All letters addressed to GEO. S. BAKER,

FRIDAY DECEMBER, 12, 1873

Bankrupey, Homesteads

The President in his arnual message to Congress, recommends the repeal of the Bankrupt law, and bills have already been introduced into both houses of Congress for that purpose. " A bill passed the lower house of Congress, at its session last winter of a similar purport, but for some cause failed to pass the Senate. A great pressure will in all probability be brought on Congress this winter for the repeal of this law. It is urged by a large portion of the business public, that the law has accomplished the purpose for which it was designed, and that its longer continuance on the statute books can be of no benefit to the classes for whose good it was originally intended, but that on the contrary it will be used hereafter by evil disposed persons for disreputable purposes.

. A paper we understand, has been in circulation among the members of the legal profession throughout the country, which had its origin with the New York bar, and been largely sign ed, urging upon Congress the repeal of this law, decrease the day of the

This state of things strongly inclines us to the opinion, that the Bankrupt low will be repealed by Congress during its present session, or so modified as to be of little or no avail to persons among us who have not yet settled the difficulties in which the state of things incident to the war, have brought up-

A case has been carried up from this State, to the Supreme Court of the United States, in which the constitotionality of the homestead provisions of our constitution, so far as it applies to old debts, will be passed upon by that Court, and so far as we are informed the legal profession are unanimously of opinion, that the cases in our Supreme Court sustaining that feature of the Homestead law, will be overruled by the highest judicial tribunel in the country.

The effect of such a decision as this, will be to open all the old questions, relating to unsettled debts, and should such a decision be made as it in all probability will, during its present session, and the Bankrupt law be repealed, persons who are owing old debts will have lost their last chance of making a favorable adjustment thereof, or of relieving themselves against them. In view of threse things, we would advise our read ers of the class mentioned to speedy action, in preparing at once to forestall any unfortunate result, that may ensue from a little inactivity.

Where a man is so heavily involved that he cannot hope to meet his tiabilities, he should at once, and without any hesitation, either propose to his creditors an adjustment of his debts, on such a basis as he can meet, or to avail himself of the benefits of the Bankrupt law, and be discharged from the incubus that must in a great m asure paralyze all of bis ener-

Have himself set free, so that he en go to work and build up again. It is one of the hardest things in the world for a man to work with any spirit when he is in debt beyond the possibility of hope of extricating himself.

By delaying to do this for a short time, the opportunity may be lost forever, so far as those are concerned who are thus unfortunately situated now Bankruptcy is the only sure relief now known to the law.

The Homestead so far as old debts are concerned, is a very slender barrier between the credit or and debtor, which is liable at any moment to be snopped in twain. Bankruptcy is the surer safer, refuge from these old

Here too, the exemptions are very liberal; As the law now stands the person who goes into Bankruptev, has \$1,000 of personal property, and \$1,-000 in Real Estate exempted from the Tuyment of his debts. This is a very liberal exemption, so much so that a

man of energy and skill can soon build

It may soon be too late, everything portends as much now. Let all act with wisdom and discretion in the

The Grand Lodge.

It was our cleasure to be present at the late annual communication of this grand body in Raleigh. The Grand Lodge convened on the 1st inst., and continued its session unt 1 the 5th,

The annual address of M, W. Grand Master, Nichols was fully np to the standard, and well received. It contained much useful and interesting information, and many valuable recommendations and suggestions.

All parts of our State from the mountains to the seaboard, were represented by the very elite of our population. The session was an harmonious one; all present seeming to be animated by the same spirit, and eagerly pursuing the same object, to wit: The good of the Order, We believe much good was done.

The Oxford Orphan Asylum - that noble monument of Masoni 3 charity, the bare mention of which causes every true mason's heart to pulsate with a just pride-received a proper share of attention The administration of the Institution was beartily endorsed, and the sum of one thousand dollars appropriated to its maintenance. Notwithstanding its short existence, this last, best enterprise of masonic beneficience has done an incalculable amount of good already, and we trust it is des tined to go on for a long time to come, increasing steadily in its means and capacity for dispensing its great benehts to that class of humanity whose needs called it into being.

Fellow Citizens of North Carolina: Every one of you are interested in the continued success and prosperity of this nob'e charity-whether you belong to the Order that laid its foundation, or

not. The Masons have already done much, and it is not to be expected tnat they can do everything. They have made a clear donation to the poor O phans of the State, of a costly and valuable building occupying a most beautiful site; and the Grand Lodge makes annually a liberal appropriation tor the support of the Asylum-besides the generous contributions from subordinate lodges. And all this, without any test being required for admission to its benefits, and without the sughtest discrimination in favor of the children of masonic parents! Is it not then a peculiar duty of those who are not masons to give freely of their means to the maintenance of the Institution? The masons have laid a splendid and costly foundation; now let the kind, the benevotent and the humane, rear and adorn the superstructure, -or assist the founders in doing so, - and generations yet unborn will rise up and call us blessed.

War.

Who does not shudder at the very t'ought? The images of ruin and blood which it evokes are enough to startle and appal the sourest heart.

The widow and orphans whose wails and cries are scarce bushed, the lacerated feelings of aged mother, whose boys never came back from the fields of G ttysburg and Chichamauga and Fort Wagner, the thousands whose wounds are yet unhealed, those too maime , and crippled who sit in the corner, unable to work, the ruined tortunes, the t-entine? chimneys-these and things worse than these, which marke the course of the ruthless invader, and which followed in the wake of his desolating march, cry aloud for Peace Peace ! - at any cost but that of nation al disgrace and national degradation.

But what portion of the nations ho or is compromized by the case of Vinginus-even if she did contain American citizens and sailed under the flag of our country? Must desperadors, 20 or 1000, plunge a nation luto war Must a party of filibusters jeopardizthe lives, liberties and fortunes of a continent? On what principle of justice do we, war with a people who are barely taking measures for self-preser-

Resolutions of Respect,

At the 4th meeting of the Quarterly Conference, the Official Board appointed Gen, S. Baker and E. W. Fuller to prepare, resolutions of respect to the memory of Maj. D. S. Hill.

The following were approved and ordered to be spread upon the minutes of the Conference, and to be sent to

the Franklin Counten and Raleigh Christian Advocate' with request to

WHEREAS, Almighty God hath seen fit to call our dear brother Hill from the labors of Earth to his eternal rest ! Resolved 1st, That while we submit to His will who can not err, yet we feel that our Board has lost a tried and efficient member, whose long experience made his counsels wise, whose cheerful good nature prevented all controversy, and whose punctu l attendance and willingness to work where ever directed, have left a bright example that all may imitate with im-

2od, That the Church has been deprived of an eminent christian who was pious without hypocrisy, zealous without bigotry, and devotedly constant to the cause of his Master.

3rd. That we b lieve that the eternal joy upon which he has entered, was deserved by his lite of faithful consecration, and that the crown he is wearing was nobly won in the battle of life. 4th, That we do tender, to those he

has left to mourr, our kindest sympathy and prayers. be sent to the family of our deceased

Boarding and Day School For Young Ladies.

LOUISBURG, N. C.

The fifth ses ion of the above school will open Wednesday the 14th of Jan. uary 1874, and continue ful twenty weeks Ten or twelve girls can find comfortable boar i in my father's famlly, Pupils who live in the county and go home Fr day even og and return Morday morning w ll b eha ged pro rata le's. Apply for circulars giving all necessary i formation.

MISS CORNELIA A. CRENSHAW,

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NOTICE TO ALL.

Ordered by the Board of County Commissioners, at a called meeting to-day, that all persons holding claims against the County of Franklin, not regular orders, or july tickets, are hereby required to present them to the Board 'tor adjustment on or before the 10th of 'January nex' . These failing to do so, will have the statute of limitation pleaded in every case, where the statute has run, without exception.

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GEO. C: STARKE. G. J. THOMAS.

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