

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION... body assembled at the Maryland... on Wednesday last week, for... purpose of selecting four delegates... of the six Congressional Dis... of the States to represent Maryland... the National Democratic Convention... is to assemble in Baltimore on the... of July. It numbered among its... members the foremost men of the State... and was an assemblage of which the Demo... cratic party may justly be proud. Its... proceedings were entirely harmonious... and marked by an unusual degree of prudence.

(Correspondence of the Beacon.)  
Augusta, Ga.,  
June 17th, 1872.  
Messrs. Editors:—The heated term is upon us, and our beautiful little city is... lately basking in the shade of the wide... spreading elms and stately live oak that... adorn and beautify each street, and has... made Augusta notorious throughout the... country as being one of the most lovely... towns in the South; well deserving the... appellation of "Rosa in orbis." It is here... as elsewhere in the South, a season when... the wheels of commerce are stopped, and... only in the cool of the mornings and evenings... are seen a few ladies sauntering lei... surely into the dry-goods stores, purchas... ing a few yards of "Dolly Varden" call... on, a strip of dainty ribbon or a fan; and... occasionally the shrill jargon of a somedi... buckstering negro, offering a few "fresh... berries" or "catfish" for sale, breaks... the monotony of the sultry day. The cot... ton-merchant is packing up to seek some... Northern resort of pleasure, leaving a few... disconsolate clerks to issue supplies to his... country patrons; the cotton grower has... gone back to his home in the North or... Europe; and the planter is hard at work... on his plantation straining every nerve to... make the food for the two last mentioned... individuals, and pay up his enormous in... debtedness, and usurious interest, that... compels him to accumulate at the beginning... of each year, and steadily increases in vol... ume every hour, and leaves him at the... end of the season a disconsolate, dejected... and disappointed man! This is a bird's... eye view of the appearance generally pre... sented at this time of the year; but more... life than usual has been observed this... Summer.

The Presidential campaign, so momen... tous to us in the South, seems to have... stirred up a little life even under the... depressive influence of our Southern climate... Political parties are busily engaged devis... ing means to insure a victory to Georgia... that may add additional lustre to the name... of the Empire State of the South.

(Correspondence of the Beacon.)  
Washington,  
June 16th, 1872.  
Washington is once more a deserted vil... lage. Congress finally adjourned on the... tenth after a severe struggle on the part... of the Radicals to have an extra session... The Democrats held out nobly, and only... agreed to the Enforcement Act to avoid... some evils. The scene in the House on... Monday was very exciting, and at one... time there was a prospect of a fight, but... the weather was too warm, and at nine... o'clock at night the session closed its la... bors.

(Correspondence of the Beacon.)  
Washington, June 23rd, 1872.  
Washington is still a deserted vil... lage. The Avenue looks desolate, and... in vain the windows offer their thousand... attractions. The only entertaining things... are the funerals—nice, merry funerals—... with music and procession—funerals of all... shades and sizes. From the window I... see no less than three slowly wending... their black train out on the "M" street... road. With one hearse there is no car... riage, therefore I suspect small-pox. The... finest funerals are gotten up, not by the... rich as formerly, but by the colored peo... ple, who from appearances defer all fun... erals for Sunday. If the undertakers don't... have a lively time and rich harvest it... will be the fault of their co-laborers, the... Board of Health, who are quietly making... a "corner" in contagious diseases. Ev... eryone who can afford it is busily prepar... ing to leave the city, and from what I've heard... your little village will be quite a fashion... able place of resort this Summer.

(Correspondence of the Beacon.)  
Washington, June 23rd, 1872.  
The Capitol looks delightful, and stands... wrapped in silence. Not a member is to... be seen. One only lingers, the infant, as he... has been christened, in a carpet-bagger's... much like an overgrown baby as a man... can be. What keeps him here is a mys... tery as deep as the other unexplained... ones—for instance, why men set out... lounge in front of hotels and stare women... out of countenance? Or why cant there... be a small elevation in Washington left... untouched by street diggers?

Tax on Tobacco.—On and after the... first of July next persons who sell or offer... for sale tobacco, snuff or cigars, except... manufacturers, will be required to pay a... special tax of five dollars per annum, with... out regard to the amount of annual sales... The exemption of persons whose annual... sales do not exceed one hundred dollars is... repealed by the new law.

ARRIVALS.—The railroad excitement, which has pervaded our community for the past two weeks, has had the effect of attracting quite a number of visitors to our usually quiet little town. We note the arrivals at Fenwick's Hotel from the 18th to the 25th instant.

COMBS & DOWNS, Attorneys for Petitioners. The Petition having been read, R. Johnson Colton, Esq., addressed the board in behalf of the prayer it contains and was followed by Col. James T. Blikstone on the same side. Hon. B. G. Harris replied, opposing the prayer of the petitioners and arguing against action by the board at this time.

DEBTORS.—On and after the first of July next all tea and coffee produced east of the Cape of Good Hope and imported into this country will not be charged with the discriminating duty of ten per cent.

THE ILLUSTRATED CHRISTIAN WEEKLY.—In the present week's issue we have an account of the new text made for Rev. W. C. Van Meter. The article is accompanied by two different views of the text. An accurate likeness of the Mikado or head ruler, the first ever presented in this country, is also given.

THE CHILD'S FRIEND.—This is a beautiful illustrated paper for Sunday Schools, and it rapidly winning its way into popular favor. The Publishers announce that they are now ready to furnish it semi-monthly, at the low price of 25 cents per year.

NOTICE. ON TUESDAY, THE 16TH OF JULY, (if fair, if not, the first fair day,) the ladies of St. Mary's Female Seminary will give a DINNER to raise funds for the repair of their Church. They will also be on the whole day to supply their visitors with refreshments, and to dispose of a reasonable quantity of useful articles.

Meeting of Trustees. THE Trustees of St. Mary's Female Seminary are requested to meet at the Seminary on TUESDAY, the 2nd of July, proximo. A punctual attendance is desirable. By order, C. BILLINGSLEY, President.