

met in the Front Street Theatre, Baltimore, on June 7, 1864. It adopted a platform strongly urging the prosecution of the war and endorsing the policy of the National Administration. After nominating Lincoln and Johnson, it adjourned on June 8.

The Convention again, on June 24, adjourned over till July 6, as a number of the members desired time to attend to personal affairs, especially the farmers, who had their crops to harvest.²⁵ Work had hardly been resumed, when the celebrated "Rebel Raid" occurred and interrupted proceedings for nearly two weeks more. This invasion of Maryland deserves some attention, as it was of great consequence to the people of the state, and caused a bitter clash between the opposing sides in the Convention.

During the latter part of June, 1864, General Lee sent General Jubal A. Early with a force, probably some fifteen thousand men, to move down the Valley of Virginia and make a demonstration against Washington, hoping thus to relieve the pressure of General Grant's armies upon Richmond. This force, after crossing the Potomac near Shepherdstown and Falling Waters, occupied Hagerstown on July 6, and its advance skirmished with Union troops as far as Frederick. On Friday, July 8, the main body occupied this town, and on the next day (July 9) met and defeated General Lew Wallace at Monocacy Junction. The Union force was estimated at between seven and eight thousand men, and was composed of those troops which General Wallace was able to collect in order to defend Baltimore. It behaved well in the battle which lasted nearly eight hours, but retreated in great disorder to Ellicott's Mills. The main Confederate force turned south and occupied Rockville, threatening Washington and skirmishing within sight of that city. A small cavalry force, of which Major Harry Gilmore was one of the commanders, was sent to operate north and east of Baltimore. It cut the

²⁵ Proc., 225-6; Deb., i, 743.