

ises, we the members of this convention, mutually pledge ourselves, one to the other, that we will cast our vote for no candidate for a seat in either branch of the legislature of Maryland, who is not fully committed and pledged to vote for a bill providing for an immediate call of a convention to revise the present constitution; and that we commend this course to the friends of conventional reform of all political parties throughout the State. That this convention also recommends the formation of reform committees and clubs in every county, district and city in the State, for the purpose of urging on the great work of conventional reform.”²⁷

These recommendations were vigorously carried out by the local reform organizations of the several counties of the State, and of the city of Baltimore, in order to secure the election of delegates favorable to “conventional reform.” The Democratic party of the State was almost unanimously in favor of a convention; while the Whigs in the different sections were divided in regard to it. The Whigs of Carroll county held a convention at Westminster on the 18th of August, and took decided grounds for “conventional reform.” They declared that the legislature had the power to call a convention of the people, and pledged themselves to support no candidate unless he announced himself in favor of the convention.²⁸ The Whig voters of Baltimore City in a convention of delegates appointed from the different wards of the city adopted similar resolutions.²⁹ The Whigs of the southern counties and of the Eastern Shore were opposed to a convention. The Rockville, Md., *Journal*, speaking of the convention held there for the purpose of selecting delegates to the state reform convention in Baltimore City, stated, that “No Whigs attended the meeting, and so far as we know, there is not a conventional Whig reformer in the district.”³⁰

²⁷ Baltimore American, July 27, 1849.

²⁸ Baltimore Sun, August 24, 1849.

²⁹ Baltimore American, August 31, 1849.

³⁰ Quoted from the Baltimore Sun, July 31, 1849.