

**A TREATISE ON THE NEED
OF THE M. E. CHURCH WITH
RESPECT TO HER MINISTRY:
EMBODIED IN A SERMON**

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A Treatise on the Need of the M. E. Church with Respect to Her Ministry: Embodied in a Sermon by R. S. Foster

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R. S. FOSTER

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OF THE M. E. CHURCH WITH
RESPECT TO HER MINISTRY:
EMBODIED IN A SERMON**

A^o TREATISE

ON THE

Need of the M. C. Church

WITH RESPECT TO

HER MINISTRY:

EMBODIED IN

A SERMON,

AND PREACHED BY REQUEST BEFORE THE NEW-YORK
EAST CONFERENCE, MAY 27, 1855.

BY R. S. FOSTER, D. D.

PRINTED BY A VOTE OF THE CONFERENCE.

"I also will show mine opinion."

New-York:

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1855.



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RANDOLPH S. FOSTER,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Southern
District of New-York.





TO

The New-York East Conference,

THIS

MEMORIAL OFFERING

IS RESPECTFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.



Preface.

A WORD of explanation, it may be, ought to accompany the following thoughts. The object of the author is to indicate a need. This aim is pursued steadily throughout the discourse. It would not be strange if many who *prefer compliment* should be offended; and rise up from the reading, feeling that we have been unkind—may be, accounting us an enemy. But we are not. Most profoundly in our hearts do we love and venerate the Methodist ministry. Since the apostolic days, we do not believe a more devoted, sacrificing, and successful ministry has blessed the world. But ours is no blind admiration. Whatever of excellence we may accord, we cannot but see many things in which improvement is desirable, and possible—nay, a most urgent need. While we sincerely believe, that in much we have surpassed our brethren, we must see that in some things we

fall below them. The object of this discourse is not to glory in what we have done or been, but to indicate wherein we may and ought to improve; not to eulogize our excellences and boast of our achievements, but to point out wherein we may and need to become greater and better.

Should the pulchritude awaken in any minds more earnest aspirations after knowledge, with more careful habits of study; and especially, should it lead the young and rising ministry to a more thorough and careful preparation for their sacred work; and yet more, should it, with a higher intellectuality, promote also a profounder consecration of heart and soul, the end of publication will be answered.



Subject.

THE NEED OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH WITH RESPECT TO HER
MINISTRY.

