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religious men of the nation. In 1857 Hinton Rowan Helper pointed out that the Presidency of the United States had been held for forty-eight years by slaveholders, as against twenty years by non-slaveholders. George Washington, Patrick Henry and many other fathers of the Constitution owned slaves. Numerous governors of states were advocates of the institution. A majority of the members of the United States Supreme Court at the time of the famous Dred Scott decision were slaveholders. Many college presidents and professors in educational institutions were numbered with the defenders of slavery.

A large proportion of the several hundred books in defence of slavery now in the New York Public Library were written by ministers and theological professors. The great evangelist Whitefield said: "As to the lawfulness of keeping slaves I have no doubt." In 1855 Dr. N. L. Rice, Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, said: "God has permitted slavery for wise reasons in order to the accomplishment of some great and important ends."

A clergyman by the name of Spring expressed the conviction that "if by one prayer I could liberate every slave in the land, I would not dare to offer it." In 1840 the Rev. James Smylie wrote: "If the buying, selling and holding of a slave for the sake of gain is a heinous sin and scandal, then verily three-fourths of all the Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians in eleven States of the Union are of the devil. They hold, if they do not buy and sell slaves."

In the Mercier Luminary, J. Cable wrote: "Those who know anything about slavery, know that the worst kind is jobbing slavery—that is, the hiring out of slaves from year to year. What shocked me more than anything else was that the church engaged in this jobbing of slaves. The college