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HON. W. N. H. SMITH, LL. D.

The appointment of this eminent citizen to the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina will be very satisfactory to all who have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with him, or who are familiar with his record as a politician, lawyer and citizen.

Judge Smith was born in Murfreesboro, Sept. 24th, 1812, and is, therefore, in the 65th year of his life. He was graduated at Yale College in 1834, and also attended the law school of that famous institution.

Mr. Smith was of counsel for Gov. Holden in his impeachment. If we were to judge by the reported speeches only we should unquestionably give Mr. Smith the palm for having made the most ingenious argument presented in the most chaste and scholarly diction.

Judge Smith has held no public office for more than ten years. He has successfully practiced his profession during that time at Norfolk, Va., and Raleigh. He was married in 1839, and now resides at the capital.

For a long time the Northern people were sceptical as to the statements made in Southern papers about the excessive mortality among the lately liberated colored population.

AT A DISCOUNT. It strikes us that Judge Montgomery Blair is a poor reader of the signs of the times. He is clearly not well posted as to the views and feelings of the people of this country.

Mr. Chandler himself was not decorated with more fond epithets, such as fraud and nuisance, than were immediately applied, and with signal justice, to the Maryland agitator.

of the people of the United States believe that Mr. Hayes was never elected at all; and that he owes his seat to the successful accomplishment of intrigue and intimidation.

But Judge Blair is not the only agitator who has been slighted or discredited. William Chandler was confident that he had a gun that when exploded would destroy Hayes forever.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The death rate of the colored people of Nashville, Tenn., during the year 1877, was 38.50, whilst that of the whites was 21.82.

When the five-twenty was issued it was stipulated by the Government that the interest should be paid in coin—not in gold—but both gold dollars and silver dollars were then legal coin.

We have no doubt that the mortality of this city will show that the percentage is very much larger among the colored people than among the whites.

THE CRISIS OF THE MONEY CHANGERS.

The bankers, insurance men, money lords and bondholders of the North are moving heaven and earth to influence the Congress not to undo the grand rascality that was perpetrated when the silver dollar was demonetized.

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of Illinois, in introducing a petition signed by four hundred bankers and business men of Chicago, favoring gold as the one standard, and opposing the restoration of the dollar to the place it held before it was demonetized.

The Russians are steadily carrying to a successful issue the purpose of the war. One of their armies is advancing upon Adrianople, and when that falls the next act in the bloody drama will be the march on Constantinople.

Another great victory has been won by the Russians, who appear to be sweeping every thing before them. On Monday and Tuesday the two armies met between Tartar Bazarjik and Philippopolis.

Later news is to the effect that the Turks at Constantinople are greatly excited with fears that the Russians will press on at once to that city.

The nomination of Hon. George H. Pendleton for United States Senator by the Democratic caucus of the Ohio Legislature, whilst giving a quietus to sundry aspirants, was satisfactory to the South.

THE GREAT SKEW.

Senator Voorhees' speech on the finances is regarded in Washington as a great success. The Senate Chamber was packed.

He spoke for two hours and his logical and magnified style, his fair, logical, and laborious without employment, the wonder was that he was not applauded long before he reached the eloquent closing paragraph.

He was warmly congratulated by Congressmen and citizens who flocked around him. A magnificent bouquet was sent to his desk.

The Senate adjourned itself, every body, whether on the side of Mr. Voorhees or not, pronounced the effort of which he here gives a great speech, and one that greatly enhances his reputation.

We regret to learn that the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroad Company, lessee of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, announces its inability to pay the semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent on the capital stock of the latter Company.

The Charlotte Observer of Sunday says: "Yesterday an immense quantity of the capacity of twenty-five thousand gallons was transferred from an Atlantic car to the Carolina Central railroad, to be shipped here and in many cases widows and orphans almost entirely dependent on the prompt payment of the dividend for their support."

and money-changers are as thin as gossamer—as brittle as glass. We have seen no argument that will bear analysis or the touch-stone of truth.

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GENERAL ACCIDENT.

Four men killed by a falling shanty. The bodies partially consumed by fire.

Intelligence was received in the city yesterday morning of a terrible accident that happened in Brunswick county on Monday night, the 14th inst., resulting in the death of four young men, the victim being D. H. Tharp, white, George Dyrans, white, Adam Bigham, colored, and Dallas Williams, colored.

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CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15. SENATE.—The galleries were full and all vacant spaces in the Senate Chamber were filled.

Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, called up the resolution submitted by him on the 15th of December last, declaring that it is of the highest importance that the financial credit of the government be maintained, and in order to do so the government itself, in all of its departments, should keep a good faith in its contracts.

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the people, and is enormously paid for doing what is generally done directly to do them. The government of the national banking system, said that if the national banks were a blessing, then our public debt was a blessing, for the debt supports the banks.

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Spirits Turpentine.

Rebelsions.—A correspondent at Lumber Ridge informs us that a post-office has been opened at that place in the store of Mr. John W. Cobb.

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