

AN OLD-TIME RELIC.

One of the Original Boundary Stones of the District.

A few days ago while enjoying a quiet stroll in the Eastern part of the city, I came upon a defaced and leaning stone, which seemed to have been put there to mark some important spot in the boundary of the city limits. Its location is on the line of Fifteenth street east, and nearly on the line of C street north, and is about fifty feet southwesterly from a little one-story cabin inhabited by a negro family. The stone, which is of gray sandstone, is some fifteen inches square and stands two feet out of the ground. The elements and its more intelligent enemies have bruised and battered the stone so as to half erase the inscription. The west face has the following:

Four
Boundary
or
City.

It was probably when chiselled:

"Fourth Boundary of the City."

The north side of the stone has what appears to be the words:
Var. 6^o.

I am aware that the original Commissioners were instrumental in having boundary stones set up at the corners, the centre and at intervals of one mile along the sides of the "ten miles square" track laid out as the District of Columbia, and which were inscribed with the magnetic variation at that date, and the date 1791 or 1792, also bearing the words "Maryland" or "Virginia," and "Jurisdiction of the United States," but have never read of a similar set of stones for the city of Washington.

Will some one inform me through the columns of THE CRITIC as to the origin, and as to whether similar stones exist in other sections of the city boundary?

REDWOOD.