

The New Orleans Tomb

PART VI

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VERY OFTEN two families, either close friends or more often relatives, will build a tomb together. Such a tomb will be like a two-family house—one roof for the structure but separate spaces for the families. The economy of such construction is at once apparent. The "DWAN" tomb illustrated this month shows how this problem is worked out. There is a partition running down the middle of the tomb and two doors are provided. Both the doors are hinged to swing toward the division strip. The tomb contains six above ground crypts and the receptacles can be made to provide space for two additional caskets each side. As the tomb has ten crypts it can be marketed for the extremely low price of about \$425.00 per crypt depending on the kind of granite used.

Since the "New Orleans Tomb" articles have been published in "Design Hints", there have been published several designs in the trade press purporting to be New Orleans tombs or tombs designed along the lines of the New Orleans tomb. Unfortunately their designers have missed the point. Success with New Orleans tombs depends on two things: economical construction and structural design. To build economically one must use rock-face surfaces and rock-face surfaces require an entirely different kind of treatment than smooth surfaces in order to present a pleasing appearance. A hammered tomb is undoubtedly

easier to design and if well designed presents a wonderful appearance but the price of hammered work puts the tomb out of the reach of the average purchaser—and the average purchaser is the best prospect for the tomb. The rich will prefer the mausoleum.

The previous articles giving the directions for constructing the New Orleans tomb may be followed for the "DWAN" plan. The middle partition should be constructed of concrete and brought up through the center of the tomb from the foundation. The middle or division strip between the doors may be made of marble if economy is necessary but hammered granite is shown in our plan. The roof, which is made of a single piece of granite, has a cove moulding which is slightly undercut to provide a drip. The drip, for the information of those who are unfamiliar with it, is cut on the under side of the roof stone, (an incised V shaped line) to stop the water from trickling down the sides of the tomb during a rain. The drip is not an absolute necessity and many tombs and mausolea, particularly those designed in the modern manner, are without it.

Next month a 3 crypt tomb, decidedly inexpensive, will be illustrated. This tomb may be retailed at a little over the thousand dollar mark.

