

**THE FAITHS OF THE
PEOPLES. IN TWO
VOLUMES. VOL. II**

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The faiths of the peoples. In two volumes. Vol. II by J. Fitzgerald Molloy

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J. FITZGERALD MOLLOY

**THE FAITHS OF THE
PEOPLES. IN TWO
VOLUMES. VOL. II**

THE FAITHS OF THE PEOPLES

By J. FITZGERALD MOLLOY,

AUTHOR OF

"COCK LIFE BELOW STAIRS; OR, LONDON UNDER THE GEORGE," "ROYALTY RESTORED;
OR, LONDON UNDER CHARLES II.," "THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF EDMUND KEAN,"
"THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF PEG WOFFINGTON," ETC., ETC.

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THE
FAITHS OF THE PEOPLES.

CHURCH OF THE NEW JERUSALEM.

MORNING SERVICE AT ARGYLE SQUARE.

EMANUEL SWEDENBORG may be said to have inherited his love of mysticism from his father, who was Bishop of Skara, and Professor of Theology to the University of Upsala; a man with no mean opinion of his learning and power, who believed himself in constant communication with angels.

Emanuel came into the world in 1688; and he tells us that from his fourth to his tenth year his thoughts were continually engrossed by reflecting on God, on salvation, and on the supernatural affections of man. "I often," he adds, "revealed things in my discourse which filled my parents with astonishment, and made them declare at times that certainly the angels spake through my mouth." From the first he gave proof of his high intellectual abilities. He rapidly

mastered the classics and mathematics, and on leaving the University of Upsala at the age of twenty-two, set out on his travels through Europe, that he might see the world and study philosophy.

Thirsting for knowledge he made the most of his opportunities, and everywhere sought the society of the famous and the learned. He spent a year in London and at Oxford, and four years in various Continental cities. He then returned to Sweden brimful of projects, dreaming of inventions, and resolved on establishing a scientific journal. Being introduced to King Charles XII. he was appointed by His Majesty Assessor Extraordinary in the Royal College of Mines, and Associate Engineer with Polhem, called the Archimedes of Sweden. He greatly assisted the King in his military operations, and when Charles was killed at the siege of Frederickshall, his successor, Queen Ulrica Eleanora, ennobled the Swedenborg family, whereby Emanuel, as the eldest living member, subsequently became entitled to sit in the House of Nobles.

Whilst taking part in legislative schemes, he continued to devote himself to scientific studies, and published many works dealing with the level of the seas and tides in the ancient world; the position and motion of the earth and planets with respect to the sun; the division of money and measures which would facilitate calculation and avoid fractions; plans for