

on the last Wednesday of April (27th), 1864. Sixty-five delegates of the total of ninety-six were to be elected before the Convention assembled, and fifty members were necessary for a quorum. No delegate was to take his seat till he had taken before the Governor a certain stringent oath of loyalty. The compensation was five dollars a day and the mileage allowed members of the Legislature. A reporter of debates and proceedings was to be provided by the Convention. The Constitution and form of government adopted was to be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of the state "at such time, in such manner, and subject to such rules and regulations as said Convention may prescribe." In case of the adoption of the new Constitution, the Governor was to issue a proclamation to that effect, and take the necessary steps to put it into operation. At the elections provided, the tickets were to be printed on white paper, other ballots not to be received, and heavy penalties were imposed on those judges of election or other civil officers who failed to do their prescribed duty.

The campaign, in consequence of the above, began early. As the state had declared for emancipation by the previous fall election, the question now before the people was in regard to the form that this action was to take. The Unconditional Union party of the state boldly took its stand in favor of immediate emancipation without either compensation of slave-owners or "negro apprenticeship," and the election, in a great measure, favorably settled this as far as the people were concerned.

The Conservative Union State Central Committee, at a meeting held in Baltimore on December 16, 1863, led by Thomas Swann and John P. Kennedy, had declared for immediate emancipation in the manner easiest for master and slave, since the people had willed it at the last election. This evidently in large measure accounts for the fact that in Baltimore City and several counties there were merely "Union" candidates, with no opposition. In others of the counties, however, there were three tickets—"Uncon-