

CAN it be true? Is the church "on the side of human slavery—and not on the side of liberty?" Is it possible that any man or set of men will answer this question in the affirmative?

Yes, there is such a man and apparently such a set of men right here in North Carolina.

At the recent annual meeting of the State Alliance, held at Cary, by president, Dr. Cyrus Thompson, his speech then made is reported as making the following extraordinary statement:

"THE CHURCH TODAY STANDS SIDE BY SIDE WITH SLAVERY—ON THE SIDE OF HUMAN SLAVERY—AND NOT ON THE SIDE OF LIBERTY."

So extraordinary and startling was this declaration, coming from the official head of a respectable organization, that we really thought that there must be some mistake—either Dr. Thompson had been incorrectly reported or had not intended what his words implied. But we were not mistaken. He was correctly reported and meant exactly what he said. And not only that, but the *Conservative* (the paper of Senator Marion Butler, the ex-President of the State and National Alliance) boldly endorses this extraordinary assertion. In a long editorial last week the

editor of the *Conservative* says:

"We have no hesitation in saying that Dr. Thompson's expression of the truth is not only correct, but also just. We will go one step further and say that the State is a slave of the church."

The *Record* will not discuss the matter as to whether the church stands on the side of human slavery and not on the side of liberty—we would not insult our readers by such a discussion any more than we would discuss the existence of a God!

The *Biblical Recorder*, in commenting on this sensational assertion of Dr. Thompson, says that "he is too poorly informed, too quick to speak too reckless of statement, not to say too ungodly, to lead any respectable body of men." And then the *Recorder* goes on to say very emphatically:

"The statement is not true. We can speak for the Baptist church, and we are prepared to show that it is the strongest friend and the greatest advocate of freedom."

So here is the *Conservative* endorsing this extraordinary statement of the President of the State Alliance and pronouncing it true, and here is the *Biblical Recorder* denouncing him and declaring his statement not true. Can any Christian man, whether he be an Alliance man, Baptist or any other good fellow, hesitate in deciding which is right?

And yet there are some who are prejudiced that they will not denounce the *Recorder* and its enemies of the Alliance.

And by-the-way we have heard of a single individual in the paper condemning this slanderous charge against the church.

The Roster of North Carolina troops prepared by Major Moore and published in 1881, is very imperfect, as has heretofore been stated by the *Record* and as acknowledged by Major Moore himself, who did the best he could. We are pleased to see in last Sunday's *Chatham* a communication from Major W. A. Graham calling attention to this, and suggesting "that a well-organized list of names should be prepared by some survivor who would be able to publish a new roster."

We heartily favor this suggestion, but we fear that it will not be carried out. It would be a plan if every county could have a list which the *Record* would be publishing for Chatham, and that the publication of a full list of soldiers (by companies) of the Confederate army in the county.

We find it very interesting indeed taking, but we intend to accomplish it, even if Chatham shall be the only county in which such a work is done.

In last week's issue of the *Record*, published at Plymouth, is a very interesting "write-up" of the town of Roper, in Washington county, of whose existence very few of our readers were aware. This town is only ten years old and yet has a population now of 1600 and does an immense business in lumber. It was built and employing about 850 men.

A silver convention is called to meet at Raleigh on the 25th day of this month, and, although the call is signed only by democrats, the invitation is intended to embrace members of all political parties, regardless of their convictions on other subjects. While the published call states the proposed meeting is a "convention", yet it will be a conference or mass-meeting of all persons who wish to attend and not of duly accredited delegates. The purpose of the meeting presented in the call is to "discuss" the "silver question" and to "organize" a "silver party".

What is the "silver question" and why is it so important? It is the question of whether the Government should issue money in the form of silver coins and notes, or whether it should issue money in the form of gold coins and notes. The "silver party" is a party of men who believe that the Government should issue money in the form of silver coins and notes.

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Washington Letter.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6, 1895.

What will be the democratic candidate next year? That is the question that is being asked in Washington. The answer is not yet known, but it is expected that the candidate will be a man of high ability and high character.

The fourth company organized in Chatham for the Confederate army was the "Blue River Boys", and its members are now being prepared for a third tour of duty in the field.

The "Blue River Boys" were organized in Chatham in 1862, and they were the first company to be organized in the county.

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WAR REMINISCENCES.

Chatham's War History.

"THE BLUE RIVER BOYS."

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Weekly Weather Crop Bulletin.

Central Office, Raleigh, N. C.

The reports of correspondents of the Weekly Weather Crop Bulletin, issued by the North Carolina State Weather Service, for the week ending Sunday, September 7, 1895, indicate generally a very favorable week for work and for ripening of crops. The temperature was above normal, excepting on Monday and Tuesday, with maximum temperatures as high as 80 degrees. There was abundant moisture. Local rains were reported on Monday and Tuesday, and on Wednesday.

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W. L. LONDON & SON.

HAVE COMMENCED RECEIVING THEIR

FALL STOCK OF GOODS,

and will be pleased for you to call and examine. Every article being new goods which they have before the advance in price, and they will sell them as cheap as the market will allow, but in any market. They are in the habit of taking orders of every description.

W. L. LONDON & SON.

Commercial and Farmers Bank, Raleigh, N. C.

Capital paid in \$100,000.00. Surplus \$11,325.63. Total assets \$111,325.63.

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