Memorial Types

By
CAPTAIN JOHN K. SHAWVAN
CHICAGO BRANCH MGR.
MULDOON MONUMENT COMPANY

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THE LEDGER

The ledger type, or grave ledger, as it is often called, is one of the simplest of memorial tributes. It ranks next to the marker and consists of a slab from 4' to 8' thick, placed flat on the ground covering the entire grave. Sometimes its application is merely over a grave previously existing, and on other occasions it may function as a removable cover to a walled in sepulchred grave prepared in advance of the interment. Again it may appear as a catacomb cover in the floor of a mausoleum or as a cover to an underground vault containing several catacombs.

The ledger may be plain, rectangular or it may be ornamented with mouldings and other bas-relief or sunk carving on the top surface. The engraving of names and dates, as well as quotations referring to the life of the individual, may appear on the top surface.

The origin of the ledger is undoubtedly in its use as a catacomb cover by the early Christians in preparing the tombs of the martyrs. It has occasionally appeared raised above the ground with four or five legs as supports, thus making a canopy effect. In this connection it has been miscalled a table memorial. This use of it in modern cemetery treatment seems to have completely disappeared, though a few old examples of it may be found in our American cemeteries.

Occasionally a ledger example exists which is hollowed out in the center, forming a receptacle in which to plant a flower bed, and on some occasions this effect is created by building up the type in pieces with a marker placed at one end. This effect is often spoken of as a cradle memorial, although it is primarily the ledger plan.

The proportions of any concrete example of a ledger may readily be determined by the size and shape of the grave. Its application would vary in direct relation to the age of the individual to whom it was dedicated, that of a child being quite small and that of a grown person being full size, or approximately 7'-0' long and 3'-0' wide. The actual size is not of paramount importance. When an underground catacomb is prepared in advance of interment, it would be quite necessary to have a large ledger in order to bring out a suitable bearing surface to rest on the enclosing walls and still leave a sufficient opening between the walls to permit interment.

The adaptability of the ledger as a grave marker should be governed by the number of graves eventually planned for the family burial plot. One, two, three or four graves on a lot of large size makes the ledger possible but when a larger number of graves...
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will eventually be occupied the appearance of the lot will be anything but artistic.
The ledger is most pleasing in appearance if surrounded by ample space for a lawn. The ledger is complete in itself as a memorial and should not be used with a monument of any other type dedicated to the same person or persons.

PRIERE SIMPLE

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace. Where there is Hate—that I may bring Love; where there is Hatred—that I may bring Peace; where there is Discord—that I may bring Union; where there is Error—that I may bring Truth; where there is Doubt—that I may bring Faith; where there is Despair—that I may bring Hope; where there is Darkness—that I may bring Light; where there is Sadness—that I may bring Joy. O Master, make me not so much to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that one receives; it is in self-forgetfulness that one finds; it is in pardoning that one is pardoned; it is in dying that one wakes to Eternal Life.

QUITE ROUGH

Two of the University's crack golfers sliced their drives into the rough and went in search of the balls. They searched for a long time without success, a kindly old lady watching them with sympathetic interest.

Finally, after the search had lasted half an hour, the dear old lady spoke to them. "I don't want to bother you, gentlemen," she said, "but would it be cheating if I told you where they are?"

—EXCHANGE.

Business being quiet during the blizzard, the clerk called up a friend saying, "This is the branch post-office at Clark and Division. We have a case of eggs addressed to you and it is about time you called for them."

She said, "That's strange. Where are they from?"

"Chickens," he said and hung up.

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