made a distinct addition to mental science? Believing that if he has done so, it will be along the line of his doctrine of Series, Degrees and Correspondences, I may be permitted to suggest some thoughts in this connection that will not be alto-

gether foreign to those that are engaging thoughtful men of science everywhere.

Recalling what we may call the evolution of the doctrine of the Atom, or of the First Finite, we shall find that this has, since Newton's time, passed through five stages:

I. Mechanical: The Atom as a hard body of appreciable bulk and weight. (Newton.)

II. A Point without dimensions, but endowed with potential force. (Boscovich.)

III. Kinetic. A kind of energy. (Maxwell.)

IV. Vortical. Vortices of motion in a frictionless medium. Material, incompressible. (Helmholtz and for a time Kelvin.)

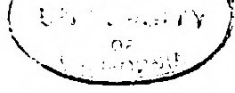
V. The electron. Penetrating all substances.\*

Of these several degrees of matter, or degrees of substance, J. Clark Maxwell, author of article on "Atom" in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, makes the following admission:

"Science is incompetent to reason upon the creation of matter itself out of nothing. We have reached the utmost limit of our thinking faculties when we have admitted that, because matter cannot be eternal and self-existent, it must have been created. It is only when we con-

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\*In a brief interview which it was my privilege to enjoy with Lord Kelvin on the occasion of a reception tendered him by the Cosmos Club on his recent visit to Washington, on my calling his attention to the coincidence of his own hypothesis of a "vortex in a frictionless medium" with Swedenborg's doctrine of the "conatus of motion in the infinite," which I understood he had lately receded from; "Oh, certainly," said he, "we have abandoned all that and gone back to the atom of Democritus and even of Boscovich." "Of Boscovich, indeed!" said I, as in the pressure of guests the little conference was brought to a close. Boscovich, it will be remembered, was a brilliant scientist and astronomer, the contemporary of Swedenborg, who invented a theory of the atom as a point without dimension in space, but *being simply a center of potential energy*. This still resembles Swedenborg's doctrine of the first finite perhaps as much as does the vortex of motion theory of Helmholtz, which Lord Kelvin thinks he has set aside. If we look beyond names to things we shall see that what all this scientific thought is leading towards, is a nexus between the finite and the infinite which, like the "point" in Swedenborg's *Principia* (Pt. I, Chap. 2), shall be spiritual and open to the infinite in its one aspect, and finite and material in the other. See Swedenborg's "Introduction to a Philosophical Argument on the Mechanism of the Intercourse between the Body and the Soul," being the Second Part of the work *On the Infinite*.



template not matter in itself, but the form in which it actually exists, that our mind finds something on which it can lay hold."

That is to say, the mind can lay hold of form, but not of matter itself. And if form is not substance, but the relation of parts to a whole, and if relation is something apprehensible by mind alone, then does not all knowing reduce itself to the apprehension of forms? Does not all knowledge of an objective world, whether that world be a material or a spiritual world, consist wholly in its various forms becoming subject to the mind's interior judgment of relations?

Of the substance lying behind these forms—what Kant would call the "*Ding an Sich*," and what Swedenborg calls spiritual substance, or whatever it is that puts on even in the spiritual world the "appearance of time and space" in order to be thinkable or "heard and seen" by the human spirit, we may find some assistance in tracing in a very simple way the progressive phases of our ideas of substance in purely natural experience. What answer can we give as to what substance even in nature is behind the material objects which appear to the mind? Every object known, gross and ponderous, is reducible to its molecular or atomic particles, and these, as we have seen, to some phase of material existence so subtle as to defy any of the senses and become only an inferred cause of motion. In other words, the atom has almost literally been reduced to a thought, or at most to the most convenient symbol of an idea. In its ether, not to advance further into that attractive world of its longing gaze,—possibly Swedenborg's aura,—the science of today has demonstrated that what is quite invisible and intangible to any senses we possess, may, nevertheless, be substantial in a very practical and real sense. An invisible world therefore may be a substantial world, and its substance may be something in no way subject to the dimensions of matter. This is a perfectly reasonable inference from those degrees of substance which science recognizes. If we imagine four perfectly transparent crystal cubes before us, one a solid crystal, one a crystal vessel filled with clear water, one such a vessel filled with air, and one a vessel from which the air has been exhausted, we shall have an illustration of four degrees of material substance. It will illustrate also the com-

mon illusion of our senses regarding substance. It would seem as if the solid crystal had much more substance in it than the cube hollowed out and filled with water. And, with the water poured out and only air left, it would seem as if the cube were practically empty of substance; and when we have exhausted the air we would not hesitate to say that we had "produced a vacuum;" that there was "nothing left" in the cube; and yet in reality, and as admitted by science, the substance left in the cube is the most real, enduring, the most powerful and indestructible of all the substances of nature. You may destroy the glass cube by breaking it in pieces, you may evaporate the water, you may exhaust and remove, rarify and intensify the air, but the ether you cannot touch to destroy, exhaust or change. It is then the medium of the most powerful and terrible of elementary forces. It holds the vast universe in one compact mass. It says: "There shall be no vacuum. I am everywhere."

If such be the gradations of substances cognizable even to physical science, who shall authorize us to make our final stand in the ether, and to say there is no degree or kind of substance beyond? Is not the savage as truly qualified to deny the substantiality of the air because he cannot see it as is the modern psychologist to deny the substantiality of spirit because it is not tangible to our natural organs? But conceding that the idea of spiritual substance, and so of a spiritual world, has nothing contrary to reason in it, we are still reminded that to be a world it must be objective to the seeing subject. It must be a world seen and felt by the spirits that inhabit it, and so it must become a visible substance and a visible world.

This is only saying that what is invisible to one order of faculties may be visible to another, and that, corresponding to the degree and step from material to spiritual substance, there is a step in man's power of vision to a higher order of sensuous perception. It is to assume, in a word, that there is, adapted to the spiritual world, a spiritual body with sensuous organs adapted to the substance and laws of that world. We find something analogous to these grades of sensuous perception even among animals, especially among the birds and insects to whose eyesight and to whose hearing things are per-

ceptible which are entirely beyond our power to see and to hear, just as to familiar domestic animals the sense of smell, if not the general sense of touch, is developed to such a degree that they have a power of location, of finding their way, and knowing where they are, entirely beyond any faculty possessed by man.

Thus from the gradations in nature we may reasonably infer the further gradation of the spiritual substances constituting an objective world, visible and tangible to the refined or more completely developed senses—the unveiled senses we might call them—of the spiritual body. Analogous to the ether waves of the natural world, the bearers of light, are the thought waves of the spirit, the bearers of truth: analogous to the heat waves, the “modes of motion” of the natural universe, would be the will waves, those first motor waves of all activity natural or spiritual, the life-giving, the all-moving and all-sustaining beams of a central sun, fed and stirred by the direct impulses of an Infinite Divine Love. That thought should travel on waves of objective thought, and that our senses should perceive will as an objective substance, that, in a word, we should, in a spiritual world, find the very atmospheres around us of the same substance as that of which our minds consist, is a condition difficult to realize under the present controlling influences of a material world. Yet analogies to these very conditions are not wanting in the nature of light and the relation it bears to sight in this world. Even Aristotle, in his profound analysis of sensation, in his work on the *Soul*, came to this position, that in the moment of sense-perception of an object the object perceived and the perceiving object were one, and that sensation consisted in the mind’s finding itself in touch with a certain *spiritual* reality and form in the object, which form was itself not material, but substantial, and affording to matter all that made it an intelligible thing. Thus just as sight is in reality not the mere contact of fine atoms, but is rather the spirit’s interpretation of the ether waves that pervade all space, so in the spiritual world sight is the recognition by each spirit in its own way of that universal Truth which is the omnipresence of God’s spirit, giving form to all things and enabling the human soul more

and more to all eternity to realize the promise of Revelation: "In thy light shall we see light."

This seeing of truth objectively may, after all, be by a process in nowise different from that of seeing light objectively. Both are visible by virtue of having form, and form to be real must be a form of substances. The substance of the form of physical light is heat; the substance of the form of spiritual light or truth is good, but heat and light become sensible through the atmospheres of the natural world, and good and truth become sensible through the atmospheres of the spiritual world, which are uses subserving the life of man as a spirit or angel. What these uses are which constitute the atmospheres of our environment in the spiritual world we can no better define than that they are like the uses that exist in air and sunshine. They are not yet particularized, whether in sounds of harmony, in forms and colors of beauty, or in articles that nourish and protect the body; but they are not less real and not less appreciable because thus general and universal in their aspect. So may it not be with the diffusion of the divine light and heat which are truth in the spiritual world, and their effect upon the senses of the spiritual body there?

In venturing to suggest this line of thought as a practical application to psychological and scientific problems of the present day I have only been following the example given in Swedenborg's work on the "Mechanism of the Intercourse," etc. (*De Infinito*, Pt. II., Sec. VI.) If the science of Swedenborg is to be brought into touch with the science of the world at large, it will have to be—as I believe we shall all have to concede—along the lines marked out in the work *On the Infinite*. If we are to contribute to the solution of these problems, we must avail ourselves of the philosophical arguments afforded in this and the other scientific works. If it be said that Swedenborg himself did not revert to his scientific researches and arguments after his illumination, it may be replied that neither does the house itself reveal, but rather hide the foundations, which are nevertheless there; and that Swedenborg expressly avows that spiritual truths rest on the basis of natural truths. (*De Commercio*: 20.)

Israel was indeed also brought up out of Egypt and planted

in the Holy Land, never as a people to return to the land of bondage; but the Incarnate Word, the Saviour, when He came to renew His Church and establish His everlasting Kingdom still must needs go down into Egypt and be brought up thence; showing us by a parable of Infinite Wisdom that every great movement of spiritual reform, while called and inspired and instructed from above, must yet be grounded in human experience and accepted by the free rationality of the human mind.

FRANK SEWALL.

Washington, D. C., May 19, 1902.

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#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

THE minutes and reports of the last meeting have been published in *The New Philosophy* for July, 1901. The Secretary has considered it unnecessary to incur the expense of typewriting the proceedings as was done in the past, and preserves a copy of the printed record as the official journal of the proceedings.

Since my last report four members of the Association have died, two have withdrawn and thirty-seven have been added to the roll, showing a present membership of 171, a net gain of 31.

EUGENE J. E. SCHRECK,  
Secretary.

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#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

*To the President and Secretary of the Swedenborg Scientific Association:—*

THE Treasurer's Annual Report is herewith presented to you, and while the receipts and expenditures have been given somewhat in detail, he desires to point out some particulars about the finances of the Association.

At the last year's meeting there was a balance of \$8.27, as against \$1.46 this year, but last year there was an item of \$30.00 for paper unpaid, while this year all bills have been paid up to date.

The report shows among the receipts a payment from the Academy of the New Church of \$146.80, being aid toward the publication of the Scientific MSS., and among the expenditures a similar amount paid to J. E. Boyesen on account of copying. A special report on this subject will be submitted by the committee appointed.

It will be noticed that only the January issue of *The New Philosophy* was limited to 32 pages, the others being 40, 48 and 68 pages. This increase in the number of pages was made possible only by special contributions for that purpose. Of the recent April issue an extra edition of 1,000 copies was printed, which were mailed to New Church people. The

purpose of this was to enable a larger number of persons to become acquainted with Swedenborg's work, *On the Worship and Love of God*, of which this issue contained an extended review. A circular letter was sent to these same people inviting them to become members of the Association and subscribers to *The New Philosophy*, and the Treasurer is happy to report that the returns so far have been very encouraging. Our membership has now been increased to 171, from 140 at our last Annual Meeting, and the paying subscribers to *The New Philosophy* to 234 from 173.

The number of subscribers is, however, not yet sufficient to pay even for the small quarterly Journal, and it has therefore been necessary to make use of almost all the funds received for membership fees to cover the cost of the publication of the Journal.

It will be necessary in the near future to have *The New Philosophy* almost entirely supported by the subscribers and by special contributions, as most of the funds of the Association will be required for other uses, such as the copying and publication of the Scientific MSS., and the translation, revision and publication of the English editions of Swedenborg's Scientific Works out of print and those heretofore never published.

The subscription charges to *The New Philosophy*, as well as the membership fees, were fixed at a very low figure in order to enable every one interested in the use to co-operate, but this should by no means prevent those who desire or who are able to assist the Association more generously to do so.

The Treasurer wishes to emphasize this matter, and to invite all members to aid the Association still further by special contributions, in order that the uses of the Association may be carried on more successfully, as without such aid our work will be very slow.

Our expenses have at present been limited to the actual cost of publishing *The New Philosophy*, but there are other expenses not apparent in the report. Among such I beg to call attention to the Editing of *The New Philosophy*, and the clerical work of the Treasurer.

While neither the Treasurer, nor perhaps the Editor-in-Chief, has done all the work connected with their respective offices, the Treasurer can speak for his own department that considerable clerical work is involved in the business of the Association, and it will be necessary to appropriate some money for clerk hire, as the Treasurer cannot continue this work unless he has some assistance.

The Association has great and important uses in view which will involve more work than heretofore, and if our body is to succeed, it will require both labor and capital.

The Association has, in Providence, been furnished with ardent and able laborers; what it now also needs is capital.

Let us hope that the members of the Association will furnish this

according to their means, and the aims of the Association will before long be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,

CARL HJ. ASPLUNDH,  
Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR YEAR ENDING MAY 22, 1902.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, May 27, 1901.....		\$8.27
Subscriptions to <i>The New Philosophy</i> .....	\$155.61	
Membership fees.....	172.00	
Special contributions.....	85.00	
	—————	\$412.61
Aid from The Academy of the New Church toward the publication of Swedenborg's Scientific Manuscripts.....		146.80
		—————
		559.41
		—————
Total .....		\$567.68

EXPENDITURES.

THE NEW PHILOSOPHY.

Printing July, 1901, issue, 650 copies, 40 pp...	\$42.69
Printing of October, 1901, issue, 500 copies, 48 pp. ....	63.35
Printing of January, 1902, issue, 500 copies, 32 pp. ....	39.23
Printing April, 1902, issue, 1,500 copies, 68 pp..	106.05
Paper for <i>The New Philosophy</i> , 22 reams.... (Including 10 reams for April, 1901, issue.)	66.00
Cover paper for <i>The New Philosophy</i> , 2 reams.	8.40
Large envelopes for <i>The New Philosophy</i> ....	4.25
Electrotyping .....	4.82
Expressage, freight, etc.....	1.80
Mail lists.....	1.25
	—————
	\$337.84

SCIENTIFIC MSS. ACCOUNT.

Remitted to J. E. Boyesen on Account for Copying Manuscripts .....	\$146.80
	—————
	\$146.80

GENERAL EXPENSES.

Stationery .....	\$4.08
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Printing Circulars, Envelopes, etc.....	19.49	
Travelling Exp, for Sec'y to 4th Annual Meeting .....	27.00	
Travelling Exp. of Rev. A. Acton to present Memorial at Convention in N. Y.....	4.65	
Postage to May 1st.....	26.36	
		\$81.58
		\$566.22
Balance on hand.....		\$1.46

WE have examined the books and vouchers of the Treasurer of the Association for the year ending May 22d, 1902, and found them correct and in agreement with the report, which shows a blance of \$1.46 on hand.

W. B. CALDWELL,  
G. M. COOPER,  
*Auditing Committee.*

May 29th, 1902.

#### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

THE Board of Directors of the Swedenborg Scientific Association submits the following report:—

1. The Board has held two meetings, one immediately after the last annual meeting of the Association, namely, on May 27th, 1901, at 1:00 P. M., and the other immediately preceding this meeting, namely, on May 28th, 1902, at 11 A. M.

2. At the first meeting it was voted that the President and Secretary of the Association be respectively the Chairman and Secretary of the Board.

3. The President, the Rev. Alfred Acton, and Mr. Carl Hj. Asplundh were constituted the Committee on the Publication of Swedenborg's Scientific Manuscripts as per minute 214.

4. The Officers of the Association, namely, the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, were constituted the Executive Committee of the Association.

5. The Board elected the Rev. L. P. Mercer as Managing Editor of "The New Philosophy," and the Rev. E. J. E. Schreck as additional member of the Board of Editors.

6. At the meeting held May 28th, 1902, the following report of the Executive Committee was received and adopted:—

#### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee takes pleasure in reporting the prospect

of an early publication of two treatises by Swedenborg, namely, *Worship and Love of God*, and *Diseases of the Fibre*.

For some time past one of the members of the Association, Mr. Alfred H. Stroh, has been making a very careful study of the work entitled *Worship and Love of God*, including Part III., which has never been translated, and the Latin of which is accessible only in the photolithograph edition of the Manuscripts. The results of Mr. Stroh's studies have been published in *The New Philosophy* for April of this year.

Mr. Stroh has prepared a revised translation of Parts I. and II. and a translation of Part III., and offered his MSS. to this Association for publication. The Executive Committee accepted the offer and sent out about 1,400 circulars inviting subscriptions to the work. 116 responses were received, with an aggregate promise of \$353.75, including \$100.00 from Mr. Ezra Nicholson for 100 copies to be presented to public libraries.

A rough estimate places the cost of an edition of 500 copies, including plates for future editions, at about \$750.00. Since more than half of this amount is assured, the Executive Committee recommends the publication of this work without further delay, other than that rendered necessary for a proper revision of the translation, which it is proposed to assign to the Rev. Frank Sewall.

The Academy of the New Church possesses the plates of a translation of the work entitled *Diseases of the Fibre*, made by Dr. C. S. Olds, and originally published in serial form in *New Church Life*. These plates the Academy generously offers to this Association without further consideration than the observance of its contract with Dr. Olds, which calls for an equal division, between publisher and translator, of the net profit arising from sales. Dr. Olds agrees to the transference of the publication to this Association. The Executive Committee recommends the acceptance of the Academy's offer and the publication of an edition of 300 copies as soon as the funds in the Treasurer's hands permit.

7. The Board of Directors wish to recall the fact that in the year 1898 a letter was received from Mr. L. P. Ford, of England, offering to the Association a translation and plates of Swedenborg's work *On Copper*. The Board of Directors took action at the time, expressing the desire to add the work when completed to the Association's list of publications, after examination and approval by our Board of Editors of the *Principia*, and provided that the funds of the Association warrant the publication.

During the past summer the following letter from Mr. Ford was received by the Secretary of the Association:

"At the starting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association, I promised to furnish the translation of Swedenborg's great work on *Copper*. The text is now nearly completed by Mr. Searle, and he is busy with correcting the plates.

"I shall be pleased to know whether the Association is in a position to publish the work, and whether it considers it important enough to warrant the expense.

"It is but one link in the chain of Swedenborg's education and development; but it contains information as to old methods of smelting, &c., not to be found elsewhere.

"Swedenborg's own conclusions and experiments are, I see, contained in another work on Sulphur and Pyrites, not yet even printed; and I am writing to Mr. Manby to ascertain whether he can secure me a copy of the Manuscript in any way.

"I suggest that the work be produced in Royal 8vo, the same size as *Documents Concerning Swedenborg*. It will run to about 832 pages, exclusive of plates, which will bring it up to 900."

The Board of Directors adopted the following resolution at their last meeting when Mr. Ford's letter was read:

"Resolved, That the Board of Directors has heard Mr. L. P. Ford's letter in regard to progress in the translation of the work *On Copper*, with great pleasure and satisfaction.

"Resolved, That the Board refers the letter to the Association with the recommendation of its earnest consideration."

EUGENE J. E. SCHRECK,  
Secretary.

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#### REPORT OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD.

THE transactions of the last Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association were printed in the July number of *The New Philosophy*, together with the paper by W. F. Pendleton on "The Scientific Writings of Swedenborg and the Writings."

The issues for October, January and April have contained, besides installments of Mr. Price's translation of Part IV. of *The Animal Kingdom*, or *The Senses*, the paper by Miss Beekman, presented at the last Annual Meeting, on "The Identification of Hydrogen and Third Finities," with Mr. Beswick's Critical Notes on the same, which he substituted for the paper on the subject sent by him to the Annual Meeting; also articles by Miss Beekman on "The Connection of Respiration with Muscular Control" and on "Swedenborg on the Appearance and Disappearance of New Stars;" one by John Whitehead on "A Neglected Factor in the Doctrine of Evolution;" and articles by Alfred Stroh on "Theories of Light and Color." and "Analysis and Review of *The Worship and Love of God*." The last mentioned contribution with the paper on New Stars in the April number, enlarged the number to nearly twice its size, which was made possible by the generous offer by a friend of the use, to defray the extra expense, in order that the Association might have the article before the eyes as a whole without division.

In November the members of the Editorial Board who could be called together in Chicago held a meeting to determine the most useful conduct of the magazine. Messrs. Schreck, Mann, Mercer and Farrington were present. It was decided to assign to the several members of the Board the department of review and comment on current topics, as follows: Mr. Whitehead, the subject of Evolution; Mr. Mann, the subject of Physics; Mr. Sewall, Psychology, and Dr. Farrington, Physiology. Under this arrangement "Note and Comment" has been made as follows: "Problems from Kant's Metaphysics," "Creation of First Forms," "Dr. Hershey on the Vermiform Appendix," "Prof. Munsterburg on Mind and Matter," "The Monist on Kant and Swedenborg," "Swedenborg and Modern Idealism," "Habitability of other Worlds," and "Prof. Newcomb on the Fairy Land of Geometry." In this department there has been laid over a good deal of comment on account of the limited space available in our quarterly issue.

At the meeting of the Editorial Board, referred to, the Managing Editor was instructed to secure, if possible, the assistance of George G. Starkey, as being near the publisher, in the work of editing; and while he consented unwillingly on account of his other duties, the Board desires to acknowledge his invaluable assistance in the determination of the contents, form, and creditable appearance of the magazine.

Respectfully submitted,

L. P. MERCER,  
FRANK SEWALL,  
E. J. E. SCHRECK,  
*For the Editorial Board.*

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE NEW EDITION OF THE PRINCIPIA.

DURING the past year the revision of the 2d Vol. of the *Principia* by the American members of the Committee has been completed. A careful comparison of the Clissold Edition with the original Latin was made by Prof. Mann, of the University of Chicago, and his variations and corrections were afterwards revised by Messrs. Price and Sewall. These notes comprised some 25 or more alterations in sentences and some 224 changes of single words and figures. The revisory notes have been sent to the English members of the committee, Messrs. Tansley and Rendell, and from them we have an encouraging report that in an interleaved copy of the English Edition they are entering the American corrections together with their own, coinciding or varying or additional, and that these notes will be again returned to the American Committee for decision in each point, and then, in England, the final corrections will be entered upon the margin of a copy for the use of the printer. A number of practical questions were submitted by the English brethren in regard to an introduction and other points about

which it may be desirable later to ask an expression of the will of the Association. The revision by the English members is already well on in the second volume.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK SEWALL,  
*Chairman.*

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON A NEW EDITION OF  
THE ANIMAL KINGDOM.

*Rev. Frank Sewall, President of the Swedenborg Scientific Association:*

DEAR SIR—The committee on the revision of the *Animal Kingdom* begs leave to report that it has practically completed the first eleven chapters, or three hundred and sixty-two pages. It would also state that considerable more work is being undertaken than was at first deemed necessary. This has been particularly so with regard to the quotations from the various authors by Swedenborg. For in many cases he quotes parts of sentences or whole sentences from one paragraph, then, without any indication of any omission, he quotes part of another paragraph. In some cases also Swedenborg partly quotes and partly arranges in his own words. All, however, is put in quotation marks. To verify each quotation is difficult; for although Dr. Wilkinson in his translation gives the references to the passages quoted, yet he does not always give Swedenborg, but frequently quotes the passage of which Swedenborg sometimes gives only a synopsis, and so this is not always indicated; the English reader would suppose that all that is in the English Edition is a translation of Swedenborg.

Your committee, in endeavoring to indicate every addition to the text, has found that the work is very much more involved than was expected, but it is making progress, though slowly, and hopes that it will be able to report more progress in the future.

The chairman of the committee takes this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the services of Dr. Farrington in taking charge of the anatomical part of the work, and of Mr. Alfred Stroh in assisting in the revision of the work.

Yours truly,

C. E. DÆRING,  
*Chairman.*

May 19th, 1902.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE "LESSER  
PRINCIPIA."

*To the Board of Directors of the Swedenborg Scientific Association:*

OWING to the press of my regular duties, I have practically been unable to do any work on the translation of the *Lesser Principia*.

It might be well, however, for the sake of record, to report the exact course and present status of the work done by the Swedenborg Scientific Association in relation to Swedenborg's "*Lesser Principia*."

In 1898, immediately after the first annual meeting of the Association, the Board of Directors appointed the following gentlemen a committee to transcribe the work from the Photolithographed MS.; Messrs. J. R. Swanton, L. H. Tafel and Charles Döring. (*New Philosophy*, 1900, p. 29.)

Subsequently the Rev. L. F. Hite was added to the Committee, of which he was elected Secretary. (*New Philosophy*, 1900, p. 58.)

At the second annual meeting of the Association, in 1899, this Committee reported that it had decided to divide the work of transcription among three men, namely, Mr. E. F. Gørwitz, Prof. S. Vinet and Mr. Reginald Brown, whom it had also elected as members of the committee. (*N. P.*, 1900, p. 58.) It also reported that Mr. Brown had finished his portion of the transcription. (*Ibid.*)

At the third annual meeting of the Association, held in 1900, the enlarged committee reported that "The work of transcribing the *Lesser Principia* is virtually completed." (*New Philosophy*, 1900, p. 99.) It also offered some suggestions as to the translation and editing of the work (*Ibid.*)

At this meeting all the Committees of the Association were discharged, a reorganization of the work being subsequently effected by the Board of Directors.

The undersigned was then appointed by the Board as Chairman of a committee to translate the *Lesser Principia*, and he was authorized to receive the transcription made by Messrs. Gørwitz, Vinet and Brown.

At the end of the same year (1900) he received from Prof. Vinet two-thirds of the transcribed copy, namely, the part transcribed by Rev. E. G. Gørwitz and that transcribed by Prof. Vinet. Mr. Brown's transcription which covers the last third of the *Lesser Principia* has not yet been received, and is still in Mr. Brown's possession.

The photolithographed MS. includes 342 pages (*Phot. MSS. V.*, pp. 103-444), containing 174 chapters which constitute the *Lesser Principia*. Of these pages and chapters, the Rev. E. F. Gørwitz has transcribed 111 pages (pp. 103-213), being the first 55 chapters; Prof. Vinet has transcribed 115 pages (pp. 214-328), being chapters 56 to 116, and Mr. Brown has transcribed 116 pages (pp. 329-444), being chapters 117-174.

Thus far only 37 of the 342 pages have been translated into English.  
Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED ACTON.

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE TRANSLATION OF THE WORK ON THE SENSES.

Rev. Frank Sewall, President.

DEAR SIR—I have to report that as regards the translation of the

work *On The Senses*, by Swedenborg, only about enough for another installment of that work in *The New Philosophy* is done, namely, as far as page 55 of Tafel's Latin edition. As matters are now arranged with me, the translation cannot progress much faster at present, but I hope to be able to make more rapid progress during the coming summer.

Yours sincerely,

ENOCH S. PRICE.

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLICATION OF SWEDENBORG'S SCIENTIFIC MSS.

*To the Board of Directors of the Swedenborg Scientific Association:*

THIS committee was appointed by your Board to carry into effect a plan prepared by Mr. Carl Hj. Asplundh for the issue, in printed form, of the unpublished scientific and philosophical MSS. of Swedenborg. This plan was laid before the Swedenborg Scientific Association at its last annual meeting, when the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That Mr. Asplundh's paper be referred to the Board of Directors with the recommendation that the plan outlined be favorably considered and such action be taken as the Board may deem advisable." (*New Philosophy*, 1901, p. 68.)

The plan here referred to, which was published in *The New Philosophy* for 1901, p. 85, contemplated, *First*, That the unpublished scientific and philosophic MSS. of Swedenborg should be copied by a skilled copyist well versed in Latin. *Second*, That the copy thus prepared should be compared with the original by two Latin scholars who should refer special difficulties to the judgment of a third scholar. *Third*, That when a sufficient number of pages has been copied and finally revised by the collators, they should be printed and issued to the public in an edition of 500 bound copies, each consisting of two volumes of about 400 pp. The plan contemplated, in addition, that an invitation should be given to certain specified Bodies of the Church, to contribute to the expenses of this work.

Shortly after the adjournment of the Association last year, your committee, guided by the above plan, prepared a memorial to the General Convention, explaining the nature and scope of the work which it was appointed to carry on, and asking for financial assistance to an amount not exceeding \$300. This Memorial was presented by the secretary of your committee to the Convention at its annual meeting in Brooklyn, last June, and was printed in the Journal of that meeting. (See page 192.) After a brief discussion, the participators in which expressed unanimous and entire approval of the proposed work, the General Convention passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the sum of three hundred dollars be contributed to-

wards the expense of publishing the scientific and philosophic writings of Swedenborg, as proposed in the memorial of the Swedenborg Scientific Association, and that the manner of contributing this sum be referred to the Committee on the Manuscripts of Swedenborg, together with the Treasurer of the Convention." (*Convention Journal*, 1901, p. 17.)

Soon afterwards, your committee reached an understanding with the Academy of the New Church, according to which that Body agreed to contribute a sum of not less than \$300 for the same purpose. The Treasurer of the Swedenborg Scientific Association has already received \$146.80 on account of this contribution.

In the latter part of July, a communication was addressed to the British and Foreign Swedenborg Society of London, inviting the Society to subscribe a sum equal to one-half the total cost of copying, printing and binding about 1,400 pp. of Swedenborg's Scientific MSS. (or about \$800), in return for which sum it would receive one-half, or 250 sets, of the printed and bound copies. In proposing this arrangement your committee was guided by the report of Dr. Riborg Mann, who, at the third annual meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association, held in New York, April, 1900, reported that, acting on behalf of the Association, he had come to an understanding with the London Swedenborg Society, to the effect that that Society was willing to take one-half of any edition of Swedenborg's works issued by the Association, paying therefor one-half of the cost of publication. (*New Philosophy*, 1901, p. 101.)

Up to the time of present writing, no answer has been received from the London Society.

On November 25th, there appeared in *Morning Light* an article entitled "Swedenborg's Manuscripts." The author of this article asserted that the manuscripts described in the memorial to the General Convention had been misrepresented in that document; and, further, that all the unpublished scientific MSS. of Swedenborg were now of little if any value to the Church. The secretary of your committee prepared an answer to this article, wherein he entered into a detailed description of the manuscripts mentioned in the memorial referred to, and cited from Tafel's *Documents* the authority for the statements of the memorialists; moreover, in this answer, he entered into a thorough discussion of the general question involved, and showed at some length the necessity of preserving, by publication, the whole of Swedenborg's literary remains for use both now and in the future. The answer, after being submitted to and approved by your committee, was sent to *Morning Light*, and appeared in that journal on January 18th.

In the meantime, while the attention of the Church in America and England was thus being called to the work undertaken by the Swedenborg Scientific Association, the work itself was not neglected. Soon after its appointment your committee wrote to the Rev. J. E. Boyesen,

of Stockholm, requesting him to secure the services of a competent Latin copyist. Mr. Boyesen, however, found this to be a very difficult matter. There are numbers of professional copyists in Stockholm, but few, if any of them, are able to copy Latin MSS. Men who are able to read Latin can, more or less readily, secure positions superior to that of professional copyist, and, though they may be willing to engage in the latter occupation for a time, they will give it up as soon as they obtain more remunerative employment. It is, therefore, practically impossible to secure the continuous services of such men. The difficulty of doing this was further increased by the rules of the Academy of Sciences, which permit the manuscripts in its Library to be copied only during certain three hours of the daytime.

After diligent and long continued inquiries, and one or two discouraging disappointments, Mr. Boyesen was fortunate enough to secure the services of a lady copyist, who, after a week's trial at the work, expressed her willingness to copy all the Scientific MSS., excepting only Codex 37, being a MS. exceedingly difficult to decipher, partly by reason of the writing, and partly because of the many scientific and technical words which it contains. This lady, whom Mr. Boyesen at once engaged to work for your committee, is a Bachelor of Arts, well acquainted with Latin and fully equal to the task entrusted to her. Writing on October 15th, after the copyist had been at work a week, Mr. Boyesen says: "From what she has done I can judge that she is a good hand at it. She seemed well able to read the handwriting, and she gave evidence of good judgment in deciding the reading of badly-written or difficult words."

The charge for copying is two crowns (54 cents) per sheet of four pages, equal to about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  pages of the quarto manuscript. In a letter dated May 2d, Mr. Boyesen states that the manuscripts on Salt (343 MS. pp.) and Sulphur and Pyrites (329 pp.) have already been copied; and that the copying of the manuscript on the Magnet (about 390 pp.) will be finished by the end of the present month at latest. When this has been finished, the copyist will have copied over a thousand manuscript pages. The cost of this work is 445 crowns (about \$120), which sum has already been transmitted to Mr. Boyesen for the copyist.

Unless other copyists can be secured during the summer, the work of copying will be discontinued at the end of May and not resumed until September 1st, as the health of the present copyist obliges her to take a vacation during the summer months.

In order to secure greater accuracy, the plan which your committee was appointed to carry out contemplated that the copy of the MSS. should be compared with the original by two competent persons other than the copyist, with appeal in difficult cases to a third person. The Rev. J. E. Boyesen has consented to be one of the collators, and the Rev. C. J. N. Manby to give his advice in the more difficult cases. But hard as it was to secure the services of a competent copyist, it was still harder to find one who was able and willing to do the work of

collation. It was not until the end of December, 1901, that Mr. Boyesen succeeded in finding such a person. At that time, however, he was able to engage the services of a Candidate of Philosophy, with honors, with whom he immediately commenced the work of collation.

But another difficulty then presented itself in the fact that Mr. Manby could not always spare the hours during which only the MSS. in the Library of the Academy of Sciences could be examined; and this so delayed the work that, at the end of February, only ten of the sixty-two sheets on Salt had been finally passed upon and sent to your committee.

Moreover, for some reason or reasons not known to your committee, the work of collation itself progressed very slowly. Although in seven months the copyist had copied over 1,000 MSS. pages, the collators in four months had compared only 343 of these pages with the copy. At the rate the copyist is working, she will produce enough copy by the beginning of next year (including time spent in vacation) to fill the two proposed volumes of 400 pages each; but, with the delay caused by the collators, the work would not be in the hands of your committee until almost the end of the year at the earliest.

In view of the above facts, your committee has approved of a plan presented to it by Mr. Asplundh, by which all the copy thus far made can be compared with the original before the copyist resumes her work and can thenceforward go on *pari passu* with the copying. The plan also contemplates the employment of another copyist during the summer, if it is possible to find one. This plan will be presented to the Board, and the committee earnestly recommends that it be accepted.

As to the cost of the entire work of copying, your committee is not at present prepared to present any definite figures. The cost of the copying itself is fixed, as stated above, at two crowns, or 54 cents a sheet, equalling about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  manuscript pages; and 445 crowns (about \$120) has already been paid on this account. But the additional charges involved in the collation of the copy have not yet been determined upon, though about 55 crowns (about \$14) has already been paid on account of work done. There has been also an additional charge of 42 crowns (about \$12) for special work in copying the diagrams in the works on Salt and Sulphur. This also has been paid. Your committee feel confident, however, that the total cost of copying will not exceed the estimate made in the plan under which the work is being carried on.

In conclusion, we wish to express our appreciation of the work done by Mr. Boyesen. Mr. Boyesen has been at much trouble in securing the services of copyist and collator, and, in addition, he has taken entire charge of the work in Stockholm. We desire also to record our in-

debtedness to Mr. Manby for his work in the final revision of the copy of the manuscript on Salt.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK SEWALL,  
CARL HJ. ASPLUNDH,  
ALFRED ACTON, Sec'y,

*Committee on the Publication of Swedenborg's Scientific MSS.*

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## COMMUNICATIONS.

### REPORT CONCERNING TRANSCRIPTION OF SEVEN OF SWEDENBORG'S PHOTOLITHOGRAPHED MANUSCRIPTS.

*Rev. E. J. E. Schreck, Secretary of the Swedenborg Scientific Association:—*

At the request of the President of the Association, the undersigned reports that the following MSS. by Swedenborg have been transcribed from the photolithographic facsimiles:

(1.) A poem written by Swedenborg in 1722 at Medevi in honor of the King. (*Photolithographs*, Vol. I, p. 203. Cf. *Documents*, Vol. II, p. 879.)

(2.) A treatise, entitled *De Mechanismo animae et corporis*. (*Photolithographs*, Vol. III, pp. 91-102. Cf. *Documents*, Vol. II p. 907.) This is an important work, the first of a number which have similar titles.

(3.) Some general anatomical observations, entitled *Observata*, described by Dr. R. L. Tafel, under the title *Observata in corpore humano*. (*Photolithographs*, Vol. III, pp. 142-145. Cf. *Documents*, Vol. II, p. 908.)

(4.) A fragment concerning the Infinite, entitled, by Dr. R. L. Tafel, *Fragmentum de Infinito*; he thinks that it was probably written at about the same time as the work *On the Infinite, etc.* (*Photolithographs*, Vol. III, pp. 168-173. Cf. *Documents*.)

(5.) An abstract of the universals of the *Principia*, entitled *Ex Principiis rerum naturalium meis*, described by Dr. R. L. Tafel, under the title *Epitome Principiorum Rerum Naturalium*. (*Photolithographs*, Vol. III, pp. 146-167. Cf. *Documents*, Vol. II, p. 914.) This little work properly edited would be an excellent manual of the *Principia* and might be used by new students.

(6.) A short treatise on physical and optical experiments, entitled by Dr. R. L. Tafel, *Experimenta Physica et Optica*. (*Photolithographs*, Vol. VI, pp. 102-107. Cf. *Documents*, Vol. II, p. 743.)

(7.) All that is extant of the *Worship and Love of God* that has

not yet been printed; namely, the marginal notes to Part I and the text of Part III., together with the fragments.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED H. STROH.

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### THE PRINCIPIA CLUB OF BRYN ATHYN.

*To the Swedenborg Scientific Association:*

THE Principia Club of Bryn Athyn has continued its activity in the study of Swedenborg's scientific and philosophical works. In this connection Mr. Stroh read his review and analysis of the *Worship and Love of God*, since published in *The New Philosophy* (April, 1902). The *Miscellaneous Observations* was reviewed by Mr. Dœring, who gave a synopsis of the work and pointed out certain principles therein, which were more fully developed in Swedenborg's later philosophical works. Mr. Hyde's review of the *Ontology*, published in *Morning Light*, was read before the Club and called forth considerable discussion of the work. The opinions of all who spoke were adverse to Mr. Hyde's criticisms. The Club was also much interested in the controversy between Mr. Hyde and Mr. Acton concerning the publication of the unpublished scientific works of Swedenborg; and the articles written by both these gentlemen as well as the memorial of the Swedenborg Scientific Association to the General Convention were read before the Club.

It may also be of interest to the members of the Swedenborg Scientific Association to know that in the revision of its constitution the Principia Club of Philadelphia changed its name to the "Principia Club of Bryn Athyn," and adopted the following as its objects:

1st. "The study of science and philosophy; in particular the scientific and philosophic works of Emanuel Swedenborg, in the light of the New Church." And

2d. "To foster interest in the uses of the Swedenborg Scientific Association."

The "Principia Club" wishes that the Swedenborg Scientific Association may have a prosperous meeting.

C. E. DØRING,

*Secretary of Principia Club of Bryn Athyn.*

*Bryn Athyn, May 27th, 1902.*

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### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1902-1903.

*President*—Rev. Frank Sewall, 1618 Riggs Place, Washington, D. C.

*Secretary*—Rev. Eugene J. E. Schreck, 4219 Ellis Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

(Minute 191, 263, 290, 295, 248.)

*Treasurer*—Mr. Carl Hj. Asplundh, Bryn Athyn, Montgomery Co., Pa.

(By-Law 3. Minute 160.)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, *ex-officio*; Rev. L. P. Mercer, Cor. 4th and John Sts., Cincinnati, O.; Dr. C. Riborg Mann, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. John Whitehead, 581 Cass Ave., Detroit, Mich.; Dr. Harvey Farrington, 815 Marshall Field Building, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. Alfred Acton, Bryn Athyn, Pa.; Rev. Willis L. Gladish, 2123 North Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, Ind.; Rev. Lewis F. Hite, 1 Avon Place, Cambridge, Mass.; Dr. John R. Swanton, Bureau of Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Dr. George M. Cooper, 1628 Mt. Vernon St., Philadelphia, Pa.

(Matters referred. Minute 187.)

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

#### EDITOR OF THE NEW PHILOSOPHY.

John R. Swanton, Ph. D.

#### COMMITTEE ON A NEW EDITION OF THE PRINCIPIA.

Rev. Frank Sewall, *Editor-in-Chief*; Dr. C. Riborg Mann, Rev. Enoch S. Price, Rev. C. Th. Odhner.

#### COMMITTEE ON A NEW EDITION OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM.

Rev. C. E. Døring, Harvey Farrington, M. D., Mr. Alfred H. Stroh.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE TRANSCRIPTION AND TRANSLATION OF THE LESSER PRINCIPIA.

Rev. Alfred Acton, *Chairman*.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE TRANSLATION OF THE WORK ON THE SENSES.

Rev. Enoch S. Price, *Chairman*.

COMMITTEE ON THE TRANSLATION OF SWEDENBORG'S EARLY  
SWEDISH SCIENTIFIC TREATISES.

Rev. C. Th. Odhner, Rev. Emil Cronlund.

COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLICATION OF SWEDENBORG'S  
SCIENTIFIC MANUSCRIPTS.

Rev. Frank Sewall, Rev. Alfred Acton, Mr. Carl Hj.  
Asplundh.

(Reference. Minute 288.)

KEEPER OF THE ARCHIVES.

The Secretary.

(Minutes 291, 292, 322.)

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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I—NAME.

This organization shall be called the Swedenborg Scientific Association.

ARTICLE II—OBJECTS.

The objects of this Association shall be:

1. To preserve, translate, publish, and distribute the scientific and philosophical works of Emanuel Swedenborg.
2. To promote the principles taught in these works, having in view, likewise, their relation to the science and philosophy of the present day.

ARTICLE III—MEMBERSHIP.

Any person desiring to co-operate in promoting the objects of this Association may become a member by written application to the Secretary and by the payment of an annual fee of one dollar; or, he may become a life member by the payment of the sum of twenty-five dollars.

ARTICLE IV—OFFICERS.

The officers of this body shall be a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Board of Directors consisting of these officers and nine additional members, all to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the body. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to devise ways and means to carry out the objects of the Association.

ARTICLE V—MEETINGS.

This Association shall meet annually at such time and place as the

Board of Directors shall determine. The Board of Directors shall have power to call special meetings as may be required.

ARTICLE VI—AMENDMENTS.

Any article of the Constitution of this Association may be changed on the recommendation of the Board of Directors at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

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BY-LAWS.

1. Five members of the Board of Directors and a majority of the members of any Committee of this Association shall constitute a *quorum* thereof, respectively.

2. The Board of Directors and all Committees of this Association *may act* either at a meeting at which a quorum is present, or without meeting, by correspondence between the members, but in the latter case no decision shall be arrived at without the acquiescence of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, or Committee, as the case may be, communicated in writing to the Chairman of such Board or Committee.

3. The *annual dues* of each member shall become payable on the first day of the month following his reception as a member and annually thereafter. [A resolution adopted at the Third Annual Meeting (minute 160) provides that after having failed to pay his dues for two years, and after having been duly notified, a member shall be considered to have *resigned* from the Association.]

4. These By-Laws or any of them may be *amended* at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

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LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE  
SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION.

JUNE 1st, 1902.

Acton, Rev. Prof. Alfred, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.

Ager, Rev. J. C., 296 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ager, Dr. L. G., Silliman Pl. and 3d Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Akerman, William, Widerange, Kansas.

Alger, Wm. R., 6 Brimmer St., Boston, Mass.

Asplundh, C. H., Bryn Athyn.

Bailey, E. T., 39 High St., Fitchburg, Mass.

- Barron, Clarence W., Cohasset, Mass.  
 Barton, Miss Mary L., 947 T St., Washington, D. C.  
 Barwell, J. W., Waukegan, Ill.  
 Beekman, Miss Lillian, Bryn Athyn, Pa.  
 Bennett, J. H., Terang, Victoria, Australia.  
 Bigelow, John, 21 Gramercy Park, New York.  
 Biggs, M. J., Oreana, Okla. Terr.  
 Bixby, Mrs. J. T., 60 Hudson St., Yonkers, N. Y.  
 Boericke, Dr. William, 1812 Washington St., San Francisco, Cal.  
 Boericke, Dr. F. A., 1011 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Boggess, Dr. W. B., 1628 Mt. Vernon St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Bonney, Hon. C. C., 153 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.  
 Bowers, Rev. J. E., 37 Lowther Ave., Toronto, Ont., Can.  
 Brickman, Rev. W. E., Allegheny City, Pa.  
 Brown, Edmond Congar, 132 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.  
 Brown, Rev. R. W., 500 Neville, St., Pittsburg, Pa.  
 Browne, Rev. Myron G., 1065 Prospect St., Cleveland, O.  
 Browne, Chas. F., 1020 Fine Art Bldg., Chicago, Ill.  
 Burnham, Arthur, 457 W. 65th St., Chicago, Ill.
- Cabell, Rev. Philip B., Wilmington, Del.  
 Calbeck, John, Ligonier, Ind.  
 Caldwell, Robt. B., Sr., 46 Leopold St., Toronto, Ontario, Can.  
 Caldwell, Wm. B., Bryn Athyn, Pa.  
 Carriere, Rev. Chas. Louis, 2128 St. Louis St., St. Louis, Mo.  
 Carswell, Robt., 1534 King St., Toronto, Ontario, Can.  
 Champion, Charles T., Room 415, 35 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.  
 Chandler, Horace P., 53 Devonshire St., Boston, Mass.  
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- David, Rev. J. S., Vineland, N. J.  
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 Doering, Rev. Prof. Charles E., Bryn Athyn, Pa.  
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 Gould, Dr. P. A., Gibsonburg, O.  
 Goerwitz, Rev. E. F., Brigewater, Mass.  
 Gray, W. N., Stoneham, Mass.  
 Grant, Chas., Red Wing, Minn.  
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 Hanlin, Dr. W. A., Middleport, Ohio.  
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 Higgins, Rev. F. L., Toronto, Can.  
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 Hogan, Miss M., Bryn Athyn, Pa.  
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 Kendig, Jos. R., Renovo, Pa.  
 Kent, Dr. J. T., Evanston, Ill.

Klein, Rev. D. H., Middleport, O.

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 Sproat, Miss Carrie, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
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 Synnestvedt, Paul, Glenview, Ill.

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 Thurston, Rufus L., 260 Clarendon St., Boston, Mass.  
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Wright, Rev. T. F., 42 Quincy St., Cambridge, Mass.

Wunsch, Henry, 555 E. Congress St., Detroit, Mich.

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#### EDITORIAL NOTE.

THIS being the first issue of *The New Philosophy* under editorship of the writer, it may be well for him to say something of the thoughts with which he enters upon the conduct of it.

As organ of the Swedenborg Scientific Association, *The New Philosophy* is bound to concern itself primarily with the early writings and early philosophy of Swedenborg. Along with the Association, it is therefore firstly concerned in helping along the publication of translations of Swedenborg's early treatises, and the editor believes that as much space in *The New Philosophy* as possible should be given up to such translations.

Our next important duty is the study and reconstruction of the system of philosophy contained in Swedenborg's early works. Articles in which this task is undertaken need not, in fact, should not, assume the truth of the philosophy they are attempting to elucidate. Their function is to present that philosophy, or a part of it, in its true colors, from which the reader may draw his own conclusions. The truth or the error in Swedenborg cannot be altered by anyone's assertions, but proper investigations ought to make both apparent, after which all that we are called upon to do in approaching fair-minded persons,—the only ones to whom it is worth while to appeal,—is to properly present the course and the results of those investigations. It is to be hoped that all such articles will conform to this ideal.

Still more careful must be the worker who endeavors, not merely to interpret Swedenborg's philosophy "as such," but to show that the principles he handled and named conform to nature; that they are not merely his, but that they are true. The editor intends to insist that articles of this kind prove their positions by what would be recognized by any fair-minded scholar as legitimate arguments. It must be

remembered that a reference to Swedenborg's theological writings is no proof to the general public of the absolute truth of anything in his earlier works. He who believes in the absolute truth of Swedenborg's later writings will, of course, accept that in his earlier ones, which is demonstrated to agree with them as absolutely true, but this is a matter of individual opinion.

Much labor is wasted every day in argumentative work, because the argument is not thorough. By this I mean that the writer in treating his subject does not exhaust all of the possibilities of the case. Thus there may be four possible explanations of a phenomenon—A, B, C and D. I may believe that theory A contains the true explanation, but I must not expect to convince any other person that I am right until I have gone through with theories B, C and D in detail. This, impulsive and enthusiastic natures always find difficult, but it is the only sure way to carry conviction. An argument which excludes from consideration all but one theory, however brilliantly handled, always leaves that fatal doubt lurking in the mind which prevents complete acceptance of the writer's view. Students of both kinds may cite facts, but with one a single theory precedes and facts follow, dragged along, as it were, in the wake. They are introduced to prove a proposition already determined upon. The other is apt first of all to throw forward an army of facts bearing on the question at issue, then to call attention to the number of theories which may be devised to account for them and those facts which appear to support each. Now, when each theory has been fully discussed, it seems as though it were the reader himself who reached the conclusion. This second method of inquiry is the distinctively scientific one, and it is that which is being used more and more in every department of research. That it is not always fairly or effectively employed, and that it does not always give true results, is not the fault of the system, but of the way in which it is handled.

It is most regrettable that more writers upon Swedenborg have not been willing to employ such a method of approach. No one who really believes in the truth of a principle has the least hesitancy in testing it, for hesitancy implies doubt. A mind of this sort is *per se* unwilling to make truth its chief aim, and coddles inherited or adopted principles, just as a selfish man may love his children, simply because he sees himself reflected in them. But outer nature serves as a plumb-line by which we can readjust our own imperfect constructions and eliminate those individual aberrations which tend to make them fall further and further "out of true."

Because I believe in the substantial truth of the main principles set forth in Swedenborg's works, I am perfectly willing to have them discussed freely. I should be inclined to regard an unwillingness to subject them to an unbiased examination as a slur cast upon them, all the more to their disparagement because unacknowledged.