

Col. Turner's Monument

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A reporter yesterday morning spent a couple of hours wandering through Oakwood cemetery. The appearance of the place is changing and for the better. The attention paid to the lots is much greater than ever before, and the cemetery is now sure to become the most beautiful in the State. The Confederate cemetery is now worthy of the honored dead who rest there. A short time ago it was an unsightly place; now good walks, carefully sown grass, pretty shrubs, the neat speaker's stand, the granite headstones, all are signs of the changed condition of things. Yesterday Messrs. Goodwin & Lougee were at work erecting the monument to the memory of Col. Turner, of which casual mention was yesterday made.

The inscriptions which cover each of the four faces of this beautiful monument are as follows: On the south face—"In memoriam J. McLeod Turner, Lieutenant-Colonel 7th Regiment North Carolina Troops, Lane's Brigade, Pender's Division, Hill's Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. Born 25 February, 1841. Died 24 September, 1882." Below, in large letters, is the word "Turner." On the north face—"Captain, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel in Lee's army almost before manhood, his record as a soldier was unsurpassed. New Berne, where he was first wounded; Hanover Court House, the battles around Richmond, Cedar Run, Manassas Plains, Second Manassas, where he was again wounded; First Fredericksburg, where he was shot through the lungs; and Gettysburg, where within a few feet of the Federal lines he was twice wounded; once through the body—all attest his rare soldierly qualities." On the west face—"Hopelessly wounded at Gettysburg and long a captive in a northern prison, for near twenty years he suffered as never man suffered before, and yet he neither murmured nor complained, but through it all bore himself so patiently, so resignedly, and even so cheerfully, that, if possible, his splendid gallantry as a soldier was eclipsed by his wonderful fortitude as a sufferer." On the south face—"He died and was buried in another State, but his comrades and friends have brought back his remains to this State, his home, and to this spot, their proper final resting place, and have erected this monument in affectionate remembrance of him."