

The Caswell Monument
Fayetteville Observer; July 29, 1881;
pg. X

The Caswell Monument.

The following is a description of the Caswell monument:

It is an obelisk, built of Richmond granite, and is thirty feet in height, including three bases. The shaft is sixteen feet high; the plinth is beautifully moulded; the cap is formed of Roman arches; the base which contains the inscription is polished, and the rest of the surface smooth. Certain Masonic emblems, such as the gavel, greater and lesser lights, etc., are cut on the shaft. The work is considered very creditable.

No description of the work, in which all North Carolinians take a deep pride, is complete without the legend on the shaft. On the front, or first side, is the following:

The people of North Carolina have erected this monument in grateful remembrance of

RICHARD CASWELL,
their first Governor
under a free Constitution.

Called to the head of affairs in North Carolina in the struggle with Great Britain for Independence, he gave himself up to the service of his country without stint and without compensation.

Then follow, in order, the other three sides:

Born August 3d, 1729,
Died 10th of November, 1789;
An accomplished surveyor, an able lawyer, a skillful financier, a successful soldier, a profound statesman, a devoted patriot and an honest man—the annals of North Carolina for forty years attest his virtue, his capacity and his services.

Deputy Surveyor of the Colony, Member of the Colonial Assembly, Colonel of the Colonial Forces, Member of the Provincial Congresses, Delegate to the Continental Congress, Public Treasurer, Colonel of the Revolutionary Forces, Brigadier-General, President of the Congress that framed the first State Constitution, four times elected Governor of North Carolina, Comptroller General, elected Delegate to the Convention to frame the Federal Constitution, Member of the State Convention to ratify the Federal Constitution.