

THE NEW PHILOSOPHY.

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examination, is in reality the glory and crown of his work, and marks its superiority to all other systems. Swedenborg claims, for all his teaching of truth on the spiritual and theological plane, that none of it was his own truth and ideas, but that it was revealed to him by the Lord for the use of mankind, and that it is divine truth from heaven. On this account many reject his teaching without examination; yet reason itself will show that if there is a spiritual world, no true knowledge of it can exist unless a revelation of its nature be made from that world; and what method of revelation could be devised better adapted to most perfectly accomplish that purpose than to introduce into that world the spirit of a man so thoroughly equipped for investigation as was the mind of Swedenborg. So likewise we may see that to make known the truths on those subjects whose domain transcends physical investigation, no method could be devised for making known those truths so well adapted to accomplish the purpose as that claimed by Swedenborg to have been adopted in his case; and the final test of rationality exists in his case in the results of the investigation, when we see that the truths he teaches are beautiful, clear, rational, and harmonious with all subjects of human knowledge. Nature and God, matter and spirit, here unite in one harmonious whole. Science, as here viewed, is the very mirror in which the divine is seen on every hand, operating not by arbitrary dictum but by orderly influx according to His own immutable law.

This reconstruction of human knowledge in its form, order and beauty on the spiritual plane and resting in its corresponding natural, is depicted in corresponding imagery in that vision of John, in which he saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem, descending from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. It had the glory of God, and its light was like unto a stone most precious even like a jasper stone clear as crystal, and its foundations consisted of all manner of precious stones. Such indeed science itself becomes in the light of this mar-

velous system of truth, grand and beautiful indeed in nature itself, more beautiful and glorious as we ascend through nature to the interior things thereof, and finally ascending to the inmost plane of wisdom in the perception of the Lord God Almighty as the centre and soul of all things, their Creator, Sustainer and Maker.

NOTES.

The recent revival of interest in Swedenborg's Scientific Works among New Churchmen has resulted, in Chicago, in the organization of an Association for the purpose of studying, and promoting interest in the study of, those works. After several preliminary meetings a simple and brief constitution was adopted.

The name of the new organization is The Swedenborg Philosophy Club. The officers are: Rev. L. P. Mercer, president; Mr. Riborg Mann, vice-president; Dr. J. B. S. King, secretary and treasurer. The first regular meeting was held on November 5, 1898. Rev. L. P. Mercer, Rev. N. D. Pendleton, Rev. David Klein, Rev. John S. Saul, Rev. E. D. Daniels, Messrs. Riborg Mann, Paul Seymour, A. C. Hanna, Wm. Niles, C. T. Champion, Wm. Smith, Jesse E. Burt, Miss Lilian Beekman, Miss Emma Wallenburg, and Dr. J. B. S. King were present.

Rev. L. P. Mercer read an extremely interesting and capable paper, entitled "The Natural Point and the First Aura." Miss Lilian Beekman was called upon by Mr. Mercer, during the reading of the paper, to illustrate the orbit of the Natural Point and the formation of the First Finite. This she did most ingeniously by means of wire, coiled in spiral and vortical forms. Forms of unexpected beauty and of extreme suggestiveness were produced out of these by variously modified circumferential pressure.

A free and animated discussion followed the reading of the paper. The success of this first regular meeting has created the liveliest interest, and all the members are looking forward to future meetings with great pleasure.

DR. J. B. S. KING, Secretary.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, through its Division of Forestry, is carrying on a series of investigations in regard to forest fires, in different parts of the United States. This investigation will include matters of interest to New Churchmen, on account of its covering the ground of the renewal of vegetation in the devastated districts. Such questions as the kinds of vegetation occupying the ground before and after the fires; the origin of the seeds; whence they come, and the modes of conveyance; the existence of seeds in the burned earth, etc., will be thoroughly investigated.