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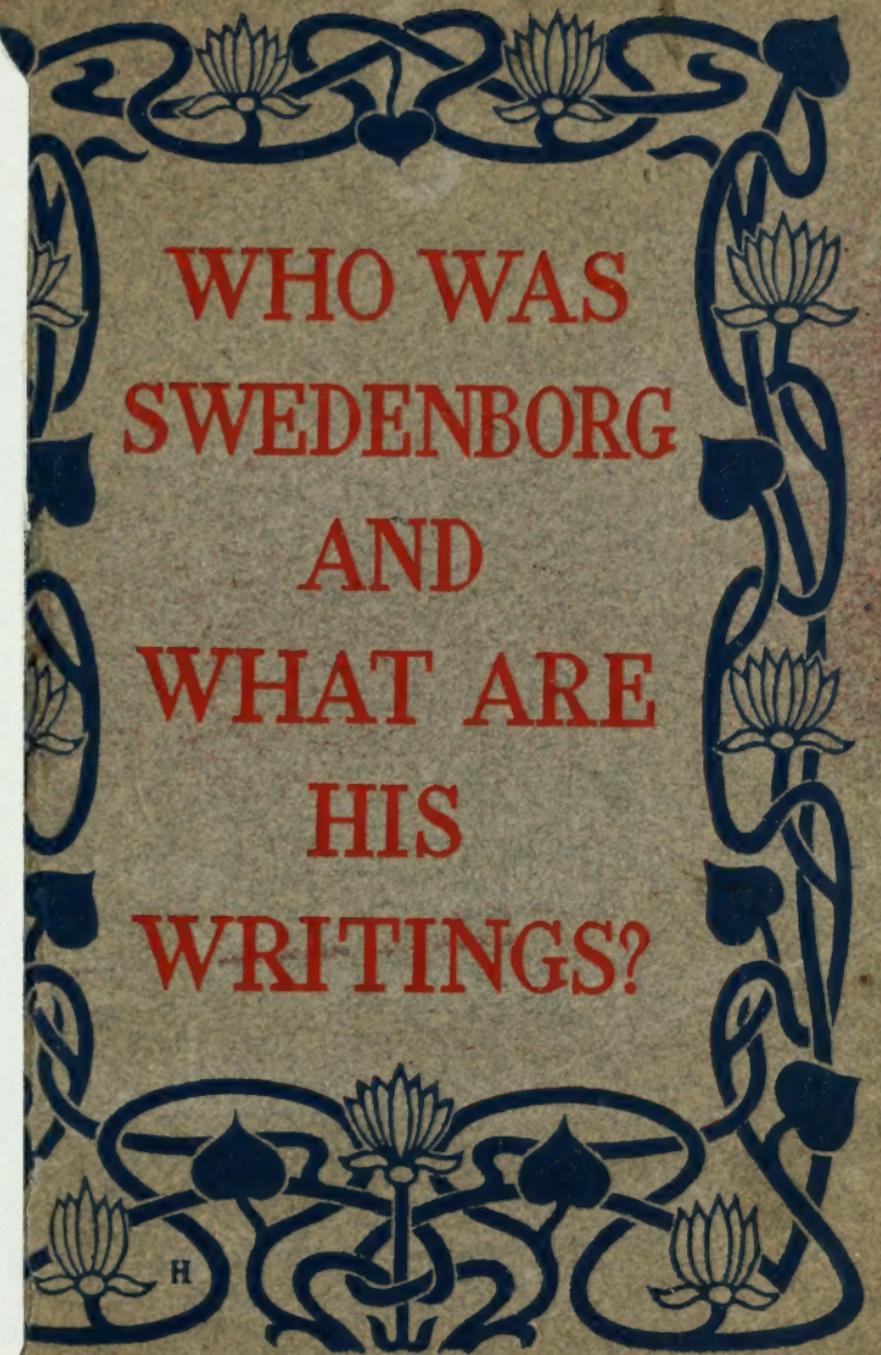
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WHO WAS
SWEDENBORG
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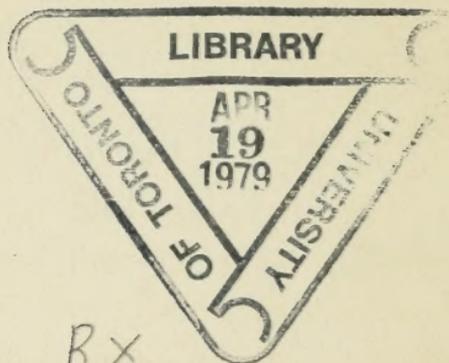


WHO WAS SWEDENBORG,
AND
WHAT ARE HIS WRITINGS?

WITH
CATALOGUE OF THE
THEOLOGICAL WRITINGS
OF
EMANUEL SWEDENBORG

THE AMERICAN SWEDENBORG PRINTING AND
PUBLISHING SOCIETY

3 WEST TWENTY-NINTH STREET, NEW YORK



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Who was Swedenborg,
and
What are his Writings?



MANUEL SWEDENBORG was a Swedish nobleman, scientist, and philosopher, son of a bishop of the Swedish Church, born January 29, 1688, died March 29, 1772. During the period of his scientific activity he was considered one of the ablest and most prominent men of his country, was a trusted counsellor of the king, an associate of prominent public officers, and a friend of well-known scientists of that day, such as Linnæus, Polhem, and others. His scientific writings, principally on physics, anatomy, and physiology, were exceedingly voluminous, and were far in advance of his time. Many of them still remain only in manuscript, and even those which were published were soon lost sight

of by a world which could not comprehend them, and remained nearly forgotten until recent years. They are now, however, being brought to light by the scientific world, and those who investigate are amazed to find many of the theories and discoveries of modern science anticipated in these wonderful books.

But eminent as Swedenborg was as a scientist, he was on that plane but one among many, occupying a position by no means unique. Many both before and after him have made wonderful discoveries and have been in advance of the age in which they lived. Swedenborg's claim to distinction lies in the fact that he was a divinely chosen and prepared instrument through which the inner or heavenly meaning of the Word of the Lord was revealed. His mission was to disclose the true nature of the Bible, showing it to be in a very real and true sense the actual inspired Word of God, and explaining with all necessary detail that its essential holiness is due to the fact that it has, in every sentence, word, and syllable, a holy, internal sense, treating not of the creation of the

material world or of the history of any chosen people, but solely of God, man, their relation to each other, man's regeneration, and the life after death. When this teaching is accepted and rationally understood, the Bible is seen to be established upon a firm footing as the real Word of God, and is rescued from the assaults of modern skepticism and the so-called "higher criticism." Another mission was the teaching of the existence, reality, and true nature of the spiritual world and the state of man after death. At the time Swedenborg wrote his theological works, which was towards the close of his life, infidelity and skepticism as to the existence of God and the life after death pervaded the whole Christian world, and Swedenborg, after being prepared and guided by the Lord, had his spiritual senses opened so that he could see and hear the objects of the spiritual world. This in itself was not peculiar to Swedenborg, as the seers and prophets of old enjoyed such open vision; with them, however, it was not complete or constant, but with Swedenborg it continued during many years prior to his

death, not in visions or trances, but while in the full possession of all his bodily faculties and senses. His narrations of life in the other world and of his intercourse with the spirits and angels, whom he met and discoursed with as one man with another, are not, therefore, idle speculations which may or may not be true; but are like the accounts of a traveller who has actually lived for many years in the countries which he describes. All of his theological works contain references, sometimes quite lengthy, to the conditions of life in the other world, and one of his books treats of that alone,—“Heaven and its Wonders, the World of Spirits, and Hell, from Things Heard and Seen.” It is, of course, quite impossible in this short sketch to give more than the merest suggestion of the wealth of information and spiritual truth contained in these books.

All of Swedenborg's theological works were written in Latin, which was at that time the universal language of the learned world. They have all been published in Latin, and have also been translated and published in English and other modern languages. In

the following pages will be found a complete list of the works, with a short synopsis of the contents of each, from which some idea of their scope can be obtained. The books are sold at less than cost, and are given free to all public libraries which request the same. It is the earnest wish of every believer in these Heavenly Doctrines to make them known to all others whom it is possible to reach.

As to the exact scope of Swedenborg's mission and the attitude of mind which should exist with regard to his teachings, we cannot do better than to quote the following from "The True Christian Religion," which was written by him at an advanced age and published but a short time before his death. He says, "Since the Lord cannot manifest Himself in person, as has been shown just above, and yet He has foretold that He would come and establish a New Church, which is the New Jerusalem, it follows that He is to do it by means of a man, who is able not only to receive the doctrines of this church with his understanding, but also to publish them by the press. That the Lord

has manifested Himself before me, His servant, and sent me on this office, and that, after this, He opened the sight of my spirit, and thus let me into the spiritual world, and gave me to see the heavens and the hells, and also to speak with angels and spirits, and this now continually for many years, I testify in truth; and also that, from the first day of that call, I have not received anything which pertains to the doctrines of that church from any angel, but from the Lord alone, while I read the Word." These writings, being thus a revelation from the Lord, and in fact constituting His second coming, certainly are worthy of most reverent and loving attention and study. We are, therefore, earnestly striving to make them more generally known, and we urge every reader into whose hands this little pamphlet may fall to give the matter a few moments' serious thought, to read over the following list of the books and their contents, select one which seems best suited to his present state, procure it, and read it carefully. We can assure him that the time could not be more profitably employed.

Theological Works of Emanuel Swedenborg

ENGLISH OCTAVO EDITION.

	\$0.50	Postpaid \$0.70
<i>Arcana Coelestia</i> , ten vols., 5793 pp. (any vol. can be purchased separately), per vol.	\$0.50	\$0.70
<i>Apocalypse Revealed</i> , two vols., 1098 pp., per vol. . . . .	.40	.58
<i>True Christian Religion</i> , 982 pp. . . . .	.60	.94
<i>Conjugal Love</i> , 434 pp. . . . .	.40	.58
<i>Miscellaneous Theological Works</i> , 526 pp. . . . .	.40	.60
<i>Heaven and Hell</i> , 450 pp. . . . .	.50	.68
<i>Divine Providence</i> , 400 pp. . . . .	.40	.56
<i>Divine Love and Wisdom</i> , 254 pp. . . . .	.30	.42
<i>Four Leading Doctrines</i> , 247 pp. . . . .	.30	.42
<i>Apocalypse Explained</i> , six vols., 3056 pp., per vol. . . . .	.50	.70
<i>Summaries of the Internal Sense of the Prophets and Psalms</i> , 332 pp. . . . .		.75

LATIN EDITION.

<i>Apocalypsis Explicata</i> , six vols., 3517 pp., per vol.	1.50	1.70
<i>Apocalypsis Revelata</i> , two vols., 936 pp., per vol.	1.50	1.70
<i>Quatuor Doctrinae and De Ultimo Judicio</i> , 408 pp.	1.50	1.70
<i>De Amore Conjugalium</i> , 410 pp.	1.50	1.70
<i>De Caelo et Inferno</i> , 398 pp.	1.50	1.70
<i>Opera Minora</i> , 503 pp.	1.50	1.70
<i>De Divino Amore et de Divina Sapientia</i> , and <i>De Divina Providentia</i> , in one vol., 600 pp.	1.50	1.70

LATIN-ENGLISH EDITION.

Latin and corresponding English on opposite pages.
8vo, half leather.

		Postpaid
<i>Apocalypse Explained</i> , 12 vols., 6000 pp., per vol.	\$1.00	\$1.20
<i>Divine Love and Wisdom</i> , 508 pp.....	1.00	1.20
<i>Divine Providence</i> , 620 pp.....	1.00	1.25
<i>De Caelo et ejus Mirabilibus, et de Inferno, ex auditis et visis</i> , 850 pp.....	1.00	1.28
<i>Summaria Sensus Interni Lib. Propheti- corum, Psalmorum Davidis, et Historicorum Verbi,</i> 490 pp.	1.00	1.20

SMALL PAGE EDITION.

The Divine Providence, pp. 640.

Heaven and its Wonders, and Hell, from things heard
and seen, 640 pp.

Each of these two works is issued in a new form of page, six and a quarter by four and a half inches, printed in large type on fine Bible paper, and bound in different styles: stiff paper cover, 30 cts.; blue vellum cloth, 40 cts.; extra half cloth, gilt top, 50 cts.; and in very handsome half morocco, for presentation, \$2.00, postage included.

POCKET EDITION.

The Spiritual Life and the Word of God, pp. 192,
paper 15, cloth 30 cts.

God, Providence, and Creation, pp. 256, paper 15,
cloth 30 cts.

*Angelic Wisdom concerning the Divine Love and
Divine Wisdom*, pp. 384, paper 15, cloth 30 cts.

OCTAVO PAMPHILETS.

A Brief Exposition of the Doctrine of the New Church, contrasting the Old and the New Theology, pp. 86.

The Doctrine concerning the Sacred Scripture, pp. 73.

The Doctrine of Life, pp. 45.

The New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine, according to what has been heard from Heaven, pp. 160.

The Creed of Athanasius; the Lord. Posthumous work, pp. 54.

Each of these five, single copy, including postage, 10 cts.

The Nature of the Intercourse between the Soul and the Body; explaining the relation between spirit and matter, and between the natural and spiritual worlds; pp. 32, 5 cts.

TRANSLATIONS INTO FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

DUTCH.—*Van het Nieuwe Jeruzalem en zijne Hemelsche Leer* (The New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine), pp. 75, 10 cts.

SPANISH.—*De la Penitencia* (Repentance), from True Christian Religion, paper 10 cents.

ICELANDIC.—*Um hina Nyu Jerusalem og hennar himnesku kenningu* (The New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine), with a Life of Swedenborg, pp. 74, 10 cts.

Um kærleikann (Charity), pp. 66, paper 10 cts.

Arcana Coelestia: the Heavenly Arcana contained in the Holy Scripture or Word of the Lord unfolded; together with Wonderful Things which have been seen in the World of Spirits and in the Heaven of Angels. Ten volumes, 5793 pp.

This is an exposition of the internal or spiritual sense of the books of *Genesis* and *Exodus*, according to the law of correspondences. It unfolds the spiritual significance of the creation; of the stories of Adam and Eve, and of the deluge; of the lives of the patriarchs; of the captivity of the chosen people in Egypt and of their deliverance therefrom, and of their subsequent history; of the ritual of the Jewish religion, its sacrifices and observances:—and in general, traces the foreshadowing through both books of the incarnation and glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many passages from other parts of the Word are also fully explained.

Relations of things heard and seen in the spiritual world are interspersed, explaining the process of dying, and of man's resuscitation and conscious entrance into the interior life; the nature of the soul; of heaven and heavenly joy; and of hell, its nature and its miseries. It also treats of the Grand Man, or the whole angelic heaven, and the correspondence of the societies therein with the different organs and senses of the body; the origin and correspondence of diseases; the spirits and inhabitants of the various planets, and of other earths in the starry heavens. All of which are related to a true understanding of the Divine Word.

The volumes of this work can be purchased separately if desired.

The Clergy and Theological Students studying for the Ministry are supplied with Volume I. of the Heavenly Arcana (*Arcana Coelestia*) free, on personal application, or receipt of postage, fifteen cents.

Apocalypse Revealed, wherein are disclosed the Arcana there foretold, which have hitherto remained concealed. Two vols., 1098 pp.

This work, originally published in 1766, unfolds the spiritual meaning of the *Book of Revelation*. It shows that by the "Seven Churches in Asia," to whom this prophecy is addressed, are meant the different classes of Christians of the present day; that the Last Judgment is not an event that is to occur at some future time in the natural world, but one that has already taken place in the world of spirits, and that "the New Jerusalem coming down like a bride out of heaven," symbolizes a new dispensation of truth now descending into the minds of men. Incidentally it explains numerous passages from other parts of the Word. Instructive narratives of things seen in the spiritual world are also interspersed between the chapters.

Either volume of this work can be purchased separately if desired.

The True Christian Religion; containing the Universal Theology of the New Church, foretold by the Lord in Daniel vii. 13, 14; and in the Apocalypse xxi. 1, 2. With the *Coronis*, and a copious Index, pp. 982.

This last work of the author was originally published in 1771. It is a detailed exposition of the main doctrines of the New Church. The nature and scope of the work will be seen from the titles of the chapters:

- I. GOD THE CREATOR.
- II. THE LORD THE REDEEMER.
- III. THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE DIVINE OPERATION (TREATING ALSO OF THE DIVINE TRINITY).
- IV. THE SACRED SCRIPTURE OR WORD OF THE LORD.

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- V. THE DECALOGUE EXPLAINED AS TO ITS EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL SENSE.
- VI. FAITH.
- VII. CHARITY AND GOOD WORKS.
- VIII. FREE WILL.
- IX. REPENTANCE.
- X. REFORMATION AND REGENERATION.
- XI. IMPUTATION.
- XII. BAPTISM.
- XIII. THE HOLY SUPPER.
- XIV. THE CONSUMMATION OF THE AGE; THE SECOND COMING OF THE LORD; THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW CHURCH.

There are, also, relations of things seen and heard in the spiritual world interspersed between the chapters, illustrating in a forcible manner the subjects there treated. In a supplement many interesting facts are given respecting the other life and of peoples there. This is followed by an Appendix treating of the successive Churches that have existed on the earth, and other related subjects, and very full indexes of subjects and Scripture passages.

This book was the culmination of Swedenborg's theological writings. He regarded it as the doctrinal basis of New Church theology, and in it he has presented a summary of the whole system. Much of its material was drawn from his previous works; but all this was rewritten to make it a homogeneous part of this complete presentation. It is as the title declares, "the whole theology of the New Church."

Conjugal Love. The Delights of Wisdom pertaining to Conjugal Love; to which is added, The Pleasures of Insanity pertaining to Scortatory Love. By Emanuel Swedenborg, a Swede. pp. 434.

This work, published in 1768, when Swedenborg was eighty years of age, was the first of the author's theological works

on the title of which his name appeared. It treats of the relation of the sexes; of the nature and origin of love truly conjugal and of its indissoluble nature; of the marriage of the Lord and the Church, and its correspondence; of the spiritual conjunction of partners in true marriage; of the change effected in both sexes by marriage; of the causes of disaffection, separations, and divorces; of the causes of apparent love, friendship, and favor in marriage; and of iterated marriages. To which is appended a treatise on Adulterous or Scortatory Love in its various degrees, showing it to be in its nature the very opposite of Conjugal Love.

Miscellaneous Theological Works. One vol.; pp. 526.

This volume contains the following six small treatises:

- I. THE NEW JERUSALEM AND ITS HEAVENLY DOCTRINE.
- II. THE "WHITE HORSE" MENTIONED IN THE APOCALYPSE.
- III. THE EARTHS IN THE UNIVERSE.
- IV. THE LAST JUDGMENT; WITH CONTINUATION.
- V. BRIEF EXPOSITION OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE NEW CHURCH.
- VI. NATURE OF THE INTERCOURSE BETWEEN THE SOUL AND THE BODY.

The first of these is a summary statement of the doctrines of the New Church. The second unfolds the spiritual meaning of the "White Horse" mentioned in the *Apocalypse*, with especial reference to the doctrine of the Lord's Second Coming. The third describes the appearance, character, and mode of life of the inhabitants of other earths, information which Swedenborg acquired in the spiritual world from spirits from those earths whom he was permitted to meet. The fourth describes the "Last Judgment," which was effected in the spiritual world in 1757, as a part of the Lord's Second Coming, and the beginning of the new dispensation predicted in the *Apocalypse* as "the New Jerusalem."

The other two treatises were published in 1769. One is a discussion of twenty-five doctrinal points, comparing the Old and New theology, and may be considered an outline of the author's final work, the *True Christian Religion*. The other is a discussion of the doctrine of Influx, and is supposed to have been written in answer to a letter to him from Immanuel Kant.

Heaven and its Wonders, the World of Spirits, and Hell; from things heard and seen. pp. 450.

Swedenborg here unfolds the laws governing the spiritual world; describes the condition of good and evil spirits; and exhibits the general arrangement and surroundings of the inhabitants of heaven and hell. He treats of the form of heaven, in general and in particular; of its immensity, and of the innumerable societies of which it is composed; of the correspondence between the things of heaven and those of earth; of the sun of heaven, and of the light and heat proceeding therefrom; of representative appearances in heaven and of the changes of state experienced by angels; of their garments and habitations, their language and writings, their innocence and wisdom, their governments and worship; of the origin of heaven and its association with the human race by means of the Word; of the future state of the heathen and of children, and of the occupations and joys of angels. He also treats of the World of Spirits, or the first state of man after death, and of the successive changes that he there passes through in preparation for his final abode; of the nature of hell, and the meaning of the terms "devil," "satan," "hell-fire," and "gnashing of teeth;" of the appearance, situation, and plurality of the hells, and of the wickedness and arts of infernal spirits.

These presentations of the life of heaven and of hell are eminently practical, and in harmony with the teachings of Holy Scripture. They throw a flood of light upon many

parts of the Word, and cannot fail to influence the lives of all who study them.

Angelic Wisdom concerning the Divine Love and the Divine Wisdom. pp. 254.

This work, originally published in 1763, treats of the operation of Divine love and Divine wisdom in the creation of the universe, including man as the chief end of creation. It explains the trinal distinction that exists in all created things, from the trinity in God, and shows how this is manifested in man, who is the image of the Divine. It unfolds the doctrine of Degrees, and explains the three discrete degrees of the human mind, showing how these are opened, and what is effected thereby. It also explains the origin of evil uses, and the origin, design, and tendency of good uses. It sets forth fully and clearly the philosophical basis of these doctrines; and is a work that no student of philosophy can afford to overlook.

Angelic Wisdom concerning the Divine Providence.
Octavo edition, 400 pp.; 16mo edition, 640 pp.

This work treats of the nature and operations of Divine providence, and unfolds the laws of order according to which God's government is regulated. It shows that His end in the creation of the world was a heaven of angels from the human race; that the Divine providence works according to invariable LAWS; that it is universal, extending to the least things; that in all it has respect to what is eternal; that among these laws are those of permission; that evils are permitted for the sake of the end, which is salvation; that Divine providence is equally with the wicked and the good; that every man can be reformed, and that there is no such thing as predestination; that the Lord cannot act against the laws of providence, because that would be to act against Divine love and Divine wisdom, consequently against Himself.

The Four Leading Doctrines of the New Church.
pp. 247.

Under this title the following small works are included:—

I. THE DOCTRINE OF THE LORD.

II. THE DOCTRINE OF THE SACRED SCRIPTURE.

III. THE DOCTRINE OF FAITH.

IV. THE DOCTRINE OF LIFE.

ALSO, ANSWERS TO NINE QUESTIONS, CHIEFLY RELATING TO THE LORD, THE HOLY TRINITY, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Doctrine of the Lord is a careful analysis of the teaching of Scripture respecting Jesus Christ, to show that He is “the Word made flesh,” “God with us;” and the purpose of His coming into the world. The trinity is also explained.

The Doctrine of the Sacred Scripture unfolds the doctrine of the spiritual sense in its relation to the literal; the way in which true doctrine is to be deduced from Scripture; how erroneous doctrines have been drawn from it; and how the Sacred Scripture is a means of conjunction between the Lord and man.

The Doctrine of Faith shows what the constituents of true faith are as contrasted with the heresy of “faith alone,” which is a faith separate from charity.

The Doctrine of Life is a careful analysis of the relation of morals or good conduct to spiritual life. It also contains an exposition of the spiritual sense of the ten commandments.

Apocalypse Explained according to the spiritual sense, wherein the arcana there predicted and hitherto hidden are revealed. Six volumes, 3056 pp.

This (excepting the *Arcana Coelestia*, the largest of the author’s theological writings) was left unpublished at his death, although it had apparently been carefully prepared

for publication. On the title-page of volume I. is written "London, 1759," showing that the work was ready for the printer at that time. There is no indication why it was left unpublished. Except towards the end it is almost exclusively an exposition of the spiritual sense of Scripture. Not only is every phrase in the *Apocalypse* (as far as covered) separately explained, but thousands of passages, gathered from all parts of the Word, are quoted and expounded. These expositions close with the tenth verse of the nineteenth chapter. Towards the end extended doctrinal discussions are introduced.

Both for its exposition of passages of Scripture and for its doctrinal statements this is an exceedingly important and valuable work. It is especially instructive in its expositions of the Psalms, the Prophets, and the Gospels.

In the latter part of the work less space is given to the exposition of passages of Scripture, and explanations of doctrine are appended to each paragraph. These become more elaborate as the work goes on, until the expositions are wholly dropped, and the work closes with two doctrinal treatises, one on The Divine Love, the other on The Divine Wisdom. The doctrines discussed in this latter part of the work are "Charity and Good Works," "Life," "The Athanasian Creed," "The Lord," "Divine Omnipotence," "Divine Providence," "The Life of Animals and Plants," "Divine Omnipresence and Omniscience."

The volumes of this work can be purchased separately if desired.

Summaries of the Internal Sense of the Prophetical Books, the Psalms of David, and Historical Parts of the Word, with Index; 8vo, pp. 332; 75 cts.

This work, as its title indicates, is a brief statement of the interior meaning of each Psalm and of each chapter in the Books of the Prophets, showing that they all treat of the

Lord Jesus Christ's inner life while on earth, and of the states of the church in heaven and on earth. These summaries may be compared to similar ones prefixed to the chapters in the *Apocalypse Revealed*, *Apocalypse Explained*, and portions of *Arcana Coelestia*, giving a general view of the internal sense, and constituting the necessary guide in the study of these portions of the Word.

BRIEF READINGS FROM SWEDENBORG.

This is a series of eighteen booklets, bound in stiff covers printed in colors; size of page, $6\frac{1}{4}$ by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. In each there are twelve pages of selections from our new translation of Swedenborg's work on *Heaven and its Wonders and Hell*. The subjects treated are:

- I. WHAT IT IS THAT MAKES HEAVEN.
- II. WHAT IS MEANT BY CORRESPONDENCE.
- III. LIGHT AND HEAT IN HEAVEN.
- IV. THE ENVIRONMENT OF ANGELS.
- V. GOVERNMENT AND WORSHIP IN HEAVEN.
- VI. SPEECH AND WRITINGS IN HEAVEN.
- VII. THE WISDOM OF THE ANGELS.
- VIII. INNOCENCE AND PEACE OF ANGELS.
- IX. LITTLE CHILDREN IN HEAVEN.
- X. THE RICH AND THE POOR IN HEAVEN.
- XI. MARRIAGES IN HEAVEN.
- XII. HEAVENLY JOY AND HAPPINESS.
- XIII. ENTRANCE INTO ETERNAL LIFE.
- XIV. WHAT MAN IS AFTER DEATH.
- XV. THE LIFE THAT LEADS TO HEAVEN.
- XVI. HELL IS EVIL SPRINGING FROM THE LOVE OF SELF.
- XVII. MAN GOES TO HELL BY HIS OWN CHOICE.
- XVIII. EQUILIBRIUM AND HUMAN FREEDOM.

Under these attractive and comprehensive titles much of the matter of this most important volume—*Heaven and Hell*—is presented, so arranged that particular subjects of in-

quiry can be answered in Swedenborg's own words, and in a form much more likely to be read and preserved than if offered in a less substantial and less attractive form. Price, 3 cts. each, or 50 cts. for the set, including postage; \$2.00 per hundred, exclusive of transportation, if by mail add 50 cts. per hundred copies for postage.

Public Libraries also supplied with the Writings free.

All friends of the New Church are requested to co-operate in these distributions.

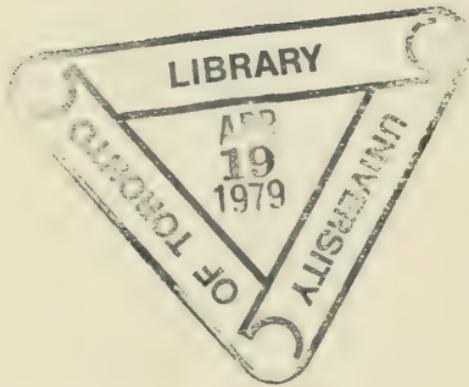
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