

Notes and Comments

A Short Note on Swedenborg's Procedure in Repeating Memorabilia

A number of memorabilia occur more than once in the Writings. When Swedenborg made such repetitions, did he have a common source from which he copied them (a notebook of memorabilia or something along these lines) or did he copy them directly from one work to another?

An interesting piece of evidence for the latter occurs in *True Christian Religion* 625. The relation given at this point in *True Christian Religion* first occurs in *Conjugal Love* 81. In the first edition of *Conjugal Love*, number 81 continues from page 63 to page 64. The page break occurs just as a quotation from Revelation ends. The last word of page 63 is "Apoc." As is the custom in books of this vintage in general and in first editions of the Writings in specific, the printer has included below the last word, the first word of page 64 (in this case the number of the chapter in Revelation). The number ought to read "XXI:" as at the top of page 64, but apparently due to an understandable slip the printer put "XII:"

When we come to this reference to the Apocalypse in number 625 in the first edition of *True Christian Religion*, it occurs part way down the page. Here both numbers are included: "Apoc. XII: 1. 2. 9. 10." (In Swedenborg's personal copy of *True Christian Religion* there is a line through the XII:, but it is not clear whether this was done by Swedenborg himself, as were some of the corrections, or by a later owner.)

There would seem to be little doubt, then, that *True Christian Religion* 625 was copied by Swedenborg directly from the printed edition of *Conjugal Love* (unless he simply gave a marked up copy of the page itself to the printer) and that he did not copy it from some source prior to *Conjugal Love* 81.

Stephen D. Cole
5789 Orion Rd.
Rochester
MI 48064