

## THE CRUTCH.

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### Address of the Rebel Congress.

We are surprised to see the Rebel States harping on the old pretexts for secession. We think of all foolish, presumptuous ideas, they are the most foolish, and presumptuous, and to speak plainly, the smallest ever incubated. They simply knew nothing of what they predicted, they knew nothing of what would transpire on the election of Mr. LINCOLN, it was all surmise, and when they stated that the South was anxious to enjoy within the Union, the safeguards of the constitution, but the election of Mr. LINCOLN showed this to be impossible, they uttered what was plainly ungrounded. They were certainly cognizant of the fact that the President was elected under the constitution and was sworn to obey that instrument to the letter, and the institutions of the South were as safe in his hands, or under his administration, as in, or under any other. They knew just as well, also, that at that time, the Republican party was not in the ascendancy, was not the dominant party. If there had not been two democratic candidates in the field the result of the election might have been otherwise, and when they said that the Republican party as the dominant party forced the war upon the South to afford a pretext for interfering with slavery, they said what no sensible man was willing to admit. The war was not forced upon the South, but it was invited by the South, or forced upon the North. To say that the South accepted the war thus forced, as it pretends, upon it, is indeed monstrously fabulous, ridiculous. How was it possible for the government to offer war with no war materials, with no provisions for war? Almost every soldier of the United States Army was quartered in the South, and was not available, and the largest amount of war materials were in the South. The country was really unprepared for war, and did not, or could not anticipate it; it was only prepared for peace, and looked for it. This was the sum of the primal doctrine, but in a recent address by its Congress they now say they knew the Union protected and guaranteed slavery, and this they tacitly admit, they knew as we remarked before that the institutions of the South were as safe in the hands of Mr. LINCOLN as in the hands of any other President, yet as the dominant party offered a pretext for interfering with slavery, according to the address, rather than submit to the dominant party, submit to a constitutional majority, they determined "to break up the Union, and resort to war." The triumph of the Republicans would not in itself have afforded a sufficient cause for secession, it continues, but the Republicans as a dominant party, offered a pretext for interfering with slavery, and knowing the Union, protected and guaranteed slavery, rather than have it protected and guaranteed by the dominant party, it was necessary to sever the State connections, and resort to war, secede from the dominant party, because it was dominant, and as it could not resort to the war of the ballot box to reverse the triumph of the dominant party, it resorted to a bullet war as the revenge. It does not seem thus that there was any great principle in secession; it would not seem that war was in defense of a principle older than the constitution, and inherent in the States," but it looked very like a party war, a war instigated by the mortification of defeat. If "the election of Mr. LINCOLN," and "this triumph of the Republicans," did not afford sufficient cause for secession, how was it plausible that a sufficient pretext for interfering with slavery," could have been made by such a triumph. Really the South makes the kernel of the matter the success of the Republicans, and this is bringing the cause of secession to very narrow grounds, and looks to us like a little dirty spoiled urchin with his finger in his mouth, and with a peculiar wag of the head says, mother if you do n't give me a sugar plumb I'll cry—if you do n't let our party triumph we will secede. We repeat how foolish.

The United States Senate, in executive session, on Monday, unanimously confirmed the nomination of Gen. U. S. GRANT, as Lieut. General in the U. S. Army.

### Education.

Education is something with which we all have to do. It applies to us nationally and individually, at the present time, and prospectively. What are we learning, what have we been learning, what have been, and what are the sources of our education? These are questions that come home for solution to every one of us. It is not enough to know that we have war, or that we are fighting in a just cause, or that we are successful over our implacable and powerful enemy. These things may be fully conceded and yet carry with them no evidence of intellectual or moral improvement. Nor is it sufficient to know that we are excelling in the art of warfare, or that our bravery is unquestioned. Warfare is generally believed to be a demoralizing agent, and to draw the mind away from those noble sources of information that are possible in a peaceful occupation. Excellence in the art of warfare, and emulation in the honored spirit of bravery, seem also to have a tendency to centre the mind upon that which is opposed to the softer impulses of our nature. Moral and intellectual improvement are not however incompatible with war, or the associations of war. A man can be a good soldier, as well as a brave soldier. War, or the usages of warfare, are not in themselves debasing, yet they may be made so, man may make means of anything to be bad. If the soldier is prone to immorality on entering the army his proclivity to do evil is not necessarily thereby checked or promoted, but he may make it the road to increased licentiousness. He has thrown off the restraint of home influences, and found himself free, except the duty he owes as a soldier to his superior in rank, and he is very apt not to be benefited. What he learns is not always best for his mind or morals. Yet this need not be so. It is incumbent upon him just as much in the field, to regard those teachings that he has received from infancy upwards, to cleave to the good and swerve from the bad, as at home. He should not only carry good impressions, but he should disseminate them, and not let the bad subvert the good. There is as much of a contest going on in the breast of every man entering the army as on the gory battle field, and it continues 'till there is a triumph one way or another, but the difficulty is we succumb too easily, we are too willing prisoners, not prisoners of war, but prisoners to pernicious influences. There is a want of moral courage to resist, there is a lack of mental intrepidity to combat. This once established, and we find ourselves not retrograding, we can with certainty grasp that which is higher, and elevating. We have then taught ourselves the power of self-government, and the control of the will, and this is the initiative to further progress. When we are sure of this control we are as sure of our superiority over our natural proclivities, and we can will to do right with more ease than will to do wrong.— Education is control of ourselves then, as the starting point, and the elevation of ourselves, as the ultimatum; and no education is perfect which leaves this out of view, which does not contain this as the beginning, and that as the end. We ought therefore to see to it that we do not "rush into battle as the unthinking horse," that we stand up for the right, and the good, and not give way to the wrong and the evil; that the circumstances around us shall not control us, but that we control them; in fine that we educate ourselves by all the means in our reach to make us higher than what we are. The means are ample, and are always at hand.

From the Knapsack.

### Maryland Emancipation Convention.

The following was suggested, at the meeting of the Maryland Legislature, when considering the calling of a convention, to consider the "Emancipation question."

Near close of day they gathered, the wise, the great, the learned, and the good, all that the fair old State of Maryland, sends forth, to shape her councils, or to frame her laws. The chief too, of the State was there, and sat presiding o'er the assemblage—and he who once had been our leader and our Governor, who stood before us, in the blast, and shock of treasons power, who saved us, in that day when passion swayed the minds of men. He stood between the opposing elements, serene,

grave, cautious, true and loyal still—and firm against the surging tides, which would have swayed the true hearted, but false deeming city, into the clutch of traitors to her country. All thanks to him who bore us safely through the narrow strait! Fast toward the shining west the sun declined, but ere he bids farewell to earth, he gathers up his glory—and one effulgent beam he flings upon the listening multitude! He floods the crowded hall with heaven's own light, outshining and eclipsing all the rays of art's poor substitute—quenching the glimmer of their taper orbs, with lambent glory from some upper sphere! Gleaming upon the earnest upturned faces, it seems to pierce e'en to the secret heart, and so reveals the true man's deeper feeling struggling with the great question of the hour. In its brave light, base thoughts cannot be hid, and visibly they're traced upon each face, whose hopes of paltry gain or loss to self, weighs in the balance with God's breath, man's right. With lingering soft'ning, warming ray, it falls. The sunshine beam a farewell blessing gives—in warning seems to speak, and speaking says: "Beware the day, oh Maryland! of how ye judge! Give answer now to God's own voice, He speaks, to him shall true response be given, and in the light of this clear searching hour, let all disguise, all false shadows fall. Give the true utterance of your noble nature—judge for the enslaved—oppressed of all the earth, and let "my Maryland," strike freedom's note, her watch-word to her sister states. Be first of all the border line to shout the cry! Act in the light of God's clear sunshine. Pause not for gathering night to fall—but now speak forth the word—and let the echoes ring from out this hall—'till mingling with the tones of that illustrious voice, whose "farewell words," have hallowed for all time this Capitol. The sons of Maryland shall sound the clarion note, on the fair shores of the Chesapeake, which shall re-echo far and wide along the border line. Let freedom's tone electric thrill with power the slope of West Virginia's sunny hills, and send the menace of her loyal sons, on to the gates of Treason's Capitol! Then speed the sound far through Kentucky's noble woods, and the grim mountain tops of Tennessee, shall catch the burning word, and shout it loud, down to the vales beneath—till Alabama's swarthy sons shall hear the note, and speed the watch-word on and on—till southern hearts and southern hands, shall quail before the blast of freedom—blessed liberty for all! Thou knowest dreamest not, oh Maryland, what deeds shall rest upon thy judgment now! Make well thy choice.—Speak forth for right—for truth—for country and for God!

### The British Lion.

A contemporary says: "at the present time no Government stands before the world in a more humiliating, and contemptible position than that of Great Britain." We fully agree with it in every point. No Government making the pretensions it has, none heretofore assuming the high position it has, has come down to be so unpretentious, and so humble. Assuming to be the arbiter of the world, and the settler of all disputes whether relating to it or not, it has found out at last that it has dwindled down in power and influence so much, that its opinion is not regarded on the most trivial subject. Its late movements in the Danish contest, however, have outstripped all other ambiguities it was guilty of. Sustaining the King of Denmark in all his pretensions to the duchies of Holstein and Schleswig, and exciting him to a war fury, leaving him to believe he would be his ally and supporter, it has treacherously backed down from its high stand, and the British Lion now lies as mute, and cowardly in its own dominions as if it never had a throat to roar, teeth to gnaw, or claws to scratch. We know what we have received from this wily power. We know what we have suffered. We know it has evaded every principle of justice, and right, and pampered a spirit which they knew was at war with us, fawned to a little weak power, with the unprincipled selfishness, that it might be in its pockets to do so. But we will not forget their little misdemeanors, we will store them up, and the time may come soon when we will teach them a better lesson.