

Translator's Corner

J. Durban Odhner, Editor

We are pleased to present in this issue of Translator's Corner a short article by the Rev. John Elliott, entitled "Which Diphthong?" You may recall some previous discussion on this subject (Oct.-Dec. 82□, Jan.-Mar. 84□).

Introductory to our second installment of Mr. Michael David's translation of *De Sale Communi* (the first appeared in the July-Sept. 1983 issue), we have thought it useful to put on record some Swedenborgiana research data reflecting resources that have not received the attention and use they deserve, one item of which has been hitherto (as far as we can tell) quite unknown to students of this *genre*.

Swedenborgiana Research

Before naming that item in full, let us peruse a list (qualified as "rough") we have asked the Academy of the New Church Swedenborgiana curator to compile: of dictionaries, lexicons and the like from Swedenborg's time on their own shelves.

These are all listed according to their place on the shelf.

In the "SL" Collection

Nouveau Didionnaire Francois AUeman, Genev. 1683

Veneroni: *Le maitre Italien, ou la Grammaire Francoise et Italienne*, Venet. 1735

Martinez, M.: *Novum Diction. Tetraglotton Gr. Gall, ac Belg.*, Amst. 1730

Hedericus, B.: *hxicon manuale Graecum*, Lond. 1739

Albertus, M.P.M.: *Porta lingua sanctae, h.e. Lexicon Novum Hebr. Lat. Biblicum*, Budissae 1704

In the Reference Collection

Octavo

Pell, G.: *English, Dutch, French and Latin vocabulary*, Autrecht 1735

Bailey: *Universal Etymological English Dictionary*, Lond. 1731

Kersey, J.: *English Dictionary*, Lond. 1721

Zvingerus, T.: *Morum philosophia poetica*, Basle 1575

Drumelius, J. H.: *Lexicon manuale*, Ratisbonae 1753

Lloyd: *English-German Dictionary*, Phila. 1834

Hannot, S.: *Woordenboek der Nederlantsche en Latinsche tale*, Amst. 1704

- Pitisco: *Uxicon Latino-Belgicum*, Amst. 1738
 Pomey, R.P.F.: *Novum Didionarium Belgico-Latinum*, Trajecti ad Mosam n.d.
 Sahtstedt, A.: *Didionarium Svecicum*, Stockholm 1773
 Schenberg, P.: *Lexicon Latino-Svecanum*, Norcopiae 1747
 Serenius, J.: *English and Swedish Dictionary*, Nykoping 1757
 Serenius, J.: *Dictionarium Anglo-Suethico-Latinum*, Hamburg 1734
 Widegren, G.: *Svenskt och Engelskt lexicon*, Stockholm 1788
 Widegren, G.: *Fragmenta versionis Ulphilanae*, Upsala 1763
 Desfontaines, P. F. G.: *Dictionaire Neologique*, Amst. 1728
 Fleming, *French & English Dictionary*, Phila. 1846
 Mencke, F.O.: *Observationum Latinae lingua*, Leip. 1745
 Ursalus, S.: *Explanatio Notarum et Litterarum*, Paris 1723
 Gouldman, *Copious Dictionary*, Cambridge 1669
 Littleton, A.: *...Latin dictionary in 4 parts*, Lond. 1678
 Littleton, A.: *Latin dictionary* (5th Ed.) Lond. 1723
 Mirani, C.L.: [Latin-Italian dictionary] Venice 1691
 Schensleder, W.: *Onomasticon Latino-Graecum*, Dilingae 1631
 Wagner, P.F.: *Lexicon Latinum*, Brugis 1878
 Popma, A.: *Differentiis Verborum*, Leip. 1741
 Hedericus, B.: *Graecum Lexicon Manuale*, Leip. 1767
 Schrevelius, C.: *Lexicon Manuale* (Grk/Lat), N.Y. 1832
 Schrevelius, C.: *Lexicon Manuale*, Lond. 1705
 Danz, J.A.: *...Compendium grammaticae Hebraeae...*, Ienae 1735
 Quarto
 Serenius, J.: *Did. Suethico-Anglo-Latinum*, Stockholm 1741
 Scheller, I.J.G.: *Lexicon latino-belgicum*, Lugd. 1799
 Giraudeau, P.B.: *Praxis linguae sacrae*, Rupellae 1757
 Folio
 Phillips, E.: *The New World of Words*, Lond. 1720
 Brissonius, B.: *De Verborum Significatione*, Halae Magd. 1743
 Faber, B.: *Thesaurus eruditionis Scholasticae*, Leip. 1726
 Faber, B.: *Thesaurus eruditionis Scholasticae*, Leip. u. Francf. 1680

On Loan from the Main Library

Dufresne, C. and D. du Cange: *Glossarium ad scriptores mediae et infimae latinitatis*, Venice 1736

One not listed here because it has been borrowed by the editor of the second Latin edition of *Experientiae Spirituales* is Sjögren's *Lexicon Manuale Latino-Svecanum et Soeco-Latinum*, first published in Stockholm 1775. It has been helpful in a number of questions. One interesting

entry is after the Swedish word *ägta* (= mod. Sw. *äkta*), "marriage": *conjugalis*—quite the normal word at Swedenborg's day, according to this lexicologist. No doubt this is but one of numerous obtainable contemporary references which would refute the common misconception that *conjugalis* was a term especially selected by Swedenborg, or that it has any meaning that could in Swedenborgian context transcend that of the English word "marital."¹

The special item referred to is the Zedler encyclopedia, whose title page we are reproducing here together with a translation.

Grosses vollständiges
UNIVERSALE
LEXICON
Aller Wissenschaften und Künste,
Welche bishero durch menschlichen Verstand und Wis
senschaft erfunden und verbessert worden.

Darinnen so wohl die Geographisch-Politische
Beschreibung des Erd-Kreyßes, nach allen Monarchien,
Kaiserthümern, Königreichen, Fürstenthümern, Republicken, freyen Herr
schaften, Ländern, Städten, See-Häfen, Festungen, Schloßern, Flecken, Ämtern, Klöstern, Ge
bürgen, Dörfern, Wäldern, Bergen, Seen, Flüssen und Canden; Eantz der natürlichen Abhand
lung von dem Reich der Thiere; auch allen menschlichen, heiligen, freyen, natürlichen und christlichen Künsten, mit allen
ihnen angehörigen Wissenschaften, Sprachen, Fierren, Manieren, Gewalten, Ritterschafft,
Geldern und Münzen u.
Eben so auch eine ausführliche Historisch-Genealogische Nachricht von den Durchlauchten
und berühmtesten Beschickerten in der Welt:

**Den Leben und Thaten derer Kaiser, Könige, Churfürsten
und Fürsten, grosser Heiden Staats-Minister, Kriegs-Obersten zu
Wasser und zu Lande, denen vornehmsten geist- und weltlichen
Mutter-Orden u.**

**Ingleichen von allen Staats-, Kriegs-, Rechts-, Policey- und Haushaltungs-
Geschäften des adelichen und bürgerlichen Standes, der Kaufmannschafft, Handtirungem,
Künsten und Gewerck, dem Innungen, Zünften und Gesehften, Edel-Adlern, Jagden,
Fischereyen, Berg- und Hütten-Wesen und Schreyss u.**

Als nicht weniger die völlige Beschreibung aller in denen Kirchen-Ordnungen betrübten
Alt-Väter, Propheten, Apostel, Päpste, Cardinale, Bischöffe, Prälaten und
Gantz-Ordnungen, wie auch Clericken, Sacerden, Orden, Bisthümern, Verfassungen der Kirchen,
Messen, Heiligen, Sacrament und Feiern aller Zeiten und Linder;

**Endlich auch ein vollkommener Inbegriff der allerberühmtesten Männer, berühmter Universitäten,
Academien, Societäten und der von ihnen gemachten Entdeckungen: Ferner der Medicin, Chirurgi-
en, Natur-Philosophie, Mathematick, Astronomie, Chronologie, Historischen und Politischen, wie auch aller freyen und
gehörlichen Künste, samt der Erklärung aller darinnen vorerwähnten Kunst-
Wörter u. s. f. alphabetisch.**

Mit Heber Potentaten allergnädigsten Privilegio.

Sieben und Zwanzigster Band Pe - Ph.

Kripyg und Halle,
Verlegt Johann Heinrich Zedler.
1744

¹ For the recent discussion of the word *conjugalis*, see the bibliography in the Feb. 1982 issue of *New Church Life*, pp. 72-3.

**Great Complete
Universal LEXICON**

of all the Sciences and Arts
that have hitherto been devised and developed
by human understanding and genius.

Containing as well the geographic-political description of the land-
border according to all monarchies, empires, kingdoms, principalities,
republics, free dominions, provinces, cities, sea-harbors, fortresses,
castles, boroughs, posts, cloisters, townships, passes, forests, seas,
lakes, islands, rivers and canals; together with the natural treatment
of the kingdom of nature according to all heavenly, airy, fiery,
watery and earthly bodies, and all therein contained stars, planets,
animals, plants, metals, minerals, salts and stones etc.

as also an exhaustive historical-genealogic report of the serene
and most renown families in the world:

The lives and deeds of its emperors, kings, electors, sovereigns, great heroes,
ministers-of-state, military commanders on water and land,
and the most important spiritual and worldly knightly orders etc.
Likewise of all state, military, legal, municipal and domestic activi-
ties of the noble and common classes, of commerce, business, arts
and industries, their guilds, corporations and practices, of shipping,
hunting, fishing, mining, wine-growing, agriculture, and cattle-
raising etc.

Not to mention the full presentation of all the famous-in-
ecclesiastical-histories patriarchs, prophets, apostles, popes, cardi-
nals, bishops, prelates and theologians, as well as councils, synods,
orders, pilgrimages, persecutions of churches, martyrs, saints,
sectarians and heretics of all times and lands.

Finally also a complete account of the most learned men, famous
universities, academies, societies and the discoveries made by the
same: further, of the mythology, antiquities, economy, philosophy,
mathematics, theology, jurisprudence and medicine, and of all the
liberal and mechanical arts, together with the explanation of all
the technical terms therein occurring, and so forth, is
contained herein.

With the most gracious *privilegiis* of high potentates.

This work, available to Mr. David at the University of Chicago, has proven invaluable in the researching of the names of persons, places and other data occurring in the *De Sale Communi* text. It is an indispensable research tool for Swedenborgiana studies, and we would urge its acquisition for this purpose at Bryn Athyn, though it will mean an outlay of some thousands of dollars.

This 66,912-page lexicon which has been reproduced by off-set by Akademische Druck- u. Verlagsanstalt Graz in Austria, is described in their brochure in the following terms (our translation):

What Is the "Zedler"?

Comprehensively and in the confident scientificness of the 18th century, this largest ever completed German lexicon of the total knowledge of the late baroque epoch offers information in a clear style and incredibly rich detail nowadays scarcely obtainable from any other source. Exhaustive citations of ancient, medieval and contemporary sources alternate with an anecdotal mode. Historical and genealogical data are intermixed with accounts of popular beliefs about miracles and strange occurrences, about legal history and magical traditions; but the spirit of the "Enlightenment" begins to assert itself in an ever increasing tempo.

This is a fair characterization of the intellectual profile of this gigantic lexicon which, under the name of its publisher, Johann Heinrich Zedler, is highly regarded and consulted again and again even today by librarians and historians. This monumental encyclopedia with its 68 volumes—whose baroque title fills a whole page—first appeared between 1732 and 1754. It can lay claim to being not only the largest completed German lexicon, but also, after the Spanish "Espasa," the hitherto largest general lexicon of Europe.

"On Common Salt"

Here follows our second installment of the SSA translation of *De Sale Communi*, being done by Mr. Michael David under our supervision and editorship, taking up where the first left off. You will note that many of the footnotes refer to "Annotations" which will be found at the end of the book and whose publication in this series will be delayed until we reach that point.

V.

The Salt-Mountains or Mines of Catalonia and Cardona

The salt-mountains of Catalonia are in the mountains of the duchy of Cardona and belong to a certain magnate of Spain bearing that title. The residents think that rock salt grows back in their salt mines once they are exhausted, but this is just local belief. Tournefort and others have observed salt growing in them.¹⁴

Rock salt lies here solidly crystalized in layers, and is carved out with chisels, leaving various figures. They do not yet know how deep the salt deposit goes.

Among these mountains there is one where salt lies right in the rock. It is for the most part of a red and yellow (*flavi*) color. It is also broken off with the help of tools, but when it is dissolved and recrystalized, that color goes away, and it becomes like other salt.

Cardona's salt is of three kinds, namely, white, grey, and red. The *first*, or white kind is like sea salt, except that it is not as granulated. The *second* is of a rusty color, but possesses almost all the qualities of white salt. The *third* is like the red of a rose in color, and does not differ from the second except that clods are mixed with it, or some kind of earth which imparts its color to the salt. Besides these, there is also a *fourth* kind, translucent like crystal, which also serves for pickling, and is the genuine gem salt. In this last category is also found a salt colored blue, green, orange-yellow, lemon-yellow, red etc., but when it is dissolved and crystalized, it turns white, and looks like the other kinds of salt.¹⁵

These four kinds of salt are found, of course, one kind right on top of another, and accordingly, they split them off in larger and smaller pieces. The annual revenue from these mines is estimated at 30,000 "pieces of eight."¹⁶

¹⁴ Joseph Pitton de Tournefort (1656-1708), French botanist, who worked in Catalonia in the 1660's. See Annotation 1: *Encyclopedia Universalis* France, 1968, *Encyclopedia Universalis*: Paris, Vol. 20, p. 144 (translations ours). We have not yet found this observation by Tournefort.

¹⁵ See Annotation 2: Lefond, Stanley J., 1969, *Handbook of World Salt Resources*, New York: Plenum Press, p. 234.

¹⁶ Ms. *Styck von Acten*. The monetary unit referred to here is the *peso*, or Spanish dollar (8 reales), in German "Stück von Achten." See Annotation 3: Zedler, Johann Heinrich, 1732-56, *Grosses Vollständiges Universal-Lexicon*, Halle and Leipzig: reprint, Graz 1961, Akademische Druck- und Verlagsanstalt, cit. 5:807 and 27:751 (translations ours throughout). The *peso* is approximately equal to the US silver dollar.

Elsewhere, gem-salt is valued more highly if it is in large, clear, and translucent pieces, and can easily be broken, and, when broken, separates into tiny cubical pieces. This salt becomes red in a fire, like iron, and is easily dissolved in the air. Still, some wash it to make it more transparent, but it must be dried immediately.

There, this crystal-salt is worked into various shapes, such as crucifixes. Papist rosaries with beads for counting prayers, and likenesses of leaves and flowers. It is said that underground, where the salt is softer than in the open air, they shape these crystal salt images to a certain degree, although sometimes the salt sprouts forth of its own accord into the form of a thorn bush or other figurations, producing flowers of salt.

VI.

The Salt Mountains of Hungary

These are found in the mountains lying two miles from the city of Eperjes, a city of the county of Sáros not far from the river Tarcz;¹⁷ their depth is 555 ells.¹⁸ The veins follow certain layers, just as do veins of metal, and are surrounded with earth, but not rock. These veins or layers are quite thick, and they obtain masses more than 300 hundredweight¹⁹ which, however, are reduced to blocks two feet long and one foot thick, so that they may then be more easily removed from the mine.²⁰ Then when they have been carried out, they are broken up and put through a mill. The color of this rock salt verges on grey, but when ground up, it becomes white like other white or boiled-down salt.

With this rock salt there are found kinds that are both hard and also transparent like crystal. There is salt of a white color, of yellow,

¹⁷ The Kingdom of Hungary was divided into counties (Lat. *comitatus*, Mag. *vármegyék*, Ger. *Komitat*). The county Sáros lay in north central Hungary on the southern slope of the Carpathians, bordering on Poland. Its chief town was Eperjes, on the river Tarca. The whole area now lies in Czechoslovakia. The town is now called Prešov, and the river Torysa.

¹⁸ The ell (Lat. *ulna*, Ger. *Elle*, Sw. *aln*), or cubit, was a unit of measurement with wide use and widely varying lengths. See Annotation 4: Zedler, 8:898-99; *Ordbok öfver Svenska Språket*, Vol. I, p. 1128. 555 Swedish ells would be 330 m (1081 ft).

¹⁹ See footnote 8.

²⁰ See Annotation 5: Lefond, pp. 176-78.

(*flavi*), and of blue, from which different kinds of figures are made. The mine itself is cool and damp, for which reason the salt can only with difficulty be reduced to powder.

From the water that is taken out of it, and then evaporated over a fire, a salt is obtained that turns almost half black.²¹ When this is eaten by animals, they grow fat.

The Carpathian mountains (which mark the border between Poland and Hungary) yield this rock salt generously. In Transylvania's county Kolozs²² and in Derenburg²³, a city very famous for its fertile ground, a most brilliant translucent salt is dug up.²⁴ In upper Hungary, especially in the county of Marmaro²⁵, there is an abundant production of this translucent and pure salt from the Carpathian mountains.

An anonymous author in a dissertation on the wonderful waters of Hungary, reports as follows: in an important mine, called *Desiensi*, in Transylvania, a few years before he wrote, they had found that a great oak like an enormous trunk had been dug out of the midst of the salt, but even though it was so hard that it would scarcely yield to the blows of iron tools, yet when exposed to the air outside of the mine, it became so rotten that within four days it could easily be broken and crumbled between the fingers, as the author Boyle said on this subject.²⁶

²¹ The mine at Prešov was flooded in 1752 and is now exploited by solution-mining (*ibid.*).

²² Ms. *Collessensi*. One of the counties of the Kingdom of Hungary, located in central Transylvania, around the city of Kolozsvár (Klausenburg), now Cluj, Romania.

²³ Derenburg. One of the many variants of the name of a town near Kolozs now called Turda, Romania. See Annotation 6: Zedler, 7:629, 44:1354.

²⁴ "The finest rock-salt is to be obtained there..." (Zedler, 44:1354).

²⁵ Marmaros. One of the counties of the Kingdom of Hungary, approximately coextensive with the Carpatho-Ukraine. Now lies partly in the Ukrainian SSR and partly in the Romanian district of Maramures.

²⁶ Probably Robert Boyle (1627-91), English scientist and philosopher. We have not found the observation that Swedenborg is referring to here.