signed and appointed specially to min-
ister to individual men—which of these
varieties they may have belonged to, it is
very evident that the scriptures are full
of the history of angelic communication,
and that they were the instruments in
the hands of the Almighty, sent to com-
municate his will under certain condi-
tions. It is quite true that in our age this
has been accounted one of the lost arts;
it has been numbered among the things
that had been, but had fallen into disuse;
something that had become obsolete or
unnecessary in the advanced condition of
human intelligence.

But the same scriptures which tell of
such visits in ancient times also point
out with remarkable distinctness that
there would be periods in the history
of the human family when this angelic
communication would again be restored,
and that messengers would again come
from the heavens to communicate with
the children of men and introduce a new
condition of things or prepare for con-
ditions which must and will exist in or-
der that the economy of God might be
saved. Hence we have an account in the
revelations of St. John, of the differ-
ent angels that were to follow each other
in the several epochs or dispensations of
Providence among mankind. We have
an account of the opening of the seven
seals, which according to that record is
to be done by angels appointed by di-
vine authority, for the express purpose
of the unfolding of the divine program
in human history. But there is mention
made there of one particular angel of
whom it is said that he was seen "flying
through the midst of heaven having the
everlasting gospel to preach unto those
that dwell upon the earth." That this was
to be in the far distant future from the
period when John dwelt upon the earth
and was a prisoner on the Isle of Pat-
mos, is abundantly evident to all who
have been but casual readers of the sa-
cred Scriptures; but to those who have
been students of that book, to those who
have sought to read it understandingly,
to make it their rule of life and to be
guided by it in their travels, and through
its teachings to fit themselves for the fu-
ture, this statement could not pass with
common notice—it no doubt has arrested
their attention many a time, as cover-
ing a series of interesting and impor-
tant periods of events. While in the
nineteenth century such an idea by re-
ligionists has been ignored, being con-
sidered unnecessary, yet the documents
have come down to us from the primi-
tive times and the assertion is not de-
nied that such an occurrence was to take
place at some period of human history,
if the word was to be fulfilled. Now I
think that there are advantages to be de-
rived from this angelic communication.
Whenever a man realizes who and why
he is upon the earth; whenever he re-
alizes the instincts which are implanted
within him and which make him soar af-
fter something that goes beyond the reach
of human life and time, I think everyone
will agree that there is a vast field and
need also for the acquisition of intelli-
gence that would tend to the advance-
ment of thousands and millions of the
human family.

Ideas that could be communicated in
regard to the past, ideas in regard to the
present, ideas in regard to the future,
might thus be obtained. Those ideas are
not particularly within the range of the
schools, colleges and educational institu-
tions of mankind, they must come from a
source and through channels where