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ARCANA CŒLESTIA.

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ARCANA CŒLESTIA.

THE
HEAVENLY ARCANA

WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES OR WORD
OF THE LORD

UNFOLDED,

BEGINNING WITH THE BOOK OF GENESIS.

TOGETHER WITH

WONDERFUL THINGS SEEN IN THE WORLD OF SPIRITS
AND IN THE HEAVEN OF ANGELS.

BY

EMANUEL SWEDENBORG,

*Late Member of the House of Nobles in the Royal Diet of Sweden,
Assessor of the Royal Board of Mines,
Fellow of the Royal Society of Upsala, and of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Stockholm,
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1837.

Matthew vi. 33.

*Seek ye first the Kingdom of GOD and his Righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.*

PREFACE

TO

THE FIRST ENGLISH EDITION,

BY THE REV. J. CLOWES, M.A.

Late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Rector of
St. John's, Manchester.

THE good and wise in all ages of the church have been led to believe, that the Holy Word of God contains inexhaustible treasures of instruction which do not appear in the letter, and that the letter is an outer casket to receive and preserve the jewels of heavenly wisdom within. Hence in the writings of many of the primitive fathers, and even of St. Paul himself, we find the Sacred Scriptures interpreted according to a spiritual or allegorical sense, not only in the rituals of the Jewish law, but also in the historical and prophetical parts of the Old Testament. Those holy men, by the spirit of illumination with which they were gifted, penetrated through the veil of the letter, and saw into the bright mysteries of truth which lay concealed behind it; they kept in mind the declaration of their heavenly Lord, "*The words that I speak unto you, [they] are spirit, and [they] are life**;" and therefore they were not content to remain only in the deadness of the letter, but searched diligently for the *spirit* and the *life* with which the Word was inwardly animated, and which they knew could alone render it a spiritual and living, and consequently a saving Word in themselves.

John vi. 63.