

## THE SENTINEL.

ROCKVILLE, MD.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1861.

The Conference Convention.  
The adjourned session of the State Conference, which met in Baltimore city, on the 11th instant, continued its session on the 12th instant, when it brought its labors to a close. We have not the space to publish proceedings in full, but will extract only those of this week, in only noticing the result of its conference.

The convention adhered to the views which influenced it in its former meeting, and has adjourned again without adopting any position materially altering its first purpose, it has determined to await the action of Virginia.

A committee of well known and influential gentlemen was also appointed to wait upon the Virginia Convention and urge that body to recommend a Border State Convention. The nomination and election of the course pursued by the Conference Convention will, we are sure, be heartily commended by the people of the State. While it has given ample opportunity for the adoption of a firm and earnest stand against the aggressive principles and policy of the Republican party, it has shown that it is equally resolved not to countenance any precipitate movement which would be likely to cause exodus from the State, and at the same time be unproductive of any great results.

Its members have proved that they were uniformly worthy of the confidence reposed in them by their constituents; and they have, by their proceedings, forever set at rest the students of their motives and manifested their purposes.

Perhaps Maryland may yet share in the honor of qualifying her voice and counsel to a restoration of the great American Republic, and cause the blush of shame to mantle the cheek of some of her citizens who have with loud professions of patriotism and a never ceasing cry of "Union," opposed every effort, calculated to awaken the Northern mind to a reality of the dangers, and justify the Southern chivalry in the cause of the constitutional rights of the slaveholding States. The Union is now dissolved, let us labor for its reconstruction.

The CANAL.—The navigation of this great work which has opened on the Sabbath, has been resumed under more favorable auspices (says the Cumberland Almanac) than ever before occurred since its construction.

The whole line from Cumberland to Georgetown is in as thorough a state of repair as could reasonably be expected, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which it has labored; and contrasts very favorably with the condition of the work at the opening of navigation in former seasons.

The officers of the company have presented all the reports to the park during the last fall and winter with great vigor and energy, which is fully evinced by the completion of Dam No. 4, the repair of a tract of culverts below Dam No. 4, in which was laid ten, or 10000 pounds of stone, and the rebuilding of lock 22, near Georgetown, together with a general repair of the embankments along the whole line.

A new era seems to be dawning in the public works of the country, and we have no doubt that speedily interest in the prosperity of the canal, may exert with considerable effect a brief time during the coming season of navigation, and have abundant scope to command the skill and energy which characterize the present management of the work.

We copy the above from the Cumberland Almanac and will give word of approval of the Directors of the stars of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal by the present board.

The completion of Lock No. 21, early last week, reflects great credit upon Superintendent G. W. Spates, who, with commendable perseverance and zeal, labored incessantly for the accomplishment of so important an object, we are pleased that his exertions have been properly appreciated by the Directors, who at their meeting on the 5th instant, gave him a sum of thanks for his fidelity, and awarded him one month's additional pay, for his extraordinary labor and attention.

Col. ALEXAN SPATES, of the Board of Directors gave his personal attention to this work for a week prior to its completion and by his presence and advice contributed much to its speedy and successful completion.

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