

EDITORIAL REMARKS

In this Issue

The account of the panel presentations on the 1991 Manchester Conference draws our attention to on-going efforts to bring Swedenborg's contributions to the notice of mankind. The communication and spirit of cooperation that was so evident at the conference is finding continued expression in the newly-formed Swedenborg Publishers International.

The papers by Dr. James L. Pendleton and Mr. Martin Echols were presented at the 1990 Annual Meeting. Philosophic reflection on the wonders of the human body and mind is a tradition with the Swedenborg Scientific Association.

Dr. William R. Woofenden's treatise on Swedenborg's philosophy of causality is concluded in this issue. It represents the most thorough treatment of the subject ever undertaken, and spans both Swedenborg's preparatory period as well as that when he wrote as "servant of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The first translation into English (indeed into any language) of *De Sale Communi* that continues in this issue, may have a very select readership. However, in this work and others, such as vols. II and III of *Opera Philosophica et Mineralia* on the metallurgy of iron and copper, we see Swedenborg addressing subjects related to his work as assessor on the Swedish Board of Mines. This treatise on salt was written by a man who had rejected the Aristotelian chemistry of the Middle Ages, but lacked the perspectives given by such works as Lavoisier's *Traité élémentaire de chimie* (1778) and Dalton's *New System of Chemical Philosophy* (1808 *passim*), works which established the path of modern chemistry.

Rev. Stephen Cole's note on one of Swedenborg's accounts of experiences in the spiritual world is an interesting commentary on Swedenborg's use of them in his writings.

Rev. Lawson Smith's letter is a response to Rev. Alfred Acton's paper on paradigms of revelation in the January-June, 1991 issue of the journal.