The New Orleans Tomb

PART II

By Leonard V. and Albert R. Huber

Last month we learned how to construct the foundation of the tomb and we now take up the granite work. The tomb illustrated this month is one that should retail at between $2,000 and $2,500, depending on material used. It is a double tomb and displays a very ingenious arrangement whereby it has double the capacity of the single tomb. This is accomplished by making the tomb wide enough to accommodate two caskets on each shelf and placing the door to one side, the other side being permanently closed by a panel. To the casual observer it appears that the tomb has two doors but it is only necessary to swing one of them. Interments are made as follows: the first casket to be interred is placed on the shelf and pushed to the left side, thus allowing space for the second interment. This tomb has a capacity of from six to eight caskets, depending on the depth of the receptacle.

In ordering the material it is advisable to order stock for two or more tombs at once. In this way the number of pieces running under one foot in thickness can be ordered in single pieces with a couple of inches added for splitting and the pieces split in the shop. This saves quite an amount on stock. Some dealers might find it advisable to have their tombs cut at the quarry centers and there are several firms located at each of them who will quote reasonable prices for cutting tombs.

It is important that the pieces of the tomb be l ewised to facilitate setting and this detail should not be overlooked. The ornament on the lintel and the vertical lines on the pilasters are applied by sand-carving.

Before the tomb is set on the foundation, each piece should be measured to check all sizes. Lower course, steps, etc., may be rolled onto the foundation without the aid of a derrick. The derrick should be a two ton setter's derrick although the use of the derrick is not strictly an essential; if one is not obtainable the stone may be set by jacking and the aid of 6 x 6 timbers, though the use of a derrick greatly facilitates matters and is much safer for the men.

After the first course has been squared up and set in place it should be anchored together with 1/4'' copper wire set in hot lead. The interior of the tomb is to be lined with concrete which should be cast in wooden forms according to the plans as the tomb progresses. The first part of the lining is cast after the first course has been set in place. This is allowed to harden, the forms removed and the next course or courses set in place depending on the type of tomb. An offset or corbel is left at the height of the sill to receive the removable crypt shelf which divides the receptacle from the tomb proper. In the "Morgan" design on half of this shelf is a solid piece of 2'' thick limestone and the other half of several small pieces, removable. The top shelf is set when
the concrete lining has been brought to the necessary height and then the forms are removed, rebuilt above the shelf and the top lining cast. Concrete is later cement plastered in brush finish and then whitewashed or painted. The concrete lining of the tomb gives it the greatest strength and if constructed properly the tomb should last indefinitely with but small care, (pointing of joints is the most essential).

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May we again emphasize the absolute necessity of anchoring each stone with copper anchors. The ancient Greeks and Romans used bronze anchors or clamps
and this fact is one of the main reasons for the permanence of their buildings. In Rome one is able to see the holes dug around the anchor-holes in buildings by barbarians who thus stole the bronze; where this has been done on a large scale the buildings have disintegrated. The reason is simple: if the mortar gives, the anchors still hold. Also, where there are anchors, properly set, there is much less tendency for the stone to give.

To be continued next month.

The door, pivots, lock and setting of the same will be discussed in the third article of the series next month.

Newspaper Advertisements

(Continued from page 10)

You will notice that this advertisement (Plate 2) offers a somewhat unusual layout which any newspaper can set up for you. Each advertisement of these four demonstrates a different layout to secure variety for your campaign.

You will notice that each of the layouts call for an illustration of a monument design. If possible, try to use a design of the shape shown in the layout since they lend themselves to the arrangement suggested.

It might be added that these advertisements would be even more attractive if you could use them in 3 column sizes. That is, 3 columns wide by about 9 inches deep. This would allow a larger type face for the copy, more white space in the layout and increase the effectiveness of the advertisement in general.

(In the next article of this series we will give additional suggestions for newspaper Advertisements).

A Matter of Pride - Respect - Reverence

Somehow all of your own thoughts, and feelings and emotions are symbolized in the memorial you erect to the memory of a dear one. It expresses your own character.

One feels that nothing but the best can truly pay the tribute you want it to express. It is your offering of grateful thanks for all the fine things Love has given you. And it must endure forever.

Perhaps we can help you in making this expression, for we have had years of experience translating human feelings into beautiful lasting granite. Often we are called upon to create special designs symbolizing definite thoughts that are personal to the client. Some of our most beautiful memorials are created in this way. May we tell you about this service? Without obligation to you of course.

To Those Who Really Care

Memories Are Sacred

Whether Life has been rich with experience or confined within narrow limits, there are always memories held sacred beyond the reach of commonplace things.

To those memories and to the finer things which they have inspired, one owes full reverence and respect. Not merely for a present lifetime but for all lifetimes to come.

The beautiful custom of erecting a monument—dignified, lasting, beautiful—springs from this natural urge.

Choosing such a memorial is often somewhat involved with doubt, and we respectfully offer our services in the capacity of counsel. Our years of experience together with a sympathetic understanding of your problem can be a welcome aid to you.