

members of the bench and bar of France, and those interested in international law who attend its meetings are certain to be entertained and instructed. The topics of discussion for these meetings, as announced by the society, are: (1) Bills of exchange; (2) Maritime insurance; (3) What authority should a judgment delivered in one State be allowed in another, and under what conditions; (4) The conditions and effects of extradition; (5) To what extent ought foreigners to be admitted to share in the private law of the State in which they are commorant; (6) In what cases should crimes or delicts which have been committed be cognizable by the courts of the State of which the authors are subjects. The rooms of the society are in the "Hotel de la Société d'Encouragement," 44 Rue de Rennes.

UNITED STATES.

THE REPEAL OF THE BANKRUPT LAW.—The House of Representatives has concurred in the Senate Amendment to the bill for the repeal of the bankrupt law, the President has signed the bill and it is certain that the law will pass out of existence on the 1st September next. The *Albany Law Journal* says: "This is a result for which the greater portion of the people of the country have been anxious for the past eight years, but the friends of the law, though weak numerically, have wielded sufficient influence to prevent a compliance, by the National Legislature, with the wishes of the majority. It was at one time doubtful whether the present Congress would not follow the example of its predecessors, and fail to pass the bill, notwithstanding a very large majority in each house were in favor of it. But the friends of the bill have been active, and it has not failed. The postponement of the time when the act is to go into effect was a concession to a claim which was made by the friends of the existing law, that if it was repealed without notice, a very great number of unfortunate individuals, who were intending to take the benefit of the law, would be disappointed and ruined. Three months' time will enable all who have any claim to favor in this matter to take such action as they desire, and we anticipate that the bankrupt courts will do more business during that period than they have ever done in the same time.

"We imagine that the repeal of this law will be of considerable benefit to those of the profession engaged in general practice. The incoming of the bankrupt law nearly destroyed the collection business; a debtor that could be made to pay only by means of legal process being as a rule on the verge of bankruptcy, and a suit against him liable to be defeated by bankrupt proceedings. Then the law made certain acts, such as the non-payment of negotiable paper, acts of bankruptcy, and debtors were compelled to pay in cases where they would have resisted under other circumstances. In these two ways the statute discouraged litigation, and it was also injurious to the profession for the reason that the fees and expenses of bankruptcy proceedings were paid out of funds which, under the pre-existing laws, would have very generally been spent in litigation. But the profession will not alone receive advantage from repeal. Vigilant creditors will derive advantage from their vigilance, and distinction can be made by the insolvent between debts of different degrees of merit. In fact we think every one, debtor and creditor alike, will be benefited by the repeal."

ASSAULTS ON JUDGES.—The precedent which has been set in the English courts of assaulting judges, has been followed in the New York Court of Common Pleas, a lunatic, by the name of Chalmers, having, on the 7th instant, made an assault in open court on Mr. Justice Daly who was presiding at a trial there. The assailant, who had an hallucination that the police commissioners of New York were annoying him in various ways, had prepared a petition asking for their arrest, and had presented it to numerous judges and courts, the usual result being his ejection from the court rooms into which he had intruded. On the day mentioned he began to read the petition to Justice Daly, who at first kindly attended to his reading, but discovering the nature of the document requested him to desist, and upon his refusal to do so, directed his removal from the court. Thereupon, the petitioner, folding up the papers he had in his hand, forcibly hurled them at the head of Judge Daly, saying, as he did so, "You are like all the other judges, a liar and a trickster." Of course the belligerent suitor was immediately arrested, and he was subsequently committed by a police magistrate as a lunatic. The petition itself, parts of which were published in the daily press, indicates clearly that the assailant was insane.—*Albany Law Journal*.