

to the Enlightened Citizens of Portsmouth and elsewhere :—

*Respected Friends,*—Considering it a crime of the first magnitude against the majesty of Heaven to withhold any information calculated in my opinion to make my Fellow-mortals happy while sojourning through this wilderness world—are the leading motives for my introducing (in the third edition of *Merlin*) the following extract of an original Letter from a deceased friend, for your inspection.

JOSEPH LEIGH.

Portsmouth, N. H. October 1807—30.

DEAR SIR,

*Demerary, 24th October 1795—39.*

"YOUR letter and also the Newspapers you were pleased to send me I received safe, and I return you my hearty thanks for the same; and I thank you especially for your zealous endeavors to make known the Divine and Eternal truths of the New Church; I can only thank you,—but the Divine human will give you your reward :—Believe me my dear sir, nothing would have afforded me greater pleasure than your agreeable letter,—We must look to the Lord for patience and perseverance, the time will come on this earth when the Principles of the New Church will be the Glory, Honor and Happiness of every nation on this earth; You and I may not be in eternity, but we can die in the comforting reflection, that when in this life, we *did our best*, to make known the New church of the Lord. I agree entirely with you that the excess of the French Revolution is sweeping a way for the New church of the Divine human, by demolishing the powers of Babylon and the Dragon; and I am indeed surprised that Great Britain hitherto a land of liberty, should so strenuously give against the liberty of the noble French nation. For I believe God created all men to be free, and the happiness of the nation can never depend on the slavery and oppression of another. North America I hope will show itself to be that nation, which after obtaining independence and liberty, proved to mankind that these blessings are essentially necessary to the obtaining of a still higher and more important blessing, namely, the full and free reception of genuine truths as now revealed by the Lord out of his new Heavens. This will constitute the happiness of human nature, and in proportion as this new Church is received, I sincerely believe wars will cease, and mankind will live in peace and friendship; and thus this earth will become, what for many ages past it has not been, the kingdom of the Lord in the ultimates of creation. Whence proceed wars but from that pride, selfishness, and love of dominion, which the new church will transform to the love of God and the love of human nature, and a desire to perform good uses to all men. Yours, &c. J. G."

Mr. JOSEPH LEIGH, Portsmouth, N. H.