

SWEDENBORG AND THE NEW CHURCH

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649029761

Swedenborg and the New Church by James Reed

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JAMES REED

**SWEDENBORG AND
THE NEW CHURCH**

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AND

THE NEW CHURCH.

BY

JAMES REED,

PASTOR OF THE BOSTON SOCIETY OF THE NEW JERUSALEM



BOSTON:
HOUGHTON, OSGOOD AND COMPANY
The Riverside Press, Cambridge.
1880.

C 8468.80
~~III 6763~~

Harvard College Library.
Nov. 14, 1891.
LOWELL BEQUEST.

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STEREOTYPED AND PRINTED BY
H. O. HOUGHTON AND COMPANY.

PREFACE.

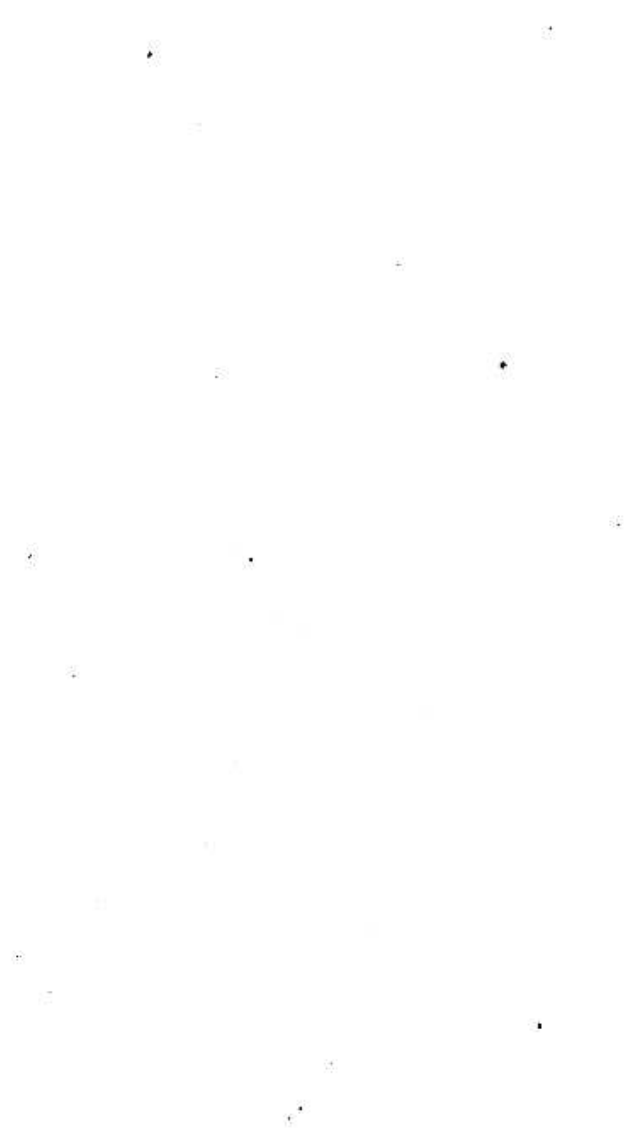
THE author has been, of late years, often reminded of a growing desire, on the part of intelligent persons in the community, for a brief and clear statement of the principal teachings of Swedenborg. In the hope of meeting this want, the following lectures were prepared and delivered, and are now in a permanent form offered to the public.

Boston, *January 27, 1880.*

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SWEDENBORG AND THE NEW CHURCH.

FIRST LECTURE.

SWEDENBORG AND THE NEW CHURCH.

MOST well-informed persons, at the present day, have heard of Emanuel Swedenborg, and of the doctrinal system which is usually coupled with his name; but it may be truly said that very few know much about them. On this, as on many other subjects, the great majority of people are content with what they may gather from hearsay, or from the vague, general impressions of others. Though they may no longer regard Swedenborg as a madman, and his writings as a tissue of insane dreamings, yet they have scarcely any idea of the true nature and scope of the doctrines he unfolds.

But to those who have read, and understand and accept, these doctrines, they seem to be of the utmost magnitude and importance. They do not differ from other doctrines on any single point, or on any few points, which might be quickly mentioned; but they appear to bring new light to bear on all points. It is not any mere