

Unionists, and the others on the opposite side. Mr. Goldsborough was now State Comptroller, having been elected at the previous fall election as we have seen. Fourteen had been members of the Legislature of a few months before, of whom Messrs. Stirling and Stockbridge, both of Baltimore City, had been most active in preparing and advocating the Convention Bill in the Senate and House respectively, while Messrs. Clark, of Prince George's, and Dent, of St. Mary's, had been leaders of the opposition to it in the House of Delegates.

In fact, it is seldom that one reads the records of events of the ten or fifteen preceding years without coming upon the names of many of those who were members of the Convention of 1864.

Taken as delegations, those from Baltimore City, Allegany and Prince George's counties were perhaps the stronger, though several others were of nearly the same excellence. Many members who had been side by side in the "Whig" and "Know Nothing" parties, or even the "Union Party" days of 1860, were now ranged on opposite sides, in this only showing the power of that mighty force which had sundered the former political ties of so many of the people of the state.² It should be said in addition, that nearly all the leaders were of the legal profession.

From the outset, the majority took a stand as supporting the Union and the National Government, especially in its policy as set forth in Mr. Lincoln's administration, and their measures were planned with the intention of keeping Maryland well in line with these ideas. These sixty-one Union members were from the northern and western counties, Baltimore City, and Talbot, Caroline and Worcester counties of the Eastern Shore, these latter three the southern slave counties in which the cause of the Convention had

² For instance, Messrs. Chambers and Stirling were formerly Whigs, Messrs. Smith (of Carroll) and Dennis had been candidates on the Bell and Everett electoral ticket in 1860. Mr. Goldsborough was formerly a Democrat.