

**LET THERE BE LIGHT: A STUDY IN
FREEDOM AND FAITH, BEING A
REVIEW OF SIX YEARS MINISTRY
IN SIOUX CITY, IOWA; PP. 1-140**

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IN

SIoux CITY, IOWA

BY

WALLACE M. SHORT

MINISTER

OF CENTRAL CHURCH

*"For freedom did Christ set us free: stand fast therefore,
and be not entangled again in a yoke of bondage."*
—Galatians 5:1.

*"O, for a layman—who has seen him?—large enough to say
to his minister at the close of a sermon full of teaching
which he cannot accept, 'I cannot agree with you now,
but I thank you for your sermon. It has done me good,
for it has made me think.'" —Charles E. Jefferson.*

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DEDICATED

to those men and women of our country who, approaching from many viewpoints, acting from varied and often mixed motives, beset by misunderstanding and misrepresentation, are all at heart battling for the central principle of democratic institutions, are contending for that which our fathers purchased at great price, are defending constitutional government from the assaults of its most insidious foes—those who in the name of good morals would substitute the physical force of man for the moral forces of God. A noble company are these champions of Freedom and Faith. May God arm them with increasing wisdom and patience and power.

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TO THE READER.

The chapters of this book were originally planned merely to be read to, or by, the members of a COUNCIL of representatives of the Congregational denomination to whom I had appealed in support of my right to ministerial standing and fellowship, of which the Sioux Association of Congregational Churches and Ministers had proposed to deprive me because of my teachings on the temperance question.

The last chapter of the volume was written in the month of May, and was designed to give the proposed Council an illustration of my temperance teachings, the chapter being the substance of a lecture which I have delivered several times during the past year in a number of cities. The chapter is printed here just as at first written.

About the first of June it began to appear that the calling of the Council was likely to be delayed for many months. I therefore determined to print this volume.

In the autumn of 1915 I had written a paper for use before a committee of the Sioux Association which finally met me at Sheldon on February 14, 1916, but did not give me opportunity to read my paper. That paper was almost wholly re-written during the month of June, 1916, and is the first chapter of this book. All in this first chapter that tells of my ex-

perience with the Sioux City church was added at that time. It has been written now for the public, as well as for the proposed Council when it shall convene.

The writing of this chapter in June was undertaken from a sense of duty imposed upon me by influences in Sioux City and the Sioux Association over which I had no control. The recalling of the experiences given in the chapter was at first painful indeed. But as I came to the task each morning with the prayer—

“Oh Thou Spirit of Truth, guide me, that
I may not refrain from recording any-
thing which the people need to know!
O Thou Love Eternal, let me record noth-
ing in a spirit of malice towards any hu-
man soul!”

I found pain changing into joy, and finally finished the work as a labor of love. That personal experience has been to me abundant reward for all that the chapter has cost me.

The third chapter was written in the month of July, and is the real heart of the volume. Chapter two bears the date of each part in the proper place within the chapter.

My contention in the book is not that people must believe as I do with reference to the true spirit and methods for the advancement of temperance. My contention is that the spirit of Jesus, the spirit of democracy, and the true spirit of my church denomination all