

OAK POINT CHURCH YARD.

A great deal of history is to be found among the ancient grave stones of a country church yard. In former days it was the custom to inscribe upon the tombstone of the deceased not only the date of his birth and death but a statement of the public positions he had filled as well as a relation of his virtues. This plan is no longer popular possibly because the fashion in tombstones has changed. When men were buried beneath a broad flat stone a larger inscription seemed to be required than at present, when a narrow obilesk usually marks the grave of the deceased. Possibly we are not making history as fast as our forefathers did, and it may be that our lives are less worthy of being related, but from whatever cause it comes we must all recognize the change in post-mortuary customs. Still we ought to be grateful to our ancestors for their long inscriptions, and the best way for us to acknowledge the service which these inscriptions are capable of rendering to the cause of historical study is to have them copied and published for general information. I purpose in this article to present to the reader some of the inscriptions on the grave stones in Oak Point churchyard, which has been used as a place of burial by the people of the parish of Greenwich for upward of one hundred and ten years. In making selections of inscriptions for publication I have kept three things in view, 1st, to copy all inscriptions that were very old; 2nd, to copy all relating to the Loyalist; 3rd, to give any that seemed in other respects remarkable.

The oldest stone I have been able to find in Oak