

**NO REFUGE
BUT IN TRUTH**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649450916

No Refuge but in Truth by Goldwin Smith

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Cover @ 2017

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By
Goldwin Smith

(Second Edition, Enlarged)

G. P. Putnam's Sons
New York and London
The Knickerbocker Press
1909

BR 125-
565-

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ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL, LONDON, ENGLAND

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PREFACE

THE letters collected in this volume appeared, with others, in the *New York Sun*, to the Editor of which the thanks of the writer for his courtesy are due.

Appended is a paper on the same subjects commenting on one by the late Mr. Chamberlain, since published in the *North American Review*. To the Editor of the *North American Review* also the writer's acknowledgments are due.

There appeared to be sufficient interest in the discussion to call for the publication of a small edition.

The age calls for religious truth. Nine thousand persons communicated their cravings to the Editor of the *London Daily Telegraph*. By their side the present writer places himself, not a teacher, but an inquirer, seeking for truth and open to conviction.

The position of the clergy, especially where tests are stringent, calls for our utmost consideration. But I submit that it would not be improved by any attempt, such as seems to be made in a work of great ability before me, to merge the theological in the social question. Benevolence may still be far below the Gospel mark, and the Christian faith may suffer from its default; but the increase of it and the multiplication of its monuments since the world has been comparatively at peace cannot be denied; while of the distress

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which still calls for an increase of Christian effort, not the whole is due to default on the part of the wealthier classes. Idleness, vice, intemperance, improvident marriage, play their part. Let us not be led away upon a false issue.

There is nothing for it but truth.

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