

plurality (90,595) since 1876 but lost the electoral vote 233-168. New York with its 36 votes deserted its former Governor this time as the Republicans were more unified and Cleveland's economic policies had created problems in the business community. Nationally the Republicans captured the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Maryland remained in the Democratic column but the margin again decreased. Cleveland became the first presidential candidate in Maryland to exceed 100,000 votes (106,168) but his Republican opponent also approached that mark with 99,986. The evenness of the vote reveals itself with the counties splitting 12 to 11 in favor of Harrison. Six of the counties had vote differences between the major parties of less than 100 votes with the respective leading electors in Charles County being separated by a single vote.³³ With Baltimore City's normal Democratic vote and the state's 24 subdivisions equally divided, the Democratic string of presidential success in Maryland was preserved. In addition to the Republican strength from black voters, reform organizations, particularly in Baltimore City, were beginning to have an impact on statewide elections.

1888 ELECTION SUMMARY

Candidate (Party)	Popular Vote		Electoral Vote	
	Md.	U.S.	Md.	U.S.
Grover Cleveland (D)	106,168	5,534,488	8	168
Clinton B. Fisk (Pr)	4,767	249,813		
Benjamin Harrison (R)	99,988	5,443,892		233

1892

A Cleveland-Harrison rematch awaited the American public in 1892 as the major parties continued their struggle for the national leadership. The central difference in the platforms remained the tariff issue.³⁴

Not all Republicans were pleased with the performance of President Harrison but he used the powers of his office sufficiently well to control the party's national convention in Minneapolis during June 1892. The two other would be contenders, Blaine and William McKinley of Ohio, never publicly announced as candidates although both received votes from the delegates. A change was made in the vice presidential position but without an adverse party struggle.³⁵

At the Democratic convention the weather proved to be a greater foe than any other candidate as former President Cleveland easily won his third nomination on the first roll call.³⁶ Ironically, his major opposition came from within his native New York delegation. In addition, Maryland's Senator Gorman, while not a declared candidate, received 36 votes and had left for the convention a week early for political maneuvering with anti-Cleveland forces in case the former President did not muster the required two-thirds