

## "THERE HE STANDS!"

### NORTH CAROLINA'S SOLDIER AND THE BANQUET TO THE MEN WHO PUT HIM THERE.

#### COL. TATE'S PATHETIC WORDS.

**Capt. Octavius Coke Makes Eloquent Remarks in Behalf of the Monumental Association and is Replied to by Captain Coonan--Seventy-Five Present and Who They Were--Exquisite Speeches by Capt. Ashe, Maj. Hays, Col. Tate and Others.**

Yesterday evening, in the dining-room of the Yarbboro House, there assembled about seventy-five gentlemen around a banquet-board spread in honor of "The Men Who Did the Work" on the Confederate monument. They were representative men in every sense of the word, the company being composed of Northerner and Southerner, of preacher and layman, of artisan and professional man of the soldier and the soldier's son, of the merchant and the man of affairs, in brief, of those whose sentiments deep rooted in the graves from which the monument sprung would twine their tributes upon the very brow of him whose hand lifted the bronze figure of their ideal knight into place. The people of Raleigh had stood for months about the monument and watched the courses of its pedestal follow one another; they had wondered if by the mere tender hand of woman the purpose of living men could be knit together into common resolution. The clocks of these women's hearts, too, struck mid-night and noon in alternation, and by turns they looked upon mid night and blue skies. Finally one bright morning, doubt died, and the monument was to be a thing of life. Then the people drew nearer, and watched the unpacking of the monolith, and of the composite Corinthian cap, and of the representation of a man they knew was true to life.

The shaft—the cap—the soldier—the three were made one, and a cheer went up and the veil was put about it all. Then in obedience to that law which somehow makes the very friend of dear ones dear, they said to one another let us uphold the hands of the fashioners of the work.

So they came together last night, and while the last touch of labor was not lost sight of, the last gun of Appomattox was the prevailing note. It could not but be so.

Mr. Wm. E. Ashley sat at the end of the long table vis-a-vis to Capt. Sam Ashe at the other end. On his right sat Rev. Dr. Daniels and Col. Robt. M. Furman; on his left Capt. Coonan, in charge of the monument, and his fellow workers. The banquet was all that taste could devise, the speeches that followed made of these warm words that flashed from lips like sparks from a building burning. Quite a group of ladies fringed the halls and gave the applause of hearts that throbbed the quicker for the cause of it.

Capt. Octavius Coke rising as the opening speaker in behalf of the Ladies Monumental Association, in his rich voice said that he "felt peculiarly honored in having been the chosen channel through which the ladies should convey their thanks to those who did the work. The country may boast of its statesmen, physicians and lawyers, its preachers and orators, but when it is behind in its artisans and men of handicraft it is a long ways behind in the race of life. I come to congratulate the men of North Carolina who have at last accomplished what should have been accomplished twenty-five years ago. The women were the men who did the work," exclaimed the speaker in the midst of applause. "Theirs have been the hands which have made North Carolina illustrious all over the face of the earth."

Capt. Coke paid a graceful compliment to Capt. Coonan, but said it was the inspiring hand of the women that had fashioned the statue like life. "The statue," said the Captain happily, "was no more bronze than were the boys in the field. The proud memorial is the monument of the beauty, grace and virtue of North Carolina's women to the chivalry and valor of North Carolina's men."

Capt. Coonan replied in behalf of the men who did the work. He was practical and opened by way of apology with an anecdote in which the man upon whom the well had fallen in cried to the man above, "No, I am not dead, but I am speechless." (Laughter.)

Capt. Coonan said he had erected 17 monuments and "of the 17 you have the finest south of the Ohio. There is nothing cheap about it. It is made of the finest material."

Happy speeches which must, perforce, be omitted here were made by Captain Ashe, Spier Whitaker, Esq., Capt. Tom Devereux, Capt. Charles Lumsden, Capt. Hale, Mr. H. A. London, Mr. David King, Major Hayes, U. S. A., and Col. Samuel McDowell Tate. Major Hayes paid a handsome compliment to the Confederate soldier's "bravery in action and fortitude in adversity."

The speech of Col. Tate was like the man. The Colonel seemed affected. The speech was simple, pathetic; just a breath one might say exhaled from the heart of a hero. Here it is: "I had no expectation of being called upon on this occasion. Having been a soldier I should not extol my brothers. I thank God that I have been able to behold with my own eyes what I have so deeply wished for—before I go hence." That was all.

Then the banqueters dispersed. They had a love-feast, and here are those who were there:

B. C. Beckwith, W. P. Whitaker, Judge A. C. Avery, John W. Thompson, E. C. Beddingfield, Paul B. Means of Concord, Josephus Daniels, S. J. Pemberton of Albemarle, R. B. Davis, Hon. Octavius Coke, Hon. S. McD. Tate, of Morganton; Col. A. Q. Holladay, Dr. Richard H. Lewis, H. M. Cowan, J. J. Dunn, W. R. Crawford, S. F. Telfair, E. J. Hale, of Fayetteville; E. C. Smith, of Raleigh; W. C. Ervin, of Morganton; J. L. Scales, of Statesville; S. M. Gattis, of Hillsboro; W. H. Neal, of Laurin-

burg; H. A. London, of Pittaboro; Capt. S. A. Ashe, A. Jones, Wayland Douby, N. W. West, H. A. Foote, Hal W. Ayer, J. A. Collins, D. M. King, John M. Kenney, John A. Mills, Capt. James Maglenn, H. O. Brown, W. H. Bragg, E. W. Bain, Dr. Daniels, R. M. Furman, Len. H. Royster, Marshal D. Haywood, Thos. Pence, Jr., E. A. Womble, Chas. F. Lumsden, L. S. Ellison, R. H. Cowan, Chas. E. Howard, Capt. Denson, Dr. F. J. Haywood, Dr. N. G. Carroll, H. A. Litchford, W. P. Whitaker, Judge Walter Clark, Judge W. A. Montgomery, J. B. Batchelor, David Mebane, R. T. Gray, Esq., Spier Whitaker, Robt. Gray, Jr., W. E. Ashley, Dr. P. E. Hines, Palmer Jerman, J. J. Thomas, Powell Matthews, Geo. Gill, Henry Cole, Walter Parrish, Coonan, A. M. McPheeters, Jr., Maj. W. H. Martin, J. C. Ellington, R. H. Bradley, Maj. Hayes, E. B. Bain, R. L. Lumsden, B. S. Jerman, C. S. Riddle, J. C. Birdsong, T. P. Deveraux, Mr. Morrison, (one of the men who did the work) E. W. Edwards, W. M. Brown, T. A. Hatch, J. W. Marcom.