

curate to level the mound, while the justices rejected a claim of *bona fide* right on his part. The result was the successful prosecution of the perpetual curate by a churchwarden for the mode in which he asserted his claims.—*Ib.*

CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE U. S. SUPREME COURT.

The office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States was established by the Constitution concurrently with the office of president, but while the presidency has been open to all native-born citizens above the age of 35, the office of chief justice of the Supreme Court, bestowed usually upon men of mature, if not advanced, years, has been held in fact by seven persons only since the foundation of the government. There has been more than three times as many presidents, says the *New York Sun*.

John Jay, of New York, was the first chief justice of the Supreme Court. He was appointed by Washington in 1789, Judge Jay was at that time only 44 years of age. When he attained the age of 50 he resigned and retired to private life. He died thirty-four years later—in 1829. The second of the Supreme Court justices was John Ellsworth, of Connecticut. He was 54 years of age when appointed, and served until 1801, when he resigned, resignation from public office being somewhat more frequent at that time than now. His successor was John Marshall, of Virginia, who was 46 years of age when he assumed the post by appointment of President John Adams. He held it uninterruptedly for thirty-four years, until his death in 1835.

Andrew Jackson appointed his successor, Roger B. Taney, of Maryland, who held the office until his death, in 1864. Judge Taney was 59 years of age when appointed and 87 at the time of his death. No chief justice of the Supreme Court, perhaps, had more intricate questions to determine or to vote upon in that tribunal than Judge Taney, and his tenure and that of Chief Justice Marshall stretch over nearly one-half of the history of the United States as a nation. Chief Justice Taney's successor was Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio, who had previously been secretary of the treasury, and was 56 years of age when appointed. He served for nine years, dying in 1873. Mr. Chase was himself a candidate for the presidency, and had hoped to defeat Mr. Lincoln for renomination and to succeed him, and later, in 1868, it is