

Transcribed Texts

2 Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772)

Autograph letter to Councillor Trier, 5 January 1734

Ink on paper

Most Illustrious Lord Councillor

I thank you greatly that you have deigned to send me the figure of the marine cat which is so very vividly represented in a stone, and nicely copied therefrom in drawing. With your consent, Illustrious Councillor, I wish to insert it in my work, as a new specimen, and the dearest and most complete of all fossils of this kind I have ever happened to see, which, as I foresee, will take the prize over all other animal figures impressed on stone. But before I give it to some engraver to engrave in copper, I should greatly like to know the place and the year when this stone was dug up, that it may be allowed me to set on the same copperplate the year and the place together with your own illustrious name. Meanwhile, you will find me ever most ready to render you service, and continually mindful of your kindness, who wish ever to live,

Most Illustrious Lord Councillor,

Your most dutiful and humble servant,

Leipzig, Jan. 5, 1734

Em. Swedenborg

3 Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772)

Autograph letter to A D Schönstrom, 27 November 1727

Ink on paper

Highly honored d. Brother:

My Brother seems not to have understood my meaning, to wit, as regards the increase of the forge tax; for if any increase is requested, an investigation of the woods must be made, though this is done in accordance with the limitation, which, moreover, is in accordance with his Majesty's letter on this subject. This also was practiced at Schirwiken. But as to how, in such case, an investigation is needed in Karmansbo, I do not know, because the woods there have been previously examined. Yet I do not believe that such examination will be authorized before the Resolutions for the forging works are issued.

Brother Benzelstierna is in Sahlberg, so that I cannot confer with him on the subject of which my Brother is pleased to write, until he comes back.

If some girl is in mind, and I have hit upon it, I wish good luck therein.

It would be well if the pig iron could be improved by the project my Brother is pleased to give in respect to the Grensgiesberg's pit; but I hardly think the said mines are likely to be able to furnish as much ore as is required, and I think it must rely upon the G rengies ore for a portion, if it come to be established at the smelters or if the proper measures are observed.

His Majesty has commanded that the Colleges shall meet together on the matter of the business of foreign agents, which I desired in my memorial to the Diet. I remain, with all respect.

Highly honor'd d. Brother's most obedient servant

Stockholm, Nov. 27, 1727.

Em. Swedenborg

P. S. A strong rumor is going about that the young Czar died on the 11th inst. Mons.

Gentilhomme Abraham Daniel Schönström de la Cour, Köping och Jönsarbo

4 Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772)

Autograph letter to A D Schönstrom, 21 November 1727

Ink on paper

Highly honored d. Brother:

I thank my Brother for his friendly letter, and also that my Brother was pleased to send my letter back again. As regards what my Brother is pleased to inquire about in confidence, and that I suggest the manner to obtain that which my Brother thinks to seek for himself, I see no better ways and means thereto than that my Brother first sound them orally, in order that it may the better be tested whether those concerned in the matter can be flexible [pliable] or not. No one would wish it better than I, and if there were any appearance [likelihood] I for my small part would help thereto in every way. But that this same thing shall presser [be pressing]—from this nothing else can be surmised [be surmised] than that what is aimed at thereby is something pressing. Should there be a pretty girl in the offing, I wish as great luck thereto as to the other matter.

As regards a letter to Herr Balgerie, I have not written any letter to him for three years, and it may be I have been completely forgotten by him. At any rate, it is now more difficult for me to set up a letter in a French of which my Brother would be able to approve. To this end, and to please my Brother in this matter, I yesterday made the request of Commerce Councillor Cameen, that he would do Brother this service, and he promised to do it in amplissima forma [in the most complete form] and send it to my Brother, especially if my Brother write also to him thereon; and I can give assurance that a word from him is of more avail than a thousand from me who have never done any business with him [Balguerie].

In regard to the forge tax at Beckhammar and around Karmansbo and Tollfors, I cannot express myself at large in antecessum [in advance]. This I do know, that a forge tax imposed on a works not possessing woods is of no avail as a reason to obtain [more iron]; and no other merit is considered in such case than the woods by the works where the increase is sought. That Karmansbo owns perfectly good woods is probably known in the College, but as regards Tollfors, in such case a regular investigation should first be made. Therefore it would not at all hurt if this be asked for as soon as the Resolutions in respect to limitation of the forging work have come out. Meanwhile I remain, with respect,

Highly hon. d. Brother's
most obedient servant

Stockholm, Nov. 21, 1727.

Emanuel Swedenborg

P. S. I think that some farms have been bought for Karmansbo which were not reported to the Commission. This would be a strong reason for obtaining an increase, if the College had not given consideration to the high price of pig iron, which still obtains.

16 Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772)

Autograph litter to Benzelstierna, 13 August 1723

Ink on paper

Highly honored d. Brother:

I am still hoping that d. Brother is in Starbo, so that this letter may reach my brother; at the last post I was uncertain, nor was there anything special to write about. The most notable thing that has happened since, is what took place yesterday, namely:

1. That Daleen's doom was so far mitigated by the House of Nobles that during his lifetime he must remain in Marstrand, with a crown and neck-iron; on the crown shall be the inscription: A traitor to his country; and in all the towns through which he passes, he must stand exposed to public view. It is not yet known how the other Houses will express themselves on the matter. Bronenius' punishment was confirmed in totum and in tutum.

2. For privy councillors, Landmarshall Lagerberg, Count Gyllenberg and Josias Cederhielm were nominated, and when the list of nominees was presented to his Majesty, he expressed himself as wishing to keep all three as members of the Council, and when this was reported in a full session, it received unanimous assent—on which matter there is now much discussion.

3. Yesterday also, the list of appointments was read, and this likewise caused talk and conversation.

4. Today was about characters hämmande (putting a stop to the assumption of false titles) etc. I should like to hear from my Brother as to how things are in Starbo, and what the conditions are, for he must let me know what is the condition of the works, but only one or two details.

My most obedient greeting to sister, wherewith I remain
highly honored Brother's
obedient servant

[Stockholm, Aug. 13 1723]

[Eman. Swedenborg]

19 John Flaxman (1755-1827)

Letter

John Flaxman to George Pritchard, February 24th, 1810

Dear Sir,

I am extremely obliged to you for the communication of your plan for publishing the Inspired Comment on the Holy Scriptures, the explanation of our duty to God and Man and the demonstration guide to our expectations in Eternity;

My time is so indispensably engaged that I am intirely prevented from offering personal service or attendance either in Committee or more General Assemblies for which reason I shall take the liberty of sending an annual subscription at a future time.

I am with great respect

Dear Sir

Your most obedient servant

John Flaxman

25 Ulrica Eleonora, queen of Sweden (1688-1741)

Autograph letter to Charles I, Landgrave of Hesse-Kassel, 6 December 1715

Your Most Serene Highness

Highly honoured and dearly beloved Father,

Although I have paid my duty to Your Serene Highness but a short time ago in my humble letter, and by rights should not trouble you again so soon, yet remembering that shortly the new year commences, I make so bold as to write you once more, wishing that the all kind God may preserve Your Serene Highness in the full enjoyment of health during the ensuing and many following years.

His Highness the hereditary Prince, my most dearly beloved husband has, I believe, already written to you concerning our affairs here, nevertheless, I shall not fail to acquaint you of the health of His Majesty the King, my dearly beloved brother, as soon as Lieutenant-Colonel Odelström has returned.

In conclusion I confide in the continuance of the great solicitude which Your Serene Highness has ever shown in all which concerns the King's Majesty and our own interest, and remain in the most dutiful obedience,

Your Serene Highness

most humble and most faithful

daughter and servant

Ulrica Eleonora

Stockholm, 6 December 1715

26 Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772) et al.

Autograph memorial to the College of Commerce, 5 August 1762

Ink on paper

The High well-born Herr Baron and President, Commander of the Royal Order of the North Star,⁹ and also the well-born Herrar Commerce Councillors and Assessors:

Lars von P ----- the Apothecary in Abo, has constituted and authorized us to represent him before the High well-born Herr Baron and President and the most worthy Royal Councillors and Assessors, to take charge of the goods retained because of customs and dues, namely, 12 serpentine mortars which have come from abroad for the needs of Apothecaries, but have been held in the Packhouse as being among goods forbidden for import.¹ We, being fully authorized, submit in humility that serpentines made of stone are forbidden import into the Kingdom in His Royal Majesty's gracious order dated November 13, 1756, for which reason the above-mentioned mortars are known to be held. But, in consideration of the circumstance referred to, how far they may be released on payment of the custom dues, and may be disposed of, this rests with the high well-born Baron and President's and the Most Worthy Royal College's own gracious inquiry and decision.

We remain ever the High well-born Baron and President's and Commander's of the Royal Order of the North Star, the Most Worship. Royal College's humble servants. The Attorneys for the General tull arr. Society.

Laurentz Schoen, Emanuel Swedenborg, Albr. Preen, J. Mauritski, Laurents Strm, Oscar Febure. Stockholm,

5 Aug. 1762

[Notation on the document:]

To the Royal Commerce College respecting
Apothecary von P -- imported 12 mortars.

32 Charles Augustus Tulk (1786-1849)

Dreams transcribed (date unknown)

Pen on paper

1st

A lovely dream of my dear father's

Charles Aug Tulk

It was in a room, similar in all respects to our Dormitory at Westminster school, that I saw my dear friend James Mitchell. The delight I felt at again seeing one for whom, while he was in the world, I had so sincere a friendship, prevented me at first from adverting to the difference of our states. But when our mutual congratulations were over, it then occurred to me, that he was no longer an inhabitant of the natural world.

"How is this Mitchell", said I, "I am aware that you have entered upon another state of Life, and yet you appear to me in the same form, as that in which I formerly knew you. But this cannot really be, since a change of state such as yours, must have produced a corresponding change of form. Tell me how I am to account for this?" "My friend", said he "I appear in this manner that you may be able to recognise me as the same. Under my real form it would have been impossible for you to have known me."

"How am I to see you under that form?" I asked, "for I am far more desirous of seeing you as you are, than as I remember you to be". "You have only to look at yourself in that mirror" he replied "and you will see my reflected image, as I appear through you." Accordingly I took the glass, and beheld with the feelings of the highest joy, the angelic countenance of my departed friend.

It bore not the least resemblance to his earthly face, yet it had a certain indescribable expression, by which, as I thought at the time, I could have known intuitively, that it belonged to a happy spirit, and not to an inhabitant of the earth. "This is indeed such a countenance as I should desire my friend to have, for it tells me that you are among the number of the Happy." And yet there is something that I could wish away.

"Those tufts of hair upon your cheek and chin. Why do you wear them?" "Alas" said he, "this face, beautiful as it appears to you, when I first entered the world of spirits, was completely covered with hair. My sufferings have indeed been great, but I am among the happy, and am gradually losing this deformity, which will soon entirely disappear." He then spoke of the Lord's New Church, and of the happiness he had at finding all things respecting another life, which his friend believed in, to be true.

"Mitchell", said I "when we knew one another on earth, you were not aware of the sentiments with which I was brought up, nor of those writings which now form the chief comfort of my life". "I would that I had known them", he answered "they might have rendered unnecessary much of the suffering that I have endured." I then asked him whether he had seen Swedenborg.

He replied "Frequently. Ah! my dear friend, if you think my face and form beautiful, what would you say, could you see Swedenborg?" "Can I not see him, go my dear Mitchell, and learn whether I may be permitted". His image was gone from the mirror, but in a few moments he returned. "You will see Swedenborg, and yet you will not see him. So surpassingly beautiful is his countenance, that in your present state, you would not be able to endure it. It must be

veiled, that it may not overpower you. But look in the glass, my friend, and his image will be reflected from your countenance”.

I looked and never shall I forget the heavenly face that appeared before me. It infinitely surpassed all that I could imagine or can imagine of beautiful and majestic. He appeared about twenty years of age, his dark auburn hair flowed in ringlets nearly to his shoulder; his mouth was exquisitely formed, and had so sweet an expression, such a heavenly radiance beamed from his eyes, so exquisitely formed were his features, and his whole countenance so far exceeded whatever I had been able to picture to myself of a heavenly being, that when he smiled upon me, and nodded to me, as I thought, in token of approbation, I was completely overcome, and burst into a flood of tears. When I looked up, he was gone, and my friend was again before me. “So this our Swedenborg” said I “surely never was there an angel of such matchless beauty!” “Ah! my friend” he replied “you have not seen our Swedenborg such as he really is. You will be surprised perhaps when I tell you that to temper that dazzling beauty which in your present state you could not have borne, there were nine layers of stone* between him and you, and your own rough visage to boot. He is an angel of the highest heaven, and as such, could not have been beheld, with any delight by you, had not these been interposed between you.”

Such are the particulars faithfully given, of what I remember to have passed between Mitchell and myself. So lively, so real and methodical did everything appear, so sweet a sphere did it bring with it, and for a long time after did it leave in my mind, that I felt some doubts whether I could pronounce it to be a dream. During the whole of the day I was so sensibly impressed with the presence of my friend, that it seemed as if there were but a slight veil, that kept me from seeing him, and from enjoying once more those scenes which are so deeply imprinted on my mind.

* stones are truths, they protect, clouds are truths, they temper, garments are truths, they defend, and the body is the garment of the soul.

Mr. Tulk’s Dream or Vision of Swedenborg.

Copied by his daughter Sophia Contisse Cottrell

Poem entitled William Blake (Undated, c. 1850-1860)

Transcript:

What is the fate of Blake?

No Fate: Fate’s a mistake.

What then is Blake’s now lot?

And where doth lie his plot?

He is a spirit of unrighteous power,
Who ruleth far within the present hour.
The spirit-life he led on Earth, prepared
For missionary spirit-life, now shared
By many men on Earth, not happy men,
Nor in the paths of goodness; but in few
Where Will-o-Wisp, and other phantoms odd,
Led souls through Bogs, and more away from God.

He lives within a mansion sad to see,
Poor as dirt-heaps, but rich as Fantasy:
A dirty spirit, gilding slime with paint
And in foul pools besmirching rainbow-feint.
His house has corners none, but bevelled off,
Like a snails shell; & on it he does cough,
And wheeze and whine, and all in verse most strange,
Which ever and anon with paint doth change:
For he's a shiny spirit, and his color,
And his cough-song is part of his great dolour.

The reason is, Old Self, that serpent thing,
That trawls, and dreams of flying, dreams of wing,
Whereas its only flight is malice sting.
And so he hath the reptile art, to paint,
And give his skin & slime their rainbow-feint.
And as the spirit-life was in him too,
His doom is deeper, & his paint more blue.
He is a sticky spirit: heed him not,
For fear of fascinations sparrow-lot.
Tis easier to invite him than cast off,
An so be warned of his melodious cough.
Southey.

33 Charles Augustus Tulk (1786-1849)

Memorandum titled Coleridge & Flaxman & Mr Tulk (date unknown)

Transcript: Coleridge & Flaxman & Tulk

From a memorandum by Mrs Gordon & Leigh, the mother of Caroline Gordon & Mrs Charles Harrison.

The origin of the friendship between the Tulk family & the Flaxmans & the Poet Coleridge was the admiration of both sculptor & poet for Marmaduke Tulk (Brother of CAT) when an infant if a few months old. They saw him in his mother's arms, at the sea-side, & "fell in love with him." The acquaintance thus begun quickly ripened into an intimate friendship between the families, especially with the Flaxmans & Denmans (sister of Mrs Flaxman). They often came to Marble Hall, Twickenham, where Mr. Charles Augustus Tulk then lived, & Flaxman made many sketches of his large family. Mr Tulk, being an ardent student of the writing of Swedenborg, used to have long conversations on religious subjects with both Flaxman & Coleridge. With Coleridge a correspondence sometimes for many years; while Flaxman felt so much interested in the Writings as to make many drawings from the Memorable Relations read to him by Mr. Tulk. Many of these may be at University College, as Flaxman's drawings & casts were left to that Institution by his sister-in-law Miss Maria Denman.

Mrs Gordon says, I recollect there was a beautiful child's story illustrated as well as written by Flaxman, of a Christian Knight's combats against evils. I have no doubt there were many others quite as beautiful, but I was then too young to recollect them. Mr. Flaxman by your grandfather's desire, employed the celebrated Cameo Cutters, Caputti of Rome to cut a cameo of the head of Swedenborg & their fine work is now in my possession

William Blake, the poet & painter, with his wife, were rescued from destitution by Mr. C. A. Tulk, & became much impressed with the spiritual truths in Swedenborg's writings. He made drawings from the Memorable Relations, one of them of a female angel instructing a number of children in the spiritual world.

"When I was a girl," says Mrs Gordon, "I had the satisfaction of studying a large collection of Coleridge's letters to my dear father on spiritual subjects. He was then a receiver of the Writings; but he was not like Flaxman & Blake, he was apt to change his opinion if he got under "contrary influences."

38 Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772) et al.

Autograph testimony regarding Anna Maria Lithen and signature dated 16 April

Ink on paper

The Widow of the Sub Lieutenant Forssells, Fru Anna Maria Lithen, is living, and here in the church exercises her means of salvation, and also behaves in a Christian and honorable way, so that one has reason to praise her for her piety and contentment, although her circumstances are changed and she has little. Lena Rectory, March 26, 1744.

JONAS ALIIN

Pastor in Lena.

The Widow, Fru Anna Lithen
has honorable support from
the General Customs Society.

Attested, Stockholm, 16 April 1744.

Em : Swedenborg.